One of the most important subjects in the Bible is the Law of God and the Sabbath. Ecclesiastes 3:14 shows us that what God does is forever. The Ten Commandments, the Sabbath, and the gospel are all eternal in their purpose. The psalmist tells us, "It is time for thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void thy law." (Psa. 119:126). This prophetic utterance brings us to our day and generation when men have made void God's law. The Fourth Commandment has been made void by the tradition of men. The book of Proverbs tells us in chapter 28, verse 9, "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be an abomination." And John says, "He that saith, 'I know him,' and keepeth not his commandments is a liar and the truth is not in him." (1 John 3:4).

In 1 John 3:4 we are told, "...and take courage and faith and proclaim in this great truth of God's eternal purpose to all mankind, looking for the blessed hope of the glorious appearance of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ." May the Lord bless us as a people to take the light of the ages and teach the world the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. The Bible, as so many people are coming to realize, is the book that makes life meaningful for modern man. The new skyscrapers rising in lower Manhattan may symbolize modern man and the problems of his concrete and steel jungle, but let us not forget that the man of Malawi or some other emerging country of Africa is more conscious of the newness and the problems of modern life than metropolitan man. Men of Malawi and Nigeria need to have the sustaining experience of handling the Word as it is possible through the work of the Bible Societies.
Nondenominational Prayer

The defeat of the prayer amendment in the House of Representatives was brought about largely, according to news reports, by the activity of the major denominations which opposed it. They did so on the basis that it was unnecessary, that it would tend to cloud the issue of church and state and was a tampering with the Bill of Rights that might lead to other curbs of our religious liberty.

Another consideration is said to have contributed to the defeat of the amendment which on the surface looked so good. It was its permission of only "nondenominational" prayer in the public schools. This is a term not too easily defined. Protestants think of it in one way and Catholics and Jews in another. For instance, a Protestant military chaplain tries to obscure his denominational identity when conducting a service for all the Protestants in his unit. He tries to make his prayers acceptable and meaningful to the wide range of denominations represented. He has more of a problem when he prays at a Thanksgiving or other public service where attendance is compulsory or where there are Jews present. It may not be easy to describe one of the three major faiths.

When Jewish personnel are present, it is considered polite to close a prayer in the Christian way, “In Jesus' name.” If we carried it a little further to accommodate the agnostics, atheists, or oriental religiousists, we would have to omit mention of God.

Commenting on the defeat of the prayer amendment, which came much nearer to passing than it has for seven years, Paul S. Berger of the American Jewish Congress expressed the views of many Christians when he said:

"While the amendment purported to permit only 'nondenominational' prayer, no prayer can be made nondenominational without robbing it of all religious meaning. "Conversely, any effort to give public prayers real religious significance would split the entire population of the United States along religious lines."

"Therefore, the defeat of the proposal was, in the truest sense, a victory for religion."

W. Barry Garrett, chief of the Washington Bureau of Baptist Press, made an extended analysis of how the amendment was threatened. He said acceptance after the September 21 discharge petition was a foregone conclusion. Several strange bedfellows cooperated in arousing public opinion and influencing Congressmen to oppose the amendment. These included Southern Baptists, Unitarians, Jews, the National Council of Churches, the American Civil Liberties Union and Americans United.

The first action was to produce a joint statement of opposition to the prayer amendment which was signed by thirty-eight representatives of national religious bodies. A literature was created and 120,000 pamphlets were distributed to key spots throughout the United States.

For weeks prior to November 8, in the absence of public hearings, a lively debate among congressmen was conducted in the pages of the Congressional Record. The issues were thoroughly aired through this medium.

The measure by twenty-eight votes. A similar measure advocated by the late Senator Dirksen failed to pass in the Senate, which makes it appear that there is not much likelihood that it can be successfully revived another year. Many Congressmen reportedly feared to vote against the amendment because it could be charged the year after that they had voted for it.

Love Your Enemy

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Love Your Enemy

In a little publication “Have a Good Day” carefully edited and published by Tyndale House of Wheaton, Ill., I ran across some brief sayings that were helpful thought starters. One was, “Love your enemy... it will drive him crazy.”

