MAIL NOT ALWAYS SLOW
We hear frequent complaints about
the mail being slow, especially second
class mail such as the Sabbath Recorder.
Negative comments come more naturally
than positive or appreciative comments.
We would like to pass on one of the
latter.
Sabbath Rally Day was scheduled for
May 17. The Sabbath Promotion Com-
mittee sent out materials to the churches
including bulletin covers. Let it be
known by those whom it may concern
that our office received back again on
May 16 one of these church bulletins
with the program for May 17. It was
one of the farthest away churches, River­
side, Calif. Incidentally it mentioned an
intriguing sermon topic, "Keep the Sab­
bath! What for?"
Let's Think it Over
42 Senators Sponsor
Anti-Alcoholism Bill
Forty-two Senators are co-sponsors of
a bipartisan bill aimed at making a five-
year, $65.8 million attack on alcoholism,
the nation's fourth most serious health
problem.
The proposed Alcoholism Care and
Control Act of 1969 was introduced by
Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R., N. Y.) and
Sen. Frank E. Moss (D., Utah).
Sen. Javits quoted the U.S. Public
Health Service and the Crime Commis-
sion as describing alcoholism as ranking
behind only heart disease, mental illness
and cancer as America's most serious
health problems.
"Alcoholism afflicts an estimated 5
million Americans, and roughly 250,000
persons join the ranks of alcoholics each
The New York Senator cited studies
which show that:
1. Alcoholism costs American busi-
ness $2 billion annually in absenteeism
and efficiency;
2. One in every seven new mental pa-
tients is an alcoholic;
3. One out of every three arrests in
1965 was for public drunkenness;
4. The $9 billion annual cost of
traffic accidents can largely be attributed
drunkennes; and
5. Alcoholism cuts the life expectancy
of Americans by about 10 to 12 years.
The Alcoholism Care and Control Act
of 1969, would establish a division of
alcoholism and alcohol problems within
the National Institute of Mental Health
with broad responsibilities in the areas of
research, education, coordination, pre-
vention, and support for community treat-
ment and rehabilitation programs.
It has other provisions to implement
specific programs.
---BP

Miss Gedge Harmon, creator of this linoleum print, presents the symbolism of
the church, represented by the Christian flag unfurled behind the open Bible
whose light of truth stands out against the darkness of the world. The women
of the church, whose work is emphasized in this issue, have a major part in
holding high the Christian flag and opening wide the Word of God.
SPECIAL EMMISION ISSUE

The first issue in June is another in the cycle of emphasis issues coming each month (except August and September). The Sunday School Board of the Southern Wisconsin area has provided much of the material for this issue, articles written, for the most part, by officers and members of the board. In 1969 the denominational program of Facing Frontiers with Faith features "Know Your Boards and Agencies." We will attempt to include some biographical material about some of the most active Women's Board members.

COMING NEXT WEEK

125th Anniversary

June 13 marks 125 years of continuous publication of the Sabbath Recorder, since the first issue came out on that day in 1844. Very few religious publications have attained that age. The editors of most of them have written brief congratulatory words, which will be printed next week in an issue that will be preparatory to a larger historical or anniversary issue that will come out just before the anniversary date. God has blessed us in these 125 years and we do not want this anniversary date to pass without notice or without expressing gratitude for the efforts of all those who have worked in making such a periodical possible.

This is a good time for long-time subscribers and new subscribers to talk up their denominational journal and we do not want this anniversary date to pass without notice or without expressing gratitude to our Heavenly Father for making such a periodical possible.

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PURPOSEFUL TEEN-AGERS

How old does one have to be in order to effectively witness for Christ? It isn't so much the age as it is the desire and the training. Christian Endeavor has proven itself to be an organization that can develop leadership at a young age. Not every local society can maintain a headship; some societies must have junior and senior high societies. In New Jersey, these two societies together conducted first place in the national C. E. awards in the Youth Witness Program. Here is the story of the project that they chose and carried out, as told in a news release of International C. E.

The winning society entry was a summer camp, three month's valiant labor carried out by 19 young people from Junior High and Senior High Christian Endeavor societies, ranging in age from 12 to 17. The young people spent two weeks in intensive training covering spiritual commitment and methods of interview and discussion. The beach ministry was conducted three and a half hours each day for a period of seven weeks. This group of nine 15 and 16 year old members and distributed 729 booklets. Results show 167 first-time decisions for Christ and 27 rededications. Daniel C. Wilkers, a student at Rutgers University, directed the entire beach ministry.

