OUR WORLD MISSION

OWM Budget Receipts for November 1965

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treasurer's</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treasurer's</th>
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NOVEMBER 1965 DISBURSEMENTS

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<tr>
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<td>Total</td>
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SUMMARY

1965-1966 Budget | $120,554.00 |
Receipts for 2 months: | $14,042.61 |
OWM Treasurer | $14,042.61 |
Boards' Education | $251.30 |
Amount due in 10 months | $106,260.09 |
Needed per month | $10,626.01 |
Percentage of Budget year elapsed | 16.66% |
Percentage of Budget raised | 11.86% |
November 30, 1965, Gordon L. Sanford, OWM Treasurer.

The Angel Gabriel Was Sent to Nazareth

To modern Nazareth nestled among the unchanging hills of Galilee there clings something of the aura of glory associated with the little city of ancient times where Joseph and Mary became espoused, where they were visited by an angel and where they brought up the Holy Child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The rolling centuries with their ever-changing political structures and the crumbling of old buildings cannot erase the glory of Gabriel's visit to Joseph and all else that endears this city to the Christian world. Though Nazareth is now far from being a Christian city its name is sacred to Christians the world around.
Watch that Church

When a relatively small church holds three Bible studies each week over an extended period of time, indeed, as a general thing, it indicates that many of the members are taking their faith seriously. It calls forth the exclamation, “Watch that church!”

Such a church must have been growing or it would not have the surge of life that made the members want to schedule Bible studies in their homes. It is a church that has lost its 5,000 members to grow, for earnest Bible study with invited guests will produce growth, even as the Scripture says, “Desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby” (1 Peter 2:2). It will be strong, for the members who feed on the Word will know what nourishes their souls and they will be both like the tree that divides the word of truth into portions suitable to the needs of others who are less mature or who have “erred from the truth.”

The first three notices on successive bulletins of the Los Angeles church read something like this:

1. “You are invited to begin the Sabbath . . . in the church at a Bible study and prayer service.

2. “Tuesday evenings the Sylmar Bible study group meets in the . . . home, led by Erv Gillespie.”

3. “Thurday evenings the West Covina Bible study group meets at the . . . home, by Albyn Mackintosh leader.”

Yes, such a church will bear watching. Something is going to happen — if the church conducts to continue to meet the needs of those who attend. The Sabbath morning worship service will be filled with attentive listeners; the Sabbath school will be well attended rather than bench warmers, and the home mission work of the church will have leadership and direction.

The trouble with many churches is that the Book which tells of the work of Christ has not been really studied and has not been the center of thought. Not so when a Bible-loving church — by its practice — by its fruits. Do you love the Lord and His Word? Can you say because of your faith in Christ, “O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day” (Ps. 119:97)? How about Bible study or under your leadership in the home of another? We have the promise of Isaiah 55:11, in regard to the Word of God: “It shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”

Throwing Away Food

In the little known biblical book of Ecclesiastes there are a number of choice quotations. One of them is, “Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days” (Eccl. 11:1). This undoubtedly relates to the blessings that come from liberality. It is in this connection that it is usually quoted. The writer was evidently familiar with Egyptian methods of agriculture where the seed grain was broadcast from boats when the delta area of the Nile was flooded. The bread (corn, rice or whatever) would germinate when the waters receded and would produce a bountiful harvest “after many days.” What seemed a loss would prove to be a gain.

There is an interesting modern version of that biblical saying. It, too, is related to Christian liberalty. The Christian Medical Society enlists the aid of Christian doctors and others in what is called MAP (Medical Assistance Program). It operates, as funds permit, in any spot in the world where there is need, sending doctors, medical supplies, veterinary supplies, and food supplements. It helps to people to help themselves. One of the strange things done in October was to ship 1,000,000 pounds of poisoned wheat into a country where in August the Society also sent 37 tons of intravenous fluids, 5 tons of vitamins and 600,000 doses of cattle vaccine. It would seem that it would be far better to send 200 tons of edible wheat from our surplus than this great amount of medicine. The island is so plagued with rats that 20 per cent of the country’s agricultural production is destroyed by them every year. Thus poisoned wheat is a better gift than food, better than even seed wheat, for it will make the bread to come back again in ample harvests “after many days.” Sometimes the indirect gift is the best gift.

The Bible speaks of parents who know how to give good gifts to their children. They do not always give what the children want, but what they need, what is good for them. This includes learning and discipline, unwanted education, even compulsory church attendance. Thus God gives best by withholding some of the things we ask for. A shipment of 400,000 pounds of poisoned wheat might be quite a disappointment to the hungry people of the Dominican Republic. It could be regarded as throwing away food, but it would rid the island of its infestation of rats and would prove to be a blessing in disguise — a delayed answer to prayer.

