This Family Has An 
"Extra Dimension"

"Christ is with this family and guiding their 
lives," the artist seems to say. 

But is Christ with every family? Obviously not. 
The tensions, bitterness, and hate found in many 
homes testify to that. Moreover, it takes more than 
a few strokes of the artist's pencil to bring that ex­ 
tra dimension to your home. 

To begin with, "he that cometh to God must 
believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them 
that diligently seek him."1 Also, you need to realize 
that the Saviour comes not to a house but a heart, 
to "dwell in your hearts by faith."2 

And certainly He is anxious 
to enter. "Behold, I 
stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my 
voice, and open the door, I will come in to him."3 

As is so often the case, a little initiative on your 
part can set in motion an exciting chain of events. 
The first link, in this case, is to simply invite Him in. 

1Hebrews 11:6 2Ephesians 3:17 3Revelation 3:20

GOD'S PLAN

In fair and lovely Eden 
God molded Him a man 
It must have been His great desire 
His purpose and His plan 
That I should often think of Him 
For what He's done for me; 
In sending Jesus to this world 
To die upon the tree. 

Since He has loved me first of all 
I must His love return; 
The laws revealed within His Word 
I really must not spurn. 
I'll keep His Sabbath holy 
The day that He has blessed; 
I'll find great joy and gladness 
In worship and in rest. 

I'll try to teach my children 
To marvel at His care 
And learn to love each other 
And all His blessings share; 
So they may grow in a new world 
Where freedom shall abound 
When all mankind shall worship Him 
In whom all love is found. 

-Iris S. Maltby 
Daytona Beach, Fla.
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I learned to love a battle-ax
by Christine A. Jones

I was a young and inexperienced teacher. It was my first day at a new school. One of my fellow teachers, I soon discovered, was known as a tyrant by students and also by teachers. She was an elderly lady, close to retirement, with a venomous tongue which she used in seething sarcasm on all within earshot. On that first day I was warned to keep out of her way. That was hard to do since her classroom was across the corridor from mine.

On our break that morning in the staff room, "The Tyrant," as I came to call her, questioned me closely.

"And what does your husband do?"
She asked as if I were in the witness box. When I answered that he was a pastor, her lip curled in a sneer. 
"Oh, I don't go to church much by religion. They're all the same, these pastors——a bunch of hypocrites, just after an easy life and someone else's money."

I was taken back by this unwarranted criticism. But it was only the beginning. I was singled out for special attack. Always my assailing was so rude that I could never think quickly enough to make an adequate reply.

At first I tried to ignore her unpleasantness. Then I got irritated. It wasn't long before she made life thoroughly miserable. This went on for several months. Then, one Friday afternoon, I decided I'd had enough.

I was just launching into an older version of 'How to Tell with my class of grade-four boys when I was summoned by the principal. It was hardly the choicest moment to leave. They were like thirty bottles of pop, thoroughly shaken up, fizzing, and ready to explode. But a summons from the principal was not to be ignored. I knew we had some grades to settle before the weekend.

When I returned to my classroom, everything was quiet—too quiet. "The Tyrant" stood guard at my desk; her own class was working quietly across the hall. My heart sank.

"I'm sorry you had trouble," I began. "Trouble?" she snapped. "It was a minor riot. Her face twisted into a sarcastic smile. "Who do you think would watch over the class while you were gone? God?"

The boys snickered.

She was right of course. I should have asked her to keep an eye on the class. I didn't because it was now my habit to avoid her.

When I returned home that night I didn't care whether Monday morning ever came again. But I knew I would. I had to do something.

I was concerned about my witness as a Christian in the school. She was winning hands down at putting me in my place and ridiculing what I believed. Most of the teachers did as I did and tried to ignore her. A few were even bold enough to making slight attacks in return. What should I do, I wondered. I had to admit that I wasn't coping with the problem any better than the other teachers were. It was a great temptation to lash back. "But," I thought; "just because I am a Christian, should I let myself be walked on?"

As I prayed about what my tactics should be, this verse came to mind: "Do not overcome of evil, but overcome with good" Romans 12:21.

What? Be nice to that old battle-ax? It would never work. But since I didn't have a better suggestion, I decided to give it a try.

The next Monday morning at recess, instead of waiting until "The Tyrant" had gone to the staff room before leaving my classroom, I left at the same time she did. As I accompanied her for our cups of coffee I endeavored to carry on a pleasant conversation.

The days passed, and I deliberately sought her opinions. I included her in my conversations with other staff members. At first she was nonplussed. And she didn't know how to retaliate. I think she was even a little flattered by the attention. I began to treat her rather like my grandmother—giving her a second cup of coffee if she needed it and making sure she had a comfortable chair. It was one of these "grandmotherly" things that finally won her over.

One rainy night as I hurried out of school, I saw her ahead of me crossing the playground. She was so loaded down with books and papers and other packages that she could barely shuffle along. I caught up with her and smilingly relieved her of the heaviest burdens. Then I waited with her at the bus stop so she wouldn't have to set them down on the wet sidewalk.

For the first time "The Tyrant" opened up in personal conversation with me. She revealed some of the bare facts about her life. Eventually the bus came, and she retrieved her belongings. When she thanked me she smiled genuinely.

From that day, I never had another moment's trouble from her. Don't think that the change was all on her side either. As I got to know her better I learned about her loneliness and about some of the things that made her so caustic. I even began to regard her with affection, and when her day of retirement came I felt a little sad.

But that wasn't the only change in my life. Through this experience I learned that loving your enemy is not impractical pie in the sky. Like so many of the New Testament teachings, it's good psychology.
Friday evening came. Because of an influenza outbreak among the laboratory personnel, I became the technologist subject to call for the night. My telephone rang almost continuously. Finally, I gave up commuting for the night and just remained at the hospital - hoping to catch a few winks of sleep in the girl's lounge. Never had I been busier! I wanted so much to be rested and alert for the following morning. No way.

As I left the hospital at 6 a.m. you can be sure I was tired and sleepy. Also angry and frustrated. Arriving home a few minutes later, I decided to lie down across the bed for a short rest. Suddenly, the clock struck seven o'clock loud and clear. I hurriedly gathered my things up and ran from the house to the car.

Reaching Little Rock sometime later, a taxi driver filled me in on some of the story while on the way to the convention site.

"The bus from Texarkana went into Lake Hamilton," he said. "It seems that the earlier bus had been forced off the highway by a large lumber truck that may have been having mechanical trouble. Two people were drowned, one child suffered a broken arm, several others were hurt in a minor way, and one person had a heart attack. The taxi driver didn't know all the details. However, he didn't need all of them, did he?"

"Romans 8:28 came to mind almost immediately, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

I knew that God wants the best for me always, and I was ashamed of myself. Outwardly calm and appearing composed, I had inwardly been seething with resentment. How He loved me and was caring for His child in the wonderful mysterious way that we often can't see. Job 23:10 says, "But he knoweth the way that I take; when he tried me, I shall come forth as gold."

"Dear Father," I prayed silently as we rode along, "please forgive me for being so slow in accepting your will for me. Help me to be patient - give me the peace within that passeth understanding. Help me to see that I need much polishing before I shine as one of your living jewels."

How often we pray for patience or some other Christian virtue, and end up fighting the very means through which these lessons come. I pray that I may see God more often in these moments of disappointment and trials.

Before I realized it, the driver said, "Lady, did you hear me? We're here." Undoubtedly, he must have been repeating his statement. I failed to hear him the first time around.

Yes, I was there and safe. For some reason, the Blood Bank lecture, demonstration, and workshop had suddenly been placed in the program for a later hour. Isn't that something? ☐

The Sabbath Recorder

FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS' SAKE

In Acts 5:41, we are told that the apostles, after they were jailed and beaten, left the Jewish council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name of Jesus Christ. We read: "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force."

The Church universally and the individual Christian in particular constitute the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus knew just what faced the Christians when He was delivering His Sermon on the Mount. The words of our text: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

The whole panorama of the Christian life, beginning with John the Baptist whose head Herod delivered to a bald woman on a charger has been shrouded with persecution - violence. The persecution has always been of a violent nature, attacking the Kingdom of God with force.

John was persecuted with force for pointing out to Herod the lack of righteousness in his act in burying his brother's wife.

Jesus Christ was persecuted, taken from the garden of prayer by a band of armed men, violently tried, and forcefully nailed to the cross. "Why - what evil hath He done?" asked Pilot. Replied the crowd: "Making himself equal with God." "Healing on the Sabbath." "Offering to raise up His eternal temple in three days."