This proves that youth can win youth. In the person-to-person contacts the percentage of conversions in relation to the number contacted is much higher than most evangelists can claim. It is evident that these young folks between the ages of 12 and 17 are particularly suitable for such work.

Seventh Day Baptist youth in greater numbers than before have volunteered for dedicated service this summer. It is to be hoped that pastors and other project directors will lead them into meaningful service until expect much from them. There is no greater joy that a young person can have than to lead another young person to a conversion experience with Christ.
Leora Hartman—

I am a native of Milton Junction, Wis., and have always lived in the Milton area. My parents were Carl and Annabelle Vincent Gray. For over thirty years after graduating from high school my choice of occupation was determined by my knowledge of stenography and bookkeeping. I am a member of the Milton Junction and High School Ladies Aid Society, and sing regularly in the church choir. For recreation I like bowling.

Caroline Gray—

My name is Caroline and I am known to most of you as Mrs. Don Gray. Don and I live in Milton, Wis., in a home that was one hundred years old in 1956, and love every inch of it and the spacious lawn with its many trees, including "The Mighty Oak."

I am interested in old things and work part time at the Milton House Museum in the Research and Acquisition Department.

My hobbies are many and varied: from making scrap books, Christmas customs and legends illustrated with Christmas cards, to collecting and dressing dolls, and I am never without something to do with eleven grandchildren to knit for.

I graduated from Milton College back in there somewhere under the tutelage of Dr. Edwin Fry Show, with what I believe to be the last Bachelor of Philosophy and Religious Education degree the college gave.

Gladye Hulett Drake—

I was born in Allentown, N. Y., and lived during my early life at Bolivar, N. Y., the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Hulett. After graduating from Milton College several years teaching in high schools in Wisconsin and New York. Later I returned to Milton when I was married. We have three children who are married and have families of their own. My interests have involved serving in varied activities and programs at church; participation in civic and school affairs of the community; membership in the local Woman's Club. Thirteen very satisfying years were spent working in the registrar's office at Milton College and I now count it a privilege to serve as president of the Seventh Day Baptist Women's Board.

My hobbies consist of listening to stereo records and all fine music live, genealogy, and reading, with a bit of travel now and then.

Jeanette Appel—

I have been married to the Rev. Addison Appel for 31 years. I am the mother of seven and grandmother of three, a former school teacher, active in church Ladies' Aids, recording secretary for Women's Board. My hobbies are sewing, making quilts, raising house flowers, canning and cooking.

President's Column

Visiting the Churches

A recent journey took the Conference president and his wife to Shiloh, New Jersey. It is not an exaggeration to say that these visits to churches have been a rewarding experience. It has been a pleasure to talk to the many different age groups within the churches.

Friday evening several members of the Marboro church joined us in Shiloh as we discussed several of the plans for General Conference. Many of the folks in this area are busily engaged in helping with plans for Conference since they are helping to host General Conference in Nyack this year.

Sabbath morning the church was filled to capacity: approximately 200 were present. It is an inspiration to observe so many young couples with their families attending services. One of the highlights of this morning service was the response of several individuals to an invitation for dedication or rededication of their lives to the Lord. As I spoke concerning sensitivity, I received an extra bonus when I asked, "How many wives told their husbands that they loved them this morning?" And then I asked the men the same question. The women outnumbered the men. Are they more sensitive or just more affectionate? But one elderly man's hand stood out above all others because he told me later that he had been married over fifty years and he really did love his wife. Is being sensitive in this way the reason they have shared so many happy years of married life together? I think this was a real command of the "sensitivity.

It was a real pleasure to visit for the first time the new fellowship hall and educational unit at this church. Surely this is a sign of a live and growing church. Following the noon luncheon I had the opportunity to talk about the revision to the bylaws which will be one of the major items for consideration at this Conference session.

Preceding the noon meal Lettie and I were surprised with a cake to help celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary. A lovely reception was held for us at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harris later in the afternoon and evening when we had a chance to visit with relatives and friends.

