The Sabbath Recorder
510 Watchung Ave. Box 868
Plainfield, N. J. 07061

February 23, 1970

A lamp to my feet
A light to my path

FAITH
Mar. 1—Encouraged — Isa. 41:10-16; 50:10
Mar. 2—A Testimony — Psalms 16 and 27
Mar. 4—Justification by — Rom. 3:22-28; 10:4, 9
Mar. 5—Paul's Affirmations — Rom. 8:35-37; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 4:13; 1 Tim. 1:12; 4:18
Mar. 6—Examples — Heb. 11
Mar. 7—Its Fruits — James 2:1-26

ASSURANCE
Mar. 8—Joshua's Testimony — Josh. 24:14-25
Mar. 9—A Song of Assurance — Psalms 24
Mar. 10—Job's Testimony — Job 19:9, 27; 42:1-6
Mar. 11—The Disciples Assured — John 14:1-14
Mar. 13—As Sons of God — Rom. 8:16-18; Gal. 3:26-27
Mar. 14—Of Salvation in Christ — 1 Cor. 15:1-11

PRAYER
Mar. 15—A Prayer of David — Psalm 66
Mar. 16—Solomon's Prayer — 2 Chron. 6:14-42
Mar. 18—Trust in Prayer — Heb. 11:6; James 1:5-7; Heb. 10:22-23: Matt. 21:22
Mar. 21—Christ's Prayer for Us — John 17

SUFFERING
Mar. 22—A Prayer for God — Psalm 6
Mar. 23—Confidence in the Face of — Job 23

Mar. 24—Paul's Response — 2 Cor. 11:23-30; 12:7-10
Mar. 25—The Suffering of Christ — Mark 15:34
Mar. 26—Purpose of Christ's Suffering — 1 Cor. 15:3; Gal. 1:4; Eph. 5:3; 1 Pet. 3:21-24; Heb. 2:9-18
Mar. 27—Finding Comfort in God — Isa. 40:1-11, 28-31
Mar. 28—Jesus' Compassion — Matt. 20:24; Luke 7:13; John 11:54-55; Mark 8:2-3

RESURRECTION
Mar. 30—Jesus' Affirmation — John 5:19-20
Apr. 1—Testimony of the Resurrection — Mark 16:1-18
Apr. 2—If Christ Be Not Risen — 1 Cor. 15:1-19
Apr. 3—Paul's Teaching — 1 Cor. 15:20-57
Apr. 4—Confidence in — 2 Cor. 5:1-5; 1 Thess. 4:16; 1 Tim. 1:1-11

(Prepared by Rev. Earl Cruzan)

A Tart Society

Typewriter slips are sometimes amusing. Take, for instance, the beautiful typing of our address on a business letter from another Christian publication. It read "The American Sabbath Tart Society." We have been upholding an unpopular truth for these many years. Some of our literature is quite pointed, as it needs to be, but we speak the truth in love and not with tartness. The girl whose nimble fingers flit over the keys of the electric typewriter can be allowed a few mistakes. We even try to be patient with the non-religious people who can't understand us in conversation when we say "Tract Society." They are puzzled as to what can be the purpose of a "tract society." Communication is an interesting endeavor.

Ancient Harbor City of Caesarea

The coast of Palestine is strewn with the wrecks of harbors where other shores might show instead the wrecks of ships. So it is at the abandoned harbor of Caesarea where the Crusaders erected walls and arches above the ruins of the Roman city built by Herod the Great. Here resided Philip and Cornelius the centurion. The Apostle Paul often used this port.
Observations in a Garage

Most car owners once in a while find themselves standing for half an hour in a garage waiting for the mechanic to diagnose the difficulty and give an estimated time of what is needed to put the family car back into good running order. Such was my experience on a recent morning. It was the first time I had visited this particular establishment. Upon my arrival, the surroundings made more impression on me than as if I had known the place and the proprietor better.

