OUR WORLD MISSION
Statement of the Treasurer, October 31, 1960

BUDGET RECEIPTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treasurer's</th>
<th>Boards'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance, Oct. 1</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adams Center</td>
<td>219.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albion</td>
<td>129.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred, 2nd</td>
<td>36.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations and Groups</td>
<td>45.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battle Creek</td>
<td>579.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>77.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeRuyter</td>
<td>156.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dover Center</td>
<td>106.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hammond</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebron, 1st</td>
<td>27.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopkins, 1st</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>8.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>2,076.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irvington</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Genesea</td>
<td>32.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlboro</td>
<td>345.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial Fund</td>
<td>84.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Island</td>
<td>59.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milton</td>
<td>704.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milton Junction</td>
<td>114.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Auburn</td>
<td>34.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nortonville</td>
<td>114.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawcatuck</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plainfield</td>
<td>151.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richburg</td>
<td>113.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>339.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roanoke</td>
<td>53.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockville</td>
<td>21.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salemville</td>
<td>57.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shiloh</td>
<td>595.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verona</td>
<td>96.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walworth</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Peoples</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterford</td>
<td>96.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Cloud</td>
<td>44.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Cloud</td>
<td>100.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$7,614.38

TREASURER'S DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education | $0
General Conference | 882.60
Historical Society | 1,106.90
Ministerial Retirement | $1,931.88
Ministerial Training | 865.14
Missionary Society | 2,586.62
Tract Society | 721.71
Trustees of General Conference | 46.76
Women's Society | 134.37
World Fellowship | 38.45
Special Fund — Program Adv. | 122.74

American Bible Society | 100.00
Total | 87,614.38
Balance, October 31, 1960 | 0.00

SUMMARY

Current annual budget | $111,295.00
Receipts 1 month | 7,714.71
Balance needed 11 months | 103,580.29
Percentage raised 1 month | 6.93%
Percentage year elapsed | 6.31%

George E. Parrish, Treasurer.

WATERFORD, CONN. — A preaching mission was held at the Waterford Church on Friday evening, Nov. 11, Sabbath morning, and Sunday evening.

The Rev. Everett T. Harris of Westerly, R.I., was the speaker. On Friday evening his topic was "Witnessing." On Sabbath morning his sermon theme was "For His Name's Sake," and dealt with the Fatherhood of God. On Sunday evening, he spoke particularly to young people on "Stewardship of Life." The attendance was good and the church was spiritually enriched by these messages.

— Correspondent.
The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue: June 13, 1950

A Magazine of Christian Sabbath School and Missionary Work

Missionary... Reverend T. Harvey. D.D.
WOMEN'S WORK... Mrs. D. Will Johnson
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION... Mrs. E. Ezekiel, B.A., D.D.

ESSEX, N. J.

Plainfield, N. J., December 12, 1960

Vol. 109, No. 22
Whole No. 5,922

In This Issue

Editorials:
- Echoes from Brazil ............................................ 2
- Armed with the Word ......................................... 4
- Religious Drama ................................................. 5

Features:
- President's Message ......................................... 6
- Translating Philippians 1: 23 ................................. 7
- The Call of the Missionary Mission ......................... 8
- "Whence Came Thou? and Whither Wilt Thou Go?" ... 9
- The Passing of Mrs. Alfred S. Burdick ................. 12
- Flying Over a Godless Nation ............................... 13
- Ecumenical News .............................................. 14
- Mission Items .................................................. 15
- Bulletin Items .................................................... 16

News:
- New Lighting Plant for Makasiga Mission ............ 9
- Visiting Our European Brethren ......................... 10

Christian Education:
- Illegitimacy — a Social Concern .................... 14

News from the Churches:
- Births — Obituaries — Back Cover

Church members," he remarked, "have a strong sense of responsibility for personal witnessing, and a spiritual vacuum in the nation gives Baptists an unusual opportunity. It might be added that the same is true of the Seventh Day Baptists and other Sabbathkeeping people connected with this trip. Our brethren, many of them, are really giving themselves for the cause of Christ to a degree that shames us — who are said to be and well established church members.

The report of Dr. Soren on the evangelistic emphasis and the harvest of souls brings to mind one facet of the Rio meetings not previously referred to on these pages but frequently mentioned to those who were close in touch with the Press Room. Although the editor will send the writer, upon request, up to 10 copies of the issue in which an article appeared, it is possible to keep in touch with the Press Room he had advance copies in English of nearly every address that was given. (It will be recalled that all messages were delivered in two languages.)

The American speakers gave their messages almost word-for-word as their own. The Brazilians knew their audience. The American speakers, many of them, changed their speeches considerably. In some cases, the changes were made only to make a strong message more acceptable or in the abstract, as we are accustomed to do in this country and in Northern Europe. After a few days in Rio and after observing that the majority of the audience was non-Protestant, the American speakers, who were attending and those who were impressed by its size and its spirit. It does something for the visitor even when the Portuguese-English barrier makes communication difficult, if not impossible. One could see the board room being advertised to the Portuguese literature that most of us carried.

"Whence Came Thou? and Whither Wilt Thou Go?" Thus began the editor's report of the Brazilian Congress. Of course, sometimes wondered how it could survive the jamming crowds.)