—Leland W. Bond

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:

1) People who are distressed in their minds — fathers who vainly try to support their families, mothers worried about wayward children, patients in hospitals.

2) People who live under political dictatorship where freedom is denied them.

3) People who are caught up in war; tribes in rebellion, lands in revolution. Pray that God will remove from their hearts the desire to kill. Pray that wanting to live in peace you may be one of the peacemakers.

4) Those who seek God's help that they may have faith, that they may have hope, that they may have love for every human as a member of God's great family.

(These suggestions come from the Women's Board.)

investment in Our Future

Mrs. Loyal (Lucile) Todd

This month, after a week of training at Dodge Center, Minn., about two dozen eager young Seventh Day Baptists will fan out to serve in a dozen areas as some of the needs of our churches. They will go with a deep sense of dedication and the assurance that God will strengthen them for the task ahead.

Admittedly, they come into the Summer Christian Service Corps and the Vacation Church School and Camp program for a number of interesting reasons, but mainly to serve. From small churches and large, they come with differing backgrounds. They come with varying degrees of self-confidence in their ability to achieve success in their summer projects.

Have you wondered what goes on at these training sessions? A casual observer might say Bible study, group discussion, chapel, classes on vacation church school and other faiths, visitation, music, study periods, and conversation. It's all of that and more. Classes start at 8:30 a.m., and last until prayer time at 8:30 p.m., with some free time for lunch and summer served by the ladies of the host church.

But let's take a closer look. Other things are happening too. There's a Bible change for the most, if not all, of these young people. It's not easy to describe but one feels it—a change in attitude, perhaps, or a new and deeper sense of direction. It's as real as quicksilver and just as hard to put one's finger on. Is it being away from home that gives them a different perspective? Do they suddenly see themselves in a new light as part of a larger plan than they had anticipated? Whatever it is, this week of intensive training and good fellowship seems to set the tone for the entire summer.

Last August at Camp Riverview near North Loup, Neb., we attempted to evaluate the summer dedicated service program of 1968. The first question in the written evaluation by team members was "In what ways do you feel the train-
ing session helped to prepare you for summer service?" Several mentioned the practical help of the visitation experience in overcoming some of their fears in meeting new people, vacation church school practice, in giving talks for children, and the knowledge of other religions as being helpful to them. But there was still prayer.

"It helped me to get started with the right attitude of letting God work through me."

"It gave me the knowledge of how important prayer is in our lives."

"It strengthened me personally in an unbelievable way and made me realize the seriousness of our work. Group discussion of our New Testament reading was very valuable and gave new light on the Scriptures."

"At training session prayer came into my life for the first time because I had never felt its power before. I came so much closer to my Lord and felt His love surrounding me."

"It gave me time to settle back and begin my actual act of letting God take over for the summer. I was drawn closer to Him through our experiences."

"The visitation classes were most helpful. They helped teach personal humility. I know it humbles and I'm thankful for this. Our prayer sessions were rewarding for us all."

Not long ago someone suggested that it would save a good deal in the cost of the summer program if the young workers could travel directly to their area of service and receive their training from the pastor of that church. The statements I have quoted above will show you why I can answer with confidence, "Of course it would save on the cost — but people are more important than money. I think the training session is a real good investment for Christ and the church."

"We have staked the very existence of our country on the faith that a complete separation between the state and religion is best for the state and best for religion." —Justice Rutledge: Eversen vs. Board of Education

**MEMORY TEXT**

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Prov. 22:6.

**Let's Face Facts**

Mrs. Arthur (Gladys) Drake

From time to time of our boards must take time for a thoughtful consideration of its financial situation in the light of the many needs to carry on its work and the funds which are available. The Women's Board sets up a budget each year which presumably will meet our needs for that year. But unlike the other boards only a small portion of the money comes through OWM and we depend on contributions from the women’s societies to carry on special projects and other board activities.

Judging from two preceding years for the SCSC and VCSC programs, we estimated for budget purposes this year that the cost (transportation and a $7.50 weekly allowance for each person's basic personal needs) would be approximately $3,000.

We are very happy that this year there has been an increase in the number of young people who are preparing to serve in the summer dedicated youth program. We give thanks to Him who is working in their hearts in such a vital way! But because of this increase in volunteers there will be added expenses of about $2,000 which had not been anticipated. Contributions from the woman's societies have been received regularly during the past year but now we are asking for additional freewill offerings not only from the societies but from the churches and individuals as well — given as a dedicated gift for the witnessing of our youth.