This is the season of giving. Let us give wisely.

Now when Jesus was born in Beth-lehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the King, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

—Matt. 2:1, 2, 11.
THE Message of Christmas

There are two kinds of messages very much in our thinking at this joyous season, the messages that came from God announcing the Savior's birth and the messages we send to friends far and near. As Christians we try to make our greetings conform to the spirit of the message of the joyous gift of God to the world.

There is something, mystical, mysterious and supernatural about the Christ coming in human flesh, what we call the incarnation. The Bible accounts are full of messages of angels. Some people have difficulty believing in angels. One way of planning down that difficulty is to remind ourselves that events surrounding the birth of Jesus show that angels believed in us. They came as a great heavenly host with a message of peace on earth and good will toward men immediately after the single angel appeared to the shepherds with the assuring and all-inclusive words, "Fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." The Sabbath Recorder and all its staff are conscious of being included in the greeting of God to men voiced by the many messages of good will from readers of the denominational publication. This is the time, this editorial publication. This is the time, this season, the messages that came from heaven with a message of peace to earth and good will toward men immediately after the single angel appeared with the assurance that the world was so saturated with sun moon and planet seasonal worshiping practices that the early Latin Church either in initiation or movable Christian holy days to prevent the defection of Christians back to pagan religious practices.

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Zip Code Numbers Needed

Mailing lists are required to have zip code numbers by January 1. All church clerks and all nonresident members are asked to send this information immediately to Mrs. O. Nelson Johnson, Wisc. for the Women's Board list and a copy to the general secretary at Plainfield. If your address changes, please notify all concerned.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Should Christians

Observe Christmas?

By Frederick M. Ayars

Christmas, that holiday usually loved by young and old alike, has been under nearly constant attack since A.D. 300 when it was first officially observed. The attacks have mainly been based upon the accusation that the December 25 date is not biblical, was a sun-worshiping holiday, and that the day is too commercial-ized. What is our Christmas heritage? Should Christians entangle themselves with its observance or should they enter into this glorious day as an excellent way of giving special praise to Christ?

Christmas means to some, the mass of Christ, to others, the nativity of Jesus Christ, and to still others it is simply a time of gift-giving and getting. History tells us that up to about A.D. 300 Christ's birthday was not officially observed. Also history indicates that no human is likely to establish the real birth date of our Lord. This is evidenced in the fact that Christmas has been observed on January 6, March 25, December 25, and February 2. Others thought His birth took place on May 20, April 19, November 17, and March 28.

At the time of the early church the world was so saturated with sun moon and planet seasonal worshiping practices that the early Latin Church either in initiation or movable Christian holy days to coincide with pagan days of holiday or worship. This supposedly was done to make transition from pagan worship to Christian easier. Our present Christmas date and practices come to us as a result of such compromises on dates and ideals. Christmas day, for instance, was changed from January 6 to December 25 by the early Latin Church around 440 to coincide with the winter solstice. At this time, the pagans observed the birth day of the unconquered son of Philoculus by lighting huge bonfires to warm up the sun god and encourage his return. The early pagans believed that the sun god was reborn each winter solstice. The Danes, as well as the early pagans, also entangled themselves in the birth day of Odin's Oak (god of the dead human sacrifices given) by an ornamented fir tree dedicated to the Christ Child. German immigrants later brought the Christmas tree custom to the United States.

Christmas music unlike our other customs comes to us from the early church in the form of chants, litanies, and hymns sung in Latin. Our present type of Christmas music started around the 13th century.

The Christmas tree is perhaps the most commonly understood symbol of Christ's birth day known today. Yet even here we find that an eighth century English missionary in Germany replaced the pagan's christmas tree (temple for Saturnalia the Roman festival of Saturn) with a Christmas tree, that holiday usually loved by young and old alike, has been under nearly constant attack since A.D. 300 when it was first officially observed. The attacks have mainly been based upon the accusation that the December 25 date is not biblical, was a sun-worshiping holiday, and that the day is too commercial-ized. What is our Christmas heritage? Should Christians entangle themselves with its observance or should they enter into this glorious day as an excellent way of giving special praise to Christ?

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Of this we may be sure, our Christmas date and customs of tree adornment, gift-giving, and the like initially came from the early pagans. Any one can easily read the account himself from a good encyclopedia. We come to the perplexing thought then that if it were not for the pagans we might not even be observing Christ's birth day today. In addition to this no Bible verse can be found that suggests or directs the observance of Christ's birth. To complicate the picture further the very custom of observing birthdays comes to us from the early pagans and astlogers whose predictions were based upon a person's birth-
date and the position of the stars at that particular time.