Dr. Soren comments in his press interview on the rapid growth of Baptist work in Brazil. He attributes it to a strong emphasis on evangelism.

Armed with the Word

The different approaches to the Bible are many. One might say in Biblical language that they are legion except that the term, used only four times, refers to a large number of demons in three of the references. We trust that not many of the current approaches to Bible study and Bible methods are relevant for or serve the purposes of the devil. However, one may expect that the unregenerate world will find itself in opposition to the Word of God since the World delicates and condemns all sinful thoughts and acts.

It is possible that the Christian in his attempt to study the Word is sometimes hindered by his method of translation and by his bias of interpretation and forgets to keep his study profitable. In some cases this may serve the cause of Satan for it keeps the Christian from a maximum use of the Scriptures for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

Of all the approaches to the proper use of the Bible, the one which Paul mentions in his inspired instructions to the young man Timothy is perhaps the most important. Profitable Bible study makes the man of God "perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3: 16). The Word of God is the soldier's equipment, the Bible study that is profitable in the sight of God, helps the individual to be an instrument in the hand of the Lord, to be an engaged world citizen.

A striking expression of this use of the Word is found in a recent statement of the president of the New York Bible Society, Dr. John J. Davis. One quotes from that statement and reads: "The New York Bible Society for 151 years has stood by the city's churches in this great struggle. We have given to the churchmen with the ministrations of Bible, Testaments, and Scripture portions, confident that no greater weapon against evil can be found than the Word of God."

"No greater weapon against evil," struck this writer with tingling force and sharpness. Perhaps it is nothing different from saying that the Word is the Christian's sword but we need to be
reminded constantly that whatever else can be said about the Bible, it is primarily a tool to be used against evil. There is doubtless too much talk about accepting this or that portion of the Word as if there were real question of its origin, its truth, or its value. The most trusted, most proven, most keen weapon against evil cannot by itself be of uncertain or evil origin. It remains to see for the Christian to learn to use this weapon rather than either criticize it or admire it. The Bible societies promote such use of the Bible.

It was to this same young man, Timothy, that the Apostle Paul wrote so many centuries ago: “Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth” (2 Tim. 2:15). How many of us are equipping ourselves to use the Bible against evil and for righteousness?

Religious Drama

Religious journals of wide circulation are increasingly giving space to articles on religious drama. This new emphasis appears to be stronger in the more liturgically denominations. Just how much the smaller churches will pick up and implement the idea of introducing drama into worship services remains to be seen, and remains to survive the leveling judgment of time.

The National Council of Churches has a Department of Worship and the Arts headed by Marvin P. Halverson. A group of dramatists and novelists met with Mr. Halverson’s commission in New York on November 16. Alexander Federoff, author of the novel The Side of the Angels commented in a panel discussion that since all “real drama involves human conflict it is, by definition, religious drama.” Top playwright Jack Richardson urged the Protestant churches to become patrons of modern drama and added that no strings should be attached.

Some of us would be a little fearful of the above definition of religious drama and of the opening of our churches to dramatization of every type of human event. But there is the idea of introducing drama into Bible against evil and for righteousness? No, it remains to be seen, and remains to survive the leveling judgment of time.

Religious Drama

As this year ends, it brings us the renewal of hope for next year can be better. It offers us the recurring opportunity for a new start with the opening of each newly numbered calendar. Now we have the coming year 1961, and it is my privilege, as well as my duty, to point out the need for completing the second year of “My Spiritual Inventory.” We need to take stock of ourselves at regular intervals, just as any businessman inventories his store to see where he stands in relation to past performance and his aims for the future. In this respect we must inventory our lives, in order that we can benefit from past experiences and set worthwhile goals for future development. The beginning of a new year is the logical time for this task.

It is customary at this time of year to hold “Watch Night” services, and it is in such services that we can make excellent use of Wayne Crandall’s appropriately compiled “My Spiritual Inventory.” This is not a quick test to rush through and then forget. It is not a meaningless survey that is to be put back on the shelf as soon as it has been made, “My Spiritual Inventory,” to be effective, must be worked on thoughtfully, prayerfully, and unburiedly. Each point listed requires serious consideration if we are to be completely honest with ourselves; and it is only if we are utterly frank in our personal appraisal that this evaluation will have any bearing.

May I urge at this season, when perhaps more than at any other time of year we are aware of past shortcomings and future hopes, that we fill out the second space that the “spiritual inventory” is renewing our covenant with God, renewing our vitality as Christians, and renewing our collective strength as Seventh Day Baptists. Whether you do this at a special service or in the silence of a secret place, make out your personal inventory and determine to do even better in the future.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

December 12, 1960

It is when each individual—the first person "I"—makes a deeper commitment to his Lord and pledges sincerely to work harder for Him that the message of Seventh Day Baptists have for the world will be heard. "Perseverance and growth begin in each individual heart, and only when the individual grows can our denominational work for God's Kingdom grow stronger. I must be about my Father's business.

Translating Philippians 1:23
"... to depart, and to be with Christ!" By G. Zijlstra, Amsterdam, Holland

With much interest I read Dr. Hurley's explanatory version of Philippians 1:23 in the Sabbath Recorder, October 31. I agree with the doctor that we always have to bear in mind 2 Peter 1:20.

As I studied the explanation I came, however, to a conclusion different from that of Bro. Hurley.