The writer of that sentence was not suggesting a way to get even with an enemy but was stating a fact. People not motivated by Christ can understand hate and meanness but can’t understand genuine turn-the-other-cheek love. It does drive people crazy and may result in an effort to see what makes the Christian tick.

Probably the writer of the above sentence had in mind the closing verses of Romans 12, a thought that has not always been understood. “Therefore if thine enemy hunger feed him; if he thirst give him to drink: for in so doing shalt thou heap coals of fire on his head.” It may not be difficult to visualize the quick departure of an enemy who has had coals of fire dropped in his hair, but the modern expression, “Love your enemy... it will drive him crazy,” fits the situation better.

The main thrust of Romans 12:20 is love, not making your enemy uncomfortable. It corresponds very closely to what Jesus said on the same subject and which He demonstrated by His life and death: “Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.” (Luke 6:27, 28)

Do we have enemies? Perhaps not in the sense of those who wish to do us bodily harm as the early Christians did. In the main, the only real harm done us is the bodily harm which is feared on the streets and in our homes is not premeditated — which adds to the uncertainty. There are, however, many enemies of other sorts, those who are business cut-throats or people who express violent personal dislikes. Our world is pretty full of unlovely people who on occasion try to make life difficult for us. We may not feel too badly if it “drives him crazy.” It may be the means of restoring him to real sanity — when he finds that it is Christ in you that prompts such a response.
Sabbath, Society. Bible Sabbath also marks the beginning of the annual Worldwide Bible Reading schedule that continues from November 21 to December 25.

Bibles for Malawi

The month of November is Bible month more than any other. On Bible Sabbath, November 20, special offerings are taken in Seventh Day Baptist churches for the work of the American Bible Society. Bible Sabbath also marks the beginning of the annual Worldwide Bible Reading schedule that continues from November 21 to December 25. Also at the end of the month comes the large American Bible Society Advisory Council meeting usually held in New York but moving this year (for economy) to Nashville, Tenn. Seventh Day Baptists will have only one representative present this year (also for economy reasons), General Secretary Alton Wheeler.

The American Bible Society through the church relations office of Roy Madsen provide information on the church work is large by comparison with other denominations. As in many other African countries the need for Bibles is greater than the supply. It has been suggested by Marjorie Miller that designated gifts should be given a country where our churches are so numerous could help materially in providing the Scriptures needed for Malawi. Bibles cannot be given to all who want them, but a subsidy provided by gifts of American Christians can enable the Bible Society to send the Scriptures below cost at a price the extremely low-income people of Malawi can afford. Subsidy figures have been furnished for our information.

It will be recalled that the Chichewa language is the language spoken by most of the Malawi people (all except those in the north). Your ABS representative passes on Miss Miller's suggestion that our people might take on one of the smaller 1972 projects for Malawi listed here.

1972 Project: Bible Society in Malawi

Subsidy for Scriptures

---General Distribution

All Scripture publications listed below are for the people of Malawi, with a special distribution effort made among them.

- 20,000 Bibles - Chichewa $6,850
- 3,000 Bibles - English 2,400
- 13,000 Testaments - Chichewa 2,600
- 3,500 Testaments - Tumbuka 2,050
- 2,500 Testaments - English 400

Subsidy for Gospels

---Evangelistic Outreach

Note: The Bible Society of Malawi is offering the subsidy to encourage a church-sponsored evangelistic outreach.

- 18,000 Tumbuka Gospels $350
- 7,000 Chichewa Gospels 1,300

Subsidy for Selections

---Evangelism and Literacy

Note: This is a special campaign sponsored and encouraged by the Bible Society of Malawi but carried out by the church.