These offerings may be forwarded to our treasurer, Mrs. Harold Baum, Rt. 1, Box 13, Edgerton, Wis. 53534. The young folks believe in their program! Do you?

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**

May Fellowship Day

"Beginning Anew," this year's topic for the May breakfast, considers creative and healing relations in the minds of the community as to acceptance of the mentally and physically handicapped, the drug addicts, the alcoholics, the newly released from prison. How can we help them to become useful parts of our community?

Are we too quick to judge? Do we feel that a problem is none of our affair? Do we look only at the surface?

A poignantly moving story, "A Stranger, My Son," was written by the mother, Louise Wilson. It tells of a much loved and wanted son who from babyhood demanded almost exclusive attention; presented any interference; was suspicious of others; had a feeling of being superior to other children.

At a sacrifice of time, money and love the parents tried to help their son to adjust. Not knowing the situation, friends, teachers, associates, even psychiatrists blamed and openly criticized them.

It was no one's fault. The son's trouble was physical. An eminent physician and psychiatrist diagnosed the condition as caused by chemical abnormality in which certain secretions going into the adrenal gland were off balance. There was no cure. In spite of the criticism the parents then knew, that regardless of what they might have done, nothing would have helped. At the conclusion of the story, the boy was put in a select private school. The other children in the family now lived happy, active, talented lives, but their brother had become, "The Stranger, My Son."

A story by Margaret Applegrath also shows how little we know of the trials of others. During World War II, a ward in a large hospital outside London was filled with maimed and handicapped men. Working through the ward that a celebrity was coming. Each patient braced himself to be polite, but thought, "O.K. Just show this bunch of cripples what you've got to make a fuss about."

There were none of the trappings of a celebrity about the quiet man who was there, no robins for the birds — yet every man there knew him to be the bishop at a large cathedral. He passed from cot to cot saying and doing the right was making a big talk. And discovering that an unexpected, great gift. But, when he walked out he knew that he had not helped a single soul.

He turned directly back into the ward. Standing where all could see and without a word he began slowly and painfully to undress. As his garments lay at his feet, the spellbound patients saw plainly that each part of his maimed, deformed body was strapped together by an endless number of complicated braces, pulleys and belts.

A deep sense of kinship stirred. The bishop's shadow had blessed like Peter's.

The above was a portion of a talk given by Mrs. Nancy Kidder, a gifted speaker, at the Milton May Fellowship Day Breakfast, May 1969.

**Women at Conference**

The annual meeting of the Women's Society will follow the dinner on Tuesday evening, August 12. The dinner will be served cafeteria style in a specially reserved section of the dining area. When a roll call of societies is taken, we hope that everyone will be present. Our expenses to attend Conference, but we heartily recommend the idea. I'm sure that she in turn will take back an interesting and informative report to those who were not able to be there.

We are counting on your contributions for the display tables. We look forward to your new ideas, programs that you have presented, new meeting ideas, program booklets and items you may have made for a service project. As was mentioned in the Women's Board Newsletter, it is not our plan to have items for sale but with a display we hope for many helpful
suggestions to “take back home.”

The Conference program of the Women’s Board is being arranged for Monday afternoon. During the week there is opportunity, if you choose, to participate in the Women’s Work Concerns Committee meetings. Discussions there can foster excellent ideas toward the growth and outreach of all societies.

Women Try Christian Therapy
Marjorie Burdick

There is healing for one’s ailments in the discovery of what Christ can and does do for those who are seeking to find ways of serving through the church.

Probably you, at times, have become weary, tired and discouraged, thinking you are not able to do anything in the church. Face about, try a positive approach, and the shadows will fall behind you. Aches and pains fade away as you lose yourself in deep concern for some other. Aches and pains fade away as you lose yourself in deep concern for some one.

Mental tasks, such as cleaning the church kitchen, making drapes for the parish house windows, typing church bulletins, bring their reward when well-done. Or, perhaps your place to serve may be in the Sabbath School, a youth group, a choir, and of course, in the women’s society. There are so many ways you can help with ever the thought of doing all to the glory of His work.

