DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR JULY 1973

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.")

Reverence for Human Life
1—Sun. The Sacredness of Human Life, Exodus 20:13; Genesis 4:8-16
2—Mon. Murder and Anger, Matt. 5:21-26
3—Tues. A Sabbath Work, Mark 2:23-3:6
4—Wed. Holy Bread, for Hungry Men. 1 Samuel 21:1-6
5—Thurs. Sackcloth and Service. Isaiah 58:4-10
6—Fri. Murderer or Minister? 1 John 3:11-18
7—Tues. A Warning to Exploiters. Amos 8:4-10
8—Mon. Greed or Gratitude? Mark 12:38-44
9—Tues. For the Oppressed. Luke 19:1-10
10—Fri. Give with Liberty, Ephesians 4:28-32
11—Tues. Acknowledge the Real Owner. Deuteronomy 28:1-12

Live the Truth
12—Sun. Tell the Truth, Exodus 20:1-3
14—Tues. Speak the Truth in Love. John 20:11-18
17—Fri. A Small Member with Huge Possibilities. James 3:1-12
18—Tues. The Defilement of Foul Thoughts and Speech. Mark 7:14-23

The Peril of Greed
19—Sun. Not Envy but Contentment. Exodus 20:17; 1 Timothy 6:6-10
21—Tues. True and False Values. Ecclesiastes 5:10-17

Ethical Standards Needed

Bernard Ramm, a highly respected author of books on the relation between Christian faith and modern science, in his 1971 book on ethics, The Right and the Good and the Happy, has some sections on psychology that are incisive. Behavioral psychologists see man's actions as amoral — neither right nor wrong. Dr. Ramm points out that the theory does not work. If a psychologist does not himself abide by ethical rules in making his scientific tests he would jeopardize his professional standing. Scientific methodology requires adherence to moral and ethical standards. He concludes, "Before a psychologist writes off all behavior as amoral he had better check on how the scientific method would work if it contained no standards about being ethical or honest."
Supporting Black Evangelism

There are many reasons why there should be a strong effort at black evangelism, some of which will be pointed out here, as drawn from an appeal for nationwide support of what is probably the strongest effort at such evangelism— that of Tom Skinner Associates, Inc.

Most informed people know something about Tom Skinner, a former gang leader from the streets of Harlem who was converted and called to the awesome responsibility of a major effort to evangelize the people of his race. He says of his organization: "Tom Skinner Associates have been raised up to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to everybody in general and to black people in particular. We're not racists or bigots. We narrow on black people because this is where the need is, and because our unique talents demand that we do.

Evangelist Skinner points out that there are now more than 116 black college campuses in our country with an enrollment of 250,000 students. There is very little active Christian witness on these campuses. He proposes to try to reach the black leader of tomorrow and expand his campus ministry by calling together in Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, Atlanta, and elsewhere the bright young black Christians and to train them for a clear and effective witness for Christ in the black community." This campus ministry will also, hopefully, be expanded to the predominantly white campuses where there are also large numbers of blacks.

The need for black evangelism is highlighted by the fact that 54 percent of all convicts now in prison are black; that there are over 250,000 black men and women enslaved to drugs; that the majority of our 25,000,000 blacks are crowded in cities with poor housing and other conditions that make for unrest and that, as Tom Skinner affirms, "The black man in America is right now more open to the truth of Jesus Christ than he has been in his entire history."

In light of the above facts every effort to increase the number of black leaders committed to the cause of Christ ought to have our prayer support. No single organization can do it and no single Christian, white or black, can fall down on his responsibility to present the gospel to those who need Christ. Paul said, "To the Jew first, and also to the Gentile." To bring that up to date in our country those who are black have to say, "To the blacks first and also to the white." We who are white must also be inclusive and say, "To the whites first and also to those of all other racial and ethnic backgrounds."

Sirloin Steak

We are grippers here in the United States. One of the most often heard gripes is the high cost of sirloin steak ($1.79 in Washington in May). It might be well to remember that about the only places in the world where steak is cheaper than our present high prices are Argentina and Brazil, where it is about 80 cents a pound. Tokyo, that booming country which offers such strong competition for American markets, offers sirloin steak at $1.26 per pound, up about one dollar since March. Other capitals show prices going up faster than in our capital. Steak now sells for $3.84 in Bonn, $2.78 in Brussels, $3.57 in Copenhagen, $2.59 in London, $2.29 in Paris, $2.85 in Rome, and $4.03 in Stockholm.

