A Two-Fold Legacy

(Continued from page 7)

we have witnessed to the whole world. In the case of the disciples, it was Jerusalem; in the close-in community—Judaea; then across the barriers into Samaria; and into the uttermost parts of the then known world. Yes, they had to cross frontiers, they had to blaze trails to all the world.

There is a story that is told by Dr. Clovis G. Chappell:

Years ago I crossed the North Sea on the same ship with a man who was a missionary in China . . . . This man was said to be more familiar with things Chinese than any other man at that time. Because of this, a great oil company sought to obtain his services. They wanted to hire him because of his vast knowledge of China. The company sent one of their representatives to offer him a job with a salary of $10,000 a year. When he refused, the representative went up to him a job with a salary of $1,200. When he again refused, the representative invited him to set his own salary.

In reply to this, the missionary said, “The salary you offered at first is large enough, I am making only $1,200 a year. It is not the salary that you offer that is too small. It is the job. I have a bigger job than you can possibly offer.”

Dr. Chappell adds, “So every man, woman, boy and girl who takes the Lord seriously also has a bigger job than anyone else can offer him.”

Yes, ours is the biggest task at which any human soul can work. Just think for a moment of those people that you have told about eternal life. Just think of those you have had a part in helping to save. Just think of those that you have told about eternal life. Just think of those you have invited to accept Jesus as their Lord and Master. Let us thank God for calling each one of us to do so great a task.

New Mailing Procedure

With this issue the Sabbath Recorder adopts a new mailing system and conforms to the new postal regulations which require that periodicals be sorted by ZIP code numbers rather than by cities. Subscribers will notice that the address is no longer printed and pasted onto the wrapper or the Recorder itself. The names and ZIP coded addresses are now typed on special cards which are run through an addressing machine which reproduces the address on the top of the back page in space left for that purpose.

The new addressing machine, which has already been used for some other mailings, will probably simplify mailing procedure and reduce costs once it gets into full operation. The changeover has involved considerable work. Whether or not the new postal requirements will speed up delivery in every case remains to be seen. This is the hope.

Subscribers are asked to be extra careful in sending in changes of address, making sure that the new ZIP code is included. If you anticipate a change of address, it would be to your advantage to send it in early, because it takes time to make changes. From now on this class of mail will not be accepted without the ZIP code.

Marriages

Zwiebel-Gains.—Michael W. Zwiebel, Salem, W. Va., son of the Rev. and Mrs. Rex E. Zwiebel, Alfred Station, N. Y., and Wanda Gains, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Gains, Salem, W. Va., were united in marriage in the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church, Dec. 22, 1966, by the father of the groom.

Peaceful Use of the Atom

The biblical prediction of turning swords into plowshares would seem to be symbolized in this view of an atomic reactor development center where domestic and wild waterfowl glide peacefully in front of the center. The location is not identified but the terrain looks like the rolling hills of Livermore, Calif., where the late Stanley Rasmussen, an atomic research scientist and organizer of the Bay Area Seventh Day Baptist Church was employed. The real fulfillment of the prophecy mentioned above must come from the hand of God, for man turns plowshares into swords at the same time that he turns swords into plowshares. See story of reactors in this issue.
The U. N. and Vietnam

Shortly before Christmas President Johnson made a move toward settling the Vietnam War that came as a surprise to many. There had been many indications that we were willing to submit the question to the United Nations. It had seemed that they felt that the United States needed to be free to pursue policies and actions that were best for the best interests of that divided country and would stop the communists from taking over another large segment of the world. The United States cannot pay for contributed articles per year additional. Gift and newlywed subscriptions renewed. All but will send the writer, upon request, up to 10 free copies of the issue in which an article appears.

The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse all of the views expressed in the editorials. It is careful to say that what President Johnson is saying about the broad scope of peace. It is more than the broad scope of peace. Subsequent events up to this time of writing seem to indicate that the participants in the war are not in the right position from which they are willing to negotiate peace, though the talk goes on. The Christians and New Years cease-fires may have been mere words and the gold miner would call a flash in the pan.