In considering the positive aspects of our Christmas heritage we find the principles of gift-giving in God's gift of Christ and the wise men's gifts to Christ at His birth, the singing of the heavenly host to shepherds in the field, and the blazing of the Christmas star. To this we can all agree, Christ is deserving of such a holiday as Christmas. But is it God or Christ's will that we observe His birthday, especially since we were not so directed?

To this, each person must answer to his own satisfaction other deeper questions. First we might ask, does it please Christ that we honor Him in this way? The God-man encounter has God in ages past ever used a touch of pagan religious rites or ideas to strengthen an inspiration from the purely pagan to the purely Christian walk? Should any religious day be proclaimed or observed without a clear-cut biblical directive? It is wrong to practice age-old pagan rites in the observance of man-declared Christian holy days after being reoriented to supposedly glorified by the God-man encounter.

We rejoice to find this becoming a reality. The reports and plans of the general secretary indicated that Mr. Wheeler was causing the office and is already leading the entire denomination in new avenues of co-operative growth. We are grateful for the spirit of helpfulness and cooperation on the part of the churches, boards, and agencies as they have united in new spheres of service.

The Commission appreciates the discretionary funds made available from the trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memori­al Fund which are making possible the improvement and expansion of the General Conference office.

Current giving to Our World Mission during October 1965 was $40. The decision was made that periodic mailings to the Seventh Day Baptists during the year by the Commission will serve to inform our membership of our ever-growing and expanding denominational efforts and the necessity for the dedicating of our material resources. A letter was received from the Board of Missions and the Women's Board urging all Seventh Day Baptists to share in all areas of mission work.

The Commission received a report from the church extension committee of the North American Committee, listing the membership from 89 to 165. The Commission has approved plans for the dedicated for construction of a new church property so that land is now available for the new church building in Hammond, La. We highly commend Mr. Shoemaker for the action which displays his faith and devotion to the cause of Christ.

A report was given that a general membership for the Minuteman Club was made in the fall. This increased the membership from 89 to 165.

The conference received a report from the church extension committee of the North American Conference to the Commission in some detail. We find exciting possibilities and growth for our churches and are urging all agencies to cooperate in the implementation of the program.

Interest has been growing concerning the work of our Sabbathkeeping brethren in Mexico. Plans began to develop during the planning meeting in December to make arrangements for our churches and their leaders by representatives of General Conference. Commission has approved plans for the president, the Rev. Marion C. Van Horn, to accompany the director of evangelism, the Rev. Leon R. Lawton, making this trip in late January and early February 1965.

The Commission had been working since Conference a preliminary draft of a Seventh Day Baptist structure study. During this session the study was analyzed and divided and into four parts: (1) How We Came to Be and Why, (2) Our Present Structure, (3) Sugges­tions and Plans of Reorganization,
Our Nativity Sermon

"The Most Important Person"
By Rev. Edgar Wheeler

"And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ." (Luke 2:26)

We are soon to read Luke's Christmas story. Those events that occurred in the temple (Luke 2:21-35) took place forty days after that "healing" by the Holy Spirit. When the Savior was born. Yet they are an important part of the nativity account. At the Savior's birth, angels appeared to shepherds in the fields to announce the coming of the Savior; and the babe lying in a manger (1:26); Matthew tells of the coming of the wise men from the East to worship and offer gifts to the Savior (Matt. 2:11); after they and others had seen the Child and heard the wonderful things spoken of Him, the shepherds returned to their fields "glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen." (2:20).

Simeon and the prophetess Anna had both missed the dramatic events at Bethlehem, and likely had not heard of them. But they missed none of the thrill of seeing the Savior, and yet, under similar circumstances they felt the meaning of His coming in a more personal way than did those who were at Bethlehem.

Eight days after the Child's birth, He was circumcised according to the rites of His people, and He was given the name "Jesus" as the angel had told Joseph He would be called. (Matt. 1:21).

Then followed thirty-three days of purification for Mary (Leviticus 12:2-4), the offering of the sacrifice of purification, and the presentation of the Child to God. This took place in the temple. A pious man of Jerusalem, Simeon was led by the Spirit to come to the temple at this very time. There as he saw the baby Jesus with Mary and Joseph, he knew that the Lord's promise that he should live to see the Savior had been fulfilled. Taking the baby in his arms, he praised God and said that now he was ready to die, since God had kept His word: "For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people." (2:30, 31).