We have a tendency to think life must be easier in other countries. But bad as our situation may seem to be politically and economically no one with global information should sell this country short. If things can be changed for the better it is our nature and our privilege to try to change them. Sometimes, however, further study will indicate that some things can't be made better for one group without being made worse for others, and where is the fairness in that?

There are some other figures that might help us to follow the admonition of John the Baptist to the soldiers he had just baptized. Among other things repentant, wage-earning soldiers should "...be content with your wages." We have it on reliable authority: "The food bill, which took 23 percent of the average tax disposable income in 1952, took only 15.7 percent in 1972."

Tokyo has a surplus of dollars, but housewives do not put steak on the table at $12.86 per pound. They get along with less expensive food. We, too, must think twice before we indulge in expensive cuts of meat and have little money left to support missionary work in impoverished countries. Our Christianity should show in greater manifestations of unselfishness.

Substitutionary Venture

There have been many examples of innocent people taking the punishment for convicted lawbreakers. Some of these are good illustrations of the gospel as preached by Paul and Peter in such passages as, "Who his own self bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead unto sins, should live unto righteousness . . ." (1 Pet. 2:24).

Someone has uncovered the story of the first balloon ascent made by man. A balloon was constructed big enough to support the weight of a man, according to calculations. It was to be filled with hot air. The flight, never before tried, would be hazardous. It was therefore determined that a condemned prisoner (who was expendable) should be the one to be carried aloft on the test flight. This was on October 16, 1783. The condemned man was not sent up to his possible death because Pilatre de Rozier, the Frenchman who designed the balloon insisted that he be sent up in place of the prisoner. The balloon with its substitutionary passenger attained an elevation of 80 feet and stayed aloft for four minutes.

Jesus, we are told in the Bible, was willing (and able) to "taste death for every man" (Heb. 2:9). We were redeemed, says the apostle, "with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish" (1 Pet. 1:19). The balloonist Rozier, who willingly took the risk of death in the place of a doomed criminal made a safe landing after all. Christ, who died for us, had something more to do for those who put their trust in Him than to die for them; He also rose again "for our justification" (Rom. 4:25). No human substitution of one sinner for another can be fully compared with the substitutionary death of the sinless Son of God.
80th Anniversary of Boulder Church

By Elmo F. Randolph, pastor

The Seventh Day Baptist Church of Boulder, Colo., was organized May 20, 1893. Observing the eightieth anniversary of that event was the occasion for a Sabbath of Celebration May 18-19.

Our anniversary Sabbath was welcomed with a Sabbath eve service of sacred music during which our new electronic organ was dedicated. We were thrilled to hear the music of Bach, Brahms, and Beethoven played by a guest organist. Of special significance was the playing of an organ number by nine-year-old Scot August, son of Mr. and Mrs. James August and great-great-grandson of the Rev. Samuel R. Wheeler, founding pastor of the church.

The Agape Singers, a newly organized Denver Church musical group under the direction of Joseph Miller, inspired the congregation with the quality and spirit of their singing. Bringing variety to the service, the Boulder Church Handbell Ringers played two anthems by Bach. Mrs. Philip Rood, great-granddaughter of Pastor Wheeler, directs the handbell choir. (Mrs. James August and Mrs. Donald Hedges—members of the handbell choir—are also great-granddaughters of our founding minister).

Sabbath morning worship centered in the eighty-year history of our church as we examined our present status and looked to the future. A highlight of the service was the congregation’s reaffirmation of the Church Covenant that was approved May 20, 1893. It was wonderful to have Mrs. Clarissa Rasmussen worship with us. She is the daughter of the Rev. Samuel R. Wheeler and was present when the church was founded.

Our Sabbath of Celebration concluded with an afternoon service of ordination for newly-elected Deacon Harold Wright. Pastor Glen Warner and members of the Denver church diaconate participated in the service. Pastor Warner interpreted the “Characteristics and Duties of the Diaconate” and Deacon Daryl White welcomed Deacon Wright into the diaconate. Elmo Fitz Randolph, pastor of the Boulder church, officiated for the service. Pastor Warner directed the handbell choir. (Mrs. James August and Mrs. Donald Hedges—members of the handbell choir—are also great-granddaughters of our founding minister).

Sermonettes and Christianettes

The Rev. Robert G. Lee, eighty-six, silver-tongued pulpit orator of an earlier day, preached an hour-long sermon at the Southern Baptist Ministers Conference on what it was like “when preachers preached.” He had said that he would not preach a sermonette, for “sermonettes produce Christianettes.” He challenged the younger ministers to “mount up like eagles” in their preaching.

GOT A SONG?