We read in Acts that Stephen was stoned after his trial and arrest. In chapter 12:1-4 we read "Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword..." This pleased the people, therefore he set out to take Peter also.

Persecution set foot in the church and has continued there ever since. Jesus knew that these things would happen and so used the opportunity of the Sermon on the Mount to advise. Stephen in the height of his persecution said: "I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." He ended persecution and passed his days on earth with these words: "Father, into thine hand I commend my spirit."

You, as a Christian might have difficulties in your Christian life. You might find it too much persecution to continue to hold on to the cross. Does the cross you are called to bear seem heavy?

One of the great promises to the child of God is tribulation. Tribulation in Christian vocabulary is a synonym of persecution and Rev. 2:10 bears the great promise of tribulation and imprisonment; but we are called to be faithful unto death - receive a crown of life through blessedness.

In persecution, our Lord's admonition to us is "Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing eternal Hallelujahs to Jesus Christ our King." The world about us may persecute us for righteousness' sake. This is, at times, hard to take, but Paul had some of his among "False brethren." If persecution arises from within the church, just make sure it is for righteousness' sake and the kingdom of Heaven is yours. Blessed are they that are persecuted for righteousness' sake. Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
PROPOSED SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST

The August 1975 General Conference created a Task Force to make recommendations for changes in the organizational structure which would hopefully bring increased efficiency and effectiveness to the denominational program. We trust that the proposed

RATIONALE

1. General Board: Your Task Force believes that the replacement of Commission and Planning Committee with a General Board composed of association and board and agency representatives would enable the presentation of diverse views, encourage the resolution of differences through the decision-making process, increase communication, and encourage cooperation among all elements of the denomination.

2. Unified Accounting and Reporting: Your Task Force believes that there is need for a uniform system of accounting and reporting among Seventh Day Baptists. The same system would be used by the boards, agencies and the General Conference so that everyone can more easily and clearly read, correlate and interpret the denominational financial resources, funding, and expenditures.

3. Boards, Agencies and General Conference: Your Task Force believes that the boards, agencies, and committees should continue their valuable contributions to Seventh Day Baptist programs designed to assist churches and their members in service for Christ and His Cause. In this way, planning and management expertise in such specialized areas as missionary endeavors, publications, investments, research, women’s work and education would continue to be available to the denomination. Volunteer service is a major key to success in denominational work. Your Task Force affirms the principle of General Conference’s having final responsibility and decision-making authority.

4. Continuing Committees: Your Task Force recognizes that there are many specific details transition period.

5. Location of Headquarters: Your Task Force believes there may be value in moving General Conference headquarters to a more central location.

6. Leadership and Attitudes: Your Task Force observes that denominational progress has undoubtedly been impeded by lack of aggressive, effective pastoral, executive and lay leadership and by negative attitudes held widely by our members and leaders. These problems can be solved and must be solved if we are to accomplish the work God has planned for us.

CONCLUSIONS

Your Task Force members believe that adjusting to such procedures as those outlined will preserve the basic strengths of current denominational structure. It is felt that these procedures will be in keeping with Seventh Day Baptist polity and beliefs if we continue to recognize that the leading of the Holy Spirit is imperative in our lives and that we all have a responsibility to God and our fellowmen to work together in doing His will. It is understood that General Conference is the basic mechanism through which coordination can be achieved.

DENOMINATIONAL REORGANIZATION – SUMMARY

changes will help to accomplish those ends; but we do not see these changes as the complete answer to more basic problems of leadership and attitudes which have affected the progress and growth of Seventh Day Baptists.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. We recommend bylaw changes for action at General Conference in 1977 which would replace Commission and Planning Committee with a General Board which would assume its functions and which would be composed of the president, president-elect and immediate past president of General Conference, and an officially-elected representative from each major board and agency and from each association. Therefore, the General Board (operating between General Conference sessions in the areas of coordination, budget analysis, policy-making, and strategy) would be composed of 18 voting members plus the executives serving ex officio.

2. We recommend that a basic “chart of accounts” be agreed upon; that the treasurers of the various boards and agencies meet at a prearranged time during General Conference in August to discuss the uniform accounting and reporting procedure; and that General Conference authorize appropriate consulting services to work with board and agency personnel during the initial phases of the system’s utilization.

3. We recommend that the following steps be taken: (1) Employ all salaried executives by General Conference, with the General Board screening and presenting the candidates (men or women) after thorough consultation with denominational boards, agencies, and other groups; (2) Place all salaried executives’ offices at General Conference headquarters; (3) Have each executive’s responsibilities determined by General Conference on recommendation by the General Board, with the expectation that each executive might work with more than one board, department, or committee toward common denominational objectives.

4. We recommend that a special committee be authorized to analyze overall denominational administrative needs and responsibilities, to recommend the number of executives to be employed, and to suggest the appropriate initial division of assignments. Other committees may need to be activated (as General Conference directs) to study specific matters until such time as the proposed General Board is fully operative.

5. We recommend that General Conference elect a special committee to study the feasibility, desirability and possible economies of moving headquarters away from Plainfield.

6. We recommend the consideration of such procedures as the following: (1) Have the Council on Ministry give priority to a leadership development program for our seminarians and pastors; (2) Request the Council on Ministry to continue to give special attention to the recruitment of well-qualified ministerial students; (3) Ask denominational executives to implement leadership training programs for all phases of church work; (4) Urge the churches to use more completely the training services available through the boards and agencies; (5) Provide, through the Council on Ministry, special in-service training programs for ministers; (6) Establish a special ad hoc “leadership committee” to assist pastors and laymen, possibly using expertise from outside the denomination.

Pastors and churches are urged to participate in the new “Commitment to Growth” plan.

The procedures recommended will help sharpen overall objectives for church growth; they will assist us as a people in reestablishing the sense of unity; and they will set the stage for other possible refinements in organization and performance as we strive to serve Christ and His Cause more efficiently and effectively.

(Note: Supplemental information about the above proposals is available, upon request, from the office of the General Conference Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 888, Plainfield, NJ 07060.)

The Sabbath Recorder

June 1976
The basic issue in this discussion, it seems to me, is what is God's purpose for Seventh Day Baptists? We usually find the right answers in the Bible. An example is 1 Timothy 2:1-6 - "First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and man, the man Jesus Christ, who gave himself as a ransom for all..."

Do we find this, or anything similar, in the teachings and actions of the WCC? The answer has been given well by David Pearson in the April issue of the Sabbath Recorder. As for example one quote shows us the direction the WCC invariably takes: "Greater acceptance of Marxist presuppositions." Again the Bible gives us an answer in 1 Timothy 1:5-6 - "But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart, and a good conscience and a sincere faith. For some men, straying from these presuppositions...

As members of the Board of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society, we often have access to mailings that come from the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches. These materials are often of great interest, giving information as they do on tragic areas of drought and starvation as well as facts regarding financial and other aid being given by the churches of America to alleviate these conditions. I, personally, would miss very much not being able to receive this information, as well as the unbiased news from the changing, developmental fronts in Africa and Asia. Nor can I condone the inconsistency of seeking to have a part in this great work, while refusing to belong to these bodies and aiding in their financial support.

-Henry Martin
New Enterprise, PA

HOW YOU VOTED IN 1973

In August at General Conference there will be a roll call vote of the churches on whether or not to retain Seventh Day Baptist membership in the WCC. A similar vote was taken in 1973 on the question of continued membership in the National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC). The total vote was 355 to withdraw and 250 to continue membership; thus the General Conference withdrew its membership.

The vote by churches in 1973 was, those in favor of retention of membership: Alfred, Alfred Station, Battle Creek, Bay Area, Berlin, First Brookfield, Second Brookfield, Buffalo, Dayton Beach, Denver, DeRuyter, First Geneseo, Poughkeepsie, Low Creek, Milton Junction, Plainfield, Richburg, Ritchie, Salem, Salvinville, Wiliamston and Waterford.

Those in favor of withdrawing from the WCC: Alum Creek, Bode, Boding Center, Farina, Foulke, First Hermon, Kansas City, Little Rock, Los Angeles, Marlboro, Milton, North, North, North, Loup, North, Loup, off the scene study which substantiated even the best of what America has to offer abroad. I am personally saved and to come to the knowledge...

The Women's Society of Burma held two meetings during the General Conference and completely reorganized. The Youth Fellowship also met during the Conference sessions to elect officers and to plan their program for the year.

Please continue to pray for the leaders and members of the Burma Conference as they seek to reach out to others with the message of Jesus Christ.