Simeon was convinced that God had singled him out for the special privilege of seeing the Savior before his own death, and he told those present that Holy Ghost had led him to the temple at this time for this very reason.

Knowing how skeptical human nature can be, we may assume that at least some of the people present at the temple had come as "a light to lighten the nations, and the glory of thy people Israel" (Luke 2:32). But he also knew that he was a little indignant: "He'll go, old man, but he has his flights of fancy. He thinks that he's a little more important than he really is. He thinks that he is the most important person in God's sight!"

But if this is what Simeon thought, he was right. For God wanted this man to see the Savior, the Messiah for whom all the things that they had heard and seen (2:20) were true. Simeon was convinced and my life was changed. (1 Tim. 1:15). It comes with equal surprise to the least important person, and because it is constantly and universally true that "Jesus Christ came to save sinners," this is the eternal message of the gospel.

None can exempt himself from the fact that God can make him a special person — the most important person. Only unbelief or blind rejection of God's call can hinder this from becoming an experienced reality.

At little girl was asked which of the children her mother loved the most. Her reply was that: "She loves Jimmy best because he is the oldest; she loves Johnny best because he is the youngest; and she loves me best because I am the only girl." (From Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations.)

So it is with the love of God. It is so all-inclusive that He can and does seek to bless each individual in a special way. Even our sins and weaknesses make us the objects of His salvation and help.

It is in making us aware that we are the most important persons that Jesus Christ leads us to abundant life. For He not only convinces us of our own importance in God's sight, but He reveals to us that He will be our Savior if we will accept Him by faith. And we are so never to be ashamed of the gospel. God revealed, but to me for the purpose of convincing me that Christ came to save me, I was convinced and my life was changed.

It comes with equal surprise to the least important person, and because it is constantly and universally true that "Jesus Christ came to save sinners," this is the eternal message of the gospel.

(continued on page 12)
A thrilling message of the saving work of Christ has come from Pastor Otraiti Manan. Many will remember him from his visit to this country to attend CoWoCo and General Conference at Salem, West Virginia, in August 1963.

For several years Pastor Manan has served the Chikinda Seventh Day Baptist Church, an outpost of Makapwa, about five miles distant over very rough terrain. In addition he has served as the secretary of the Central Africa Conference of Seventh Day Baptist Churches.

In letter dated November 15, 1965, Pastor Manan has written about an outpouring of the Spirit of God among the people of the area of his services, which carries encouragement and hope to all who love the Lord. We will let his words carry the message: "We here are so thankful for the saving power of the crucified and resurrected Christ as it is so wonderfully manifested here in this area around this area, and praise the Lord so wonderfully for His councilor, Rangesi Chizenga by name, who has been so wonderful in this area."

"Since several months ago I have been engaged myself in personal evangelism around this area, and praise the Lord that souls have been saved. Approximately ten people have joined the church by confession and thirty-eight (people) by baptism. It was on the 30th of October, 1965, that the thirty-eight people mentioned above were baptized by the guest pastor, H. J. Mwango, who traveled a long distance from Thembie Seventh Day Baptist Church, Mulanje District, coming especially to help on this occasion by our invitation. One of these thirty-eight people is the councilor of Chief Ngabu (the native Authority Ngabu rules over one hundred eighteen villages). His councilor, Rangesi Chizenga by name, is now a humble Christian man. The respect and dignity he has as a councilor does not stop him from coming to mingle and worship with us at our new small church. Many of these people who were baptized by confession and thirty-eight (people) will call upon His name just as he may be. Please help us to pray that the church here in Lower Szentongwe, and also remember to help us to pray for revival for all of our churches in Central Africa."

From the minutes of the meeting of the recently elected Board of Trustees of the African Conference there are several items which refer to future plans for Pastor Manan. A Ministerial Training Committee was appointed by the Conference on which he is to serve as a member, along with "Pastors L. Mongoni, L. Kawere, Preacher M. J. Chisi, and the Director of Christian Education and Evangelism who will come from the United States."

The African Conference Executive Committee also recommended that Pastor Manan and family should move to Blantyre soon to help establish a ministerial training center there for the purpose of preparing the African pastors and ministerial students for better service of our Lord and also to work toward gathering together the Seventh Day Baptists of that city into a church. This is a tremendously important assignment and worthy of the prayers and support of all Seventh Day Baptists. Bible study every week will be more written about the working out of these plans as the months go by.

News Flash — Word has just been received by the secretary of the board that Pastor Manan has received a job offer from the Ministerial Training Center to Blantyre November 29 to begin his work there. The new address is Blantyre Seventh Day Baptist Station, P.O. Box 357, Blantyre, Malawi, C.A.