I remarked to the busy owner that coming to a garage is like visiting a hospital. One doesn’t realize how many sick and broken people there are until he goes to the hospital and sees the condition of the sick and broken. So is it with automobiles. Our ordinary experience is a traffic experience where almost every car is clean and shiny and functioning normally. When you enter a repair shop, you notice that the parking space around it is filled with dirty, mashed or disabled cars. Once inside you may be reminded of all kinds of trouble for motorists and truck drivers. Here on the floor is the rear axle housing of a truck. The big ring and pinion is there. Normally it has teeth. When the gears jammed, they burst the housing. There was need for major surgical work and installing of new parts.

Incidentally, the verdict on my own car was that the miles had taken their toll. It is a smooth-running part of life. But perhaps minding ourselves that transportation costs for the car owner do not spread out evenly over the miles driven. I used to go about the old car, but as it got into condition, I began to go about a new car.

Thoughts on Giving

It is not the editor’s primary responsibility to interpret the giving of our people as reflected in the monthly report of our denominational treasurer. However, we are called to visit the home of a stranger, a young man of another race who has known the blessings of church and Bible training, yet is now without work and that his moral gears have become unmeshed. There is brokenness all about us if we are willing to look.

I guess I would rather be an orthopedist, surrounded by a number of broken gear housings, but I am not likely to be either one. As a Christian, trying to keep close to the Lord of Life, I cannot pass by on the other side when I see the broken lives of those who rightfully look to me for some sort of spiritual mending. Isn’t this the way you feel? Peter and John at the temple gate were not making excuses but met with the deeper need with the words, “Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have give I thee. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk” (Acts 3:6). Let us, like Peter, reach out the hand and lift up the spiritually weak, the fallen, and those that are road weary after too many miles or going at too swift a pace.

Emphasis Issue Coming

The first week of each month the Sabbath Recorder is either a special evangelistic issue or some kind of emphasis issue. We have recently had Tract and Missionary emphasis Records. Now under date of March 2 the Board of Christian Education provides most of the articles and tells of things relating to the many facets of its work.

The president, Burton Cran dall, has a word. Earl Cruzan writes on communications. Roxanda Traylor talks about “Sex Education in Public Schools.” Ethel Dickinson asks, “Why Helping Hand?” Lanell Ellis talks about the Youth Work Committee. Cynthia Wedel, president of the NCCC, is brought in with an article “Christians and Change.”

FEBRUARY 23, 1970
Reflections on Israel

A trip to Israel calls forth some mental exercise, for it is a land of contrasts between the old and the new. Almost in the same moment one is transported back two thousand years not only by the building, artifacts, and way of life and snatched back again to 1970 as he sees a nation emerging and struggling with the social and political problems of the day.

Perhaps nowhere in the world is there such a combination of the ancient and the modern, neither of which can be viewed without emotion. There are few thoughtless, carefree tourists who are unaffected by what they see. The Jewish people apart from their business struggles in the nations of the world have always been emotional. Perhaps their persecution in ancient and modern times has heightened the feelings of family and religious solidarity.

There is an intenseness in reclaiming the land, in becoming self-sufficient, in achieving national and international status that is commensurate with their massive. One gets the impression that some three million people in that new nation could not have made such advances in any other place but their ancestral homeland. Other lands to which the refugees fled from what they call “the holocaust” of Hitler might have been more hospitable by virtue of natural resources. Palestine as viewed from Egyptian bondage in the days of Moses may have been a “land flowing with milk and honey,” but it has not been so during the past 1900 years. The indomitable will of Jewish patriots who organized kibbutzim and by communal endeavor reintroduced cattle and bees and planted orange groves has literally made the stoney land blossom as the rose and flow with milk and honey.

It is no wonder that the Jews in Israel hold their heads high and look with pride upon their achievements in the past twenty years. Not all are fully aware of their connection with the ancient past; they are too busy being present. However, there is an underlying stratum of religious history which makes the nation what it is. One cannot blame the orthodox practicing Jews for clinging tenaciously to what they call their peoplehood and striking out against those forces which would drive a wedge between state and religion. Without the sense of inheritance from Bible times they have no argument for national existence. They would then be left with what some wrong in thinking them to be, a completely secular nation with unworthy expansionist goals.