We plan to record music at General Conference this year

(See page 10)

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for July 7, 1973

REVERENCE FOR HUMAN LIFE

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Calvary Spirit

By Rev. B. John V. Rao
Secretary of the

Seventh Day Baptist Conference of India

We shall see that the gospel as recorded in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John is something simple, something that speaks to us with so much power that it cannot be easily mistaken. But there is too much preaching today which never gets beyond Jesus as an example. Some people will tell their stories in the style of Mark, Matthew, and Paul with the same connection of sentences, the same color, even with many of precisely the same details.

I say, in a word, that Jesus came into the world not just to preach the gospel but that the gospel might be preached. He Himself is greater than His preaching and, as He has said, “The son of man came to give himself a ransom for many.” The fact is that there can be no gospel today without the Cross. We are not sent to preach sociology but salvation, not reform but redemption, not culture but conversion, not progress but pardon, not the new social order but the new birth, not a new organization but a new creation, not civilization but Christ crucified.

Think of the villages of the world untouched, unreached with the gospel of Christ, even in so-called Christian lands. But that the gospel might be preached. But unto us which are saved, it is the power of God” (1 Cor. 1:18). Paul goes on, “We preach Christ crucified” (1 Cor. 1:23). In his epistle to the Philippians, he wrote, “What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ” (Phil. 3:7). The Jesus Christ of the Cross and the Cross of Jesus Christ were repeated in Paul, according to Colossians 1:23-24, and must be repeated in you and in me.

This sort of Calvary spirit is our primary need in all services for Christ. Without it, we toil laboriously and without result; with it we overflow with blessing. St. Paul sacrificed prestige, financial gains, worldly honors and a distinguished career in order that he might preach the Cross of Christ. He could have had them all, but he esteemed them as refuse for the sake of souls.

The work of redemption is done but the work of proclaiming it to a sin-en­slaved world has yet to be done. This sort of sacrificial spirit, shown by Paul, is needed by us. I say in a word, the emotion of love which took Jesus to the Cross must send us anywhere. He bids us go to announce to the world His full and free salvation.

I remember in the year 1965, that I with my wife went to Calcutta City with a burning desire to preach Christ. One evening nearly one thousand souls massed together in an open ground in the center of Calcutta where the public meetings were to be held. I noticed that the crowd was made up of Christians, Moslems, and Hindus. I preached a message on 1 Corinthians 1:18, emphasizing the crucifixion and the present cleansing power of the precious blood of Jesus. I told them that Jesus Christ died for our sins, that He “was buried and He arose on the third day, according to the Scriptures.” He bore our sicknesses at Calvary. He carried away our weakness and pains by His Cross and “by his stripes we were healed.” Because of this every person can be saved now. At the close of the service about sixteen per-
Friends of Like Faith
Word from Jin Sung Kim

For a number of years a young man of Kwang Ju City, Korea, has been attempting to present the Sabbath and establish Seventh Day Baptist churches in Korea. For the past two years he has felt that there was greater opportunity for such work in the capital city than in Kwang Ju in the southwestern corner of the peninsula. He therefore left that church group in order to build up a second group in Seoul with some monthly financial help from two American families. Mr. Kim was somewhat associated with and well appreciated by Mr. and Mrs. David Beattie, independent Sabbathkeeping missionaries who spent a number of years in Korea.

The evangelistic work of Mr. Kim has been steady and seemingly well considered through the years. Recently the church group in Seoul changed to a more suitable meeting place in a different area of the city. They were able to buy and erect a tent which will serve them well during the summer months. The tent with a simple cross above it to identify it as a church can be seen in the background of the accompanying snapshot, recently received. Some of those who regularly attend were not present on the Sabbath this photo was taken, but this is probably about the normal size of this church group.

Mr. Kim, who expresses himself in much better English now than when he first started writing, remarks that it has been nearly ten years "since we started exchanging correspondence." According to our office files the first exchange was in 1964. He adds, "I think I need your further encouragement and support for a good growth which will be made in the future.

In another paragraph he points to some achievements and humbly states, "I believe God will forgive us that we were not able to offer Him sufficient achievement." It is not as easy for working people in Korea as for laborers in America to keep the Sabbath, he has remarked in previous letters. To enlist and train men for the leadership of a newly formed Seventh Day Baptist church is difficult, he has found. He himself is fairly well instructed in Seventh Day Baptist beliefs through the literature sent to him by the office of the Tract Society, and by the Sabbath Recorder, which doesn't always get through to him. He looks forward to having a fellowship with an American Seventh Day Baptist early next year if the projected Far East visitation trip by Leon Lawton and Alton Wheeler materializes.