**Week of Prayer For Seventh Day Baptists**

That which has been known for many years as the Universal Week of Prayer, observed during the first week of January by many Seventh Day Baptist churches, is begin given a new emphasis this year.

A mimeographed booklet on prayer written by and for Seventh Day Baptists has been prepared and made available as requested. A sample copy was first sent to all pastors and/or church clerks and an offer made to supply the number needed. Of necessity this offer has now been terminated.

The response has been very gratifying and encouraging. Approximately one thousand copies have been requested and sent to Seventh Day Baptist churches both at home and abroad. Another year the preparation and distribution of material for such a Week of Prayer observance may well be undertaken as a project of a newly organized Federation of Seventh Day Baptist Conferences.

It has been stated that "the observance of the Week of Prayer during the first full week of January may well set the pattern of our church life during the coming year." Surely the joining in common of prayer by Seventh Day Baptists of the world will unite our hearts toward one another and to God.

**Mission Slide Sets Available**

Two new slide sets with scripts are available for loan to the churches. These describe with colored slide pictures the most recent happenings on Seventh Day Baptist mission fields of British Guiana and of Malawi. An accompanying script tells the story of each picture.

A slide set #8 from Rev. Leland Davis contains 59 beautifully colored slides. These have been prepared especially to assist the churches in emphasizing our British Guiana Mission Field on the fifth Sabbath of January 1966. Many will be interested to view pictures of the new Volkswagen Van, the new boat called the "Seventh Day Baptist Messenger" in use on the Pomeroon River, the first Vacation Bible School held at Wakenaan, and many other views of mission work and personnel.

The slide set of Malawi, Africa, Mission pictures was brought back by the Rev. Paul S. Burdick, Waterford, Conn., as he returned from his extended visit at Makapwa and the African churches and people. This set is also being made available for loan at this time, on a first-come, first-served basis. Write for the use of a slide set, giving more than one preferred date if possible.

**Commission Holds Winter Meeting**

(continued from page 7)

and (4) Observations, Thoughts, and Conclusions. These reports early in 1966 and structure studies will be encouraged in the churches during the early spring months with suggestions or conclusions of each church to be mailed to the Commission by June 1, 1966. These will be evaluated and a report will be submitted to General Conference.

The Commission noted the suggestions originating in the Southeastern Association. While it will be impossible to publicize to the churches all business matters to be presented at Conference two weeks prior to the convening of the sessions, sincere effort will be made to share as much information as possible. Hence, a request will be sent to all churches and associations asking for any such items they wish to have included in this publicity.

Following the close of the General Conference sessions in Alfred this year, a resume of Conference actions was sent to church leaders asking them to share all Seventh Day Baptist and other information of their churches. Reactivation was favorable, and Commission agreed that such information should be sent annually.

Consultations were held with William Armstrong, Frederik Bakker, and Charles North, representatives of the Tract Board; Secretary Everett T. Harris of the Missionary Board; Dean Victor W. Skaggs of the Ministerial Training Center, and...
Among our leadership in these
Sec.

of information and ideas concerning the
were shared and the Commission is be­

being made on previously projected plans.

of such conversations. Each of the maior
coming

Board. There was a very free exchange

implentation.

of the functions and duties of Commis­

sion., and revisions were made reflecting

areas.' Mutual problems and interests

other agencies of the General Confer­

ence. These matters were discussed in

detail and an answer returned to the

request. A communication from

Preliminary work was done on the

senting

(continued from page 9)

Mrs. R. T. Fetherston, chairman.
Duane L. Davis,
S. Kenneth Davis,
Leonard V. Fisher,
George E. Parrish,
Marion C. Van Horn,
Alton L. Wheeler, general secretary

“THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON”

We make no mistake when by humble faith we say, “I am the most important person in God’s sight.” This is made the

more unmistakably clear when we realize that the eternal and glorious Son “made himself of no reputation, and took upon himself the form of a servant, ... and became obedient unto death” (Phil. 2: 7, 8) to redeem sinners to God.

This is the heart of the beautiful Christmas story in Bethlehem. Let us believe that it was for us that He came. And let us share this good message, “the Good News,” with the world, that so many believe that God is dead, or couldn’t care less. To each one Christ says: “You are the most important per­

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Sec. Rex E. Zwibel

C. E. Award Competition

Individual as well as Christian En­

deevor societies and similar youth groups
can enter the 1966 Citizenship Awards

Program, sponsored by the International

Society of Christian Endeavor.