Perhaps your heart is breaking in concern for a loved one, or your hopes and plans may be shattered. Again there is healing for you in consecrated service. Are you “Sensitive in His Service”? Or you may be just sensitive. That, too, can be cured, if you add, “in His service.”

Several years ago I saw an interesting, well-made motto in an office at Caravilla Retirement Home. On this neatly printed card, evidently made by the Indian Sky Eyes, was drawn a pair of moccasins, and the message, “Do not criticize the other fellow until you have walked in his moccasins.”

Sky Eyes, that would be “Sensitive in His Service,” and hurt feelings could be healed! How many times our Bible reminded us of the fact that God can turn our sadness into joy! “The joy of the Lord is your strength” (Neh. 8:10).

Several years ago when I was working with the Young People’s Board then located in Battle Creek and my parents were serving pastorates in Rhode Island, Mother and I each had similar “bright ideas.” We thought of looking for one beautiful, happy or joyous thing to remember each day. Thus it came about in 1934 I dedicated a small diary, titled “Joy Day by Day” to my mother, and she one to me, “Bright Spots.” Choice bits of happiness came to each of us as we shared by thought waves, the good things God has given for us to enjoy. Herein therapy was at work, and later we found it in the words of this poem.

Grace Noll Crowell had suffered much, but she has blessed many through sharing her God-given joy.

SOME GAY, ADVENTUROUS THING

The day will bring some lovely thing, I say it each new morn; “Some gay, adventurous thing to hold Against my heart when it is gone.” And so I rise and go to meet The day with wings upon my feet.

I come upon it unaware . . .
Some sudden beauty without name;
A snatch of song, a breath of pine,
A poem lit with golden flame;
High tangled heart notes, keenly thinned,
Like flying color on the wing.

No day has ever failed me quite . . .
Before the grayest day is done,
I come upon some misty bloom
Or a late line of crimson sun.
Each night I pause, remembering,
Some gay, adventurous, lovely thing.

Grace Noll Crowell
in Good Housekeeping

Have you ever thought what CHURCH would be like if UR not in the middle of it?

SUNDAY:

Oh Lord, it is a good day — nothing is wrong — but I do feel that I must talk to somebody and there is no one close by who seems to fill my needs today. Friends are well-intentioned, Lord, and want to stand by and help if they can, but many of them feel an emptiness occasionally, too, and I’m sure I fail them at such times. Is there some way you can help us to more adequately meet each other’s needs? I wonder.

People on the streets, in the markets, on the campus — everywhere — seem so alone and lonely. It’s almost as if they were afraid to be friendly or even say “hello” lest they get involved in some situation they can’t handle. They just hurry to get the everyday routine of living taken care of for the day, and seem to expect everyone else to do the same, so they can hurry home and be by themselves.

What’s wrong, Lord? Why do most people feel that they are better off alone? Is it fear? Is it selfishness? Or are we, as a people, just physically tired out? I feel quite sure You didn’t intend for it to be this way. How can we “love one another,” except in a general way, like we love kittens, green grass, birds and flowers, when we don’t even know the names of most of the people who live on our street?

Is it a pendulum, Lord? Will it swing back to a natural, trusting, neighborly way of living? This has been bothering me lately and no human seems to have an answer . . . I have heard a lot about conversational prayer so I thought I would try it this week and lay some of my thoughts before You. Maybe You can help me find answers and fill the emptiness. Yet, do I dare let even You get that close to me?

MONDAY:

This evening is one of Your masterpieces, Lord — better than any artist could convey to canvas. The heavens are sparkling with stars — a marvel to behold!

Friends are well-intentioned, Lord, and want to stand by and help if they can, but many of them feel an emptiness occasionally, too, and I’m sure I fail them at such times. Is there some way you can help us to more adequately meet each other’s needs? I wonder.

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TUESDAY:

Sometimes, Lord, it seems to me that I just cannot put up with this “worldly madness” any longer; somewhere I must find peace! All around me I see evidence of fear, frustration, insecurity and faithlessness — and it rubs off onto me in spite of all I can do! How do I find peace of mind in the midst of such unrest?
I am reminded that the “God of Peace” comes to those who think about things that are pure, lovely, of good report, etc.

Is that the whole answer?