- 27,500 Selections of various languages $2,900

Distribution Officer

(first full-time distribution officer; now in his second year of service)

Wages and Expenses $4,200

New Distribution Depot at Lilongwe

nation's new administrative capital $2,500

Additional Subsidy

(not including the above) $15,300

TOTAL $42,750

COMING NEXT WEEK

There will be a change of color and of content in the next issue. All first-of-the-month issues are a bit special, as they have been for the past two or three years. Next week there will be several articles about Tract Board work giving considerable information and challenging us to use the facilities of the board for the furtherance of the gospel and the promotion of the Sabbath truth. Then people have carried for three hundred years in this country.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Sad News from India

When national disasters strike and thousands of lives are lost, there are two immediate reactions to the news, compassion and help. We have heard of some of India's offshore islands and the coastal areas of Orissa state in the northeast section of the country near Bangladesh. Even yet the total loss of life among refugees and residents cannot be determined though it appears to be far in excess of 10,000.

Readers of this journal have learned something of the evangelistic and church organizing program of the Seventh Day Baptist Conference of India under the leadership of the Rev. B. John V. Rao. Perhaps many have wondered whether there were any of our church families lost in that flood. A look at the map of India was reassuring, for Orissa State is far to the north of the three eastern states where there are numerous Seventh Day Baptist churches. It could be presumed that no one who wrote to us would wipe out any of the families for which Brother Rao is responsible as Conference secretary. We could perhaps remind ourselves of the many times when the promises of Psalm 91 have been claimed: "Thou shalt not be afraid . . . for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee."

But the tidal wave did affect twenty-one Seventh Day Baptist families. In a letter of September 10 Mr. Rao had written that they had sent three evangelistic teams to Orissa. The government of that state did not allow street preaching, but the teams could distribute tracts and through this distribution could select centers for Seventh Day Baptist organization, he wrote. They were conducting small meetings in various places.

A letter received November 9 gives more details. The evangelistic teams consisted of people each. They were working in the coastal area, all three being in the small town of Chand Para on the night of October 30 and all twenty-one of them were dead, according to word received by Mr. Rao on November 3. He had to notify the relatives. Though there was little that he could do for the bereaved families, he said he was planning to go to Orissa the next day. He expressed great concern for the families of the members of the three teams. The team members were heads of families.

The most recent letter omits mention of Mrs. Rao's progress toward recovery since other problems loomed larger. There is a request for prayer for the family of his brother who died of a heart attack October 15.

—Leon M. Maltby, corr. sec.

HELPING HAND MAILING CHANGES

By Albert N. Rogers

Changes in mailing The Helping Hand were made last week in light of the East Coast postal embargo and the additional winter quarter. Limited copies of the Bible study manual were sent by air mail to England, Guyana, and Jamaica for distribution to Sabbath School leaders only. These and special parcel post bundles for West Coast church groups were shipped regular mail.

The postal embargo is related to dock workers' strikes over which denominational leaders have no control. The usual bundle mailings for overseas will be sent as soon as possible. The advance of the publication date for The Helping Hand was made by the publishers, the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, as previously announced. Year-end mailings are always congested of course by the Christmas load.

Henry Poulin, shop foreman of the Publishing House, and his colleagues, worked overtime to rush printing of the winter quarterly. The regular mailing was made on November 8. Added costs for postage will be absorbed by the Publishing House for the present, and speed of delivery will determine whether or not the extra expense may be justified.
Mr. Crandall enclosed pictures taken by the Rev. Joe E. Samuels which showed the progress being made on the classroom building project.

God's great gift to them (and all men) and remember Christ by special giving to His work and workers in this season. Most of our schools have the practice of giving White Gifts.

December is the month for giving gifts. We would encourage every reader to consider the impact of Our World Mission during 1971 and before the year ends to give sacrificially that the goal set by delegates at the conference will be met.

We are doing a bit better this year, but still have to do our best to reach this goal.

December is the month for giving gifts. Your Missionary Society has about 25 percent of its budget support through "Designated Giving" through Our World Mission. This allows individuals to specify the work, the field, or the worker to which their gifts will go. Based on the rate of designated giving this year (just over $1,000 per month) and the rate of receipts in the last quarter of last year, we estimate designated giving to be at least $5,000 below the anticipated amount in our budget.

December is the month for giving gifts. We are setting the December designated giving goal at $5,000. We would suggest that each Seventh Day Baptist and each church, Sabbath School class, or other organization, consider making a Special Gift for Missions in December.