The "third key word" ANALUSIA is a form of the verb ANALUO and this is the contraction of the verb LEO and the prefix AN, so translated: break, loose, and a few other words, always having the sense of loosing. We find this too in the case of other prefixes, such as APO, LEO and ANALUO (e.g. dismiss, let go, lose, put away, release, send away), KATALO (e.g. destroy, dissolve). We always find the basic meaning "to loosen." I think, therefore, it will be better to maintain this basic meaning and, applying it to Paul's situation, read (by explanation): "having a desire to loose from the earth," that is, to depart, to die.

In Luke 12:36, we find this same word translated "return." The literal meaning is: "when he will have departed from the earth," loosened himself from it. In English as well as in Dutch we prefer, however, to say "to return." In my opinion therefore, the translation "depart" will be more correct than "return" in either case.

In this meaning I am confirmed by Paul's second letter to Timothy (6:6), when he writes that his departure...
(ANALUSIS) is at hand. It will not be possible to find here any sense of "returning."

I cannot judge if it would be better in English to read "Booz begat Obed out of Ruth" than "of Ruth." In the context Paul speaks of two things only, to live and to die. He is pressed by and not pressed out of two things. Menge translates: "ich fuhe mich namlich nach beiderseiten genogen." Though this wording is not the literal translation, the meaning is right, and there is no question at all of Paul's referring to the return of Christ in this passage.

THE CALL TO BE A LAYMAN

By Mark Sanford

I sincerely hope that nothing in this article will be used as an alibi for not answering the call to be a minister or missionary, but I do wish to emphasize the importance of the call to be real consecrated laymen. In the 13th chapter of John's Gospel, we find that the word labor is used seven times. In the first ten verses. We know that the branch must abide in the vine, but we sometime forget that all of the fruit is borne on the branches, and that branches also nourish the vine.

For many years the challenge to our young people has been to get out and do great things among those who have succeeded. However, the churches have been kept alive by those who abide, by those who have been willing to make some sacrifice to abide in the vine of the old home church.

We cannot overestimate the value of a good pastor, but we must recognize the fact that a church can exist without a pastor, but without laymen there is no church. We have pastorless churches but it is also true that we have more pastors than we have churches that can or will support a full-time pastor.

During the time that our churches were making the most rapid growth, most of the farms and other businesses around the church were owned by members. Today, if we are to build up our churches, we must build up around those who are supporting community life. We honor the widow's mite. We must also have the might of consecrated businessmen within our churches.

In 1958 it was our privilege to visit some of our historic landmarks, including the old Newport church and the Mystic church. While there I received a letter from the pastor. In the past, I was impressed with the thought that the Seventh Day Baptists whose memory has been thus preserved were more than Seventh Day Baptists. They were workmen who had no need to be ashamed of their works; they were outstanding citizens of their day; they were true to the labors and labors of their convictions in the aspect of their fellow-men by their ambition and ability.

Jesus was a layman. He never graduated from a college or a school of theology, although He furnished the inspiration for both. He chose the life of a common man and then filled the common life so full that it could not remain common.

Multitudes came to Jesus and we have no records to show that He called more than a few to become full-time disciples. Zacchaeus became a changed man but there is no record that he changed his occupation. Many were told to go their way and sin no more. When the healed demoniac wanted to follow Jesus, he was told to go home and tell what God had done for him.

Not all people should stay at home, but we must recognize the sacred call to be consecrated laymen who are able and willing to keep the old home church alive and bearing fruit on many branches. The need is great and the results can be rewarding. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

THE SABBATH RECORDER

WHENCE CAMEST THOU? AND WHITHER WILT THOU GO?

In the following article Charles J. Batchman of Wayne, N. J., who is not himself a member of one of our churches, argues in opposition with which the angel accosted Hagar, Sarah's maid (Gen. 16:8), to show that she was a leader of the church. This article will be used as an alibi for not an­

What is this church? The Seventh Day Baptist Church is Baptist in government; it practices baptism after the Bible standard (as Baptists churches do); and it belongs to the worldwide Baptist fellowship. But it is distinctive in that it preceded the regular Baptist movement of the 17th century, and in that it observes the seventh day, commonly called Saturday, as the Bible Sabbath.

The Sabbath in England and New England

In America the Seventh Day Baptist Church looked back with great satisfaction to its founders who came to these shores from the British Isles and Germany.

The history of the church in Britain begins with the establishment of ChristopherInsets and the baptism of John in the year 1661, which is the date that the Seventh Day Baptists kept the Seventh Day in the British empire. It was on December 23rd, 1661, that John, the first Seventh Day Baptist, was baptised in the river Thames, near London, and that he received his first member. He arrived in Newport, R. I., from London about the year 1664. Being an active proponent of his faith, he began expanding his beliefs within the organized Baptist Church of Newport. A number of the members embraced his views concerning the Sabbath and the perniciousness of the Ten Commandments. This caused some of the leaders to preach against the practice of the Sabbathkeepers. Becoming convinced that they could not remain in the fellowship with the Baptist Church, Mumford's followers withdrew. Their withdrawal resulted in the First Seventh Day Baptist Church in America being founded on December 23rd, 1671. It was a church founded in faith by determined people.