Individuals may enter an article, ed­i­
torial, talk, poster, black and white photo­
graph, or some combination of groups

will report on citizenship projects.

Topping the list of awards, which total
$1,075 in cash plus award emblems, plaques, and certificates, is $150 to the individual winner and $200 to the win­
nung society.

Award recipients often receive more
topical recognition awaits the winning entries and projects, plus the

opportunity to make a real witness for
Christian citizenship in the local com­

unity. In addition, youth are aroused to an increased interest and awareness in
Christian citizenship today.

The Awards Program is open to all youth societies and Canada under 25 years of age and to all Christian Endeavor societies or similar youth groups which have a majority of members under 25 years old.

Individual entries must be used as a
Christian witness in the community, while

societies must sponsor and report a com­

pleted Christian citizenship activity. The

awards period began June 1, 1965. Dead­

line for entries is February 15, 1966.

All entries will be evaluated on the man­

ner in which they implement Christian Endeavor’s folder What Is Christian Cit­

izenship? and provide a community Chris­

tian witness.

Complete details may be secured from
the Citizenship Director of the Interna­
tional Society of Christian Endeavor, 122 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43216.

Christian Endeavor World

With the December 1965 issue, a num­

ber of changes will take place in The
Christian Endeavor World. This maga­

zine, first published in 1886 under the
name The Golden Rule, is the official

publication of the International Society of
Christian Endeavor.

According to the editor, Phyllis L. Rike, plans include a new cover and a new

convenient size, with all material beamed to the individual reader. The magazine

will continue to cover news of Christian

Endeavor world wide, with many pictures of

Endeavorers in action and complete infor­
mation about current programs and

emphasizes.

Concurrent with these changes, two

new topic quarterly will be introduced,
beginning with first quarter 1966 issues.
Junior High C. E. Meetings will be beamed
to ages 12-14, with Youth C. E. Meetings
to those 15-24. These are already avail­

able. There are now three complete age­

level Christian Endeavor quarterly titles.

Rev. Christian A. Tirre, editor of Junior

C. E. Meetings, has been named editor of

the two new quarterly.

He reports that in addition to two pages for each

week’s topic comments, the quarterly will include resource materials such as

program planning helps, suggestions for

leaders, and creative activity ideas, etc.

This material was formerly pub­

lished in The Christian Endeavor World.

Also making its appearance early in

December will be a new Youth World

Young Adult and Adult Topic Summaries (Series

V), for use during 1966. Price will be $3.

The subscription rate for The Christian

Endeavor World and for the three quarter­

lies will be $2 a year in the United States

and Canada; five copies to one address,

$8 a year; ten copies, $13.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for January 1, 1966

What and Why Christian Social Action?

1. Service to Those in Need, Matt.

25: 31-46;


3. God Hears the Israelites’ Pleas,

Ex. 3:7-12;

4. God Establishes a Covenant, Ex.

20: 1-17;

5. The Lord Answers, Psalm 20:

6. One Body, I Cor. 12: 13-31;

7. Christ Proclaims His Mission of

Retiring WCC Secretary

Dr. Willem A. Visser 't Hooft, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, was the featured speaker at the annual luncheon meeting of the Friends of the WCC on Tuesday, December 7, at the Broadway Congregational Church in New York City. He spoke on "Rapid Change and Slow Motions," his analysis of the ecumenical movement of the past year. The Friends of the World Council of Churches is the incorporated body of individual contributors to the U.S. Conference for the World Council of Churches.

One of the major actions to come out of the annual meeting of the World Council's Central Committee in Geneva, February 8-17, will be the election of a successor to Dr. Visser 't Hooft, who has held the top executive post since the formation of the WCC. Dr. Visser 't Hooft, who is 65, has been asked by the Central Committee to continue until his successor is appointed.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft is co-chairman, with Roman Catholic Bishop Jan G. M. Willebrands, of the 14-member joint working group studying principles and methods of collaboration with the Roman Catholic Church. The group recently held its second meeting near Rome.

The World Council of Churches was formally constituted at the First Assembly held at Amsterdam in August, 1948, with Dr. Visser 't Hooft as general secretary. On that occasion the Queen of the Netherlands made him a Knight of the Order of the Netherlands Lion. He also has been honored by the French government, the German Federal Republic, the Ecumenical Patriarchate at Istanbul, and the Orthodox Church of Russia.

Miss Shannon has long been active in ecumenical work for the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., her most recent position being chairman of the General Secretary for Ecumenical Relations of the Presbyterian Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations.