December is the month for giving gifts. Many may only wish to designate their special gift for "Missions" generally. Others, who know our missionaries personally or who have interest in special fields may wish to designate their gifts for "Missions in Guyana . . . in Malawi, . . . in the Home Field" or for the support of a missionary pastor in the U.S.A.

December is the month for giving gifts. Some people like to tailor their special gifts for "Missions" to meet a specific need within the budget. The scholarship support for a student at Crandall High School, Jamaica, is about $22 a term; the travel on the field for each of our missionaries is budgeted at about $25 a month; funds sent to the conferences in the overseas fields aid in support of their pastors — $15 - $33 a month in Malawi, $25 - $75 a month in Jamaica; two hundred dollars is budgeted to match funds in Jamaica for a Higher Education Scholarship to aid a theological student at Jamaica School.

December is the month for giving gifts. Missionary pastors are supported in varying amounts depending on the needs in the local area and never more than 50 percent of their total salary. Your gift of from $75 to $250 would pay one month's salary for one of our missionary pastors. Evangelist Myron Soper serves on a project basis — per diem of $15 plus expenses. Some may wish to take a day or more of his support.

Make it your month for giving a special offering for "Missions"! Only in this way will we reach the goal set in OWM designated and not hinder the work projected within the 1971 budget at home and overseas!

The Devil Oversteps

Billy Graham says he has never seen the Devil so active in trying to disrupt the proclamation of the gospel. "But he always oversteps himself," Graham added. "He is clever, but too clever. The power of God is too great. God will win the ultimate victory."

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:
1) The health and strength of Pastor and Mrs. Leroy Bass as they labor in the de-energizing climate of Guyana and lend encouragement to the local church leaders.
2) The India Conference as its leaders mourn the loss of three evangelistic teams (twenty-one people) who were working in a coastal town of Orissa state when the tidal wave swept in on October 30.
3) The support of the Bible Society work in Malawi where there is at present only one full-time distributor.

SDB contractor

DESIGNATED GIVING EMPHASIS—November

Those wishing to designate their gifts for missions are asked to help us reach the goal of $1,000 (in November) designated for the ongoing support of Evangelist Myron Soper. Gifts so designated can be given through local church treasurers or mailed to the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society, 401 Washington Trust Building, Westerly, R. I. 02891.

Your Special Gift for Missions

December is the month for giving gifts. The business community starts even before Thanksgiving to put up the decorations and build their displays to attract and inspire purchase of gifts for family and loved ones. Even in a year of economic uncertainty forecasts of record sales have been made.

December is the month for giving gifts. Many Christians, while caught up in the "Christmas spirit" have not forgotten

The Sabbath Recorder

Pray for:
1) 2) 3)
Statement of Beliefs of Dale E. Reed

October 17, 1971

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (Phil. 3:13, 14).

Preliminary Statement

This statement which I am about to make is not consider final by any means. It states my present understanding of my relationship to my Lord and of the Christian faith, and though I know this relationship or this faith will not change, I expect that my understanding of them will. I do not expect to stand still in my relationship, for I expect to grow — but always having my roots firmly established in Christ Jesus, drawing strength and food from Him (Col. 2:6, 7). Do not read it just to learn about me and my Christian stand but read it as something that may stimulate your own faith and thought.

The Bible

I believe the Bible is God’s Word to mankind, but I do not believe that God speaks alone through the Bible to man. Since the Bible is God’s Word I believe that what God says through other means will be consistent with what the Bible says (2 Timothy 3:16, 17). In summary, I believe in the Bible as the final authority for living but not the only authority.

I believe that the Bible is clear enough and explicit enough so that from its guidance alone a man would be able to find and receive salvation through Christ and to find those principles necessary for spiritual growth and continued walking with God. I believe there is considerable latitude in the Bible in living to God of thought, less essential to faith, so that it is possible for two Christians to disagree on certain things and yet for both to be consistent with the Bible. I believe the Bible is the record of God’s contact with man at the points where God most fully revealed Himself. This record of man’s understanding of God until the highest revelation of God in Christ Jesus.