The Missionary Society at its recent meeting in Westerly, R.I., voted an additional $25 per month toward the travel expenses of the Burma Conference General Secretary. It was also voted that a grant of $400 be sent to assist in the building of the S.D.B. churches at Kanaan and Tuino, these funds to come from the Sabbath School Mission Offerings. The society was very much interested in learning of the possibility of a Burma theological student and voted that $25 per month from the youth training fund be made available for the education of a Burma S.D.B. theological student for a four year course at Burma Divinity School.

These ladies are the leaders of the S.D.B. Women's Society in Burma.
**TO KNOW – AND BE KNOWN**

By John B. L. Mackintosh

In addition to my participation in WCC affairs, (I along with others, in some cases) have also represented Seventh Day Baptists at various activities of the Baptist World Alliance, including a meeting of the North American General Council at Wake Forest, North Carolina; the Men’s Department at St. Louis, Missouri; and the North American Baptist Fellowship at Washington, D.C. The most recent session was held in coordination with the National Bicentennial Convocation sponsored by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, a group which meets regularly with official Seventh Day Baptist representation. Last month, I was also invited to a meeting of U.S. Church Leaders in Nashville, Tennessee.

In all of these affairs and organizations, Seventh Day Baptists are given recognition and opportunities for participation far beyond what would be expected based upon the size of our organization; and every time I have raised the question of Sabbath observance (as I have at each meeting), there has been an enthusiastic expression of willingness and desire to recognize our unique Sabbath observance and honor them in the programming and publicity. Can we continue to merit such deference?

Getting Firsthand Information

With a roll call vote regarding WCC membership coming up next at Conference time, I have felt obligated to learn as much as I can (factually and first-hand) about the Council, in order to maintain a complete file of information on both sides of the discussion and to be able to answer questions intelligently. Incidentally, the Council has a policy that everyone attend our denomination, considering its small size and limited financial support, by giving representation on the Board of Directors of the USA Conference as well as on the important Finance Committee.

Evaluating Ecumenical Participation

We can and should, it seems to me, if we continue to do our part in promoting and supporting the organizations. It will be necessary for us to assign competent personnel to the various activities; we must allocate sufficient time to do each and every assignment well; we will have to provide adequate financial backing not only to take care of our fair share of support for the organizations but to cover travel expenses for our delegates.

(continued on page 24)
CHRISTIAN

Helping Hand Subscription Upped; also Sabbath Visitor.

Due to rising costs of printing and distribution, the subscription prices of the quarterly periodicals—Helping Hand, and monthly Sabbath Visitor—will have to be raised at the next billing. The Resource Development Committee of the Board of Christian Education voted at its January meeting to increase the subscription rates as soon as practical. April 25, the quarterly directors’ meeting confirmed the decision.

Thus, the Fall Quarter (Sept.-Nov.) of the Helping Hand will be billed at the new figure of $3.50 per year in groups of 5 or more; $4.50 per year’s subscription in single mailings. A single issue of the Helping Hand would cost $1.50.

The monthly Sabbath Visitor will be billed at a new rate of $2.00 per year for each subscription, regardless of quantity in any mailing.

The board had backed the committee in this necessary increase, keeping the income potential in about the same ratio to costs as previously. For instance, Helping Hand costs (not including payment to the writer-editor) were planned at $10,000 in 1975. Income from subscriptions in 1975 amounted to just over $8,000. The children’s Sabbath Visitor costs for 1975 were $380 (the editor, circulation manager, and writers receive no pay) and subscriptions brought $476.

As requested by the Conference Interests Committee on Communications, the Resource Development Committee has invited an evaluation of the Helping Hand to be returned by June 30. We believe that honest evaluation, consistent study and application, and open fellowship with God and each other will enable S.D.B. persons and groups to grow in Christlikeness as they use these resources.

Camper Interchange

A proposed system of campers’ moving from their usual camp into another Association’s camp was adopted April 25 by the Board of Christian Education for both 1976 and 1977 summer seasons. The Camp Program Committee accepted a suggestion, among many discussed, that they take the initiative and propose the specific exchanges two or more years ahead. Arranging for such factors as overlapping schedules has previously led the committee to negotiate after camps had already announced their plans. Of course, the Exchange Camper program affects senior campers, but many other factors in other age-group plans affect local camp committees.

EDUCATION

An upcoming letter to camp program committees will spell out the exchange plans for ’76 and ‘77, and the next Beacon will outline the program, at least for ’76.

Some extensive study was made of a proposal that a travel pool fund might be established to level out the costs for all participants. The Camp Committee could not arrive at a plan, but are asking for suggestions from all the sponsoring groups and campers.

Plans for 1976 call for the campers to interchange on this basis:

Pacific Coast Association send to Southeastern; Southeastern send to North Central; North Central send to Allegheny-Central New York; Allegheny-Central New York send to Mid-Continents; Souththeastern send to Eastern; Eastern send to Southeastern.

Another program of this committee is Creative Camping resources. The committee voted to express very sincere thanks to the All University audio-visual staff, Keith Highbee and Dana Beckhorn, for their excellent workmanship in producing the Creative Camping filmstrip being distributed this spring. Technical problems of ours prevented their producing the sound for the filmstrip, but we hope to provide this in the near future. The two scripts with discussion guide should make possible early use, with the latest version of the narration by Herbert Saunders and the Dale Thorngates. These filmstrips will become property of each camp.

National Youth Ministries

Meeting many times during the winter, the former Youth Program Committee will no longer meet—under that title, that is. At its recent meeting it proposed to the parent Board of Christian Education that its name be changed to NATIONAL YOUTH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE. The Board of Directors accepted the idea, hoping with the committee, that the youth unit of the board will be more clearly thought of as a serving agency of the SDB youth and their fellowships. Sandy Snyder, Y.F. President Chris Mattison, and Doug Clarke are members of the board and of this committee, along with Russ Johnson as chairman and Amanda Snyder. They work with the other national Y.F. officers in the Youth Commission to discover and help meet needs of our SDBYF across the nation.

Plans for the 1977 Pre-Cons are well under way, with directors already having accepted the posts, and the hosts in the midwest already offering probable sites for both retreats.

DIRECTIONS

HELPING HAND BICENTENNIAL STUDY IN FALL

Adapting the Uniform Lesson Outlines for a quarterly study on “The Bible in Church History,” Helping Hand Editor Jinx Stonestrom has developed the fall quarter on a plan approved by the Resource Development Committee in November of last year. You will use this material in Sept.-Nov. this year.

1. “I would like to show how the Bible actually came into the religious experience of the common persons of each period,” the editor had written her sponsoring committee in suggesting the substitute lessons. Seeking to be helpful during this Bicentennial Year for American Seventh Day Baptists, Ms. Stonestrom deals with a universal SDB concern of how to approach history. She expressed three goals in dealing with history as the Bible serves Christian experience:

1. “We should look at history critically and choose our roots. We can and should decide what was good and bad in the decisions of the church in the past and try to learn from these.

2. “We look at history to understand how it is that people made decisions, what they struggled with, and how they carried on the faith—not because we want to glorify or imitate, but because we want to see their strength and creativity.

3. “History must support our struggle. I look at the statement of Stephen before he was martyred. He quotes history but it spurs him on and clarifies his understanding of his fate.”

Jinx has secured help from others to research and write part of the lessons. We believe you will be enriched in understanding how the Bible brought God’s power into life as you use the Sept.-Nov. Helping Hand, along with supplementary books and your own observations on life.

Those who use Uniform Lesson Commentaries will discover that the summer quarter Helping Hand simply follows the fall quarter Uniform Lessons. We made this exchange to give Jinx’s special development a better sequence with Uniform Lesson development next year.

EDUCATION MISSION AFFIRMED

“Sometimes the many-splendid mission of our board seems to demand too many different kinds of service, but such responses (a pastor’s thanks for materials in a mass mailing) help us keep our efforts focused. ‘Routine’ work of correspondence, mimeographed productions and distribution, advising, promotions mean much more than routine effort,”

Our Executive Secretary David Clarke reported to the April quarterly Directors’ Meeting, April 25.

He reported several opportunities to advise SDB’s on methods or materials for Christian education needs. He helped bring SDB’s to vital learning experiences and shared several conferences on programs in Christian education.

He helped lead a Sabbath School Workers’ Conference at the Verona SDB Church, a World Hunger Education Action Together seminar in the Alfred church, and sessions at the Houston Fellowship. He attended the national American Camping Convention in Philadelphia, the Uniform Lessons Committee in Atlanta, a New York State World Hunger Education seminar in Binghamton, and the SDB Area Spiritual Retreat in Boulder, Colo.