Germans Embrace The Sabbath

From among the Germans who came to these shores in the latter part of the 17th and early 18th centuries began what is known today as the German Seventh Day Baptists. Still standing as a tribute to these German Seventh Day Baptists is the Ephrata Community. It is a tribute to such determined men as Heinrich Koster, who wrote the first theological treatise in Pennsylvania; and perhaps the first theological tracts in all the colonies; to the memory of Johann Conrad Beisel, leader of Ephrata; to Peter Miller, who was engaged by Congress to translate the Declaration of Independence.

DECEMBER 12, 1960
Strength From the Past for the Present

The heritage of a people should be their greatest strength. The heritage of the Seventh Day Baptist Church is striking. The contribution of the denomination to the nation far outshines the number who contributed. This proves that the people who contributed were neither faint of heart nor fearful. They assumed their task because it was a God-given task to be performed by them and them alone. They determined to give far more than they would receive and to unflinchingly venture out in faith knowing that their cause was just and nothing could stop it.

The question of "Whence camest thou" has been answered here. The question of "Whither wilt thou go" cannot be answered here. It can only be answered in the hearts and lives of the individual Seventh Day Baptist today. Complicity, agreement, niceties, and compromise have absolutely no place in the heart of any member of this denomination. The existence of such characteristics is synonymous to the memory of those who gave so much and upon whose foundation the denomination now stands.

The past can never suffice for tomorrow. This generation lives today and will live tomorrow. It is evident from the past that those who lived it determined that their church would be first, last, and always in their lives. The only way the church will exist tomorrow is by a determined reconsecration to that same custom. God will hold responsible those who fail in that determination.

This is a challenge to every Seventh Day Baptist, a challenge that cannot be cast aside. This is a challenge that can only be met by boldness and determination, coupled with a living testimony to all you meet. A testimony that your church is a church with a purpose — a purposeful church that has stood alone, is standing alone and will stand alone, defending its truths in the lives of all its members.

MISSIONS

New Lighting Plant for Makapua Mission

Through the kindness and generosity of many friends in the Plainfield and New York area has come a much needed gift, an effective and powerful light plant for Makapua Mission. Two army surplus lighting units in their original crates stored in the basement of a Baptist Church in World War II have now been given for "missionary and hospital" purposes by the city Board of Education.

Mr. William Warren, a member of the Brooklyn High School of Automotive Trades faculty and also a member of the New York Peoples (Sabbathkeeping) Church of the denomination the possibility of securing these lighting generators. Through Mr. Warren's efforts and the active assistance of the High School principal, two identical diesel generators of 15 KVA (15,000 watts) capacity have been given through the Missionary Board to Makapua Mission for "hospital and missionary" purposes.

The Missionary Board approved the acceptance of the generators at the quarterly meeting held October 30, voting to cover the cost of shipping the generators to Makapua Mission and whatever custom tax may be levied.

As we think of the increased effectiveness in medical work as well as general missionary services made possible by this gift, we give heartfelt thanks to God for the generosity and thoughtfulness of so many people who have contributed time and services to make this gift possible.

When these light plants were released by the Board of Education, they were trucked to the Central Fireproof Storage Warehouse at 342 West 42nd Avenue in Brooklyn by Arthur Schoephlin, owner of the warehouse and head of a mission that holds Sabbath afternoon meetings in the warehouse. It was through that waterproofing and marking of the crates was all that would be needed before Mr. Schoephlin transported them to the ship. Mr. Warren, however, felt that they should be thoroughly serviced and tested. This he was eminently qualified to do. During the past weeks he has spent several days at the warehouse making adjustments. All the controls and parts needing most attention have been carefully tagged with the necessary information for the missionaries who will operate and service them in the future. It is expected that the two plants will be mounted side by side so that there can be uninterrupted protection of power for the new hospital. At the time of writing the generators have been retracted in solid boxes by Mr. Schoephlin's employees and are ready for the next ship.

The thoroughness of Mr. Warren is shown by what he has written: "I have bought and sent along a new 12-volt storage battery (of a type that will last 3 or 4 years), several fuel and oil filters, an extra box of new spark plugs, belts, exhaust pipes, muffler, etc.

What is the motivation for all this work, executed by these two consecrated Christian men? The answer seems to be consecration and a personal interest in the missionaries who, they are doing for the cause of Christ and His Sabbath. Both men have been in close touch with the American Sabbath Academy and have done much to promote a knowledge of Seventh Day Baptist beliefs and work. Mr. Warren evidently did some thinking in electrical and Gospel terms while working here. He has submitted the following thoughts for the missionaries David Pearson and Dr. Victor Burkecik, as they "Follow the Light of the World."

Electric Gospel Thoughts

May the magnetic forces of their ministry attract those of opposite faith and may they be converted.

May their unforgettable power arouse, startle or shock such an unenlightened people to give testimony and be a witness for our Savior.

May their positive teaching discharge all negative influence.

May their light be relayed to many in darkness.

May every spark of truth be energized.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

DECEMBER 12, 1960
by good conductors of God's supreme power.

May the great power of God's Word
induce the lost to regulate their lives,
to insulate themselves from temptation,
to believe in regeneration and be transformed into newness of life.

May potential Christians' faith be amplied up to high frequency performance to regulate their lives so that they may have the faith that works.

May the dynamic influence of our Creator persuade many to accept the truth with honest hearts.