God

I believe in God as the One who created the universe, a good deal is revealed to us about God. By looking at the good side of man, we can begin to get an understanding of God. For one thing, it is possible to communicate with God. I believe God has a nature that it is possible for men to have a personal relationship with Him similar to men’s personal relationships with each other. God is not remote from mankind (Heb. 4:15); God is not remote from me.

On the other hand, God is different from men. I believe God is different from men in that He lacks mankind’s negative features (i.e., sin), and also more importantly in that all men’s positive features are bigger, more complete in Him (Romans 11:33, 34). Thus man is capable of love, but I believe no man has ever measured the depths of God’s love (Rom. 5:7, 8; Eph. 3:19). Man is capable of emotion, but I believe the depths of God’s grief or the heights of God’s joy are degrees of emotions that one can never reach. Man is capable of knowing and understanding, but there are still things man does not know or understand.

But with God, I believe nothing is hidden (Ps. 69:5).

I believe God is big enough to trust completely. Men need have no fear if they cast themselves into God’s care for He is big enough to handle the forces of evil from them (John 10:27, 28; 1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Thess. 3:3; Deut. 33:27) and to provide their every need (Mat. 7:7-11). I believe God is sagacious enough to be present with everyone and have a person­al one-to-one relationship with each person (Ps. 139:1-12). I believe God has certain requirements of men, and that He will not overlook these requirements as if they never were there. Thus God, even with His fulness of love, still takes the role of judge in asking men to meet His standards.

At this point I would like to speak about the Trinity: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I believe the Father is God manifest as a father, a spiritual father. As Father He loves men as His own chil­dren, and in much the same manner as He disciplines another man. For another thing, God has emotions. There are times when He is angry, times when He weeps, times when He laughs, times when He is very serious. But most of all, God can love. I believe He is concerned for mankind in general and for me in particu­lar (John 3:16). I believe God is of such a nature that is it possible for men to have a personal relationship with Him similar to men’s personal relationships with each other. God is not remote from mankind (Heb. 4:15); God is not remote from me.

Jesus Christ

I believe that in Jesus Christ God is most fully revealed to man. In Jesus Christ, God exposed both His power and might (John 3:16, 17; John 10:11, 12; 1 Cor. 15:23) and also His love and concern for men (John 3:16, 17; John 10:11, Heb. 4:15). The best way to describe who Jesus is is to identify Him as Messiah or Christ and as God’s only begotten Son. His identifica­tion as Messiah points to Jesus Christ as Savior of all men, as the One who brings salvation from sin and captivity in the world (2 Cor. 5:19). His identification as Son of God points to Jesus’ divinity (John 3:16, 17; 6:69).

While I believe God reveals Himself in various ways through different faiths, I believe that the only means of salvation, of ever getting out of the rut of meaningless lives, is through Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12, John 6:68, Heb. 11:39, 40).

I believe that God’s work of salvation is brought to completion through Christ and His death by raising Christ from the dead on the third day, the first among those that God is to raise to eternal life (1 Cor. 15:23).

I believe Jesus will come again as King, and that at that time all people, both Christians and sinners, will recognize Him as Lord, the Christ, to their glory and those yet in their sin to their surprise and consternation (Acts 1:11).

Holy Spirit

I believe it is the Holy Spirit that empowers Christians in their living and work (Acts 4:33; 8:19-23; 10:38; 1 Cor. 15:10). I believe that through the Holy Spirit the unlimited resources of God are available to those who, having accepted Christ as Lord and Savior, have received the Holy Spirit into their hearts and lives. I also believe that we as Christians have just begun to scratch the surface of the power of God available through the Holy Spirit.

I believe that it is the Holy Spirit which convinces men that they cannot get along without God, that they need to turn their lives over to Him, and that they can do this through Jesus Christ (John 16:8-11).

I believe that it is the Holy Spirit that makes the Christian life truly exciting. I believe that the Holy Spirit that changes each individual as he becomes a Christian, and then it is the Holy Spirit that works to keep changing him through spiritual growth.