True, there are tensions in Israel between the old and the new, between the secular and the religious. It is fair to say that there would be no wondering eyes cast on modern Israel if it had been left to the religious Jews to produce a new nation. In fact the more religious, the Hasidim, are not even in favor of the Zionism which has produced this modern democracy like an oasis in a barren desert of Muslim kingdoms and dictatorships around the Mediterranean.

What the future holds for Israel in the political realm is not entirely predictable. The establishment of new nations and officials indicates considerable uncertainty because of the interests of major powers and the uncertain course of international pressures. It is clear that, left alone to settle their border disputes, they could make a go of it and perhaps show the world a healthy example of how to administer the land that has been under their control since 1967. Certainly there is a determination to maintain security and to wait for peace. We who dwell on a continent apart and in the best position to see their point of view. When it comes to international diplomacy, all too often coupled with military diplomacy, the situation is not black or white; there are some grays. It is not easy to apply Christian principles, and we do well not to take sides in too definite a way. We could wish for the time to come speedily when "the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ" (Rev. 11:15).

Sabbath Recorder Day

February 21, 1970, has been declared Sabbath Recorder Sabbath for the Seventy Day Baptist churches of the United States Conference. This is a day to stress the value of our denominational week for our personal and denominational life. It is a day to secure a wider reading of the periodical by encouraging new subscribers. Discounted subscription blanks are distributed and cards are provided so that individuals may request a two-month free subscription.

This will be a suitable time to mention some of the testimonials that have come in recently. It may help new people considering subscribing to read how much the Sabbath Recorder means to some new and some older subscribers.

From Waco, Tex., comes this word from a man who is not yet connected with a Seventh Day Baptist church: “We have received our first issue of the Sabbath Recorder. We have thoroughly enjoyed it and look forward to our next issue. I am passing it around to the rest of our group.”

From Palm Springs, Calif., a new friend writes: “I am ready to subscribe to the Sabbath Recorder. Enclosed is a p. o. money order for $4.00.” A missionary in Haifa, Israel, tells of how much he appreciates the Sabbath Recorder.

Workers for the cause of Seventh Day Baptists in Ghana, Nigeria, India, Burma and Korea, as well as our established missions, who doubt witness to what our weekly means to them.

Editors of other religious journals who get the Recorder by subscription or on an exchange basis speak well of our 125-year-old publication.

A surgeon who has been getting our paper for many years did not at first put it on the magazine table but now does so and has requested that we send him two copies so he can have one for himself. He is "not of our faith."

From a New England state a woman renews her subscription and writes, "In these times of stress and worry we rely on the magazine for help and inspiration." (On the masthead of each issue these words have long appeared, "A magazine for Christian enlightenment and inspiration.")

The most common renewal comment comes from Enid, Okla.: "Enclosed find check for $4.00 for payment of subscription to the Sabbath Recorder for another year. We don’t want to be without it."

From western New York one of the faithful nonresidents writes, "I think it is one of the finest magazines we take. I do enjoy it."

A woman of Birmingham, Ala., says of an editorial on "The Color Line," "You expressed some of my own thoughts far better than I ever could."

This week the subscription desk received from one relatively small church nineteen subscriptions gathered up by a person appointed to do so. It only shows that churches can do something to benefit their members and friends by actively working on regular and gift subscriptions.

May the above comments warm the hearts of other subscribers as they do the hearts of those who devote so much time each week to see that the Sabbath Recorder has good thoughts in it and is mailed on time (the Friday before its Monday date).
The National Council of Churches met an open forum on the world and its crises. The Council, and finding ways to implement the mandate from Detroit. To some it was a relief to get down to the familiar business of divisions and committee reports; to others it was anticlimactic. But the General Board sessions had direction and purpose; it was not dull and routine. Those who buried the Council in Detroit may have been premature.