ASSOCIATED CONFERENCE GUIDES

Refining an old set of guidelines for managing children’s conferences ‘during General Conference sessions was accomplished during the winter by the Church School Program Committee. Some of these guides on parents’ responsibilities have been shared with Recorder readers already. The other pertinent ones will be shared in Conference delegates packets.

The workshop for Associated Conference directors was briefly described in the May Recorder. This fruitful conference produced many good ideas for each of the directors and results in creative plans for Sabbath afternoon of Conference at Houghton.

The Church School Program Committee is also evaluating the Renewal-in-Faith series for possible revision, and for continued units. Stewardship was recommended for the next units, and investigations have been made with some of the denominational leaders on this matter.
CREATION OF WOMAN

By R. J. Hastings

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — "The creation of woman was not an afterthought," Dale Cowling told a state family enrichment conference which met at the First Baptist Church here.

"How could we say that an omniscient, perfect God would forget to create woman, and then bring her into existence as an afterthought?" asked Cowling, author of the Second Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark.

He said that at Creation, God, for example, created male and female fish, and male and female animals at the same time and that both femininity and femininity was in the creative mind of God from the very start.

The Arkansas preacher made three observations about women which he believes the Bible teaches:

1. Women are equal to men, and not just sex partners, domestic housekeepers, or incubators. He cited a recent wedding he attended where the minister gave the impression that marriage is for persons who just "must have sex." Cowling observed this is a shallow reason for marriage, if that's the only factor.

COWLING said he is against the idea of male authority as expressed in such books as The Total Woman, stating, "I think that book is a total heresy of womanhood. It reduces a woman to the role of living only to please her husband, from the time she prepares breakfast until she serves him sex at night."

He went on to say that we are destroying the personhood of a woman, for example, if we say to a wife that if a drunken brute of a husband wants to beat her up every morning, that she's to pray God and submit, praying that God will teach her why she has to suffer so. "We're joining in her destruction when we encourage such ideas," Cowling said.

In a question period that followed, one conferee quoted a friend who said his wife was "too submissive" after following The Total Woman concept, and that he did not expect her to play such a passive role in marriage.

Cowling added that after doing a great deal of marriage counseling for twenty-five years, he's picked up a lot of wrecks in marriage where the wife was exploited into submission. "This works fine for a while, but the ultimate result is tragic," he warned.

2. As a second factor, Cowling said the attitude of "putting woman in her place" is at its lowest in a society where Christianity has made the least impact. "Strangely," he added, "some Christians have twisted the Bible to teach just the opposite, whereas in reality it is the gospel message that has given the most freedom and dignity to womanhood."

3. The chief need of any person is wholeness—male or female. Cowling said we've often taught that a male or a female is only half a person until marriage.

"But can one person bring completeness to another?" he asked. "Marriage is not for half-persons, but for whole, mature people. Otherwise, each half-person will blame the other half-person for breakdown in the marriage."

When one conferee raised the question of submission as taught in Ephesians 5:22, Cowling directed the questioner to Ephesians 5:21 which says all Christians should be in submission to their brothers. He said "submission" carries the idea of respect or reverence, and that a wife should have toward her husband, as the church does toward Christ. He added, "We are being disobedient, as used by the King James translators in 1611, has the Shrove of servitude, as often read into it today.

He added that one of the worst things Southern Baptists have done is segregate the sexes in Sunday School classes ("presumably so they could better discuss sex and other delicate subjects"). "This means we have no cross-over of ideas in our Sunday Schools between the sexes," he explained.

Cowling was one of five speakers who addressed the two-day conference, sponsored by the Illinois Baptist State Association church training department.

The Sabbath Recorder

NOT AN AFTERTHOUGHT

by Madeline Fitz Randolph

What is women's work?

Do we feel differently about the women's work we do for our church than did those who went before us in the faith?

Were their groups larger, and interest greater because they did more dedicated service for those outside themselves?

We are still reading the book of Histories of our Societies and the past is always a good teacher, we are learning. All of us will learn this year as we look back upon our records as a nation and people. As we read accounts of the number of members and attendance in those days now gone by, we are impressed with the size of the groups, and the amount of work accomplished. To a great degree, the women of our denomination did work for those outside our fellowship, still not neglecting the needs within the local church.

For the women in those days, "to worship was service, and service was their worship." The very names chosen for the local societies described their purposes. There were "Benevolent Societies"; "Missionary Societies"; "Church Aid" groups, and many of the projects undertaken were similar to those we now try to accomplish.

They sent money to Africa; to aid the hungry in China; they supported orphanages; sent money to the Foulke School; gave to the Aged Ministers' Fund; gave to the Red Cross; contributed to rural circulating libraries; provided clothing and other necessities to the Home for the Friendless in New York City; adopted a girl in the Africa Mission; sent clothing and gifts to the Randolph's children's home; made dressings for the American Cancer Society; sent money to print tracts and cards in Chinese; sent clothing and gifts to the Guardian Society in New York, a home for poor children; and one of the first gifts recorded was "articles for the outfit of Charles Saunders to the Mission in Palestine in 1853."

During the Civil War many of the groups changed the name of their group to "Soldier's Aid," sending bundles, linens, clothing, paper and stamps and envelopes to the soldiers.

We might well go back to the saying "When We Love, We Serve," and the old record books show forth the unstinted giving of ourselves which characterize Seventh Day Baptist women. We quote again from the book, "If the coming generations show the same faithfulness to their beliefs, to their church and their God that the past ones have shown, then the church and society should continue for many years to make this small corner of the Master's vineyard bear fruit for His Kingdom.

We have often felt a sense of loss from not having known those great women of our past history, and yet, having been privileged to work with those in the churches of our time, we know that there are "great" women who have carried on the tradition of dedicated service. The following poem expresses the continuity of love through the generations that has expressed itself in service...

(The poem continues on page 15)
The quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the American Sabbath Tract Society met in the denominational building in Plainfield, N.J., on April 25, 1976 with the Rev. Charles H. Bond presiding.

As the various reports were presented it was evident that the Lord had blessed in the work of the society during the quarter. Some 8,100 tracts were distributed from the office and twenty-nine requests for information about Seventh Day Baptists were shared with our churches. Several of the churches are currently involved in tract distribution and others have indicated plans for summer and/or fair booth distribution. We are happy that board member Charles Harris and wife Anita were able to spend several weeks assisting in the RON project in Houston, Texas. President Charles Bond left for Houston the day after the board meeting. He and Mrs. Bond will carry on with the work in Houston for the next few weeks. We pray God's blessings on them in this outreach endeavor.

The Audiovisual Committee prepared a poster which was sent to the churches in the spring and is preparing another for summer promotion of the Audiovisual Library. It was reported that forty-two items were loaned from the library during the quarter. Considerable discussion centered around the future of the Sound Studio. Due to lack of funds and technical as well as programming personnel the studio stands pretty much idle.

The Publications Committee reported the printing of a Sabbath denominational calendar, new church directories, and 500 copies of *Steps in Growth* written by Pastor John Peil. The calendars were mailed to the churches with the suggestion that they assist in the cost of publication, thus freeing funds for other projects. To date twenty-three of our churches and fellowships have responded for which we are thankful. In production are 10,000 copies of the tract "Salvation by Faith." The committee approved the printing of 5,000 copies of a salvation tract "Abundant Life" and 10,000 of another salvation tract "Change Your Mind."

The Sabbath Promotion Committee reported that materials for Sabbath Renewal Day had been sent to the churches. The committee has sent matching funds for fair booth work in Little Rock, Ark.; and Kalamazoo, Mich. Funds were also sent to assist in newspaper advertising in the New Auburn, Wis., area. Advertisements have been placed in *Travel, Grit* and *Alternatives* magazines. The response has been good with many inquiries and substantial orders for tracts and books. Some comments from the letters of those who wrote in included the following:

"Praise the Lord! I haven't been living in a world of dreams. There are Seventh Day Baptists! Thank you very much for the tracts you sent...I am now keeping the Sabbath as the Lord's Day instead of Sunday..."

"I am very much interested in the S.D.B. Church. I have been a Baptist all my life and have done much study. I am so pleased with the tracts and booklets you have sent...I feel so much a part of the S.D.B. already that I am just thrilled."

The committee plans to sponsor additional advertising as funds are available.

The board approved the treasurer's report for the year as audited as well as projected budgets for coming years. It was announced that Calvin Babcock will be in charge of audiovisual services during Conference week again this year. The board appreciates his dedication to this important part of our service to the denomination.