I believe the Holy Spirit has personality and that it is He who carries on Christ’s work in the world today (John 16:7, 14). I believe that the Holy Spirit confirms our salvation to us (Rom. 8:16, 17; 1 John 4:13). I believe that the Spirit speaks in words of understanding, and that it is He who carries on Christ’s work in the world today (John 16:7, 14). I believe that the Holy Spirit speaks through the Bible to us (Rom. 8:16, 17; 1 John 4:13). I believe that the Spirit ushers in the new birth of the believer as a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).

I believe that the Holy Spirit will come again as King, and that at that time all people, both Christians and sinners, will recognize Him as Lord, the Christ, to their glory and those yet in their sin to their surprise and consternation (Acts 1:11).
I believe that man is the highest point of God's creation, and that indeed God created all of creation as a means to an end, and that end which he so desires is separation from God and man's eventual death. I believe that in Christ Jesus God wiped out the inevitability of separation from God and death, and that now He is in the process of wiping out the means to that end, i.e., sin. Through Christ's resurrection, it is made clear that the eventual eradication of sin is a certainty. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, this eradication of sin has already begun, and it is toward this eradication that all Christians must strive (Rom. 6:12, 15-16; 1 John 1:9).

**Eternal Life**

I believe that God gives eternal life to all who come to Him in Christ Jesus (1 John 5:11, 12). I do not believe God holds this gift in his hand like a carrot on a stick in order to persuade us to receive Christ, but I believe it is the ultimate in what you might expect from a loving God. To be sure, only until one does again have fellowship with God is life worth living eternally.

I believe eternal life has a fullness to it that makes life rich and worth living. I believe further that Christians living in the Spirit begin to actually have this fullness in their lives right now. In other words, eternal life is not something that begins after death but begins when one accepts Jesus as Lord and Savior.

I believe the most important part of eternal life is not that it is long or that it begins now or even that it is full, but that we are forever with Christ (John 14:1-3).

I do not know exactly what eternal life will be like after death, but I do believe that everyone will be raised to life. Those who are believers will be with God (John 14:2, 3) and those who rejected Christ and remained in sin will be eternally separated from God.

(Continued on page 11)

**THE SABBATH RECORDER**

**Worldwide Witness for Christ by Seventh Day Baptists**

The work and witness of our sister churches in New Zealand will be the subject of the final emphasis in this series. Because of the full programs in our churches during December, this will be our last time for use in January 1972. Missionary keyworkers and those planning local church programs should note this and place it on their calendars.

During the last year of the WWW emphasis, not every filmstrip could be shown the scheduled weekend in some churches. We would call to your attention that these are available from the AV Library, 510 Watchung, Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061. You can order them singly or, if a longer service is possible, in groups. Not all members in the local churches were able to view the films when shown and so Youth Fellowship, Women's Societies, Sabbath School classes, and other such groups may wish to schedule these in one of their meetings.

It is also possible for home-Sabbath keepers to request these filmstrips for viewing in the home. If a projector is not readily available, one might be borrowed from the local school or a friend.

When planning such a home showing, why not invite neighbors and friends in for the evening. Following the filmstrip it is natural for discussion to center on the work of the Lord in these lands and opportunities for personal witness is opened. Key tracts on the Sabbath and Seventh Day Baptist beliefs should be available to share and can be ordered along with the filmstrips.

Filmstrips (with script and taped script) are available on SDB-work in Brazil, Britain, Burma, Germany, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Malawi, Mexico, and The Netherlands, plus New Zealand (after January 1972).

While many have spoken of the value of these materials as they have been used in our churches in 1971, their impact and message are still “alive” and can be effectively used in the coming year as well!

Leon R. Lawton

**NOVEMBER 27, 1971**
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION-Soc. David S. Clarr.

Sabbath School Advancement

In the Era of Action packet of resources for Seventh Day church ventures in 1971-72, page five in the green section on Learn To Reconcile emphasizes that “Every person counts in Christ’s world — join the Sabbath School achievement plan.” The Silver Cross and Bronze Cross Certificates were developed as national recognition of Sabbath School advancement in more effectively training teachers to convey Christianity to all possible persons. Although numbers of enrolled students, members of Sabbath School, training sessions, newly attending students are used as indicators, the Cross Certificate program stresses the persons who are taught about Jesus’ Way with improving methods.