Visiting Our European Brethren
By Mrs. David Pearson

When we left U. S. soil and headed across the Atlantic away from the quickly setting sun, our hearts were full of anticipation for the new experiences we would have among our European brethren. After a voyage of three days and a journey of nine hours earlier in Britain) we arrived in London. We did enjoy so much the kindness and interest shown to us by all the people there.

Leaving London on Sunday, we arrived in the picturesque land of the Netherlands, where Mr. G. Zijlstra, secretay of the Mission, met us. He helped us get settled near the K. L. M. (Dutch Airlines) office, and then we went to Haarlem. We had fine fellowship in the home of one of the church leaders there, met us. He and his wife and two daughters and our Debby seemed to understand each other well in spite of the fact that they both spoke different languages. That evening we met with the Christian people from several of our Seventh Day Baptist churches of that country, and they were very much interested in the work of God in Nyasaland. After our presentation they continued to ask questions until quite late.

On our return to our room that night, Miss Else Zijlstra, who lives in Amsterdam, was with us. We arrived in Amsterdam, left the train and boarded the streetcar. We had not been very long on the street when, as we were about to leave the hotel, we were fortunate to have a chance to meet her and talk with us about how she spent the day, what she did, and what she thought of our Mission. We were very pleased to have this opportunity to talk with someone who is so close to the work in Europe, and to receive her encouragement and support.

The bicycle is a common means of transportation in Holland, and Germany, too. We were amazed at the traffic at the closing hours of business, a mass of moving cycles forming a solid line several cycles in width, and extending back as far as one could see down the street.

On our two remaining days spent in Holland, we were grateful for the kind assistance of Mr. J. Rijkers in showing us the quaint little village of Marken, where the people wearing the old Dutch costumes and wooden shoes are a common sight. We also enjoyed a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Zijlstra, when he gave some valuable advice on our bookkeeping at the Mission.

We left Amsterdam by plane for Germany and disembarked at Hanover, where we were to get a train for Braunschweig to meet Pastor Otto Kohler. Until trying it one would not know how interesting it can be to change transportation in a land where you cannot read the schedules or signs posted, and where a very few people can understand language - and that when two adults have six bags and a four-year-old child to watch.

Pastor Kohler (who had waited patiently for three hours, as we missed our train) met us, showed us to a room, and then took us to his home for dinner. Mrs. Kohler, an excellent cook, and the pastor were very kind to us while we were in their home for many meals. Our conversations were indeed interesting, as Pastor Kohler knows only a little English, and we knew no German. His English was kept handy, and provided good help.

Sabbath was an inspiring day in the Braunschweig church, with morning worship and mission pictures in the afternoon. The evening was spent in much interesting work in the mission story, and we trust they were as blessed as we were by their kindness and sincerity.

The following Sunday at about six o'clock, Pastor Kohler escorted us to the new train station, which had just opened the night before with a celebration at midnight, and we boarded a train for Hamburg, about 50 miles north. That afternoon there was a friendly, informal meeting with the Seventh Day Baptists of that city. Mr. Bruhn was a wonderful help there in translating for us, and we also enjoyed the fellowship with him and his wife in their home after the meeting. He also took us to Hamburg, which is so much like London, a very beautiful and modern city, with a lovely lake in the center. We were very sorrowful because of the serious illness of his father, Elder Heinrich Bruhn.

The next day as the plane showed us more of Europe's beauty when it soared southward and we looked toward Africa, we were grateful to the Lord for the experiences there. We continue to pray for God's help and blessings to be with our European brethren.

Christmas 1960

Dr. W. A. Visser 't Hooft, General Secretary, World Council of Churches

Christmas has become everybody's festivity. It is celebrated by Christians and non-Christians, it is celebrated in churches and cinemas, in offices and restaurants.

Is this not as it should be? After all, the Prologue of St. John speaks of the light that enlightens every man. The Christmas fact is indeed a fact of universal significance, it has to do with the salvation of humanity, it is therefore everybody's business.

So far so good. But St. John speaks of the true light that enlightens every man. Christmas does not speak of light, it is a gaudy, not of the true light of days after nights or of summer after winter. It deals with the true, the genuine light that God sent and this light is Jesus Christ, God who comes in the flesh. If we celebrate Christmas on December 25th, this is due to the fact that in the early centuries this was the time of the festival of Sol Invictus, the Invincible Sun. And the Christians set their festival of the true light over against such nature worship.

Christmas is the universal festival, but only if it remains the festival celebrating the unique intervention of God in history. Its true universality depends on its rootedness in the great deed of God in Jesus Christ.

The job of Christians is then not to say to the world: you have stolen our festivity, this has nothing to do with you. This is a battle too, but you can only celebrate it aright, if you recognize what it means - that the world, that you yourself are called to live by the light that is Jesus Christ.

The great promise of Christmas: peace in the world, peace in our families, peace in our hearts for all those who will open their lives to the true light.

Editor's note: Our readers will doubtless appreciate considering through a presentation by the general secretary of the World Council of Churches. It is expected that in relation to the origin and current observance of Christmas, as in other matters, each will take the facts of the Bible and of history and from them draw his own conclusions, which may or may not correspond with the above article.