The board voted $1,000 to assist in the Commitment in Growth program as recommended by the Planning Committee. The next board meeting will be held at the Marlboro, N.J., S.D.B. church on Sunday, July 18, at 1:00 p.m.

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**Who Are Seventh Day Baptists?**

Walls and windows do not tell what our church is all about. It has to be experienced in people and music and events. Ours is a church that cares, because He cares.
Tract Society Report

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Who Are Seventh Day Baptists?

Walls and windows do not tell what our church is all about. It has to be experienced in people and music and events. Ours is a church that cares, because He cares.
We believe that the needs of all people can be met in an encounter with Jesus Christ.

Ours is a church that cares,

The arms of our concern encircle the varied needs and interests of people, whoever they are and wherever they are found. We are convinced that the “whosoever” of John 3:16 means everyone can and must believe in Him... God's Son.

Because He Cares...

Each year Summer Christian Service Corps workers share their faith in a variety of projects.

The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference meets annually to conduct business and to have fellowship with those of like faith.

Our concern for youth has led in the establishment of a strong nation-wide camping program.
SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS? Yes! Though you may not have heard of this church it is no new group. In England the first congregation dates to soon after the Reformation - 1617. In America the first church was organized in Newport, Rhode Island, in 1671.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS hold that the Scriptures are sufficient for man's faith and practice. They have no 'leader' or founder, looking to Jesus Christ alone as the Head of the Church.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS believe that each individual stands before God, accountable and responsible to Him above all else. They believe that a Christian, following his initial "birth" through personal faith in the work of Christ on the cross, should grow and mature in faith, understanding and service. Therefore there is freedom for the individual to be led by the Holy Spirit and the truth of Scripture. There is likewise the opportunity to relate oneself to other believers in helpful and loving ways recognizing those whom God call shepherds or spiritual leaders.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS welcome those of all faiths, or no faith, to come and worship and study God's Word. You will find a friendly people and a place to understand and grow in the Kingdom of God.

For more information about Seventh Day Baptists and the location of the church nearest you write The Sabbath Recorder, P. O. Box 868, Plainfield, N. J. 07061

Music is an important part of the worship experience for Seventh Day Baptists.

It is not with buildings or with statistics but it is His Spirit that makes the Seventh Day Baptist Church all that it is.

The American Bicentennial celebration is probably the longest birthday party on record; it is certainly broader in scope than most observances: not only does it commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, but it recalls the events leading up to that great cry for freedom; not only does it focus on the Revolutionary War, but it reviews in detail the 200 years hence; not only does it reflect the past; but it challenges the future;

it has involved federal, state and local governments; it has recognized national heroes and common man; it has celebrated the science, the industry, the commerce, the government, the culture of this great land.

Nor has it been forgotten that this nation was created "under God." The religious community remembers the pursuit of religious liberty that resulted from unceasing attacks upon Sabbatarians - and little detail, of the persecution which the early Sabbath-keepers suffered in America.

By 1776 there were approximately fifteen Seventh Day Baptist churches in America - some were considered to be branches of other churches, and some had not formally organized, but in reality there were about fifteen churches - and many of their records have come down to us. From the history of our colonial churches we may learn about early Seventh Day Baptist religious life; we may see more objectively, by comparison, our religious life today, and we may discover more surely, by self-appraisal and meditation, God's will for us tomorrow.

We read of persecution: The first Seventh Day Baptist church in America was the direct result of unceasing attacks upon Sabbath-keepers by the leaders of the Baptist church in Newport; this is common knowledge among Seventh Day Baptists, but it is not so well-known that the early Sabbatarians of Connecticut were persecuted, even imprisoned, for their Sabbath belief - in Connecticut, Congregationalism was for all purposes the state religion, and the civil as well as the church authorities attempted to enforce observance of the Lord's Day; the Rev. John Crandall was imprisoned in Hartford, and several members of the Rogers family were jailed for working on the first day; such was the early history of the Waterford church, and a century later, a petition from the Burlington church to the Connecticut General Assembly is evidence that the situation had not yet been resolved.

By the honorable General Assembly sitting at Hartford in May 1781, wherein there is an unhappy misunderstanding amongst the people in this state, especially in the society of West Britten, concerning the Sabbath. It is according to the laws of this state offensive to do any servile labor on the first day of the week, and there is a number in the society that holds that by the authority of the Sacred Scripture they are obliged to keep the seventh day of the week as a Sabbath, and they hold that they are commanded to labor six days, and that of God, and to rest the seventh day from all their labor... and in Chester County, Pennsylvania, the Episcopalians attacked the new churches with such vigor and persistence that they were nearly destroyed - and these are but a few examples, and little detail, of the persecution faced by early Seventh Day Baptists in America.

There were many aspects of Seventh Day Baptist church life in the 1700's that differ from ours today, but the most notable is the practice of discipline. According to the Rev. Theodore L. Gardiner: (continued on page 24)
Overseas

Burdick, will make the assignments.

About 8 distance of campus facilities, and $2.75 a night will be charged for each recreational vehicle. About 8

room for eighteen rigs on the campus. All rigs

campus. The fact is that there is

Ellis, chairman, Alfred Station, NY 14803 continues to lay plans and initiate actions, for the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference which will be held at Houghton, New York, August 8-14, 1976.

Two of the buildings are air-conditioned; the Science Hall, where the meeting rooms are, and the Campus Center which includes the dining area. Unless we have a terrific heat-spell, the auditorium and dormitories will be quite comfortable without air-conditioning.

The nursery room, which is well-equipped, and two adjoining rooms, will be used for our young offspring. Mrs. Gloria Palmer of Leonardsville, New York 13364 is in charge of the nursery. Volunteers for work in the nursery may contact her.

Please, disregard earlier information about camp accommodations on the campus. The fact is that there is room for eighteen rigs on the campus. All rigs must be self-contained. All camping sites are within walking distance of campus facilities, and $2.75 a night will be charged for each recreational vehicle. About 8 RV's may park immediately behind one of the dormitories that we will be using. Conference registrant, Richard Burdick, will make the assignments.

Pre-registration materials will be sent to all churches so that your registration can be back in our hands by July 15.

Registration fees are as follows:

Meals and lodging for the week (Sunday supper through Sunday breakfast) $57.50 for adults; $43.00 for children ten years of age and under; $20.00 for a person using a cot in a room (limit two cots added to a room); $25.00 for person occupying a sleeping bag on the floor.

Registration: Adult for the week, $9.00 Child, age ten or under, $3.00: a person for the weekend, $3.00.

Prices for less than complete registration for the week: (These are set by our campus hosts) Breakfast, $1.00; Lunch, $1.65; Dinner, $2.60; Banquet, $3.25.

Lodging: $3.75 per night with all linens furnished except washcloths; $1.75 per night for a camp cot set up in the room, includes linens; $1.00 per night for children using their own sleeping bags on the floor.

No blankets will be furnished. The nights may be cool.

Information will be forthcoming on Trailer Courts and other conveniences in the general area. - Rex Zwiebel, Publicity Agent

The Sabbath Recorder

INTEREST COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Attached is a roster on committee chairmen assignments. This may be helpful in establishing communications prior to Conference time. Each committee chairman is interested in coming to Conference well prepared. Please help in every way you can in forwarding ideas and early reports that may help prepare advanced thinking and lay groundwork.

Christian Education  Don Sanford - 346 College St., Milton, Wis. 53563
Christian Social Action  Dale Thorngate - 6602 Temple Hills, Temple Hills, Maryland 20031
Communications  Helen Bond - 8889 Dustin Rd., Galena, Ohio 43021
Courties  Garth Warner - 4124 Sholtz Rd., Osoda, N.Y. 13421
Credentials  Ron Goodrich - North Loup, Nebraska 68859
Ecumenical Interests  Jerry Van Horn - 629 Greendale Drive, Janesville, Wis. 53545
Ministerial Interests  Hope Bevis - 1079 Kenyon Ave., Plainfield, N.J. 07060
Missions - National  Daryl White - 2032 S. Yaak Way, Lakewood, Colo.
Missions - Overseas  Tibbie Maddox - 8355 Torbett Way, Riverside, Calif. 92504
Nominations  John Camenga - 1009 N. Polk St., Little Rock, Ark. 72205
Reference and Counsel  Dale Curtis - 3718 San Rafael Way, Riverside, Calif. 92504
Budget  Oscar Burdick - Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, Calif. 94709
Vocations  Wayne Babcock - Dodge Center, Minnesota 55927
Women's Work  Janette Rogers - R.D., Alfred Station, N.Y. 14803
Youth Work  Edgar Wheeler - Box 238, Ashaway, Rhode Island 02804

During recent years, many individuals have indicated an interest in developing more family type activities and programming of such in our homes, local churches, and our annual General Conference. To give attention to this concern, the Women's Society is working with the Conference president in developing a "Family Sabbath Welcoming Service" for the Friday evening of Conference. We will broaden our families to include all who attend Conference even though they come alone, leaving other family members at home. Our evening meal will be family oriented with a part of the same setting. Following Communion, various family groups will share in activities which they find meaningful. A musical presentation will lead us into the evening worship. I hope that this will prove to be an important emphasis during the Conference week.