At General Conference last year, this board awarded to the Battle Creek Sabbath School the Silver Cross. Mrs. Jean Albion is shown receiving that certificate from Mrs. Mary Clare, chairman of the board’s Publicity Committee which sponsors the program. The Alfred Station Sabbath School and Daytona Beach Sabbath School each earned the Bronze Certificate.

You are encouraged — whether teacher, student, pastor, friend or non-attending Sabbath School potential student — to bring up the matter of your Sabbath School striving for one of these cross awards by next Conference. Look up the green section of the Era of Action packet, discuss the potential of your Sabbath School and enroll! If you have suggestions for the program of encouraging better Christian education among our churches, send them to our board.

Christians and the Wage-Price Freeze

Just what “Phase II” of the Wage-Price Freeze will mean for our country — and the world — can hardly be figured out.

One thing seems sure in the outlook of some of us Christians: most Americans were more concerned about losses to their markets. I believe that at that time Christians will be able to recognize all their loved ones because everyone will maintain his identity.

I believe that, in the new age when the Kingdom of God is brought into fullness, those who have been saved through Christ will be made perfect, i.e., sin will be completely eradicated. I believe that this will happen when Jesus Christ comes again the second time.

The Sacraments

I believe that sacraments are symbolic of our experience as Christians, that they are ordained by God for Christians to continue to observe throughout the ages, and that they have no edification in and of themselves, i.e., they are not magical. I believe there are only two sacraments which were so ordained by Christ, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper.

I believe baptism symbolizes the death and burial of the old sinful life and resurrection to new life in Christ (Rom. 6-4). Therefore, I prefer baptism by immersion, i.e., by far the most meaningful form of baptism. I believe baptism also symbolizes being washed clean of sin (Mat. 3:11).

Finally, baptism symbolizes and looks forward to the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Mat. 3:11; Luke 24:49).

I believe the Lord’s Supper is the symbol of the Christian’s unity with Christ (John 6:35). When we eat the bread as symbol of Christ’s body and the grape juice as symbol of His blood, we symbolize taking Christ into ourselves and becoming part of Him. I believe the Lord’s Supper also symbolizes the Lord’s sacrifice on the cross. I believe the sharing of the grape juice symbolizes Christ’s love for us in dying on the cross, for it symbolizes giving His life (His body) to us (Mat. 26:26).

I believe the sharing of the grape juice symbolizes that the shedding of His blood provides for the forgiveness of sin in a way far greater and more powerful than the shedding of the blood of the numerous animal sacrifices could do (Mat. 26:27, 28). I believe the bread and the cup also symbolize new life in Christ (John 6:35). Finally, I believe that the Lord’s Supper is a memorial of our Lord and what He did, and as such looks forward to the time when He will come again (1 Cor. 11:23-26).

The Sabbath

I believe that the seventh day of the week, the day normally called Saturday, is the Sabbath of the Lord (Ex. 20:10). I believe this is a day that the Lord Himself set aside at creation to be used in a special way, that it is therefore sacred, and that this day is to continue to be set aside as long as humanity continues.

I believe the purpose of this day is as a special day set aside especially to the Lord. I believe the activities for Sabbath should be activities meant to emphasize the peace and blessedness of the day, to draw one closer to the Lord, and to prepare and give strength to do...
one’s best the other six days of the week. I believe the Sabbath should also provide opportunity to listen to God. I believe Sabbath activities should include worship and Christian fellowship.

I believe that the Lord calls for obedience by His request to keep the Sabbath and that through Sabbathkeeping God teaches obedience. I believe the Sabbath is a mark of those who believe (Ex. 31:15).

The Church

I believe the Church is the fellowship of believers in Christ the world over. I believe that the Church can be pinpointed by looking at any organizational structure or sum of structures, but rather that wherever God’s redeeming hands are found at work, there is the Church.

I believe the Church has a mission to declare the good news to all the world. Individual Christians as part of the Church fellowship as part of the Church, and denominations as part of the Church are to carry on this work (Mat. 16:18; Heb. 10:24, 25).