JUNE 30, 1973

THE SABBATH RECORDER
Hospital Work in South India

Word has come from the Rev. B. John V. Rao that Dr. Z. Prabhudas of Giddalur who heads the work of St. John’s Clinic Hospital has affiliated his hospital with the Seventh Day Baptist Conference of India. The doctor has furnished the pictures reproduced here. Descriptions on the face and back of the snapshots are by Dr. Prabhudas. It is stated that the clinic-hospital takes care of twenty inpatients and about 300 outpatients each day. The doctor was baptized a few months ago by the Rev. John Rao.

These pictures indicate that the physician-surgeon at St. John’s has to make do with much less sophisticated equipment than our readers are accustomed to in American hospitals. The doctor is treating: (1) a broken femur (on the floor), (2) a baby with enlarged liver, (3) abdominal abscess of month-old baby, (4) an ulcer, (5) skin disease of hands and feet, (6) a leper (supervising a dresser). The hospital was previously affiliated with another denomination (non-Sabbathkeeping).

Amsterdam Youth Finds Tract Ministry

Quite a number of our American young people and adults have become well acquainted with John Farenhorst of Amsterdam, Holland, who has been to this country several times. During a stay of several months in Plainfield, he decided that he would rather be a member of the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church than the church of like faith in Amsterdam. He has kept in touch with letters and contributions. This last spring he provided tulip bulbs for a nice display in front of the church. A recent letter from this young man, who is employed in a bank, tells of a great work that he has been led to participate in as an outside activity.

John has been well aware that the beginning of Seventh Day Baptist work in Holland was by means of tracts. This perhaps may account for his attraction to a gospel organization that is trying to bring salvation to another European country by means of tract distribution. The organization with which John is now associated is called Friends of Turkey. He describes it as a group of people who are sending tracts into Turkey by mail because it is pretty difficult to distribute tracts from door to door in that country. This organization had requested him to establish an office in Holland and distribute tracts from there rather than from the headquarters in the United States since this would save postage and be more effective. His work includes not only mailing out tracts but also publishing them. He is very enthusiastic about the work even though it is supported by very few people and he doesn’t always know where the money is coming from to pay for the new tracts. He states that he has sent out more than forty-five thousand tracts in five months. In each mailing go two tracts and a letter to explain the reason for mailing them. Requests come from all over Europe and this calls for a great deal of letter writing. Most of the correspondence and tract work is done in English rather than in other languages. He says that he has done so much letter writing that it is much easier for him now to write a letter in English than in Dutch.

The promotion of this tract work calls for speaking to small groups in various churches. This also was a new experience for him, but with the Lord’s help and the prayers of some Christian friends he feels that he has done quite well in his thirty to forty-five minute talks in various churches. He has spoken in southern Germany and has plans for speaking at a conference in Belgium at the end of June in connection with this Friends of Turkey tract ministry. All of this is done outside of his regular working hours at the bank.

In writing to the secretary/editor at Plainfield, he says, “Maybe this ministry is an encouragement to you as you are doing the same tract work.” He goes on to say that he has received reports from many people telling him that they were saved after reading a tract, and adds, “The Lord can do a miracle even through a little tract that has no value for lots of us.” He said that he was about to place an order with a Brussels printer for thirty thousand more tracts. He added that his friends in America remember him in prayer as he seeks to carry on this gospel tract ministry.

Baptism Percentage

Owen Cooper, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, though thankful for progress, noted that last year there was only one baptism for each twenty-seven church members and that the average church gave only 10 percent to the Cooperative Program.

MEMORY TEXT

“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy... Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.” — Philippians 1: 3, 4, 6.
Conference President Attends Allegheny Association

Conference President Edward Horsley, M.D., attended Allegheny Association meetings at Alfred Station, N. Y., in mid-May, bringing messages on Sabbath in morning and afternoon sessions.

Using the Third Commandment as his text, Dr. Horsley told the Seventh Day Baptist delegates from the seven churches of western New York and northern Pennsylvania that to take God's name in vain means more than carelessly saying certain words. The way one lives, he asserted, brings honor or dishonor to the name of God, to the designation as a Christian, or the title of Seventh Day Baptist.

The theme of the Association held May 11 to 13 was "Growing Up in All Things into Christ," the 1973 General Conference theme. Speaking of the Conference program at Milton, August 12 to 18, the president emphasized that trying to provide an opportunity for an inspirational experience is foremost in his plan.