June 1976

DENOMINATIONAL DATESLINE

June 25-27 Southern Baptists Association Terarkana, Ark. Theme: "Press On"

June 25-27 Southeastern Association Dr. K. D. Harley Middle Island, W. V.

July 11 Memorial Fund Trustees Plainfield, N.J.

July 18 Board of Christian Education Quarterly Board Meeting Alfred, N. Y.

July 18 American Sabbath Tract Society Quarterly Board Meeting Marlboro, N.J.

July 25 Missionary Society Quarterly Board Meeting Westerly, R.I.
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (continued from page 11)

Legitimately, we should ask ourselves certain basic questions: Can we afford the time and expense to participate in these Christian activities? Should we be affiliated with others who sometimes do things and make promises with which we do not totally agree?

Such questions have to be evaluated in the light of potential values received from participating in the activities. Membership in ecumenical organizations can provide contacts with national and international leaders; opportunities, at least for a core group of our church members, to know about and understand better the social, political and spiritual conditions in other groups and in other parts of the world (they should then share what they learn with as many other church members as possible—chances to witness in need of the Sabbath; inspiration to look beyond ourselves, to gain a greater vision of what our specific mission should be in modern day society.

Whether or not "to know and be known" is the question. The value of "being known" cannot be measured. It is likely dependent upon the waters. It returns in blessings, many times over.

"To know and be known" is undoubtedly a worthy objective—part particularly in these times, we strengthen our church’s pattern of growth and development.

OPEN FORUM (continued from page 8)

but it is totally without foundation. The World Council of Churches, as the documents will indicate to you, raises for church relief and development projects something like $1 billion a year. This money is handled by the World Council without any deductions of any kind, not even a commission for administration. This money goes all to church agencies in the Third World where they are helping to rescue people, to relief or disaster situations or development projects which have been screened carefully by the churches in the area. Quite apart from that, we have a small operation in which we carry on a small business to earn money (approximately $200,000 — $300,000 a year) to groups that are oppressed on a racial ground. These include groups all over the world, such as among the Eskimos, South American Indians, the Australian Aborigines and so on. They also do include some organizations of black people in Southern Africa. Some of these organizations, though not all, are in fact engaged in military activity, but the World Council of Churches’ grants are given exclusively for social service work such as clinics or schools in the primitive areas in which these organizations are "virtually the de facto government. I can assure you beyond question that no such money has ever been used for military purposes.

It is true that some of the organizations, as I have said, are engaged in warfare but to suggest that the World Council is supporting that is equivalent to saying the same kind of things about the Red Cross in its work among people suffering from war conditions...

HISTORICAL SOCIETY (continued from page 21)

Ruling elders were also appointed and ordained, whose business was to look after the members who might stray, admonish to duty, and assist in the pastoral duties. The ruling elders were also to act as arbitrators to settle and adjust all difficulties usually settled by law. The members were not to sue each other at law, but resort to the elders with their cases.

In some churches, the deacons assumed these responsibilities, and in others, the church at large, but the records amply demonstrate that all of the churches exercised this shepherding function.
Greetings from the Sabbath,

26 of the adults. The youth met together as did Pastor and planned the entire Christmas witness. The officers are:

The week preceding Easter, our monthly fellowship supper was unique. Foods were prepared and eaten similar those during the time of Jesus' life on earth. This experience was especially meaningful at that sacred hour of year. We highlighted the evening with a multimedia presentation including the story of the death and resurrection of Christ.

With summer on the way, we at Berlin are actively preparing for Bible School, Lewis Camp programs, Pre-Con and Conference, a County fair booth, and a float for our town's Bicentennial parade. We extend an invitation to you to pray for our church and its activities.

The church has voted to sponsor a fair booth at the Flemington fair the last fall, it has been a very meaningful experience: the participant can be used in our Sabbath services.

In addition to our monthly support of the Sabbath School Mission Offering the church has a special project each quarter. Last quarter we were happy to send $110.20 to the Philippine Conference of S.D.B.'s, to be used in their Project '76 to build a quartier church in Cebu City. We wish the best of this worthwhile project this quarter.

Berlin, N.Y.; Seventh Day Baptist Church

The Sabbath Recorder

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP ORGANIZED

BERLIN, N.Y. - Greetings from the Berlin, N.Y. church. We would like each of you to know about some of the events that have occurred in our area in the past several months.

In October, our church voted to call the Rev. C. Rex Burdick to serve as our pastor for another year, this being his fifth year at Berlin. In October, we joyfully hosted the Light Bearers for Christ and Rev. Charles Graffius for a weekend. One evening, there was a concert by the Light Bearers for the entire community.

Since last fall, it has been a challenging and exciting time for the youth of our church. A youth fellowship has again been organized after several years without an active group. The officers are: Pam Burdick, president; Carol Stuart, vice-president; Russell Bonesteel, secretary and treasurer; and John Maxson, director. Two of the main activities of the youth were witnessed at Christmas time. They sent Christmas messages to shut-ins and planned the entire Christmas eve candlelighting service, including the decorations.

In April, the Schenectady SDB Church joined with us in the commemoration of the Last Supper. Their pastor, David Taylor, had the morning meditation. Pastor Burdick, Pastor Taylor, and Rev. Paul Nixson, pastor emeritus of our church, administered the sacraments. Following the worship service, we had a fellowship dinner. Later in the afternoon, the youth met together as did some of the adults.

JOINT COMMUNION SERVICE HELD

BASKING RIDGE, N.J. - Sabbath, April 17, was a special day for the members of the North Jersey church as they were joined by the members of the Irvington, N.J., German church for a special joint Communion service. Special music was provided by our children's choir and Mrs. William Vis. Charles Bachman led in the Communion meditation and service. It was a very meaningful service and we were happy to have several visitors present.

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Berlin, N.Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church

THE LIGHT BEARERS WERE HERE

EL PASO, TX. - The Light Bearers for Christ were here - in El Paso - March 24 and 25. Their stay was brief - two public concerts and a Seventh Day Baptist luncheon. Their impact on us who received the inspiration of the music and witness cannot be measured. We are stronger in faith and deeper challenging for more faithful Christian living.

Wednesday, March 24, a concert, preceded by a church potluck supper, was held at the Mt. View United Methodist Church in north east El Paso. The small church was well filled and responsive enthusiastic. People still talk about them and insist they come this way again by all means include Mt. View.

Thursday, March 25, another concert, preceded by a potluck supper, was held in the recreation room of the Casa Mobil Home Park (where the Suttons live), This again the reception was excellent. Lodging for the Light Bearers Wednesday night was provided by members of the Mt. View church. Thursday lodging had been arranged at Casa Mobil but the group thought it best to move on that night.

A noon luncheon for the Light Bearers and the group (a happy surprise) of twelve others who came from El Paso to Colorado, Nebraska, Maine, Rhode Island, and Torreon, Mexico, was served by Mr. and Mrs. E. Leon Deach of Dawson Creek, B.C., Canada (wintering in El Paso), and Trevah and Mary Sutton, Sponsors of the Light Bearers - Minyon and Marlen Soper, Ewald Fick, Dan Richards, and Daryl and Barbara White, as well as Leon Latham of the Masonic Society (enroute to Denver) - met with the delegation of five from Torreon to discuss a prospective trip of the Light Bearers to Mexico.

The concerts were nondenominational. However, those from the church and Casa Mobil cooperating in the project knew the group were Seventh Day Baptists and a good impression was made. The Light Bearers, the Sopers, and the Mexican delegation moved on. The Whites and Leon Latham remained until Sabbath noon. These with the Leaches and Suttons met at the Mt. View church for a Sabbath tutoring worship, with several guests - Leon Lawton preaching. After a luncheon at a nearby cafeteria the visitation people left for other duties. As far as we know history was made that day by the first Seventh Day Baptist worship service in El Paso. Never before we have so many Seventh Day Baptists (25) known to have been in El Paso at one time as March 24 and 25 - not recorded in city records but in our memories. May this be the beginning and not the last. Please submit names of Seventh Day Baptists and others interested in this area to us.