Last Christmas I found a Christmas card called “The Clearing” which illustrated the artist's thought that in the midst of all the glitter and tinsel connected with Christmas, Christians can still find a cleared spot, where You can be found and especially honored on the day set aside as Your birthday.

Can this be a clue as to how to meet the “world”?

In my home I have deliberately set up beauty centers — “happiness corners” as a teen-age friend calls them.

Lord, since You have been fit to limit my scene of activity to a great degree, I create “clearings” of beauty in my home where it is possible to brush other things aside and seek peace.

Sometimes I find it; sometimes I don’t.

Can you help me understand so that I can therefore be sure of finding it, so that I can face the world around me with confidence?

WEDNESDAY:

Today my attention has been called once again to the wonderful young people—our children — who are so sincerely taking up the work of Your Kingdom on earth. There must be hundreds or thousands of them that I know nothing about because mostly we hear about those young people who are, seemingly, bent on taking the world and themselves apart!

But I am very thankful today for our own group of Summer Christian Service Corps young folks. Every summer the number is greater as they come from four of those have been telling of their work. All have been instrumental in organizing women’s groups in their churches. One young lady, Miss E. Kadsuwa, has visited four other churches besides her own, and helped the women to begin meetings each place. We need them; Lord; the world needs them; You need them.

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Perhaps the women of the board would be interested in some of the news of the women’s work here. Since our classes for women last October I have received letters from four of those who were here telling of their work. All have been instrumental in organizing women’s groups in their churches. One young lady, Miss E. Kadsuwa, has visited four other churches besides her own, and helped the women to begin meetings each place. We need them; Lord; the world needs them; You need them.

Now I remember almost 20 years ago after an especially heart-warming testimony meeting at Conference: “Our young people are on the march, we better get behind them and get out of the way!” They are on the march right now — today — and it is a thrilling thing to see. May we never hold them back with any suggestion that they are not mature enough to handle the job or that they are not sincerely seeking to do Their will.

I believe in them, Lord! Sure, they will make wrong moves — who doesn’t? Sure, they are inexperienced — that’s good — they are willing to be led. It seems to me that most of these young folks have been raised to take more responsibility than we did. Sometimes I think of all the children being raised in the midst of older people who are tense and afraid and I wonder how they can come to maturity with any sense of security and mission. But some of them are doing it! Some of them seem to be stronger for the struggle. For these I give special thanks today.

They are doing what many of us here have been able to do: They are witnessing to the world — and it thrills me, Lord.

THURSDAY:

Now why should I begin thinking about martyrs tonight, I wonder. I have some definite ideas on the subject that I don’t dare share with anyone else, so maybe I will talk them over with You, Lord, and see if that will clear my mind.

It begins with a “wondering”! I wonder why it is that the really dedicated, consecrated Christians with a sense of having been touched by You, personally, feel that they must work themselves into an early grave for Your cause! To me —

(Continued on page 14)

A Letter from the Pearsons
To Mabel West
April 29, 1969

Dear Miss West,

Thank you for your recent letter. We appreciate hearing from you and enjoy the new friends we are making. We also want to express thanks to those who have sent pictures to our request. Some will come for teachers to use; others to be given to the children as stated before. We appreciate the efforts of everyone who has helped, and for those who may also do so in the future.

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How wonderful to have such a response in their service! We assume from our experiences that many of those who come are probably not first-time converts, but those who felt estranged from the Lord because of sin. The Lord was working in hearts. We do not recommend all night meetings but much enthusiasm as shown in this indicates their interest and desire to do the Lord’s work.

The girls are receiving the Sabbath Visitor and do enjoy receiving it and are interested in following items about some of those she knew in our time in the States.

We have recently finished another course with our ministerial students, and of course we agree, too, of its value. If this is granted, we will be in that will clear my mind.

(Continued on page 14)

THE SABBATH RECORDER

JUNE 2, 1969

11
church. There are some in reserve now, but not sufficient. A pastor's house and possibly another building for guests, committees, courses, etc., would also be desired on the same plot.

We trust that you are feeling fine now, and that God's presence is felt near you each day. How wonderful to depend on Him.

In our Savior,
David and Betty Pearson

LIGHT
Mrs. Earl (Mabel) Cruzan

Light is stronger than darkness. God is Light and the true light that shineth in darkness. The light tells us that God loves us and so this light must be shared and this way of life must be lived.

