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The Bicentennial issue was very well done in giving the history of Seventh Day Baptists. I want to send extra copies to people outside of our denomination...

-Mrs. Russell J. Maxson Miltion, WIS.

Orchids to you for a job well done! Your Bicentennial issue is really something! I wish I could stick around for your Tricentennial issue; if it beats this one it'll be super.

-Editor Eugene Lincoln
Nashville, Tenn.

A SABBATH MANUAL FOR YOUTH

A junior-intermediate workbook on the Sabbath with six lessons. Designed for use in camps, Sabbath Schools, and other study groups. Attractive and illustrated.

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Ten copies for $3.00

American Sabbath Tract Society
510 Watchung Ave., P.O. Box 868
Plainfield, N.J. 07061

...Mrs. Maxson of Riverside, Calif.
His theme is: "Daring the Impossible."

Mr. and Mrs. Neal Mills of DeRuyter, N.Y.
(He never looked so good!)
Two new churches were welcomed into Conference membership: New York City, N.Y., and North Jersey, N.J.

Conference voted to establish a standing committee to establish S.D.B. Men's Fellowships. The committee consists of Ernest Bond, Robert Austin and Philip Lewis.

The two new members of Commission are: Miss Lois Wells of Los Angeles, Calif., Rev. Don A. Sanford of Milton, Wis.

General Conference voted a 1977 Our World Mission budget of $259,315.00.

Conference President Rev. Delmer E. Van Horn of Lost Creek, W.Va., announced that the theme for 1976-77 is "Daring the Impossible." Conference will be held at the College of the Ozarks, Clarksville, Ark., August 7-13, 1977.

Conference registration was 769 with an estimated 1,100 present for Sabbath services.

National Youth Fellowship Officers for 1977:
President - Tom Goodson
Vice-President - Greg Lewis
Secretary - Joni Goodrich
Treasurer - Karen Seager

Wednesday was Bicentennial day at Conference with scores of delegates dressed in 1776 costumes.

Young Adult Pre-Con had an enrollment of 46 with a staff of seven. Family Pre-Con had an enrollment of 33 with a staff of eight. Youth Pre-Con had an enrollment of 62 with a staff of ten.

Conference delegates were pleased to welcome Terry Ann Meeuysen, Miss America of 1973, as a part of the Bicentennial salute to the American farmers. Through special music and personal testimony Terry Ann shared her personal faith in Christ during the Wednesday evening program. (Below) Virginia Burdick Habermann, was the hostess for the special salute to America. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Burdick of Little Genesee, N.Y., Virginia made the arrangements for the program which was shown on three large screens. A special thanks to the Allis-Chalmers Corporation who made the entire program possible.

Conference approved recommendation number one regarding the establishment of a General Board. This board would take the place of Planning Committee and Commission and would represent Associations, Boards and Agencies. This will go into effect in 1977.

Recommendation number two was also adopted. The basic idea here is that there will be established a basic chart of accounts that will be used by all Boards and Agencies and make denominational financial statements uniform and much easier to understand.

A special ad hoc committee was established to study recommendations three, four and six. This committee will be chaired by Dr. K. D. Hurley and will be composed of three members each from the Task Force, Commission, and the Boards and Agencies.

It was voted for Commission to appoint a special committee to study recommendation number five regarding the possible relocation of denominational headquarters.

OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
President - The Rev. Delmer E. Van Horn
President Elect - Richard D. Shepard
Second Vice-President - The Rev. John H. Camenga
Third Vice-President - (Mrs. Kenneth E.) Dorothy Smith
Recording Secretary - (Mrs. C. Harmon) Ethel Dickinson
Assistant Recording Secretary - (Mrs. Richard D.) Mary Shepard
Corresponding Secretary - K. Duane Hurley
Denominational Treasurer (OWM Budget) - Gordon L. Sanford
Assistant Denominational Treasurer (OWM Budget) - (Mrs. Gordon L.) Wilma Sanford
Treasurer of General Conference - Richard D. Burdick
Assistant Treasurer of General Conference - William F. Palmer

The Sabbath Recorder
Conference

Houghton

The Sabbath Recorder

September 1976
Robe of Achievement - 1976

---Janette L. Rogers---

by Madeline Fitz Randolph

Janette Loofborro Rogers was born in Riverside, California, on June 18, 1911, the daughter of Rev. Eli F. and Mrs. Mary St. John Loofborro. As the daughter of a minister, Janette lived in several parsonages through her early years in Riverside, California; Little Genesea, New York; Shiloh, New Jersey; and Lost Creek, West Virginia. She graduated from Milton College in 1933. On June 26, 1934, she was married to the Rev. Albert Nash Rogers in Lost Creek, West Virginia, and returned with him to Waterford, Connecticut, where he was pastor. Throughout the years she has been a pastor's wife, an educator's wife, and a historian's wife as she continued to serve the Lord in many places, Waterford, Connecticut; New York City; Alfred Station, and Alfred, all in New York State; Denver, Colorado; Plainfield, New Jersey; and once again back in Alfred, New York. She is one of those rare individuals who finds herself often in the background, but with the strength of personal support and love that reaches beyond recognition into the meaning of love as Christ taught it.