Rev. and Mrs. E. Leon Deach
1827 E. 808 El Paso, Texas 79924

LEWIS CAMP COMMITTEE PURCHASES LAND

Dreamers have been dreaming! Plodders have been plodding! Critics in between have had the last word! But the dream has materialized! The plodders have been proven right!

And now, at last, the dream has materialized! The plodders have been proven right!

Minyon Soper
vindicated; constructive criticism has had its creative impact; givers have received their reward, workers their compensation, hoppers their realization, pray-ers the rain. The land purchase is final! The new Lewis Camp is a reality.

The Lewis Camp Committee with representatives from New England and two New York Seventh-Day Baptist Churches, has finalized the purchase of a tract of land in North Stonington, Connecticut. The committee, now working on plans for incorporation, is continuing, with hope in God, whose help has been evident in overcoming obstacles, and in the support of the churches whose programs are involved in Lewis Camp, to expand the effort with plans for an extensive building program, coupled to an ever-increasing opportunity for outreach for Christ in the camping ministry.

With trust in the Heavenly Father, the committee feels sure that this is a new beginning for the oldest S.D.B. camping program in our nation.

"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it." Psalm 68:11.

OUTREACH GROWS IN HOUSTON

HOUSTON, TX.-- The Houston Fellowship is most grateful for the dedicated workers who have helped us in recent months.
The Light Bears for Christ sang twenty-one concerts during their two-week stay. They were received by residents in three retirement homes. One elderly gentleman felt so moved by the message that he distributed the purpose of the team that he initiated an unexpected offering.

Two evenings were spent in the International Students' Center, Port of Houston, where the team witnessed to about eighty foreign men and women. Music carried the message of hope in God, whose help has been evident in overcoming obstacles.

The dedication of the labor and Christian fellowship of these folks has meant much to the Houston Fellowship. We praise the Lord for all their efforts.

We covet the prayers of all Seventh-Day Baptists as we attempt to reach out in the Houston area. We feel that the potential in this booming area is great, even if the most other areas are small... But the laborers are few. Pray with us as we reach out. Now. O S. Stillman

DODGE CENTER NEWS

DODGE CENTER, MN.-- As requested at the Annual Church Business Meeting in January, various organizations have been sponsoring activities to raise money to furnish a room for the New Fairview Baptist Home. To start the fund the Ladies Aid contributed $35.00; next the Sunday School. This had an effect of fancy homemade ice cream social with a free will offering which netted $52.15. Then on the evening of March 17, Charles North sang "The Holy Light" for which they were shared. The baptism was beautifully decorated and the flowers for the service a reception was held for those baptized and the new members.

At our 138th annual meeting April 11, with Douglas Wheeler as moderator, eight letters from absent members were read. Our treasurer reported total giving of over $19,000, including OWL. We instructed our Conference delegates to vote in favor of remaining in the World Council of Churches.

The following officers were elected: moderator, Ruth Parker; assistant, Frederick Bakker; clerk, Anna North; advisory, Susan Long; treasurer, Charles North; assistant, Philip Van Horn; trustees, Elois O'Connor, Lynne Skaggs; Board of Christian Education chairman, Barbara Parker.

Rehearsals have been held each Sabbath afternoon for the inspiring young people whose program, "as president of the Baptist World Alliance. Those present realized the great potential of reaching, encouraging and motivating over ten million Baptist men throughout the world.

Dr. Hurley conducted the opening worship service and received the T.V. appearances of Dr. Melvin F. Stephan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin E. Stephan of Lafayette, Colorado, who received his Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Theological Seminary on May 3, 1976.

Mr. Stephan received his B.A. degree from Milton College in 1968. For the past five years he has been pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church.
Church in Salemville, Pa., and plans to continue his present pastorate. Before entering the ministry he was chaplain’s assistant in the U.S. Army, Ft. Leavenworth, Kans., and Gelnhause, W. Germany; and was employed by Public Relation Title Inc., Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Stephan is married to the former Yvonne L. Swanson of Northbrook, Ill. They have two children, Karl Joseph, and Richard Kirk.  

THE GOOD LIFE CONFERENCE  
A Conference Based on the Bible  

North Long, Nebraska, is the setting for “The Good Life” Conference which will be held May 30 through June 5, 1976. The Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society with Myron Soper, Director of Evangelisation, will sponsor this conference in cooperation with Light Bearers for Christ. The conference is designed to help people understand the biblical teaching of the seventh day of the week and the reason for its observance. It will consist of a seven-session study course with a daily evening program in addition.  

Guest lecturers for the Bible centered sessions will be Peter Todd of Denver, Colo., and Mrs. Jerome Van Dyke (Gerry) of Longmont, Colo.

Peter Todd, an independent evangelist, is a very popular speaker for evangelistic services. Church Renewal Seminars, and retreats. He will be presenting two series of studies: one on prayer and the other on the Christian Life. He will also be available for counselling.

Gerry Van Dyke, a member of the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church, is a busy wife and mother and is also an accomplished singer. She presently teaches “Fascinating Womanhood,” and is on the staff for training SCSC workers. Gerry will conduct sessions on “Fellow and Girl Relationships” and “Man, Wife and Family Relationships.” Gerry relates beautifully to all ages and is a gifted musician and an understanding confidante.

During the day between sessions there will be a free time for meditation, prayer, fellowship and recreation, including horseback riding. Each evening there will be public evangelistic meetings in the community building with Peter Todd as speaker. These will be followed by informal campfire sessions for those wanting to participate.

Saturday night will be a big rally for celebrating our relationship with the Lord—a time of sharing, singing and praising God. The Light Bearers will give a concert that night, also!

We will be using the facilities of the Seventh Day Baptist church and Light Bearers’ headquarters. Housing will be in local homes and meals will be served in the church. 

WEEK OF PRAYER OBSERVED 

MARLBORO, N.J.— The services for the New Year began in our church with Joint Communion with Shiloh. The message by Pastor Bond was “Things That Cannot Be Shaken.” S.D.B. Week of Prayer was observed January 4-10. Several meetings were held in the homes of Rev. Francis S. Johnson of New Zealand edited the study booklet; theme, “The Commandments of God and the Faith of Jesus.” All church members and friends were listed in six study groups. At the end of six days all had been held before God in intercessory prayer.

One Sunday a service was held at Rainbow Convalescent Home. Talent Night sponsored by the Ladies of Shiloh was much enjoyed. Mrs. Lucy Davis and Mrs. Estie Carlwag were in charge. Pastor Don Richards has been on radio WSNJ “Windows for Living” several times. On February 21, Sabbath Recorder Day, Dr. and Mrs. K.D. Hurley were our guests. Dr. Hurley gave the morning message. A fellowship dinner was served during noon hour followed by another talk.

Miss Charlotte Ferguson, our new organist from Roadstown, has a Bachelor of Music Education from W. Va. Wesleyan College. “The Christian and Witnessing” is a new series to be studied on Friday evenings at Prayer Meeting and Bible Study.

One Great Hour of Sharing was observed with noon meal and film “Between the Dark and the Daylight.” Mrs. Letha Miller and Mrs. Lucy Davis supervised the meal of sandwiches, water, and dessert. The offering went to Church World Service through our S.D.B. Relief Fund, with emphasis on Guatemala.

Christian Endeavor meets at 3 p.m. on Sabbath afternoon with Miss Sharon Davis as leader. The SDBY groups sponsored a pizza sale recently.

A newly painted church sign has been completed in memory of Albert and Lavonia Ayars. Much appreciation is extended to the donors.

The service was led by Deacon Dale D. Thornton with Joyce Kennedy and Polly Medlin of the Senator’s staff sharing their testimony. The Senator’s message was entitled: “The Faith of Our Founding Fathers.”

“The Why My Name Was Changed” a children’s story by Mrs. Iris Malby was written for the April issue of The Sermon Builder.

Reprints of an article in Christian Herald entitled: “Who Runs the WCC?” are available upon request from the editor, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N.J. 07080.

We are informed that travel to General Conference sessions as an “official” delegate of a Seventh Day Baptist church is tax-deductible, when you pay your own expenses.

John Bevis represented Seventh Day Baptists at the 160th Annual Meeting of the American Bible Society on May 13 in New York City.