What should the attitude of Christians be toward the United States involvement in Vietnam, or rather toward divesting itself? No one person can presume to have all the knowledge necessary to answer such a question. We all hate war and make. It is unreasonable to avert or to halt war while at the same time preserving human and national dignity. The choice of fighting or not fighting is sometimes the choice of maintaining or not maintaining a well equipped police force to prevent anarchy. We do well to grasp at such human straws as we can lay hold on and to give ourselves to intercessory prayer for those in authority. This much needs to be said in behalf of our nation to counteract the untruths that are spread by the propagandists who are hostile to our Christian ideals as to our bombings. There is no evidence that we are imperialistic or that we seek territorial gain. What we are doing in Vietnam is expending our material and human resources without reference to any anticipated gain other than that which hopefully will result for the good of the world if the march of communism is halted by energetic re

As a recommendation for an alternative to Christmas please let me suggest a return to the reading of the account of Jesus’ birth. Let us harbor warmly in our hearts the fulfillment of our Good News promise to send Messiah. Let us regain a desperate sense of urgency in what is obviously the closing times, and become reapers for Jesus. Let us not be reluctant to take up the Vietnam crisis. The intricacies of handling the whole knowledge necessary to answer such a question. We all hate war and make. It is unreasonable to avert or to halt war while at the same time preserving human and national dignity. The choice of fighting or not fighting is sometimes the choice of maintaining or not maintaining a well equipped police force to prevent anarchy. We do well to grasp at such human straws as we can lay hold on and to give ourselves to intercessory prayer for those in authority. This much needs to be said in behalf of our nation to counteract the untruths that are spread by the propagandists who are hostile to our Christian ideals as to our bombings. There is no evidence that we are imperialistic or that we seek territorial gain. What we are doing in Vietnam is expending our material and human resources without reference to any anticipated gain other than that which hopefully will result for the good of the world if the march of communism is halted by energetic resistance.

JANUARY 16, 1967
No Setting Sun
A publisher of gospel literature makes the claim on an envelope containing many samples of that literature, "The sun never goes down on our gospel literature in 65 languages." The bold claim is better appreciated when one reads some of the literature. It ranges from little fliers on colored newsprint to attractive folders in three colors. Not everyone would be pleased to handle some of the pieces, but everyone should appreciate the evangelical spirit and the dedicated zeal of Mr. and Mrs. Osterhus whose letters and appeals for missionaries are heart-warming.

For instance, they have sent out 50,000 letters with the hope of getting a dollar back from each one to send good books to missionaries of all denominations. They offer to print and send the books.

We have no wish to advertise the gospel work of these people above the similar work of others who are unselfishly giving of their time and talent for the Lord's work. It must be some satisfaction to be able to make the claim that the sun never sets on the gospel literature printed on your presses.

In a somewhat limited way this is true of the work of the Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House. May the time soon come when it can be more truly claimed by us as well. Our Seventh Day Baptist literature distributed in every time zone. We do, however, have tracts or Sabbath Readers in small quantities from the extreme East to the far West. Looking at a spread-out map of the world one sees at the right-hand edge New Zealand with its Seventh Day Baptist church. Austrailia is equally far "down under." Japan and ill-fated China lie to the north as does the peninsula of Korea where new churches are struggling to be born and tracts are being distributed. No one there knows Beeka. We about work in the Philippines at the present moment but moving west to Burma, we find literature, churches and a conference. The Island of Ceylon has a witness as have some of the other islands of the South Pacific.

India has published and distributed some of our material in a native language. Some of the work there has vanished but new work may well spring up as more people catch the essence of our distinctive offering of Sabbath truth and Baptist (congregational) church government.

It is not so far west across the Indian Ocean to one of our two most active mission fields, Malawi in central Africa near the East Coast. We have a little literature going to southern Africa and north to Ethiopia. A small amount goes to Palestine and the Near East. The vast reaches of western Asia and the Iron Curtain countries are relatively untouched but we are told of people of like faith in Poland who are not quite free to use our material if it were available in their language.

Moving across Europe and Africa to the west we skip one or two time zones but Nigeria and Ghana keep calling for literature. Germany, Holland, and England have long established churches which are making use of the printed word.

The next land mass we see on the world map is South America where we have a literature and church witnessing along the East Coast in Brazil and Argentina. Farther north is the now flourishing work in Guyana. This field draws more heavily than any other foreign field on the tracts which we publish. Jamaica, a little to the north and west is a close second.

Thus we have move from 180° east longitude at New Zealand west to zero at Ghana to 75° west longitude at Jamaica and New York. Our literature sweeps westward across the northern continent of North America to central Mexico, but with very little going to Canada as we stretch out westward again in Alaska which extends...
Director Mazingah Reports Work Progress

Under date of December 12, Director F. R. Mazingah has written from Makapwa, "Thank you very much for your nice letter and the cheque enclosed, for the payment of November, 1966. We will be able to use our new office on the first of January, 1967, just a few days before the arrival of our service at which we will leave their house with more room for himself and the family.

"The new block is now completed, roofing and plastering only remains. We hope the painting will be done before the 25th of December, if all goes well. This was one of the greatest projects we were assigned to do and the last one since the doctor's family left Malawi. So we are happy that we will be able to show them the completed house.