Worldwide Bible Reading

Thanksgiving to Christmas

(Suggested by American Bible Society)

Dec. 18 ... Isaiah 42: 1-13
Dec. 19 ... 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13
Dec. 20 ... 2 Corinthians 15: 1-28
Dec. 21 ... 1 Corinthians 13: 34-58
Dec. 22 ... 2 Corinthians 4: 7-5: 10
Dec. 23 ... Philippians 3: 7-21
Dec. 24 ... Luke 2: 1-20

THE SABBATH RECORDER

DECEMBER 12, 1960
One who has contributed large sums of money to Seventh Day Baptist missionary work and to many other denominational and charitable causes, Mrs. Alfred S. Burdick passed to her reward November 17, 1960. Word of her death came to the latter part of a letter from her companion of many years, Bertha M. Chesney, who enclosed a partial story of her life compiled and read at the farewell services by Dr. William Atkinson Young, minister of the Highland Park Presbyterian Church, Highland Park, Ill. From this story and tribute we present portions and thoughts because her life and that of her husband were of such unusual interest and meaning to the world work of Seventh Day Baptists — a group not now strong in this area. Mrs. Burdick continued her loyalty and interest in that denomination through the years, reading with interest as long as she was able to do so, the national journal of that church, The Sabbath Recorder, published in Plainfield, N. J.

She supported many other religious and charitable causes, however, and was especially active in providing college educations and musical educations for any number of young people among her relatives, but others, including especially missionary children. One of her friends from the Peoria area was a missionary in China, and through this relationship she sent them abundant supplies but built buildings in their mission compound.

The friend mentioned was Dr. Rosa W. Palmberg, missionary to China from 1894 to 1940. The preface to Dr. Palmberg's book China Letters bears the information that these letters telling the story of her nearly 50 years of healing ministry were addressed to the "beloved friend Ella" — this same Mrs. Alfred S. Burdick.

When a neighbor lost a child and grieved continually Mrs. Burdick and a friend of Infant Welfare in Highland Park to help this friend face the loss of her child. "How that ministry has magnified in our area," writes Dr. Young. He goes on to speak of other ways in which she was helpful in a quiet, retiring way. If it were possible to take more space there would be many, like the children of the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31, who would "arise up and call her blessed."

Flying Over a Golden Nation
Thoughts of God

Patrick E. Gorman, representative of an American Catholic Union and presumably a Roman Catholic, was traveling by jet plane from a visit to Russia which had been most disappointing from the religious point of view. We quote a portion of what he wrote in the organ of his labor union Butler Workmen:

"At first my plane rose higher and higher into God's air. I could not help but believe that I was in the right place. I could not help but believe that God is the compass which guides us all. I could not help but believe that the clouds were rising like cathedrals.

"In the high blue yonder, in fancy, I could hear the church bells which I had so missed on the soil of Russia. Up there, only a fool could believe in God's universe. I was more firmly convinced than ever that there can be no spiritual understanding between the peoples of the world without a kinship with God, and yet these thoughts, how foolish it is to think that God can be pushed aside, even by the Russians . . ."

"I saw the transition of the caterpillar into the cocoon and then into the beautiful golden butterfly. I saw the soft cheeks of a baby pressed against its mother's breast. This, too, without God?"

"When you are 39,000 feet up you can think of a lot of things. Looking down through the clouds I could see the earth—such a small planet which, along with eight other planets is tied to the apron strings of a very small star, our own sun, and other inconsequential heavenly bodies, just a small component part of our infinite celestial galaxy — the Milky Way, swirling through space with several billion other larger stars. All this mass moving onward with the symmetry of a condor in flight and with the grace of a swan. All this without God."

"Poor Russia, I thought, and yet in material things Russia is not poor. She has become a world power. In this accomplishment eventually must look heavenly thankful for the progress she has made."

BIBLICAL NEWS

Stedman Replaces Wine

Dr. Murray S. Stedman, Jr., has been appointed general director of interpretation for the National Council of Churches, effective January 1, 1961. This position was formerly held by Dr. Robert Wine, who resigned to take up political public relations duties in Washington, D. C.

Dr. Stedman, for the last three years director of the Office of Information, United Presbyterian Church, USA, brings to his new position wide experience in the field. He is a member of the National Council Study Commission's Role of Radio, Television and Films in Religion, and a board member of Religion In American Life, Inc. Author of one book, Dr. Stedman was co-author of Discontent at the Polls and The Dynamics of Democratic Government.

Race Relations Consultation

The South Africa consultation on race relations meeting in Johannesburg from December 7-14 was scheduled to "confront together the acute problem of race relations in South Africa." The world importance of the consultation is indicated by the fact that the World Council of Churches sent three of its top men from Geneva and four others to meet with leaders of the eight WCC member churches in the Union of South Africa. The men leaving from Geneva on December 3 were: Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, chairman of the Commission of the World Council of Churches and president of the United Lutheran Church in America; Dr. W. A. Visser 't Hooft, general secretary of United Presbyterian Church, USA; and Mr. W. H. Meintjes, representative of the Churches in South Africa and United Methodist Church, and Dr. J. C. Martens, representative of the Churches in South Africa and the Dutch Reformed Church.