Copies of an article by James E. Wood, Jr. “Tax Exemption and the Churches” are available from the Recorder office. The article is shared by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Stephan Saunders, son of Rev. Francis D. Saunders, and a layman of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly, R.I., has accepted the call of the Adams Center Seventh Day Baptist Church to become their pastor. Mr. Saunders and his family will move to Adams Center and begin their work in July.

Mrs. Dorothea DeLyle of Dodge Center, Minn., has now made her home in Australia. She is employed as a house mother in a dormitory at the Methodist Ladies College which is about an hour’s drive from her son Gary and family. She is enjoying her family and learning the Australian way of life. Her address is: Methodist Ladies College, 45 Park Road, Burwood, N.S.W., Australia 2134.

Senator Jennings Randolph recently spoke at the worship services at his home church in Washington, D.C. The service was led by Deacon Dale D. Thornton with Joyce Kennedy and Polly Medlin of the Senator’s staff sharing their testimony. The Senator’s message was entitled: “The Faith of Our Founding Fathers.”

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A service of the American Sabbath Tract Society.

News Notes

The Rev. David I., including horseback riding. Each and Family Relationships.” Gerry is a gifted counsellor and an understanding chaplain’s assistant in the Denver Seventh Day Baptist Church, serving this summer as the assistant pastor in the Milton, Wisconsin, church.

WORKSHOP HELD AT ALFRED

ALFRED, N.Y.—The Rev. David S. Clarke, executive secretary for the Board of Christian Education, recently held a workshop concerning World Hunger for the Alfred church. It was based on WHEAT (World Hunger Education Action Together) material he received at an National Council of Churches meeting at which time he represented the New York State SDB Council of Churches.

Preceding the workshop the Committee for Christian Education was host to a Meal of Sharing. The menu consisted of CSM and an apple juice. CSM provides a totally balanced meal and is used for indigent people. Those attending the meeting found the meal satisfying and enjoyable.

CSM for fifty-four people: (We omit any tint of a recipe at a time to ensure a smooth mixture.) 6 cups corn meal, 3 cups soy flour, 2 cups

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dry milk, 3 tablespoons salt. Mix together thoroughly, add 11 cups
cold water and stir until smooth. Add 5 cups hot water
then add 20 minutes. Cook about two hours in double
sautéing.

CUPS JUICE

1 cup milk, 1 cup sugar, 2 tablespoons
butter, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/2 cup
flour

Mix well.

Pour into one quart jar and close
with a tight lid. Store in a cool
place.

Refrigerator

In a beautiful valley of peace and quiet, a farmer
had planted four kinds of grain: barley, wheat, and
rye. They were waving their golden heads back and forth in
the sunlight. The fourth kind of grain did not stir. It
was buckwheat. It did not stir much about grain,
but the field of buckwheat did not act very friendly
with the other fields of grain. Somehow the buckwheat
thought that it was a better stock than the others, for
it always stood straight and tall. One day the wind
blew in. Branching high above the heads of the
storks of grain, a willow tree waved its arms back
and forth with every breeze. The willow had been there
for many years, and the young grain asked for advice
now and then - that is, all except the buckwheat.
The buckwheat thought it was wiser than the willow
or anyone else, for that matter. Next to the willow stood
a maple tree. The maple tree was very important
to the neighborhood, because whenever a storm was on
the way, the maples would warn them by turning
their leaves over. Everyone watched these storm warnings,
that is, everyone but the buckwheat. The buckwheat
stood straight and tall and spoke to no one.

One day the willow tree noticed that the maple tree
held her leaves below side out. Certainly a terrible
storm was coming soon. The willow shaded the maple
for her warning and then she began to advise the grain
fields.

"When the storm arrives," she said, "bow your heads
away from the wind and keep down close. The rye,
the wheat and the barley must stay straight and tall.
The buckwheat held her head high and paid no attention.
OUR WORLD MISSION

WE CAN DO IT!

Let's oversubscribe this minimum budget—raise $204.00 so special programs of expansion and outreach can be undertaken!

OWM BUDGET RECEPTS FOR APRIL 1976

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In Memoriam

"It singeth low in every heart. We hear it each and all. A song of those who answer not, However we may call. They throng the silence of the breast. We see them as of yore. The kind, the brave, the true, the sweet Who walk with us no more.

"This hard to take the burden up, When those who have laid it down, They brightened all the joy of life, They softened every frown. But, Aye, 'tis good to think of them When we are troubled sore.

Thanks be to God that such have been Though they are here no more."

—taken from the Book of Histories of S.D.B. Women's Societies

Sabbath Day, June 5, has been designated Religious Liberty Day by Seventh Day Baptist churches. Certainly we in the United States have much to be thankful for as we may freely assemble to worship God on His holy day. However, perhaps we take our religious freedom too much for granted. We know that many of our forefathers suffered much for their religious beliefs—and in part our freedom today is due to their heroic faith.

Sad to say in many parts of the world religious toleration does not exist. One such place is the Soviet Union. There is a movement in the United States Congress at the present time, led by Representative John H. Buchanan (Republican of Alabama and a Southern Baptist), seeking to bring pressure on the USSR to release Georgi Vins from Prison.

Vins is a Baptist minister whose “crime” is that he would not submit his church (the Council of Churches of Evangelical Christians-Baptists) to the repressive restrictions imposed by the Soviet state. In a speech before the House Buchanan stated:

"Repression of prisoners of conscience by the Soviet Union continues today, despite the guarantees of that country's own constitution and the provisions of the United Nations. Vins was accused and subsequently convicted of using religion for crimes against the rights of citizens and violating church-state separation laws. Appeals have been pouring into the west in recent months from Soviet evangelicals Christians, seeking relief from oppression by authorities in their country. ...Unless some action is taken on his behalf, Pastor Vins will surely die in a hard labor camp in Siberia."

The House resolution, if approved, asks Congress to say that the Soviet Union should immediately release Georgi Vins from imprisonment and allow him and all other Christians and other religious believers within its borders to worship God freely according to their own convictions.

Several organizations are now working to bring pressure to bear on the Soviets, not only to free Pastor Vins, but to make good their promises for religious toleration for all people. The Baptist World Alliance has been active in quiet efforts to obtain relief for Vins and other persecuted groups in Russia. The All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians in the U.S.S.R. has also appeared officially before Soviet authorities with appeals for Vins release. The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and several other organizations have entered the cause. Absent however is the World Council of Churches. Since 1963 when delegates from the Russian Orthodox church joined the WCC there has been a tacit agreement to spare these Moscow delegations any embarrassment and so thus Soviet sins have gone largely unnoticed and uncondemned. Scottish Episcopal Priest Richard Halloway has called the WCC attitude a “conspiracy of silence.”

In spite of all protests and mounting evidence to the contrary, the Soviet government maintains that there is religious freedom in its country and that those who seek to be suffering for their faith are actually in prison because of violation of state laws— not because of religious intolerance. Let us continue to pray for Pastor Vins and the untold thousands who suffer for the cause of Christ in the USSR.

While we have ample reason to be proud in this bicentennial year of the religious freedoms we enjoy in this country, we would be well advised to avoid complacency. Let us remember that eternal vigilance is indeed the price of liberty.

ANNOUNCING!

Salem College and the Seventh Day Baptist Center on Ministry announce the establishment of a Career Development Program for undergraduate students anticipating the vocation of professional clergy. The program will constitute a semester's work-study program at the Seventh Day Baptist Center on Ministry in Plainfield, New Jersey. Students would be enrolled at Salem College and would receive sixteen (16) semester hours credit for the work when satisfactorily completed. Students of all Christian denominations, and Jewish students as well, would be eligible for participation in the program. Interested students should write to Dr. Michael C. Nida, Salem College, Salem, WV 26426 or to Dean Herbert E. Saunders, Seventh Day Baptist Center on Ministry, Box 886, Plainfield, New Jersey 07086.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY

(continued from page 15)

E D I T O R I A L S
Costumes for everyone is the order of the day! In keeping with this Bicentennial theme, Wednesday will feature an emphasis on our heritage. While regular business, committee work, and worship will be conducted, special events throughout the day will remind us of the past history of Seventh Day Baptists. I encourage all to begin planning and preparing costumes for each family member. It is not intended that this day should create financial problems with rental or elaborate costumes, but rather to have the day help develop a “fun fellowship” within the Bicentennial observance.

With everyone in costumes, the children, the teen-agers, and the adults, we think this fun fellowship will add significantly to observing our rich background. Come with a costume—enjoy the day!

President Gary Cox