"This new block has four rooms, the first one will be an administrative or head office. Next to it are three rooms which will be used as the pastors' rest house when they come to visit and consult. The fourth room is big enough to accommodate our new office. It will be used as the pastors' rest house. The community at Thembe is very pleased with our service in the name of the Seventh Day Baptism movement.

"At the close, after the certificates were given to our pupils, I was asked to address chapel to talk to all of them. On this day, at this time, I thought it wise to base my talk on the following texts: Psalms 23: 1-6 and James 1: 5-6. In verse 5 we emphasized the importance of dependence upon God in everything that we do. I said to those who had failed that they should read these texts. They should know that those that failed their school lessons such as Geography, History, English, Arithmetic and Science, and have obtained a symbol "F" on the scholastic report, should not be discouraged. They often assist to promote their friends, which caused their own character, loyalty, and good discipline. Your friends should watch you, and the discipline they have towards various things on earth.

"I emphasized that those who passed their school subjects, but neglected God's Word, good character, loyalty, and good discipline are still failures before God. Those that failed the school subjects, but passed in God's test, who have good character, you are loyal and properly disciplined, we teachers are proud of you and think that you are the most successful student or the best student in our school. The gathering closed in prayer by the headmaster, Mr. Phiri, after the use of the hymn, "God be with you." Then all pupils dispersed to their homes."

THE SABBATH RECORDER

"The boarding students of 1966 behaved very well, and the self-help plan provided a very economical way of running a boarding school. It is not so expensive, and also helps to maintain good discipline. We thank God for this plan. We will continue the boarding next year, 1967.

"The 1967 school year commences on the 23rd of January. All of our pupils will be required to report at the school on the 20th of January.

"We have employed more qualified teachers this year who will be paid by the Malawi government. The Makapwa School has six qualified teachers for the year 1967, and only three will be unqualified, but they have long and good experience in teaching.

"Thembe is now a full primary school like Makapwa and has five qualified teachers, only three are unqualified. The school year there has also been a successful one. The community at Thembe is very pleased with their present headmaster, Mr. Sibande, who has just taken over from Mr. Jimmy Chiruabala, who is no longer with us.

"Chikanda School continues and has developed to a full primary school now. It adds standard eight and has two qualified and well experienced teachers for the year 1967. The political leaders that formerly confused the situation there are now great friends. They (the politicians), the community, and myself, agency representative and manager of these schools, work together harmoniously, respecting one another. This makes the job easier and more enjoyable. Here again we thank God.

"The traveling evangelism has drawn more money out this year, but very thrilling results have been obtained. Our Land Rover BA9635 has worked and behaved very well in these trips, carrying the group of our traveling pastors for evangelism from place to place."

Wheelbarrow Theology

Some people follow the Bible just like a wheelbarrow. They tip it here and tilt it there, and follow it just where they want it to lead them.

BLANTYRE HOUSE NEWS FLASH

Building Fund Grows

Receipts and pledges for Blantyre House Building Project exceeded $7,000 before January 1, 1967. On this date Dr. Victor Burdick and family departed from New York airport. They were scheduled to arrive at Blantyre on Wednesday, January 4.

Among the first duties that Dr. Burdick has been instructed to carry out after arrival at Blantyre will be to contact the Malawi Development Corporation that will be constructing the home and office of the Rev. David Pearson. He will also arrange for a loan from The New Building Society, "the only savings and loan company in Malawi." It is from this company that the Missionary Society, with Dr. Burdick as authorized representative, expects to borrow the necessary amount of funds to complete the building project.

It was for the reason of learning how much would have to be borrowed that a letter was sent to the churches early in December requesting funds for sale of bricks and other materials. The response was encouraging.

There was no thought of January 1, 1967 being a "cut off date" for selling "bricks" for the Blantyre House project or for sending funds to the Missionary Board. In fact, it is still hoped that the full $10,000 allowed by Conference for this appeal may be raised by the end of the Conference year. Arrangements are being made for payments on loan to be made "without penalty" as fast as funds are received.

WHEELBARROW THEOLOGY

Some people follow the Bible just like a wheelbarrow. They tip it here and tilt it there, and follow it just where they want it to lead them.

JANUARY 16, 1967
Committed

(A Sabbath morning message by Miss Nancy Cruzan, Summer Christian Service Corps worker.

"I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." (2 Tim. 1: 12h).

One of the first thoughts in this verse, "I know whom I have believed" is brought to a head in the following illustration: "You really don't know what you believe," said a caustic voice, summing up theological difficulties in a way which the hypercritical considered unanswerable. "But I know Whom I have believed," replied the young Christian quietly, to the utter confusion of the skeptic. We can be sure of God—Yes, one thing we can be sure of is God.