A reverent and beautiful Communion service was held on Friday night with Pastor Harmon Dickinson of Richburg and Pastor Russell Johnson of Alfred officiating. The Sabbath Eve program was arranged by Miss Oonalee Saunders substituting for Mrs. Francis Bucher who was recovering from surgery and whose husband was seriously ill. Many were in the spirit of prayer for the Buchers as the meetings progressed.

There were musical contributions by young people from several of the churches throughout the Sabbath services. Senior and junior choirs were held by Mrs. Nelson Snyder. Mrs. Reid Mattison played the organ. On Sabbath afternoon a worship service was conducted by youth of the Alfred church.

On the night after the Sabbath a concert by the Maple City Barbershoppers of Hornell afforded some lighthearted moments, and a fellowship hour followed.

Women of the Alfred Station church provided meals and refreshments except the Sabbath noon meal which was catered by the Alfred Station Firemen's Auxiliary.

The Rev. Russell Johnson was elected president for the coming year at the annual business session on Sunday morning. President Don Pierce of Alfred Station called the meeting to order. Other officers elected are: the Rev. Edward Sutton, vice-president; Mrs. Harmon Dickinson, recording secretary; Mrs. Harold Snyder, assistant recording secretary; Miss Oonalee Saunders, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Don Stearns, treasurer.

Newly elected trustee for three years is Mrs. David Hauber of Hebron. Kenneth Kenyon, and Don Pierce were re-elected trustees. The responsibility of the trustees is to look after the Association-owned property at Camp Harley Sutton.

Pastor Ed Sutton of the host church presented at the Sabbath morning worship service. His call to worship from the rear of the sanctuary followed by the ringing of the bell was most effective. He is soon to complete his pastorate at Alfred Station and has also concluded his term of service as chairman of the Association's active Missionary-Evangelism committee.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Aiken, delegates from the Central New York Association, led the worship preceding the business meeting.

Camp Planning Committee chairman, Robert Stohr, announced camp dates and directors for Camp Harley Sutton, as follows: Family Camp, June 29 to July 1, Rev. and Mrs. David Clarke; Junior, July 8 to 15, David Taylor; Junior Hi, July 15 to 22, Rev. Harmon Dickinson; Senior, July 22 to 29, Rev. Russell Johnson; Family Camp, August 31 to September 2, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Horwood.

—Ethel Dickinson, Recording Secretary

MISSIONS—Leon R. Lawton

New Beginnings?

The report of the Chairman of the Home Field Committee of the board, given at the April 29 quarterly meeting, stated in part:

"We note the termination of the services of Pastor Harold King at Kansas City, Mo. (February). The Rev. Kenneth Van Horn has resigned the pastorate at the Little Rock, Ark., church as of June 30, accepting a call to the Little Genese, N. Y., and Hebron, Pa., churches. The Rev. Delmer Van Horn of Washington, D. C., has accepted the pastorate of the Lost Creek, W. Va., church as of August 1, 1973."

Such changes point up the fact of needed workers! Fields that are "white to harvest" need leadership. While lay leaders in our churches offer vital service, there is a growing need for more pastors and especially for those called of God to fields where full-time effort can be given in special outreach ministries.

Who will fill the gap? Who will go?

Can larger and better established churches encourage their pastors to prayerfully consider the open fields? Too often the pastor almost becomes a coveted "property" of a local church, held onto selfishly and not able to rise to his full potential by the challenge and need of another field.

Overseas work is alluring to some youth and older people. God will call more to these fields. But He is also seeking workers in our land to "fill the gap" and lead His people in new and thrilling ministries.

Sometimes, because of lack of growth, the idea of our slow death is alluded to. Is not the remedy a spiritual one? Should we not pray the "Lord of the harvest" that He might open our eyes to "see"—to receive a divine vision? Then, as men and women with open eyes, warmed hearts, and vital commitment, we will press forward!

Perhaps He is seeking to speak to you, dear reader. Will you take time to pause, to ponder, to pray? Today is the day of new beginnings!

JUNE 30, 1973

Helping a Mission Field

Response to the need for Sabbath School lesson materials for children and youth in the Guyana Seventh Day Baptist churches has been good. The Youth Fellowship of the Pawcatuck church, Westerly, R. I., took responsibility to package and mail over twelve packages, after raising the necessary postage costs.

Diane and Linda are shown here with one package ready to take them all to the Post Office. Diane Fallon (left) is the president of the Y. F.

JAMAICA GRADUATE

Geoffrey Smith, son of Jamaica Conference president, Rev. V. Smith, completed his course of study for a Bachelor of Theology degree at Jamaica Theological Seminary, Kingston. He was honored in a special service at the Kingston Seventh Day Baptist Church on Sabbath, June 16, and graduated on June 22, with honors.