Looking back on the Tulsa meetings, it was the strong determination to reshape the Council that gave a sense of purpose; it was not dull and prophetic in a polarized society and still maintain its financial support.

One cannot fail to observe that the issues faced by the National Council are the living issues at every level of the life of the church. The people who seek to find a way toward solutions are a remarkable cross-section of the church today. In a sense, the Council is nothing less than the relevance of the church and the Christian witness in the present world.

C. E. Day Observed

The official Youth Week recognized in our Seventh Day Baptist calendar has been changed from February to October to conform with the National Council of Churches program. That week seems to have been under generally observed in our churches.

There is still, however, on our calendar Christian Endeavor Week, the traditional youth week of our people and many other denominations. This youth organization has been such a blessing for so many years that it cannot be forgotten. It was the pioneer inter-church youth program that did—and still does—so much to train junior and senior youth for Christian citizenship. Many of our churches find that the C. E. organization is continuously meaningful. It is good to know that our youth week of our people and many other denominations.

It is interesting to note in the church bulletins so thoughtfully sent to the editor that many of our churches observed Youth Sabbath or Christian Endeavor Day on February 7 by having the young people take charge of the Sabbath morning service. The programs as outlined in the bulletins looked interesting and meaningful. It is good to know that our youth are willing and able to take worship and service responsibilities. It is partly because they have been conducting their own meetings throughout the year. In some churches there are two Youth Sabbath, or Youth Pre-Con retreats in 1971. Young people at General Conference at Milton in August.

Efforts are being made to secure directors for Pre-Con retreats in 1971.

Vocations Sabbath

Sabbath Day, March 14, 1970, has been designated our General Conference theme to be Vocations Sabbath. The Vocations Committee of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education has sent suggestions to our churches to help with the planning for that day.

Pre-Con for 1970 will be held at Lutherhaven Bible Camp, Dakota, Minn. The director, the Rev. Edward Sutton, pastor of the Allred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church, shared his plans with the Youth Work Committee of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education at its monthly meeting, February 8.

The theme for the retreat will be "Faith Plus Nothing Equals Nothing. The theme Scripture is James 2:14-17.

Present plans include the Rev. Glen Warner as worship leader, and the Rev. Herbert Saunders as lecturer, using ideas from his forthcoming book, *The Sabbath*, Symbol of Creation and Re-creation. Other denominational leaders have been contacted, and their agreement to participate is anticipated.

The business manager is Duane Pederson, Rt. 3, Rochester, Minn.

All Youth Fellowships are urged to plan now for ways to send representatives to this inspiring national event.

The Youth Work Committee of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education has chosen the Rev. J. Paul Green to be the noon discussion leader for youth at General Conference at Milton in August.

"Not all young people should stay at home; however, we must recognize the sacred call to be consecrated laymen who are able and willing to keep the old home church alive and bearing fruit on many branches. The need is great and the results can be rewarding."

Youth Rally

We note with interest a challenging proposition of the spring rally for the youth of the Seventh Day Baptist Mid-Continent Association. There will be a celebration of the Passover Supper and Communion Service on the theme "It's Easy To Be Hard spiritedly and training on witnessing techniques, a bonfire program ending with conversational prayer, and attendance at the Atchison County Youth Rally in April. The Youth Rally retreat will be held in Nortonville, Kansas. Those participating in the leading of the program are David August, Kent Wheeler, Clifford Bond, Kenneth Chroniger, the Rev. Myron Soper, and the host pastor, the Rev. Paul Osborn.

"With the knowledge we have and the product we have to offer, why are we so reluctant to witness? If we know that we can be helpful and that our product will satisfy customers, why are we so reluctant to witness?"

Rev. Clinton Cooper, Kansas City, Missouri, in "Know Your Line" (Youth CE Meetings).
Things New and Old in Israel

To tour the land of Israel with guides who know the Bible and are qualified archaeologists as well as long time residents of the land is to see things new and old and to try to put them into proper perspective. The Christian has more to gain from a visit to Israel than the adherent of any other religion that has roots in Palestine because the Christian can see it whole. He is not limited to the days of the patriarchs and prophets but takes in the fulfillment of the prophecies in Christ. He comes also to the land with a realization that there has been much dark history of crusades and battles in the name of religion.