Have you ever been asked what you believe, or why you believe, or if you really are a Christian, or how do you know these things? These are only a few of the questions often thrown at us by the so-called non-Christians. How do we answer them? Are you ever shaken by this.

For instance, Thursday afternoon I had nearly finished one section when a young man approached us and asked what we were doing. We told him about S.C.S.C. and our story hour and inquired of him. He also was working with young people, only his goal is to get through school. His means is by selling dictionaries. Our goal is to win others to Christ—our means, ourselves, God's love for us and ours for Him. Going back a ways, what started out as a casual "howdy" in the hall, terminated in a witness for Christ.

This young man, just about the same age as we, asked some of the same questions I mentioned a moment ago. At first I thought he was perhaps sounding me out or maybe even laughing inside, but as we went on I was convinced that here was a fellow who really didn't know Christ as his own personal Savior. Here I was faced with a problem. Before me stood a young man, a young student, a young representative of God's saving love and there I stood, able to tell him how I had experienced Christ and how I felt His love—and yet I felt so inadequate. I knew to face him about God and Christ and yet I was "shook"—how was I to answer?

Words somehow came into my mouth which told this fellow, student, of Christ, of this wonderful Friend I have and believe in Whom He is and every person can have and believe in. He didn't know whom he believed in. Before he left he gave me his address, asking me to send more information. I ask God for further guidance in this follow-up. I wasn't the only witness of Christ to a stranger, because I know Whom I have believed. Praise the Lord!

... and am persuaded that he is able...

As I am convinced, I know for a fact, that God is able able to do all things. I have the faith. After all, faith is just believing that God says, He will do. For instance, Thursday afternoon I had nearly finished one section when a young man approached us and asked what we were doing. We told him about S.C.S.C. and our story hour and inquired of him. He also was working with young people, only his goal is to get through school. His means is by selling dictionaries. Our goal is to win others to Christ—our means, ourselves, God's love for us and ours for Him. Going back a ways, what started out as a casual "howdy" in the hall, terminated in a witness for Christ.

In what ways can these things be committed unto him against that day?

What have I committed unto Him—what does this mean? According to Webster, to commit is to entrust; to put in custody; to do or perpetrate; or to pledge. So just what have I committed to Him? Have I entrusted Him with my life? My talents? My all? Yes; I, Nancy Cruzan, have entrusted my life to Him. I have put into His custody my talents because I believe that He will use them and keep them in His power until that day when I shall meet my Saviour. We strongly believe that He is using all of the S.C.S.C. workers, regardless of visible results. We believe and trust Him.

In what ways can these things be committed to Him? I feel that they must be committed in attitude, in friendship, in service and in prayer.

Attitude is of prime importance to us. We can mean success, or failure, joy or sorrow. How well I remember some of our first days of calling in Syracuse, Tim, Becky, and I set out as a team, ready to accept anything we came up with. With our own age, we really thought we could get away with a little we'd walk up to the door, knock and flash smiles! Often we failed to get any farther than the door in our contacts, but we left rejoicing for even a moment with the person at the door. If we were turned away we accepted it as part of God's plan and failed to let ourselves become discouraged. It could have been so easy. Back at the house I found that the other teams had met with discouragement after discouragement. They had failed, or so they thought. Later in the week we changed calling teams and much to my surprise I discovered that what we had called successes the others had called failures. It was largely a matter of attitude. This was true in V.B.S., too.

Another thing our team practiced was criticism of each other. After leaving a house, believe in each other's faults, offered suggestions and accepted them. This was a basis for our friendship. "Most people are afraid of real friendship. It is too inconvenient to care that much." However, we wanted to help each other because we did care for each other. Because we cared, we took the time to share, and in sharing we grew. This helped us tremendously in our giving to others.

I read a thought in my lesson plans for V.B.S. the other day which read: "We cannot grow Christlike in isolation! Each person needs the experience of being truly loved by those near him in order to know how to love; each needs to receive before he is able to give.

"Yes, we need to develop in our attitudes and friendships! Don't be afraid to make a new friend or to be a friend to someone. A friend is a present you give yourself. Try it sometime. It's easy! Treat yourself to a friend!"

And what about service? This is more giving of self—perhaps this involves even more than the other areas. However, we take care not to be back in service. If we are Christians, really Christians, and love and follow Christ, why are we so reluctant to serve Him? What are we afraid of? Are we ashamed? Is that it? Paul wasn't. Paul said: "I'm not ashamed of witnessing to Christ. Are you? A Christian is, after all, something special. We have something others don't and it needs to be shared!

In service to Him do you use your talents? Do you call on the people of your church or invite "outsiders" to Sabbath worship with you? Would you give a friend a tract or mention spiritual things to him? Would you teach a Sabbath School class? Or would you sit back and let the other fellow do it? Get involved! Commit yourself to Him in service! Go out and do some of these things. It's great to serve the Lord!