She was instructor in Beirut College for Women in Lebanon, 1933-1936. In 1951 she was part of a Fellowship Team visiting countries in East Asia. In 1958 she was one of the leaders of the first conference of church women of Asia, which met in Hong Kong, and in 1962 she led the Bible studies of the second conference which was held in Pethuri, Thailand.

Miss Shannon was graduated from the University of Chicago in 1931, and later received a Master of Arts degree from Biblical Seminary in New York. In 1947 Maryville College conferred on her the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

United Church Women

Women's Work - Mrs. Lawrence W. Marsden

The Friends of the World Council of Churches is the incorporated body of individual contributors to the U.S. Conference for the World Council of Churches, was the featured speaker at the annual luncheon meeting of the Friends of the World Council of Churches on Tuesday, December 7, at the Broadway Congregational Church in New York City. He spoke on "Rapid Change and Slow Motions," his analysis of the ecumenical movement of the past year. The Friends of the World Council of Churches is the incorporated body of individual contributors to the U.S. Conference for the World Council of Churches.

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United Church Women

Women's Work - Mrs. Lawrence W. Marsden

At the request of leaders of the East Asia Christian Conference a team of six persons from the National Council of Churches met with them in Bangkok early in December. They conferred on the churches in world affairs. The one woman in the group was Mrs. Stuart E. Sinclair, chairman of United Church Women. She left November 25 and returns December 20th via Hong Kong and Japan, making contact on route with many Christian women leaders in various countries.

Before leaving, Mrs. Sinclair asked Miss Sarah L. Meinig and Miss Marion E. Goddard, retiring executive director, to announce the name of her successor. The General Board of the Council, meeting in Madison, Wis., elected Miss Mary June Shannon, beginning January 1, 1966.

Miss Shannon has long been active in ecumenical work for the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., her most recent position being chairman of the General Secretary for Ecumenical Relations of the Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations.

She was instructor in Beirut College for Women in Lebanon, 1933-1936. In 1951 she was part of a Fellowship Mission to Portugal, Spain, and Yugoslavia; in 1956 she was a member of a Pacific Fellowship Team visiting countries in East Asia. In 1958 she was one of the leaders of the first conference of church women of Asia, which met in Hong Kong, and in 1962 she led the Bible studies of the second conference which was held in Pethuri, Thailand.

Miss Shannon was graduated from the University of Chicago in 1931, and later received a Master of Arts degree from Biblical Seminary in New York. In 1947 Maryville College conferred on her the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

United Church Women is most fortunate to have secured so able a leader to succeed Mrs. MacLeod who has served so capably for the past seventeen years.

—Anna C. North

A Poor Lover

Christian coaches take pride in teaching young people to be good losers in the sports they take up in school. Roy Hilton Hobbs, now 25, has earned himself a reputation as the logical seminary after five years of exciting travel in Africa. While learning the ways of the jungle and making television pictures of wild life he took up alligator wrestling as a side line. He now comments, "This is one sport in which I would be a poor loser." The fact that he can make the marks is proof that he made himself a winner, not a loser. He feels a call to become a missionary to Africa, and is confident that many of his jungle experiences will help him to be a winner — of souls.

Places Christ Hallowed

"When He (Jesus) went back to Nazareth... He met with skepticism and rejection. His former neighbors and friends tried to push Him off a cliff to put an end to His 'strange' talk!... Perhaps they had been too close to Him to see that truthfully their tren­ edy was that they knew Him hardly at all. Like many in our day, they could call Him by name and recite facts about Him, but the person of Jesus was a stranger to them."

—from Places Christ Hallowed by Herschel H. Sheets.

Lone Sabbathkeeper News

Many interesting things could be written about our church members whose circumstances keep them a long distance from our church. For many years Mr. and Mrs. Richard (Nellie) North Carolina. Such is the case with Mr. and Mrs. Richard (Nellie Jo Bond) Brissette, members at Salem, V. A., residing at present in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Brissette sing in the choir of the Myers Park Baptist Church. A newspaper clipping from Charlotte announces that the Columbia Broadcasting System plans to televise over its network a special service of that church conducted between 12 midnight and 1 o'clock Christmas morning. The service will be largely taped. The opportunity will be an attempt to have a normal worship service. There will be no attempt to put on a show. It is a worship experience for those who are viewing, as well as those who are in the church itself.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

VERONA, N. Y.—Church services and other activities of auxiliary groups have continued in the weeks since Pastor Rex Burdick and family left for their new parsonate at Riverside. Several local pastors have occupied the pulpit, but much of the time we have been served by the Rev. Lester Osborn, now retired and living in Oneida. Pastor Osborn has also been conducting a fifteen-minute radio broadcast on Sabbath mornings over WMCR, Oneida. He uses taped or recorded music by Seventh Day Baptist people. His topic for "A Feverish Age." He always includes an invitation to our regular services.