His field of work has been serving as student pastor of the Orange Bay Seventh Day Baptist Church in Portland parish, where there is a building project underway. Through visitation he has been able to reach into the community and bring a measure of revival and growth to this small church.

During the Jubilee Crusade meetings in May, Pastor Charles Bond and Evangelist Mynor Soper both spoke at chapel
Memories Haunt
Beaches of Normandy
By W. C. Fields
Director, Baptist Press

On warm days children frolic on the beach at Arromanches-les-Bains on the Normandy coast of France. When the tide is out, horsedrawn carts race up and down the flats. This peaceful fishing village was at the center of the most massive amphibious military assault in human history.

Onshore facing the English Channel a museum commemorates the apocalyptic events of D-Day, June 6, 1944, the Allied invasion of Hitler's “Fortress Europe.”

The battle which began that day has taken its place beside Waterloo, Hastings, Thermopylae Pass and some others, as a major turning point in human affairs.

At precisely fifteen minutes past midnight on that fateful date Operation Overlord began. At that moment a few specially chosen pathfinders stepped out of their planes into the moonlight over Normandy.

They marked the drop zones for American and British paratroopers and infantry in over a thousand planes and gliders that quickly came behind them.

Airborne troops fought desperately in the darkness that night. St. Mere Eglise on the Cotentin Peninsula became the first French town liberated by the Americans. In the battle there one paratrooper's chute caught on the church steeple and he dangled for two hours in full view of the fierce fighting going on around the town square below.

In the British sector, two paratroopers landed in error on the lawn of a German general who demanded of them, "Where have you come from?" One of the captured British replied calmly, "Awfully sorry, old man, but we simply landed here by mistake."

Over 5,000 ships, the greatest armada the world has ever witnessed, maneuvered offshore. They carried a quarter of a million soldiers and sailors. At 6:30 a.m. the first wave of troops waded ashore through artillery and machine-gun fire, through beach "hedge-hogs" and land mines.

The 1st and 29th American Divisions at Omaha Beach fought desperately during the day and reported that they were "hanging on by their toenails."

At St. Laurent, Vireville-sur-Mer, and Colleville the issue was often in doubt. Monuments there today memorialize the heroism of the invaders. Allied casualties were more than 10,000 in the first twenty-four hours.

All along the coast are formidable limestone cliffs which were topped by German coastal guns. At Pointe du Hoc where the cliffs rise to dizzy heights stands now a granite spire honoring a group of American Rangers led by Lt. Col. James Rudder who scaled the precipices with hooks and ropes to get to the German pillboxes at the top. The scars of battle here are still quite visible throughout the area.

Further west, the 4th American Division landed on bloody Utah Beach to link up with the 82nd and 101st Airborne troops.

Behind the first waves of troops the Allies had ready thirty-nine divisions with nearly three million troops and 16,000 planes.

The Germans had sixty-five divisions including reserves extending back to Germany, and a Luftwaffe which had been virtually driven from the skies.

Field Marshal Edwin Rommel, the German commander of the "Atlantic Wall" at the end of June reported that his casualties for the month were 28 generals, 354 commanders and approximately 250,000 men.

Eleven months after D-Day Hitler committed suicide in the rubble of Berlin and the vaunted "Thousand Year Reign" of Nazism was over.

The visitor to this beautiful quarter of France is continually sobered by reminders that thousands of men on both sides died too young in the apple orchards and green pastures of Normandy.

The feeling hits you when you see an LCI rusting in the sand at Port-en-Bessin.

It creeps into the marrow of your bones when you ride through the Bocage country with its horned hedgerows and sunken roads. These picturesque embankments of earth, shrubbery and trees helped stall the Allied armies for six weeks only a few miles from the coast.

Cherbourg has a lot of new buildings today, a sure sign in these old cities that wartime damage was severe. It was here, incidentally, that Frenchmen gathered on June 19, 1864, to cheer in vain for the Confederate ship Alabama in its offshore duel with the armored Union gunboat Kearsarge during the American Civil War. From his singing vessel, Captain Raphael Semmes threw his sword into the sea.

At Le Havre, bombs and shells wiped out 12,000 buildings, damaged 5,000 others and left 40,000 homeless. It looks new.

Caen, nine miles up the Orne River from the coast, was three-fourths wiped out, killing 2,000. Nine hundred years ago William the Conqueror and his wife, Matilda, built two churches there. They were used as bomb shelters in the summer of 1944.