The World Council of Churches, which has decided to suspend its work in South Africa, is represented by the Rev. John Robb of the Methodist Church in South Africa and the Rev. F. N. Steyn of the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa. The meeting was opened by Dr. A. W. van der Merwe, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, and was attended by the Rev. W. J. Venter, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

December 12, 1960
of the World Council of Churches, a member of the Netherlands Reformed Church; and the Rev. Wilhelm Niesel, moderator of the Reformed Bond (Alliance) in Germany.

The results of the consultation will be awaited with interest by those who have confided themselves with this serious problem that exists in South Africa and in the churches of that land.

San Francisco Meetings

The November issue of the monthly Interchurch News, published by the National Council of Churches, featured the widely publicized triennial General Assembly at San Francisco, December 4-9. The executive secretary and six other Seventh Day Baptists were accredited as delegates. This large delegation was made possible by using California residents and by some paying their own expenses.

The Interchurch News headlines a meeting of the Department of United Church Men, just prior to the General Assembly. Dr. Billy Graham, the world's foremost evangelist, was featured as the speaker at San Francisco on Sunday afternoon, December 4, at the closing session of the meeting of United Church Men.

Baptist World Alliance President

The Rev. John Soren of Brazil, holds other distinctions besides being honored by election to the presidency of the Baptist World Alliance. He flew up from Rio de Janeiro recently to receive an honorary doctor's degree from William Jewell College, just prior to the General Assembly. Dr. Soren F. Soren a similar degree in 1929, 30 years after his graduation. John Soren followed in his father's footsteps at Rio in another unusual way. For 26 years the new president of the 23-million-member Baptist body has been pastor of the First Baptist Church of Rio, succeeding his father who held the same pastorate for 33 years. It took his father 20 days to travel to the United States in 1899. The son, in 1960, is flying to the United States this time Dr. Soren has been conferring with Baptist leaders in Washington and elsewhere.

ROY ROGERS has been conferring with Baptist leaders in the travel to the new president of the 23-million-member World Alliance. He is, like his father, a World Alliance president.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - Sue. Don L. Vorkink

Illegitimacy - a Social Condemnation

Every year some 20,000 girls and women enter the approximately 150 maternity homes scattered about the country, to give birth to those babies called illegitimate.

The truth about this ever-growing menace to our society is explored by Glenn Matthew White in the December Ladies' Home Journal — why it happens, and what can be done about it.

The statistics he offers are shattering: reports showed an increase in illegitimate births, of 7,000 in a single year. Among non-white births, 21 out of 100 are out of wedlock. From studies in one average community "... more than a third of the girls in teen-age marriages are pregnant at marriage."

 Says Mr. White: "The social anxieties found in the poor and disorganized parts of our society a quarter of a century ago have spread upward." Illegitimacy occurs because of pure ignorance, of physiological tensions and situations, of environment, a desire to experiment, and lack of moral and religious training.

Psychological studies show that illegitimate pregnancy occurs much less often among girls with strong religious convictions.

A good marriage is not a contract between two persons, but a covenant among three. Too often Christ is never invited to the wedding and finds no room in the home. Why? Is it because we have misrepresented Him and forgotten His joyful outlook on life? —Donald T. Kaufman.

Strange as it may seem, the religious issue in the recent election was interpreted in Russia as religious persecution. A Soviet labor official cited the persecution of John Kennedy in a conversation with Patrick E. Gorman of the AMCBU Union. He pointed out, "In America, there is religious persecution, but none in Russia." Mr. Gorman found most churches in Russia boarded up.

From the Riverside, Calif., bulletin of November 26 comes an item that should interest young people in other places. Older folks might profit from such a project also.

"The Youth Groups will meet in the Parish House. Rolanda Wheeler will lead the Seniors, and will seek to acquaint those present with the need of knowing how to use religious reference books. Young people are invited to bring their favorite reference Bibles, concordances, and Bible Dictionaries. Please bring also a pencil or pen."

From Battle Creek this notice is picked up to let people in other places see how one church organization is using an evangelistic tool.

"To help us in evangelism, the Sabbath School has received 225 copies of the November special issue of The Sabbath Recorder. If each family took one copy every week in December and passed it on to another family, by the New Year over two hundred homes would be blessed. Would you like to have an extra copy today? I am sure if you watch carefully, God will give you an opportunity to give it to someone searching for the truth. A new friend of our church already took twelve. Will you take at least one?"

The Alfred Station, N. Y., bulletin for November 26 has this to say about attendance.

"Attendance last Sabbath: Church 88, Sabbath School 71. This is the largest Sabbath School attendance in at least four years."

Strange as it may seem, the religious issue in the recent election was interpreted in Russia as religious persecution. A Soviet labor official cited the persecution of John Kennedy in a conversation with Patrick E. Gorman of the AMCBU Union. He pointed out, "In America, there is religious persecution, but none in Russia." Mr. Gorman found most churches in Russia boarded up.

From Ashaway, R. I., comes information about fellowship dinners after church connection in the Lay Development Program. One such meal was scheduled on November 19. In the same bulletin notice was given for another fellowship meal on December 3. The announcement about Lay Development follows:

"Our first Lay Development Program of this season will be held on Sabbath, December 3. For the convenience of our people, we have decided to have these meetings on Sabbath afternoons, not holding any on Friday night (although prayer meeting will be held as usual at that time). Please make your plans to attend on December 3, and the first Sabbath afternoon of each month thereafter."