The theme for our 1969-70 program book for the Women's Societies is, "God Is Light, and In Him Is No Darkness at All" which is taken from John 1:5; our basic Scripture.

The worship theme for each month which has been built around “Light Is in the World” has been developed under five different headings. Under Christian Fellowship we have developed “Light Lit by Love” for the month of June and "Fellowship with the Father — Through the Son" for July.

The next three months come under the heading of Christian Joy. We have used the themes of: "Making Your Joy Full," "Living This Joyful Way of Life," and "Putting Your Light on a Hill" for all to see rather than hiding it.

Christian Celebrations come next with the theme of Thanksgiving and "Christmas" being developed.

Christian Understanding comes in January and February when we try to "Understand Light Versus Darkness" and "Darkness Cannot Destroy Light."

Through Christian Faith we develop the idea of "God Is Alive" and that the message of Jesus Christ must be shared with others. "Easter" with its renewal of faith and life has a message for us all. And where would faith be without "Christian Mothers" patiently showing us the way? These ideas are developed during the spring months.

We have included some thoughts each month for a program on thoughts to work into your program if you do not care to use all that we have suggested. A fellowship service of worship has been included with Scripture, meditation and usually suggested hymns.

In the resource envelope you will find several booklets or pamphlets with suggestions on how they might be used. Some of these will be informative subjects, some will be program material, and some will be suggested ideas for helping others.

Included is an article about a former medical missionary to China — Dr. Grace Crandall. A program which we feel could be used in a small or large group is also included. This program uses three readers. Extra copies are available at the Women's Board office in Milton.

We have again included an installation service which we hope will be useful to your group as you install your new officers for the year.

We again ask for your suggestions for next year. What would you like included in the resource material? What would you like left out? What areas of concern would you like material on or what suggestions to this year and to those of you who sent them we are indeed grateful. We used as many of them as we felt we could.

We have tried to be "Sensitive in His Service" in bringing to you the resource materials this year. We trust you will find some of value.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON for June 14, 1969
THE BIBLE IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH
Lesson Scripture: 1 Tim. 4:11-16; Eph. 3:7-10; Col. 3:16.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

MISSIONS — Everett T. Harris
Assistant in Evangelism Reports
By Miss Constance Coon

Since last reporting for publication, work has been carried on with the Syracuse, N. Y., church and Berlin and Stephentown church areas, and at present work is being done in Richburg.

Syracuse — Sixty calls were made in the area: social, sick, contacting and follow-up for Bible Club members, and contacting former Seventh Day Baptist members to determine interest.

A Bible Club with seven members was organized in Balwinsville. The program has been designed for a period of six to eight weeks. Wayneette and Bryan Burdick and Dee Whitcomb are capable carrying it on.

While I was there I had charge of four sermons and four children's stories as well as attending four meetings with the teenage group.

I was privileged to attend an area Bible Club Movement dinner with two hundred other guests. Two bowling parties made up the rest of the activities.

Bird's Eye View of Bible Club Work at Berlin and Stephentown, N. Y.

The view is fact — not fiction, thanks to my cousin, Elmer Maxson and me.

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Meditations  
(Continued from page 10)

it seems that to be touched by You and "called apart" to work especially for You should make them think twice about good stewardship of their time and energy! There are so few who actually feel this sense of oneness with You in this crazy world. Is it right, is it what You want for them to choose to literally work themselves to an early death? Wouldn't it be more sensible to work steadily and devotedly, being mindful of a special mission and the need to keep oneself "in shape" to carry on that mission for many, many years?  

One thing is certain: I would never want to put myself in Your shoes. To You belong the honor of dying to redeem man and I think it is significant that You remember that dedication to You and Your pattern of living is needed, but no man should think, consciously or unconsciously, that by devoting full time, energy and money to that pattern of living to the extent that it costs his life will leave an impact on the world that will equal the impact Your death made. Sometimes it seems to me that some individuals do think that — but I hope I am wrong!

FRIDAY:

Most days seem to have something of "spice" in them! Today it was a gift of a stereo record. There are some interesting and unusual things being done with stereo records. Take the one of the steam locomotive climbing over the California mountains in the midst of a driving thunderstorm! I still laugh when I remember the first time I heard it. I remember sitting and knitting in my cozy chair by the fireplace and hoping that friends who had been visiting us reached home without getting too wet! It was that realistic!  