The languages of world conquerors are inscribed on monuments unearthed by archaeologists. Not only does one find the native Hebrew in the oldest manuscripts and inscriptions but Greek and Latin also from ancient times. In the picture here a free lance religious writer, Charles Ludwig, is caught photographing one of the rare Greek inscriptions on a stone in the wall of a church. Not too clearly seen in the foreground of this picture is the ex-cavation and of the ministry of Jesus in the synagogue that probably stood on this site in His day. The city of Capernaum disappeared from history but archaeology has brought some of it back. The most recent excavations in this spot are thought to have unearthed the house of Simon Peter.

He was with us circling around through Nazareth, Cana, and other localities made sacred by gospel events. Here in the precincts of the ruins of a Second Century synagogue the editors and religious writers listen attentively to the story of the excavation and of the ministry of Jesus in the synagogue that probably stood on this site in His day. The city of Capernaum disappeared from history but archaeology has brought some of it back. The most recent excavations in this spot are thought to have unearthed the house of Simon Peter.

In the beautiful, rugged hills of Galilee not far from the ancient village of Nazareth, which is still very much alive, our party stopped to view the countryside and to notice a shepherd with his flock of brown and white sheep and long-haired black goats. True to the Scripture, the shepherd "divideth the sheep from the goats" although he watches over both. As indicated in this close-up picture the modern shepherd in Galilee, helping the black ram to pose is an Arab rather than a Jew. Galilee is more Arabic than Jewish and there is one Arab from this region who is a member of the Kenesset (Parliament).

Jerusalem, the old part, is a city of towering walls, a city of stones. Everywhere the skyline is broken with churches erected by the faithful of other lands and other times. One gets the impression that their courts and sanctuaries are frequented more by visiting tourists than by regular worshiping congregations.

Beauty of landscaping such as seen in the foreground of this picture is the exception rather than the rule. Although January is not the season for green grass in Jerusalem one can assume that there is little to be seen at any time in this close-crowded, mostly Arab section.

Looking over the wall from almost any vantage point what is seen resembles what one sees in the poorer, foreign parts of some of our western cities — a forest of slender TV antennae rather than trees and grass reaching up for air. But then we do not go to Jerusalem for beautiful views of nature or the common things that attract tourists. We go to remember the work of Christ for us on Calvary. We go to see a city that is once more united and is gradually erasing the scars of time and battles.
Appreciation to Connie Coon Assistant in Evangelism

The Board of Managers of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society, assembled on January 25, 1970, voted with deep regret to accept the resignation of Miss Constance Coon as assistant in evangelism. It was noted that this resignation would take effect at the time of August 31, 1970. Miss Coon began her services as church leader in evangelism on September 1, 1968.

The Home Field Committee of the Missionary Board having considered Connie's resignation ahead of the board meeting brought the following recommendation: "We note with real satisfaction the many areas where the work of Connie's work has been felt, especially among children and young people and we praise God for the services she has rendered. It is therefore with regret that we accept her resignation."

The fruit of Connie's work will continue to be shown in years to come as the boys and girls that have been nurtured in the faith through Bible Clubs will take their places as church leaders. Surely the work of our Lord Jesus Christ applies to Connie when he said, "For that abideth in me and I in Him, the same bringeth the fruit."

With one day in between, we began services in Lost Creek, W. Va., this time with a bit different schedule as far as presenting both lay training and evangelistic services. Here we started with evangelistic services rather than the lay training. These were conducted through November 15. With a one day break we began lay training sessions on November 17 which continued through November 22. Sabbath afternoon. I also brought the Sabbath morning, which time a large number came forward in rededication and commitment to Christ in the "Way of Love." After extended counseling that afternoon we journeyed to Salem to have a time of fellowship with the Salem College young people that evening. On Sunday evening, November 23, we held a meeting in the church which time it was observed that a large number came forward in rededication and commitment to Christ in the "Way of Love." 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After extended counseling that afternoon we journeyed to Salem to have a time of fellowship with the Salem College young people that evening. On Sunday evening, November 23, we held a meeting in the church which time it was observed that a large number came forward in red. The Board of Managers has fixed the close of business on March 1, 1970, as the time at which members entitled to notice thereof and to vote at the meeting and any adjournment thereof shall be determined.