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

PAINT ROCK, ALA.—On Sabbath, October 16, a Christian and an American flag were dedicated during the morning worship service. They were given by Elder and Mrs. C. A. Beebe, in memory of their son, Paul Victor Beebe, who died January 13 of this year as the result of a highway collision. Those who took part in the service were his cousins, the Misses Barbara and Kay Kimbrough, Marcus Allen and his mother. Pastor Leslie Welch offered the dedicatory prayer.

The preceding Sabbath, October 9, was Layman’s Sabbath. Pastor and Mrs. Welch were in Birmingham, meeting with the group of Sabbathkeepers there. Philip Butler and three other young men arranged a well-worked-out program using as their theme Scripture from 2 Timothy 1:7-9 and Exodus 3:1-9. A feature of the program was a duet, "God Holds Tomorrow in His Hands," by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Coalwell of Metairie, Louisiana, who were welcome guests.

The sermon or "thoughts" as it was called, was given by Mr. Michael Rabban of Huntsville, a new member of our church. He spoke of all those in the Bible—Moses, Gideon, Saul, Elisha, and David, who at first made excuses for not at once going to do God’s will. He said he was of the same company. His concluding sentence was: "We deserve the truth to the extent that we observe it. We must do what we have learned, and God’s Spirit will guide us in understanding."

—Church clerk

NEW AUBURN, WIS.—Our Conference president, the Rev. Paul Osborn of Nor­tonville, Kans., recently spent six days with our church, leaving for home Sabbath afternoon, October 23. He had five evening meetings explaining our duties and privileges as stewards. The Sabbath morning service was used to review the Conference theme. After a fellowship dinner and a "sing" he asked for suggestions for the 1972 Conference program at Denver, Colo. We were really blessed in his presence here.

Our summer’s activities included two sessions of baptisms at Axehandle Lake; a report of our SSCS worker, Helene Nelson; landscaping of parsonage lot with plantings given by J. Paul Green of Milton, Wis.; a talent night; a trek to the fire tower by the young people; and the Sabbath School picnic, (quite coolish and "mosquitoey") at Sand Creek Park; and the visit of Mrs. Wayne Rodd to see her cousins, the Misses Barbara and Fay Kimbrough.

Christ didn’t come to give us “religion” so we could “have it more abundantly,” but to give us life.—James Weston, Black Panther turned evangelist.

THE SABBATH RECORDER
DAILY BIBLE READINGS
For December 1971

A lamp to my feet
A light to my path

(Including and supplementing the daily Bible readings of the Uniform Series of Bible Lessons published in "The Helping Hand.")

Luke Tells the Good News
2—Thur. God's Saving Power for Everyone. Rom. 11:1-17
3—Fri. Suffering for the Gospel. 2 Tim. 1:1-6
4—Sabbath. Congregating To Thank God. Ps. 107:1-9, 23-32

God Keeps His Promise
5—Sun. The Messiah Foretold. Is. 9:2-7; 11:1-9
10—Fri. My Song of Confidence. Ps. 27
11—Sabbath. The Sabbath Redeems Man's Ingenuity. Ex. 31:1-18

Good News of Great Joy
16—Thur. Invitation to All. Isa. 55
17—Fri. The Example of Christ. Phil. 2:1-13

Jesus Overcomes Temptation
23—Thur. God Provides Warning, Instruction, and Power. 1 Cor. 10:1-12
24—Fri. Shelter and Power in God's Love. Ps. 91
30—Thur. New Creations. 2 Cor. 5:11-21
31—Fri. The Way of Love. 1 Cor. 13

East German Bible Society
It is announced that the Bible Societies of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) has now become a full member in the United Bible Societies, bringing to fifty the number of national Bible Societies in the world organization. This may mark a little closer cooperation in Bible publication between East and West Germany.

East Berlin is allowed to publish Bibles and portions according to a 1952 agreement. Sufficient Scriptures for their needs are available. The demand is not as great as it was before the country was divided. The general secretary of the United Bible Societies, Dr. Oliver Benguin of London, estimates that about 25 percent of the people of East Germany belong to a Christian church, compared to 80-90 percent a generation ago.