Our church is a member of the Town of Verona Council of Churches and is co-operating in weekly Advent services. There was a community Thanksgiving service with combined choirs. Ours was also the host church for World Community Day.

Bible studies are held on Wednesday mornings, using the Book of Matthew. A party in honor of the 25th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bennett was well attended.

The Sabbath service and workshop conducted here recently by a missionaries evangelism team from De Ruiter of the National Evangelism Committee. Similar services are planned by exchange groups from the churches of the Association.

The money from the annual Lord's Day Baptist Church auction is being used for work at the parsonage in preparation for our new pastor, Rev. Donald Richards, who is expected to begin his work here January 1. — Correspondent.

DECEMBER 20, 1965
Accessions

Alfred, N. Y.

By Letter:
Burton B. Crandall
Carol D. Crandall (Mrs. Burton B.)

By Testimony:
Richard B. Tolins
Laura D. Tolins (Mrs. Richard B.)

Marriages

Crandall-Parragh.—Brandon Ray Crandall, Milton, Wis., son of Dr. and Mrs. Burton B. Crandall of Alfred, N. Y., and Grace Eliza­beth Parragh, Chicago, Ill., daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. D. D. Parragh, were united in marriage Aug. 28, 1965, in St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Chicago by the bride's father, assisted by Pastor Herbert Saunders of Little Genesee, N. Y.

Dennis-Emerson.—At the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Alfred, N. Y., on Sabbath afternoon, November 27, 1965, Walter Jay Dennis, Wellsville, N. Y., son of Robert H. and Helen Moser Dennis, and Phyllis Elaine Emerson, Alfred Station, N. Y., daughter of Milton and Rose Greene Emerson, were united in marriage, the Rev. Hurley S. Warren, officiating.

Obituaries

Boster.—C. Parker, was born in Gallipolis, Ohio, Feb. 19, 1897, and died at Holly Hill, Fla., Nov. 20, 1965.

Parker became an associate member of the Daytona Beach Seventh Day Baptist Church April 11, 1959. A cabinet maker by vocation, he found satisfaction in using his gift for the church. Among other things the doll furniture in the nursery is the product of his hands.

He is survived by his wife, Sara; a son, Richard, of Atlanta, Ga.; and several brothers and sisters.

Funeral services were conducted in Holly Hill by his pastor, the Rev. S. Kenneth Davis.

—S. K. D.

Olson.—Arvilla Stukey, daughter of Christopher and Cornelia Williams Stukey, was born in Watson, N. Y., Aug. 2, 1890, and died at the home of her daughter near Andover, N. Y., Nov. 27, 1965.

She was baptized on December 11, 1902, and united with the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Alfred. A few years ago she became an associate member of the Independence Seventh Day Baptist Church.

On March 30, 1918, she was united in marriage with Axel M. Olson. To this union were born one daughter and two sons, Meribah (Mrs. Carroll Burdick), Andover, N. Y.; and Kenneth and Norman Olson, both of Panama City, Fla.

Mr. Olson died Dec. 10, 1962.

Besides her children, she is survived by five grandchildren, all of Panama City, Fla.; and two nieces, Mrs. Starkey Green, Wellsville, N. Y., and Mrs. John Williams, Oneida, N. Y.

Funeral services were held at Andover, N. Y., with the Rev. Hurley S. Warren officiating.

Burial was in Alfred Rural Cemetery. —H. S. W.

Thorngate.—Emily Ella Davis, daughter of the late Henry and Ella Williams Davis, was born in Higginsville, N. Y., Dec. 8, 1882, and died at her home in Oneida, N. Y., Nov. 28, 1965, after a long illness.

Her early life was spent in the Oneida area. She was graduated from Oneida high school in 1901 and was graduated from Good Shepherd Hospital in Syracuse as a registered nurse in 1907. For many years she was a nurse in this area, retiring from the Oneida City Hospital in 1960.

She was married to the Rev. Royal R. Thorngate June 15, 1922, and went with him to British Guiana in 1927, where they served for three years. Mr. Thorngate died in 1948.

Mrs. Thorngate united with the Verona Seventh Day Baptist Church as a young girl, transferring her membership to the Piscataway Church at New Market, N. J., when she was married. She was also a member of Vesta Chapter No. 115, O.E.S. of New London.

Funeral services were conducted Dec. 1, with the Rev. Lester G. Osborn officiating. Interment was in the New Union Cemetery at Verona, Mills, N. Y. —L. G. O.