Elsot H. van Horn, Secretary

Joint Church Aid Ends Work in Nigeria

The thousands of pounds of food and medical supplies stockpiled on the island of Sao Tome and elsewhere for relief to former Biafra are being placed at the disposal of any other agencies which the federal Nigerian government authorizes to work in the region. In the face of the government's refusal to permit Joint Church Aid or any other church agency to continue its work, apparently because they were aiding Biafran civilians, JCA, comprising Church World Service, Catholic and Jewish agencies in this country, is winding up its operations.

Joint Church Aid has worked impartially throughout the civil war in Nigeria. Through late fall 1969, it had sent 8,188,687 pounds of aid to Nigeria and 8,397,378 pounds to Biafra.

—Religious Newsweekly
Congress Urged To Consider More Liberal Laws for CO's

A Senate subcommittee has released a report urging Congress to consider expanding the law on conscientious objection to include registrants who object to a particular war on ethical or moral grounds.

The argument in favor of selective conscientious objectors, the report stated, "is simply that young men who have ethical or moral beliefs against a particular war should not be treated differently than young men who have sincere religious beliefs against all wars."

A case now pending before the Supreme Court, United States v. Sisson, raises the issue of whether such special treatment is constitutionally required. If the Court finds that it is, the report pointed out, Congress will have to implement the decision with appropriate legislation.

But, the report continued, "Congress should consider the question" even if the Court finds that there is no constitutional necessity for selective CO status.

The argument against permitting young men to select which wars they will oppose on grounds of conscience, the report said, is that it is administratively impractical. Also, such a law "may also create new inequities in the draft system," it continued.

The administrative problem, according to the report, is "how to determine who is a sincere selective CO and who is merely trying to avoid military service."

The Judiciary subcommittee suggested that a selective CO status be created to be used for the registration of persons who are moral objectors.

The argument was made by President Kingman Brewster of Yale University. His proposal is that anyone who requests a selective CO status should be granted it, but that he be required to undergo noncombatant service of comparable risk to that undergone by draftees.

Presumably this does not mean that every CO must go to the battlefield, the report continued. All that would be required is that the same percentage of selective CO's as draftees be subjected to battle risks and that in all other respects — pay, length of service, separation from families, and the like — selective CO's and draftees be treated equally.

If the report stated, "it proves impossible to subject selective CO's to equal risks, then they could be required to serve for a longer time."

Test Yourself for 1970
By C. T. White

We must not let the world and the lusts thereof ensnare us. It is good to take an inventory of our spiritual state. Why is our testimony for Christ so wan and unimpressive? Are our missionary activities limited to the recruitment of home workers? Are we becoming more devoted to television programs than church activities? As we examine ourselves let's be honest and put Christ and His work first.

Yes, during 1970 let's put on the robe of Christ's righteousness. Yes, we must dare to be different from the world if we are to win souls for Him. Let's be like Jesus and have fellowship with Him.

The continual expansion of the Seventh Day Baptist church has been possible because of God's blessing upon each loyal one who has sacrificed for the one who gave His life that we might live.

Working for Jesus in the days ahead may not always be rosy and easy, but in Him they shall have victory. One with Jesus is always a majority.

The missionary work sometimes looks impossible, but with our sacrificial offerings and self-denial from a cheerful giver, they can be blessed many times to spread the truth to each soul God loved. We should never sit back and say, "If I only had $100 I would do this, or if I had $100 I would do that." God wants to know how much of that fifty cent piece you are willing to sacrifice for the cause of the gospel.