Our fourth step on the ladder of commitment is prayer. If you are truly committed, prayer will have a big place in your life—you will feel free to take everything to God in prayer. He knows all our needs anyway, but we must never take Him for granted or try some other means of achieving our ends.

I came across a powerful little statement a few days ago which read: "Most of us would rather answer our own prayers—"it costs too much to let God do it." How true this statement is! It costs because God often takes His time. In the hurry and scurry of today we fail to take time to see anything of value—especially the value of time. God is slow to answer sometimes, or doesn't answer how we want (or so it seems), but we must trust Him. God may be slow, but while we wait for

The Sabbath Recorder

JANUARY 16, 1967

(Continued on page 15)
From Power to Posies
A Story of Nuclear Reactors
By Joseph M. Dukert
Most people think instinctively of a "reactor" as an atomic gadget that somehow pours electricity into an area's power network. Not necessarily so! Of some 280 nuclear reactors operating in the U.S., only 15 are "central power stations" which fit that description. The rest are being used for anything from teaching students to producing new flower strains.

Most of the electric-utility-type plants are concentrated in the populous Northeast and in the Great Lakes-Midwest region; but research, test and "teaching" reactors may be found anywhere from Florida to the state of Washington. More than 40 are located on college campuses.

Only 25 years ago, nuclear reactors didn't exist. Today they are such a common sight that a Boy Scout can earn credits toward a merit badge by building a miniature model of one and describing how it works to his Scoutmaster.

For those who are neither Scouts nor Scoutmasters, it might be worthwhile to crack open the kernel of a single uranium (fuel) yields as much heat as about 1300 tons of coal.

One kind of reactor is used to generate electricity and to distill sea water.

Many uses of reactors depend solely on the neutron "bullets" which they generate. These high-energy radiations can be put to work in a variety of ways: 1) They can make ordinary inert materials radioactive so that they can be used in medical diagnosis, cancer treatment and literally hundreds of industrial applications. 2) They can increase the normal number of mutations in seeds to facilitate the laborious job of developing new plant strains, like disease-resistant grains, variegated carnations and king-size cotton within a few years. 3) Chemical analyses have been made more than a thousand times more sensitive by the fact that each different element within a sample placed inside a reactor subsequently gives off a distinctive and detectable radiation "signal."

4) Some useful chemical processes are stimulated by radiation, and both physicists and chemists also use reactors to probe the basic structure and behavior of various materials.

Nuclear reactors offer considerable variety in their design and operation. Their main components are a reactor, control rods and coolant. The smallest nuclear reactors in existence are those being built to be launched into space, where they will supply electrical power for satellites. The first reactor to orbit the earth was small enough to fit into the front seat of an automobile. Later generations of these plants will help us explore the outer planets and returning material resources to earth under the sea.

In a few years, reactors will actually be propelling spacecraft. These will be much more powerful than the satellite power supplies. The first ones will use their power to change hydrogen from a four-hundred-degrees-below-zero liquid to a high temperature gas, which will force the rocket forward as it expands through a rocket nozzle in the tail.

The Atomic Industrial Forum, an authoritative group which includes both reactor manufacturers and utilities among its members, says that central power stations will be operating in all the major cities within a little over five years. Before the end of 1970 nuclear reactors in this country will be able to produce about as much electricity as the entire electric generating system of Sweden or Spain does now.

Editor's note:
The above information helps us to look into the immediate future to see the peaceful uses of fissionable materials which first were used only for mass destruction. The writer points out that the basic skill reaction was learning how to control the forces God has placed within, and how to learn how to control the evil that is in his heart. Utopia, where peace always reigns and man's will is in harmony with God's, does not come with the intervention of God. The Scriptures indicate that the real turning of swords into plowshares will follow the return of Christ.

It might almost amount to spiritual suicide for churches to become involved with the government in promoting a humanistic program. The resulting loss of independence brings with it a loss of spiritual vitality. No church dies in the struggle for right, but it may gorge itself to death on handouts.

—Eugene White.

Bread Not Bombs
By Lance Woodruff
Not everything American comes to Vietnamese civilians in the forms of bombs or violence. In this instance, to paraphrase, it's "bread not bombs."

Thirty-two thousand school-children in seven Saigon elementary schools are being given immediate assistance through a "School Lunch Program" begun by Vietnam Christian Service last October (1966).

Each morning at dawn trucks rumble from the bakery to the metropolis area, carrying a warm and fragrant cargo of freshly-baked bread. More than 6,000 loaves each day are delivered to children who would otherwise go without a midday meal in the course of the school-day.