The record today was one made by a folk-singer who has the blood of the Cherokee nation flowing in his veins: Johnny Cash. He and his wife are giving an "autobiographical," account of their visit to the Holy Land by the Sabbaath and each explanation gives the Sabbath more meaning.

I wish I could fully grasp the thought and the feeling! It explains many of the poetic phrases used in the Bible in connection with the Sabbath and each explanation gives the Sabbath more meaning.

But the idea that keeps trying to come to a focus in my mind is that the Sabbath is not a "thing." It is a segment of time — not something that takes up space!

Our human imaginations tend to put a shape to everything. "Thinghood" the Jewish rabbi calls it. He says, "The result of this 'thinginess' is our blindness to all reality that fails to identify itself as a thing."

Yet there is a whole area of living that cannot be identified as having shape and filling up space. This is basically Your territory, Lord, isn't it? Love, fear, faith, spiritual awakening are all good examples. And the real Sabbath belongs in this category!

Oh, how I wish these potentially great minds that you have put into our human frames would stop thinking on "thinginess" long enough to grasp the beauty, the significance, the importance of recognizing the reality of this area of life that does not fill up space. It only takes up time. Can a segment of time be classified as a thing? I wish I could grasp the full meaning of this I do know: my Bible will be read from a different point of view now — since the Jewish rabbi has said that the Bible is more concerned with time than with space!

Lord, help me to fully understand.

—Caroline Gray

THE SABBATH RECORDER

JUNE 2, 1969

NABWU Executive Meeting

Mrs. Charles (Lenora) Saunders  
Each year the North American Baptist Women's Union Executive Committee meets to transact necessary business. The committee is composed of the elected officers of the constituent national women's organizations, along with the employed executive secretaries of the national bodies, the North American women members of the Executive Committee of the Baptist World Alliance and five members at large.

The meeting was held this spring at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. Mrs. Charles Saunders, vice-president of the Women's Board, represented the organization. As a part of the program each president, or representative, was asked to give a five-minute report on some phase of women's work in her particular convention. A year ago the president had explained our Summer Christian Service program. This year Mrs. Saunders outlined the program given during the past hundred years, as well as the present, in the total denominational foreign mission program.

A great deal of planning is being done toward participation of the NABWU in meetings of the Baptist World Alliance which will be held in Tokyo in July 1970. More information will be available at a later date.

Plans for the Baptist World Day of Prayer in November were discussed. The theme this year will be "Let Us Rise Up and Build." One important point in the discussions brought out the fact that some Baptist groups (ours was one) were not being given proper credit for offering taken on that day because directions are not followed accurately for reporting the offerings on a percentage basis of the denominations represented. This error happens when several Baptist groups meet together but can be avoided by careful reporting. However, we still should plan to meet together with other Baptist groups in the same area because Christian fellowship is strengthened and our work is increased not only in scope but in effectiveness. Barriers are broken down as we come to see ourselves as one in Christ.

Why is church attendance down? Louis Cassels, senior editor of UPI says, "If you persist in handing out stones when people ask for bread they'll finally quit coming to the bakery."

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STEADFAST
By Mont Hurst

"Be of good courage, and thou shalt strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord."—Psalm 27:14

In the midst of a fierce battle the commander of one army saw that his outnumbered forces were losing the fight. His chief of staff came to him and said, "Sir, I have ordered a retreat." The commander replied, "I know that our general is aware of our predicament and will send reinforcements. Withdraw your order for retreat!" The reinforcement did arrive later in the day and the tide was turned into victory.

God knows of our every problem, affliction, frustration and need. If we release our faith to Him we will instinctively know that He is aware of our need and will send deliverance before we are engulfed in defeat. Sometimes, in our frenzy of fear and excitement, we fail to realize He sees all and knows all and is going to deliver us. It is our part to endure the situation or difficulty, intensify our faith, and expect the miracle of His deliverance. In His Word in Isaiah 40:31, He tells us, "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." Do we need more assurance than this? God cannot lie. He will fulfill His Promise.

Almighty God, I stand steadfast in thy will and power.