The old city of Lisieux was almost completely destroyed by fire during the bombardment of June, '44. Its cathedral begun in 1170 was untouched. Rouen, where Joan of Arc was buried in 1431, was torn apart. Sunken ships, tangles of steel and concrete clogged its harbor and the city center was a flattened wasteland. Many other places were made into rubble heaps.

Normandy's rolling fields and farmlands seem too peaceful to explain how there had been. This is a peaceful, smiling land of apples, lace and old world styles.

Huge, sleek Percheron horses pull high two-wheeled carts, and women go into the pastures to milk the squarish white-and-brown dairy cows.

There are fields of flax and yellow mustard, and odd corners are bright with camelias, tulips, lilacs, and banks of primroses. The region is full of obscure roads and hidden valleys. On warm days it is softly fragrant.

Normandy is a place of half-timbered houses, thatch roofs, medieval churches and religious pilgrimages. There are narrow old-world streets showing the patina of age. Provincial towns still exist where evening has a soothing stillness.

May and June in Normandy evoke the essence of La Belle France. A native son Jean Francois Millet, captured this rural timelessness in his paintings. "The Gleaners," for example, portrays three peasant women bending to their task of harvesting. The famous painting hangs in the Louvre in Paris.

But these peaceful villages were deathtraps in the summer of '44. The gentle slopes and pleasant valleys cluttered with tanks and rattled with machine-gun fire and raged with the holocaust of war. Normandy became a crackling hell of flame, smoke and death.

Battle fields are places of tragedy. Anywhere, they speak of man's failures, not his successes. They mark in carnage and blood the breakdown of civilization itself. They testify to some monstrous deficiency in the affairs of men.

On the Normandy coast at St. Laurent there is a 150-acre site given to the USA by France. It is a cemetery where rest 9,300 young Americans who died in the early days of the Allied invasion. Crosses and stars of David in Carrara marble stretch out in long, neat, symmetrical rows. The place is quiet and peaceful. Bird songs ride in on the gentle breezes.
fils the heart.

This time of year Normandy is in full blossom once again. On the Channel coast and in the hill country life goes on. Fishermen in wooden shoes clip-clop their way to the waterfront. Housewives in carpet slippers sweep the sidewalks. Children were dedicated, and at the blossom once again.

coast and devotions. And life goes on. The Women's Missionary Society went on their way to the waterfront. Housewives at the Easter church service six little along. Boys with long loaves of hard bread tied to their bikes move carefree through the narrow streets and roads. Priests in long black robes hurry to their devotions. And life goes on.

But the Normandy coast of France will forever haunt the memory of man. The world should have learned a lesson there.

In war everyone loses!

Our Prayer Corner
Suggestions for Prayer This Week
Pray for:
1) The nineteen SCSC youth who went to their first places of service on June 21 from their training session at Battle Creek.
2) The 400 and more Jamaicans who made professions of faith during the Jubilee Crusade and for the pastors who are conducting baptismal classes.
3) The leaders of the churches in Burma who face financial discouragements.
4) Wisdom and encouragement for Rev. G. Harrison of Nigeria who reports a growing work of 337 churches in six sections of the country with fifty-eight pastors and 123 evangelists.
5) The various writers who are providing articles under the direction of President Horsley for the July 7 Conference emphasis issue of the Recorder, that this issue may help us to live up to the challenging theme of the August 12-18 meetings.
6) Editor John Bevis as he begins to get into his new duties during July.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES
BROOKFIELD, N. Y.—Pastor and Mrs. Mills greatly appreciated a month’s vacation in February which they spent in Florida visiting friends and relatives in Nokomis and Daytona Beach.

At the Easter church service six little children were dedicated, and at the Christian Family Day service, May 12, four young people were baptized and joined the church. Truly the children and young people are the delight and hope of the church.

The Women’s Missionary Society honored its senior members by serving a lovely luncheon and putting on a program Sunday, April 29, at the Parish House. On May 20 our church put on a ham dinner at the Parish House for the public and were very pleased with the attendance.

The church meets jointly with the Leonardsville church alternating the place of meeting as has been the custom for several years. Attendance has been somewhat better this spring. Plans are being made for a day camp for boys and girls the last week in June. Group Bible studies are being held in homes. A larger than usual number of campers is being enrolled for Camp Harmony to be held at Adams Center the last week of July.

This is the 150th anniversary of the organization of our church and we look forward to a historical program of celebration next September.