Yes, Christian friend, you and I and the souls we can work together and then we will hear the words of our Savior, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Newsman Prediction: "Faith To Make Comeback"

NBC Newsman John Chancellor set an optimistic context for Mission 70, injecting hope into pessimistic predictions about the seventies by asserting that "faith would get a chance for a comeback."

Assessing the sixties and speculating on the seventies, Chancellor predicted the old values of religious faith and fidelity would be essential for the new decade, even if old institutions were not.

"The fix we are in in the sixties would provide spectacular opportunity for ministers of various kinds in the seventies," the news commentator stated.

"Our institutions are breaking down, our conceptions of life are changing. It looks as if in the seventies, faith will get a chance for a comeback."

The hope for the new decade, he suggested, is that as the young move into responsible positions they will produce "new rules of living that will match the realities of the sixties," for example, replacing the cheapness of mass production with the quality of personal production, and establishing a kinship that will break the barriers of fear in the ghetto.

Mr. Chancellor said our cities were like Japan — small geographically and jammed — and that a philosophy for living in the seventies would be essential for the church. He said, "We must not let the world and the lusts of our day go to the battlefield, the Christian friend, you and I."

Mr. Chancellor said that the sixties were a chance for a comeback. A comeback as in Mr. Ngura, who works for the government, is no longer with the Pale Civil Hospital but an information office at Monywa, Burma. He likes his new work better, but he is still not free to assist the churches — which are at considerable distance.

The churches face financial and other problems, as is to be expected. He wrote, "Though we are poor in worldly property in Christ we are rich. The church is increasing gradually because of your kind assistance." A gift to one of our American churches to be used for the construction of a simple church apparently had not yet been received when Mr. Ngura wrote. It probably reached them in time to encourage the people assembled for the 1970 Burma Conference.

The support of L. Sawi Thanga (much of which he puts into the very limited Conference budget) is largely provided outside of our OWM budget by a few interested friends through SDBWF. Any gifts are to be used for the general Burma work and normally channeled the same way. Rev. Everett T. Harris is the treasurer of SDBWF.

Don't worry about how many people are here; it isn't how many we are but how much we are. — Owen Cooper
ECUMENICAL NEWS

Many Changes in Council Structures

Councils of Churches across the country are undergoing major changes from adopting new names to disbanding and reorganizing to include Roman Catholic parishes or dioceses and, in a few cases, Jewish groups.

In a survey conducted by the Minneapolis Star, statistics are reported which were compiled by the Rev. D. H. Conrad Hoyer. Of the approximately 800 councils in the United States, 210 have paid staffs and of these councils, two-thirds have direct Roman Catholic participation. Six of the 50 state councils have Catholic diocesan councils and eight others are currently negotiating with them on membership. Dr. Hoyer said that they are now members of at least 35 local or metropolitan church councils.

Among the more recent name changes from "Council of Churches" are the: Arizona Ecumenical Council, the Metropolitan Fellowship of Churches of Southeast Florida in Miami, the Texas Conference of Churches, the Council of Christian Commumions in Cincinnati and the Metropolitan Interchurch Agency in Kansas City.

—Religious Newsweekly

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Minister to Hippies

Council of Churches, 3,000 Mile Hike


The 3,000-mile hike will end July 18 in the capital city where Blessiott expects half-a-million people to gather at the Washington Monument for a "Which Way America?" 24-hour prayer rally. Each person attending is asked to bring "a Bible, a flower, love, and two gifts—one to give to somebody needy in Washington and the other to place on the lawn of the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare for the government agency to distribute to the poor."

A daily telegram will be sent to President Nixon. Four men will walk across the nation with Blessiott. Two at a time will carry the rough-hewn, 10-foot cross. Two trailers, one pulled by a car driven by Blessiott's wife Sherry and carrying their three children, will accompany the hikers.

Cities on the route include Phoenix, Albuquerque, Amarillo, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Springfield (Mo.), St. Louis, Louisville, and Cincinnati. Each city will be invited to send Christians to the city outskirts for a mass march to a rally site.