November attendance averages at Shiloh:

1958 1959 1960
Friday evening 43 37 43
Sabbath School 151 158 170
Morning Worship 182 193 190

The Union Thanksgiving service in the Verona, N. Y. Seventh Day Baptist Church included Methodist churches of three communities, a Presbyterian church, and the nearby Lutheran church. The offering went to the Salvation Army.

At Milton, Wis., the regularly scheduled Meal of Sharing was held on Sabbath day, November 12. The offering was given to "Meals for Millions."

"No Room in the Inn"

"No room." They are the most heart-tending words in the Bible. No room. Would you have said that? Don't you say it, every day? Don't you say to Christ when He asks you for your heart: "Go away and let me sleep? I've got no time for you, no room in my heart." "I don't know you"? We're all innkeepers with room for everybody and everything but Him. Not many of us really let Him in. I heard once about an old Scottish minister who used to go around knocking on the doors of his town and asking whoever answered the knock: "Tell me, do you know Jesus Christ live here?" People stared at him and told jokes about him. They thought he was crazy. But was he? Did he have a guilty conscience? — Roy Rogers in My Favorite Christmas Story (Flamingo: H. Revell Company).

THE SABBATH RECORDER

DECEMBER 12, 1960

15
NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

ADAMS CENTER, N. Y. — At the annual church meeting held the evening of July 2, it was voted to increase the number of trustees from 3 to 5.

The Christian Education Committee, with Albert Gilmore as general superintendent, arranged for the Church Family Retreat which was held September 1-4 at Camp Wabasso near Redwood. Plans were made for the second year Program of Advance. Committees were named and the work was definitely scheduled. The Sabbath worship service was one long-to-be-remembered. Mr. Wayne Crandall of Canisteo gave an inspiring talk, and a number of young folks were baptized in the lake. A fellowship dinner was served in the lodge. Many guests were present.

The Worldwide Communion service was held October 1, and six candidates were received into church membership. A fellowship dinner was later served in the church parlors.

A Men’s Fellowship has been organized, from which much is expected.

No church service was held here October 5 when the fall Association was held at Brookfield. A song service by the combined choirs, and directed by Pastor Delmer Van Horn, was a feature of the afternoon service. The workshops held at Verona, October 9, were also well attended. Two of our members from the Executive Board, Albert Gilmore serving as moderator and Gerald Greene as treasurer.

From October 15 to 19, the family visitation was conducted by 8 teams. It has been a spiritual experience for all who participated.

The Junior C. E., with Mrs. Alan Gilmore as leader, is very active. There are 20 members and their motto is “Helping Others.” In addition to their own projects, they have helped with Sabbath School projects, having earned $50 selling candy. The proceeds from the candy sale and also from the magazine “Ideals” are to purchase filmstrips and audio-visual aids, and other material for the Sabbath School. A record player and several filmstrips have already been secured.

The annual fellowship dinner was held in the church parlors Sunday, October 30. After a social time a vesper service was given by the choir, led by Pastor Van Horn. This was concluded by a candle-light communion service. This was very impressive.

Three ham dinners have been held by the Ways and Means Committee. New storm windows have been installed on the south side of the sanctuary. Natural gas has been installed in the parsonage and a new floor laid in the dining room.

Our youth choir, combined with the youth choirs of the other two churches of the community, have been rehearsing for the union Thanksgiving service.

—Correspondent

OBITUARIES

Burwick — Ella Grace Brown, daughter of Harvey S. and Rosaline Potter Brown, was born at West Hallock, Ill., April 20, 1870, and died at Highland Park, Ill., Nov. 17, 1960. She was married July 9, 1891, to the late Dr. Alfred Stephen Burwick, who in later years was president of Abbott Laboratories. Throughout her long life she was a faithful member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. For further details see separate article in this issue.

Stifflin — Edna Tittsworth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tittsworth, was born October 5, 1875, near Nortonville, Kan., and died November 26, 1960, at the Jefferson County Memorial Hospital. Edna was united in marriage in 1899 to Charles S. Stifflin, who preceded her in death in April 1954. She was an active member of the Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church, where she attended regularly as long as her health permitted.

Funeral services were held at the Warren Mortuary in Nortonville, with her pastor, the Rev. Robert Lippscott, officiating. Burial was in the Nortonville Cemetery. — B. L.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for December 24, 1960

The Greatest Gift

Lesson Scripture: Luke 2:8-20

A CHRISTMAS HYMN

Tell me what is this Innumerable throng
Singing in the heavens a loud angelic song?
Those are they who came with swift and silent feet
From round about the throne of God, the Lord of Light to greet.

©, who are these that hasten beneath the starry sky,
As if with joyful tidings that through the world shall fly?
The faithful shepherds those, who Geoffrey were o’erseas,
With feathers and garlands, they who discovered Jesus, as they visited their flocks by night, the heavenly host appeared.

Who are these that follow across the hills of night
As star s that steadfastly run east along the globe at light?
Three wise men from the east who methyl and treasure bring.
To lay them at the feet of him, their Lord and Christ and King.

Tell me, how may I join In this holy feast
With all the lovely world, and I of all the least?
Poor soul, O faithful heart, but bring what grace in meet;
Bring love alone, true love alone, and say it at his feet.

— Richard Watson Gilder.