WE RECORD
SEE YOU THERE
Milton, Wis.
**

YOU PREPARE
Let us know
**

Contact
Gordon Lawton
Special Service Worker
Box 868
Plainfield, N. J. 07061

THE SABBATH RECORDER

MILTON, WIS.—An “Honors Night Banquet” sponsored by the Eutharsos Class was held Sabbath night, May 12 at the Faith United Methodist Church in honor of the high school and college graduates of our church.

Mrs. Doris Rood, president of the class, introduced each graduate present, and the high school graduates were each presented with a Seventh Day Baptist pin by Pastor Cruzan. A welcome to the graduates was given by Dr. Kenneth Smith followed by a prayer for the graduates by Pastor Cruzan.

The program was presented by the Rev. Merlin Bilhorn, Fulton Congregational Church, with a talk, movie, and slides on the topic “Reaching Young People for Christ.”

—Correspondent

NORTONVILLE, KANS.—The blessings of the Mid-Continent Association Spring Youth Retreat will no doubt be reported later in this column and in youth publications, but we clip the news from the North Loup, Nebr., bulletin that a camper-load of young folks went from North Loup to Nortonville the Memorial Day weekend. A carload from Euless, Texas, also attended. A glance at a road map will make one aware that the retreat gathered youth together from great distances.

Obituaries

EWING.—Deacon Henry H., son of Edward and Sara Shimp Ewing, was born ninety-six years ago at Shiloh, N. J., and died at nearby Cumberland Manor, June 5, 1973. He had been in failing health for a number of years, cared for by his daughter in Shiloh until a month ago.

Throughout most of his active life Mr. Ewing was a farmer in the Shiloh area. He was a member of the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church for more than seventy-five years. He served in the capacity of deacon for many years. He was also a charter member of the Shiloh Grange when it was organized seventy-two years ago.

His wife, Julia Bondham Ewing, died in 1956. Also preceding him in death was a son Paul. Surviving are: a daughter, Mrs. Lucille Ewing, Ransomville, N. Y.; eight grandchildren; nineteen great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held from the church in charge of the pastor, Rev. Charles H. Bond, with interment in the Shiloh Cemetery.

—C. H. B.

RICKETTS.—Myrtle Maxson, daughter of Russell J. and Anne Crandall Maxson, was born Sept. 30, 1889 in Nortonville, Kans., and died April 25, 1973 at Gentry, Ark.

She had been a resident of the Gentry area since 1900 and a member of the Little Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church since the dissolution of the Gentry church. She was survived by her husband, Dan W. Ricketts; two sons; Dan W., Jr., of Springfield, Mo., and Richard of Tulsa, Okla.; a daughter, Reola Eldridge of Gentry; five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; one brother, George L. Maxson of Riverside, Calif.; and one sister, Mrs. Edel Eyerly of Algonquin, Ill. Funeral services were held at the United Methodist Church of Gentry, Ark., with Pastor David Moose officiating. Burial was in the Gentry cemetery.

—K. B. V. H.
General Conference Dates
August 12 - 18

The 161st session of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference will be held at Milton, Wis., Aug. 12-18, with Dr. Edward J. Horsley of Denver, president, in charge of the program. There is room in the college facilities for all. Plan early to attend the full week and to participate in the discussions, inspiration, and fellowship.

Women, Do Your Thing
William S. Hull, dean of the School of Theology of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, was the speaker at a luncheon of the Conference of Ministers' Wives at the denomination's annual convention at Portland, Oregon, in mid June. He urged the women to make their contribution, stating that through the teaching of Jesus women were raised to places of honor in the work of the church.

"Jesus asked women to make independent religious decisions. This was a revolutionary proposition in the first century," Hull said. "Women became the core of the first churches. They became deacons, they prayed, they prophesied, they led in worship."

He explained the apostle Paul's cautions about women's behavior in church roles as a plea for prudence when churches were immature and society was alien to their revolutionary ideas.

General Conference Publicity

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Elizabeth F. Davis Music Sought
"I Need Not Stand Alone" was a poem written by Mrs. Elizabeth Fisher Davis, and apparently it was put to music at one time. We would like to have it for possible use by the AVA Committee of the American Sabbath Tract Society. So if you have a copy or know of a copy of the music please drop us a line in care of Gordon Lawton, Special Service Worker, Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07061.

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MILTON COLLEGE LANDMARK
The old Main Hall of Milton College holds many happy memories for those who attended classes there in former years and will be coming back to the campus for the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference next month. This building may be used for meeting rooms of some of the numerous working committees, but main meetings and housing will be in the new campus buildings farther up the hill. See articles about Conference in this issue.