—ABNS

Bible Study in Jordan

Eight thousand people of Arab countries are enrolled in a correspondence course on the life of Christ. The course is sponsored by the publication committee of the Arab Baptist General Mission. Mrs. Wayne Fuller of Amman, chairman of the committee which translates, publishes, and distributes Christian literature, reported that several governments apparently have been reluctant to intercept materials to prevent their delivery.

—Baptist World Newsletter

THE SABBATH RECORDER

OUR WORLD MISSION

OWM Budget Receipts for January 1970

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JANUARY DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Christian Education | $1,258.56
Historical Society | 10.57
Ministerial Education | 1,237.21
Ministerial Retirement | 1,425.63
Missionary Society | 6,053.41
Tract Society | 1,962.12
Trustees of Gen. Conf.| 105.75
Women's Society | 341.42
World Fellowship & Service | 414.21
General Conference | 1,945.83
S. D. B. World Federation | 30.00

Total Disbursements | $14,784.51

OWM Treasurer

January 31, 1970

1970 Budget | $140,833.00
January Receipts: OWM Treasurer | $14,725.01
Boards | 271.51
14,996.52
Amount due in 11 months | $125,836.48
Needed per month | $11,450.80
Percentage of year elapsed | 8.35%
Percentage of budget raised | 10.65%
—Gordon L. Sanford
OWM Treasurer

THE SABBATH RECORDER
Nation’s Top Leaders Declare Need for God

At the annual Presidential Prayer Breakfast President Richard M. Nixon joined some of the nation's top public officials in proclaiming need for prayer and dependence on God during these times of turmoil and challenge.

The president of the Baptist World Alliance, William Tolbert, vice-president of Liberia, was one of the honored guests seated at the President's table.

Congressman Albert H. Quie (R., Minn.), presiding officer, noted that the larger group of the 2,600 had come from around the world and were "joined in Christ's love."

After reading from the 15th chapter of John, Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird observed that twenty centuries had passed since these words were spoken by the Prince of Peace. He referred to the progress men had made since the first century and reminded the audience of the problems of hunger, disease and poverty which are still unsolved.

The secretary of defense then said that "we believe that church and state must be separate, but we do not believe that God and state must be torn asunder."

After listening to the remarks from his cabinet members and elected officials in Congress, President Nixon said it meant a lot to him to hear other top officials speak in their faith.

Since 1953 members of the weekly House and Senate prayer breakfast groups have sponsored this Presidential Prayer Breakfast in the nation's capital.

Heard in Israel

When one gets away from his own country, he may hear some interesting things about people of like faith. The corresponding secretary of the Tract Society was asked by a Sabbathkeeper in Jerusalem about Seventh Day Baptists in Russia. He was sure that there was a large number of such believers in the Soviet Union. Our only reply was that if there are such it has not been by our effort, for we are not in touch with them.

This is not the first time we have heard of people of like faith in Russia. Up to the present we have not had any leads by which we could establish contact. It would not be strange if there were people calling themselves by our name over there, for Seventh Day Baptist is more of a concept than an organization. People all over the world who discover the Sabbath truth in their Bible study and believe in the Baptist principle of immersion of believers naturally combine the two and call themselves Seventh Day Baptists.

If any of our readers have any information about such believers the American Sabbath Tract Society would like to follow up the leads. It is evident that these scattered people or flocks do not know that we exist and that fellowship by mail is possible.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON
for March 7, 1970

THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS

Board of Christian Education
Back row L - R:— Hurley S. Warren, Luan Sutton Ellis, Helena Knox Aldrich, C. Harmon Dickinson, Harold King, David S. Clarke, Robert Stohr, L. Maurice McCree, Harold O. Burdick, Donald Van Horn, John Reynolds
Front row L - R:— Mae R. Lewis, Burton B. Crandall, Rex E. Zwiebel, Ethel D. Dickinson, Mary Clare, Jean Palmer Snyder, Susan Davis Bond