Late in the morning each student receives his portion. The bread, prepared French-style as the Vietnamese like it, is the end product of the efforts of many people—not the least of whom are the workers who staff the Vietnam Christian Service material resources department.

Every month Gary Dewarle, material resources coordinator, allocates 2,000 bags of wheat flour to the baker whose job it is to bake and deliver the bread. That's more than 176,000 loaves per month.

Saigon's population includes more than 300,000 children of elementary school age—six to ten years old. The school lunch effort is small in comparison to the magnitude of the need. Paul Leatherman, VNCS director, noted that he hopes to see the program expand so that it might reach more children and make a more nourishing contribution to their diet.
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel

Group Action

"The church knows that the way of divisive egotism is the way of doom," writes Richard Niebuhr. (The Social Sources of Denominationalism, Meridian Books, 1959, page 265.)

Justice is not being on earth more powerful or potentially accurate than action taken by a group of intelligent, thinking people. When a Christlike consciousness governs their thinking, there is nothing within the realm of possibility too difficult for that group to accomplish.

Christian group action is not as efficient as solitary or dictatorial promotion, yet the results are more permanent. Where one person makes decisions and the total and lasting effects are not the best that might be desired for the commonweal.

In a family, a church, or a country much can be accomplished by having a person in authority, by command, and the family revolts in the next generation, the church (at least in one of congregational persuasions) will ask for change in one or two generations, and a country will begin to simmer as knowledge increases, and will finally explode. The latter revolution might take several generations or even centuries, but it will come.

In a prosperous Seventh Day Baptist church two generations ago two such persons alienated so many members for the span of their adulthood that the church is now defunct. However, the passage of the centuries did not entirely their fault. Had the members put the group process into action in the business meetings and enforced democratic elections and procedures there is reason to believe that that church would still be an adequate unit of force in that community.

Group action as we commonly think of it today was not as prevalent on the earth as it is now. Thousands of tyrants have had children who stepped onto their toes. —Duance C. Gripps, The Duane C. Gripps, The

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for January 28, 1967

Christ's Mission and Our Scriptural Ministry


Deacon Lyman Aaron Coon by Victor W. Skaggs

During his middle teens (approximate­ lly 1903) Deacon Coon was baptized and joined the DeRuyter Seventh Day Baptist Church at DeRuyter, N. Y. He served in various capacities on the committee and in the activities of the church for the rest of his life. In 1920 he was elected church clerk and he continued to serve in this capacity until 1951. He also served his church as Sabbath School superintendent. In June of 1925, during the meetings of the Central Association, Mr. Coon was or­ dained a deacon in the DeRuyter church. He served faithfully in this office until his death.

Mr. Coon's formal education was in the public schools of DeRuyter, N. Y., and in ministerial training for future leaders of the Seventh Day Baptist Church.

On December 29, 1909, he was united in marriage with Miss Nina Mae Gates of Lincllae, N. Y., by the Rev. Luther A. Wing. To this union were born two daughters: Doris, Mrs. Charles Waterbury, Sacramento, Calif., and Ar­ dale, Mrs. Victor Skaggs, Plainfield, N. J.

Thus we see that the full potential of dynamic group action has not been re­ alized. The power of it is partially dem­ onstrated in every active group, yet even in our most Christlike groups the idio­ synergies of individuals forestall action that would cause any great movement. Consequently, we need to know how to be part of a group, one great-grandchild, and several nieces and nephews.

Camp Dates

North Central Association camp Wa­ konda will begin June 18 with senior camp, the Rev. Earl Cruzan directing (for those entering 8th grade, through 12th).

Junior camp will begin June 25 and extend for one week, pastor Edward Sutton directing (for those entering 6th grade, through 8th).

Fee for camp is $13 per camper per week. Includes all expenses with exception of items purchased from snack bar.

For many years Mr. Coon owned and operated a store in DeRuyter village. During the early years it was a general store, but as the community grew it be­ came a grocery store. Since his retire­ ment in 1946, Mr. Coon worked for some years in the DeRuyter Textile Factory. During his later years he gave considerable time to refinishing furniture.

In addition to his active life in voca­ tion and church he was involved in community and religious work. He was a 50-year member of the Odd Fellows; he served on the school board, as a trustee of the Cemetery Association, and as a member of the Town Board.

Mr. and Mrs. Coon observed their golden wedding anniversary in 1959 with an open house at the Daytona Beach, Fla., Seventh Day Baptist Church. Sev­ eral of their children and grandchildren spent in fellow­ ship with that church.

Memorial services were conducted at the DeRuyter Seventh Day Baptist Church on November 2, 1966, by the Rev. Charles D. Swing. Interment was in Hillcrest Ceme­ tery, DeRuyter, N. Y.

The Blantyre Story

(a new filmstrip)

The American Sabbath Traction Society now has a new filmstrip produced by Fred Ayars, with pictures and script provided by Dr. Victor Burdick. This is in a sense a special purpose filmstrip designed to give information and to create more in­ terest in the current project of building a house at Blantyre, Malawi. For the Pearsons in their work of heading up ministerial training for future leaders of the Seventh Day Baptist churches of Malawi. Because in its relation to this project it should be in full use in the next few months. Pastors are urged in order to suggest alternate dates two or three weeks apart to allow better scheduling by the board secretary's office.

Parents who are afraid to put their foot down, but who do so, putting their children on their toes. —Duance C. Gripps, The New London (Iowa) Journal.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

JANUARY 16, 1967
Praying for Korea

Much is being done for South Korea by many Christian agencies, and the Koreans themselves are doing much to relieve the poverty and to bring physical health to the disproportionate number who suffer from leprosy and other diseases. In spite of all that is done, the need is still great. So say the Rev. and Mrs. David Beattie, independent Sabbathkeeping missionaries who have spent much of the last nine years helping the poor and evangelizing in South Korea, especially in the general area of Seoul.

The Rev. and Mrs. Beattie, now back in this country for rest and recuperation, hope to visit and encourage the faithful brethren in Korea again, perhaps next fall. Mrs. Beattie says she does not want to go back until the Lord reveals to her a plan for a continuing work of relief that will help the poor to help themselves. They have already instituted many self-help procedures on a relatively small scale in addition to distributing clothing, multi-purpose foods and CARE supplies. Their Sabbath witness has reached many in high places and low throughout South Korea. They have also sponsored worthy students for college and theological training. They undertook their missionary work after rearing a family of eleven children (nine living). Among other services rendered in Korea by the Beatties was keeping contact with several young men who are of Seventh Day Baptist persuasion and have been laboring to build up congregations committed to our denominational beliefs and practices.

They have forwarded mail and have advised the corresponding secretary of the American Sabbath Tract Society after making numerous trips to visit the work of these men.

From Friday to Sunday, January 6-8, this very interesting couple, whose home is in the state of Washington, visited in Plainfield where they attended services and had opportunity to give brief testimonies in some of the group meetings. They were able to provide Secretary Malby and others with much background information about the prospects and problems of Sabbathkeeping work in the land for which they pray and urge others to pray. One strange problem is that all the public schools hold classes on the Sabbath. Sunday and Monday are the days off. In spite of such handicaps many families are able to live by their Sabbath convictions.

Reconder Comment

An elderly lone-Sabbathkeeper in California with a somewhat shaky hand writes that her eyesight is failing and that she is cutting down on her reading and study material because of this. She feels, however, that there are some things she must have: “I like to read the Sabbath Recorder and ‘Mission Notes’ telling of the gospel and mission work in many lands. May the Lord bless and strengthen the hands of those who work so that our dear Lord may come again soon to receive His own.”

—Santa Rosa, Calif.

Evangelization

One sheep we ask, oh God and Son, To bring before the throne. If every one, one, one had won, Satan would dwell alone. And oh how soon a world aflame, Would glorify our Savior’s name.

—Ralph Loofboro.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Salem College and Community Get Seventh Day Baptist Doctor

The Salem Herald features prominently on the front page of its January 5 issue a story about the coming of Dr. Fred Spencer to Salem to set up a medical practice which includes health service for the college and membership on the staffs of two hospitals in Clarksburg. Part of the story of Dr. Spencer and the beginning of an important medical ministry in this West Virginia college town is reproduced here from the Salem paper, which for some years now has been edited by a daughter of College President K. Duane Hurley, Mrs. C. D. Van Horn.

The Spencers are moving into the house at 48 Carolina Avenue (the old Harbert Funeral Home) and the doctor’s offices will be located there also.

Doctor Spencer, originally from Middlefield, Connecticut, is a Salem College graduate with the class of ’54. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology in 1957 from the University of Arkansas and his M. D. degree from the University of Arkansas in 1961.

After serving his internship in Penacook, New Hampshire, and a year in the hospital then he went on to special training in the Flight Surgeon School of Aviation Medicine, graduating in 1963. Since that time he has served in the Navy, last week, Dr. Spencer has been stationed at Memphis, Tenn., where he has been Assistant Senior Medical Officer.

Dr. Spencer has been considering returning to Salem for the past couple of years. He was very active in the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church while a student here, and his family also considered the church ties in selecting a town for setting up general practice.

He has found, upon investigation, that there is a need for more doctors in the area.

Dr. Spencer has also been encouraged to come to the college, and part of his duties will be to supervise the student health services at the college.

Committed

(Continued from page 9)

Him we come to understand Him better.

“He works in mysterious ways—ways beyond our comprehension—all we can do is wait and trust and marvel.

“Prayer is so simple; it is like quietly opening a door and slipping into the very presence of God. It is the stillness—just the stillness—to listen to His voice; perhaps to petition, or only to listen; it matters not. Just to be there in His presence is prayer.” —selected.

No, I am not ashamed; for I know Whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.

Are you ashamed? Do you know Whom you have believed? Are you sure? Have you committed yourself to Him? Have you committed yourself to Him in your attitude? In your friendships? In service? In prayer? There’s a challenge awaiting us, Fellow Christians. Can we meet it? Will you join me in committing ourselves to Him in all we say and do? Not tomorrow, for tomorrow may be too late—we must commit ourselves to Him today!

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

DE RUYTER, N. Y.—A very happy 1967 to all. We pray that N. Y. may bring peace to warring nations and God’s peace in the hearts of His people.

The skies of approaching Christmas were overshadowed by the passing of Deacon Lynan A. Coon. Lynan was an honored businessman in the community and since early youth had been a loyal and devoted member of our church, a long-time Deacon and for many years chairman of the Board of Trustees. As a church, we mourn his loss.

Christmas brought us the usual brilliant lighting and streets, but better yet, it brought us snow for real happiness to girls and boys.

The Ladies’ Society met with Mrs. Charles Swing on December 20, packing twenty-six (26) boxes for shut-ins. Christmas services began Sabbath eve, conducted much the same as usual, JANUARY 16, 1967
only using the Christmas topic. The choir and the junior choir joined in singing "Little Town of Bethlehem," Mrs. Wendell Burdick at the piano and Mrs. Harry Parker at the organ. The progress of the junior choir under Mrs. Burdick's training is commendable. The Youth Group had very artistically decorated the church featuring a glowing tree with gifts for the youngsters and an occasional oldster.

The outstanding features Sabbath morning were a cantata, "The Music of Bethlehem," beautifully rendered by the church choir, a children's message, "Where Jesus Is Born Today," and a meditation, both given by Pastor Swing.

The Sabbath School collection of $30, added to the proceeds from the sale of "bricks," was given as a love offering to the Blantyre House Project.

We were pleased to have with us for our Christmas services Dean and Mrs. Victor Skaggs and family, who were guests of her mother, Mrs. Nina Coon.

We are a quiet church but we are not dead; we live—a loyal church, working together in love and harmony. We have our moments of discouragement; we also have our big moments of joy and thanksgiving.

We trust that the exchange of gifts this Christmas will keep in our memories God's supreme Gift to the world.

—Correspondent.

BOULDER, COLO.—The Seventh Day Baptist church should be better known than before in the area served by the Boulder Daily Camera. On Friday, December 30, there was in that city paper a four-inch, two-column display ad with a picture of the attractive church building that nestles at the foot of the mountain at Arapahoe and Ninth. The Happy New Year ad was captioned, "WILL '67 BE HAPPY FOR YOU? It can be in a church small enough to know you, large enough to serve you." It gave the name, location, pastor, and time of services.

What is your church doing by way of regular or special-occasion advertising?

Accessions

SECOND BROOKFIELD, N. Y.

By letter:
Rev. Leon R. Lawton
Dorothy G. (Mrs. Leon) Lawton
Gordon Lawton
Patricia G. Lawton

Obituaries

COON.—Deacon Lyman Aaron, son of DeWitt B. and Ida Greenman Coon, was born in the town of DeRuyter, N. Y., May 21, 1887, and died at Cortland, N. Y., Memorial Hospital, October 30, 1966. (See extended obituary elsewhere in this issue.)

SWENSON,—Timon, was born Jan. 25, 1878, at Viborg, S. Dak., and died there Dec. 31, 1966. He was a son of Christen and Tina Sorensen Swenson. On Feb. 14, 1917, he was married to Mabel Cockerill of Berlin, Wis. He farmed the family homestead at Viborg all his life.

At an early age, Timon accepted Christ and became a member of the now extinct Viborg Seventh Day Baptist Church. In 1918, he joined the North Loup, Neb., church. Although away from others of his church, he was a courageous Christian, ever faithful to the Lord and the Sabbath.

Survivors include his daughter, Elma, (Mrs. Alfred Keller), St. Clair Shores, Mich.; a brother, Joseph Swenson, Viborg; a sister, Nora Christensen, Hill City, S. Dak., and four grandchildren. One son, Carroll, died in May, 1952.

Funeral services were conducted in Viborg by his pastor, Duane L. Davis, and Rev. Kenneth Peterson of the Viborg Baptist Church, and interment was in the Baptist cemetery, Viborg.

—D. L. D.