Janette has served Seventh Day Baptists in many ways. She has always been active in whatever local church was fortunate enough to share her presence. She has served on boards and committees, chaired meetings, and given of herself to strengthen the work of Christ in each local church. She has served on denominational boards and agencies, particularly on the American Sabbath Tract Society. When Al retired as historian and Al and Janette moved back to Alfred, the editor of the Sabbath Recorder expressed the feelings of many, when he wrote: "Janette is a special kind of person to all who know her--to know her is to love her. One finds it difficult to enumerate the many ways she has contributed to the work of the denomination. Many who have visited Plainfield will recall the warm hospitality of the Rogers home."

Janette is equally at home outside denominational circles. She has given her talents to many ecumenical groups, serving as vice-president of Church Women United in Plainfield during her last year there. Everyone who has ever worked with her outside our own denomination has commented how special she is and what tremendous energy and faith she has.

Several years ago, a popular paperback book author visited the home of Al and Janette Rogers while doing research for a book entitled You Shall Know the Truth - The Baptist Story. He caught the essence of Janette's spirit and personality when she wrote these lines: "I was met by a charming couple, ... the Rev. Albert Rogers and his wife, Janette, who made me feel as though we had always been friends. Janette Rogers would be perfect in a TV commercial for those young-looking grandmothers who take the world to their bosom. It was easy to imagine her feeding home-baked cookies to visitors, because she is that rare human being, indeed, filled with unceasing love and acceptance."

Janette and Al have three children, Brian, who lives with his family in Middletown, Connecticut; Keith, whose family lives in Rockland, Maine, and Cynthia (Mrs. Steven Rudolph) who lives in Braintree, Mass. Six grandchildren enjoy calling her "grandmother."

There is quiet strength in those who can remain behind the scenes giving support and purpose to those out front. Janette has shown what faith and joy are in support and love and serving another. Her husband has been tremendously successful and inspirational for many lives, and much of his strength comes from her support and love. She has taught many of us what it means to live the Christian life and fulfill the purpose of Christ.

The Sabbath Recorder

---

COMMUNITY TO GROWTH

For some 250 delegates Conference began on Sunday morning as they gathered in a crowded lecture room to hear Dr. John Wimber, director of church growth for the Fuller Evangelistic Association, define church growth as "evangelism with the goal of local church growth." He then cited six distinctives of church growth:

1. What satisfies the Lord Jesus is to bring the lost back to the Father. We must take on this purpose.
2. The mission of the church is to grow. We must give up all other misconceptions. Jesus wants His body to grow.
3. Clear goals must be articulated. We should make plans, counting on God to direct us.
4. We must discover sound communicative strategy.
5. We must use the behavioral sciences as a means of understanding people.
6. We must plan according to the specific needs of our community.

Dr. Wimber spent the weekend with our youth Pre-Conners and spoke on Monday to the entire Conference. He stressed that we should not expect people to come to us, but rather we must reach out to them. The church, in order to grow, must diagnose itself, make a faith projection, mobilize the membership, know the needs of the community and discover and use those methods that God blesses with disciples.

Perhaps as never before Seventh Day Baptists are talking about, planning for, and believing in church growth! We know that in every local church there are those who have the vision and zeal and desire to see their church grow. In the Commitment to Growth plan, it is hoped that up to ten percent of the active members of the local church may have such convictions and wish to commit themselves to full participation.

Twenty-one have taken the leadership courses and will be conducting workshops in various parts of the county in coming months. More information about this program will be available in future issues of the Sabbath Recorder. The Lord is leading and blessing this program - let us continue to pray as preparation is being made to implement the Commitment to Growth plan for Seventh Day Baptists. This year will be a turning point in Seventh Day Baptist history. The time is at hand. The hour has come. "We have been in camp long enough. It is time to arise and go."
**Conference Withdraws from W.C.C.**

After a year's comprehensive study of the pro's and con's of General Conference membership in the World Council of Churches the delegates in the roll call vote of the churches voted 355 to 227 to withdraw from the world body. A "yes" vote was for withdrawal whereas a "no" vote was against withdrawal. The vote was as follows:

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<td>Seattle, Washington</td>
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**SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION**

| City                      |     | |
|---------------------------|-----||
| Daytona Beach, Florida    | 9   | |
| Lakeview, West Virginia   | 15  | |
| Salem, West Virginia      | 1   | 14|
| Salesville, Pennsylvania  | 4   | 6 |
| Putnam County, Florida    | 4   | 9 |
| Washington, D.C.          |     | |

**SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION**

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- **A Partial Report...**

**Houghton**

**Fifty-Eighth Annual Report of Commission**

Your Commission, from its vantage point, continued to recommend that a New Dawn be dawning for Seventh Day Baptists. Last year we had serious reservations about recommending the budget that had been sliced to "bare bones." This year we are cautiously optimistic about recommending adoption of the budget without cutting any dreams. The adopted budget has not been raised, but the trend has changed and with the dedication of all Seventh Day Baptists we expect "to fulfill our financial commitment." Our churches have not yet grown numerically, but the thinking has changed, our spirit is growing and a large number are committed to growth.

We admire the evident growing concern of Seventh Day Baptists to oversubscribe the budget. We appreciate the openness and cooperation we have experienced in working with the many areas of our ministries. We have been delighted with the thoroughness of the Task Force. We are impressed by the wide acceptance, understanding, and appreciation for their report. We are excited with the report. The Planning Committee members in their united venture leading us into "Commitment to Growth." Last December Commission developed three goals for themselves and recommended them to others. They were: (1) to deepen spiritual growth; (2) to foster a spirit of unity and give a new 'thrust for denominational structure. Changes in organization must be considered to correct, strengthen, and give a new thrust for the future. Everyone is vitally aware that this has been a most difficult assignment for the members of the Task Force. The diversity, vested interests, variety of approaches and methods, and various styles of thinking and leadership that are characteristic among Seventh Day Baptists have all surfaced and been evaluated. They must be dealt with to streamline denominational structure.

Commission commends the Task Force for its dedicated service and the efforts that its members have made to provide the leadership, motivation, and insight for the study of a change in denominational structure. There are many areas of our ministries that need attention and direction. The Commission is encouraged by the progress that has been made in the three areas.

- **Recognition of New Churches**

After review of the credentials of the New York City Seventh Baptist Church and the North Jersey Seventh Day Baptist Church, we recommend that the General Conference receive them into membership. So voted by Conference.

**Task Force**

Commission commends the Task Force for its dedicated service and the efforts that its members have made to provide the leadership, motivation, and insight for the study of a change in denominational structure. Changes in organization must be considered to correct, strengthen, and give a new thrust for the future. Everyone is vitally aware that this has been a most difficult assignment for the members of the Task Force. The diversity, vested interests, variety of approaches and methods, and various styles of thinking and leadership that are characteristic among Seventh Day Baptists have all surfaced and been evaluated. They must be dealt with to streamline denominational structure.

Commission commends the Task Force for its approach used during the study to seek input and insure feedback with open discussion involving boards and agencies, local churches, and many individuals.

**Planning Committee**

Commission would commend the Planning Committee for its growing desire to be more unified in its total efforts for the denomination. We especially note its thrust in the Houston RSN project and its initiation, implementation, and financial support of the Committee to Growth Plan.

We would encourage its continuing efforts to visit every church in the presentation of denominational interests.

**Our World Mission Budget**

Commission followed OWM giving closely during 1975 and 1976. At the December meeting the best projection available indicated that 90.2 percent of the budget would be raised. When the final results were announced, 99.2 percent had been contributed, with some special giving by a few churches and individuals. We feel greatly blessed by God in this result.

However, eleventh hour giving causes many management problems for our ministries (boards and agencies) since they must stay within income constraints during the entire year.

Commission spent many hours discussing the psychology of continually cutting budgets while talking of the need to grow. It was felt that all our ministries should feel that they could and should make plans for church growth.

The other side of this approach is that all agencies must raise the budget by aggressive promotional programs. Commission asked Planning Committee in December to work out a program whereby each board and agency would have one month to promote some aspect of their OWM budget through a special appeal using various techniques and formats.

With this background, when the budgets from all ministries were received, Commission assembled the 1977 proposed budget keeping the dreams and goals. The responsibility was given to each ministry to raise the total budget to prevent wholesale cuts by Commission. Cuts in any budget can always be made, but it seems to Commission that Commitment to Growth precludes cutting the proposed budget. Our responsibility as Seventh Day Baptists should be to raise the budget, not cut it.
There is so much beauty in worship. But this morning I want to talk about a different aspect of the Lord's work. In the Divine Goodhead, He was the creative force forming this world and upholding it, caring for the human life and all other forms of life which were all part of His grand design for this world. And He had a unique method of accomplishing His work. He spoke and it was done - because the Word of the Lord was creative energy. "Let there be light, let there be planets, let there be water and vegetation, let word be all forms of life," and it happened. I was the most productive method of work ever conceived and everything that He made that way was very good. That was a beautiful system of work and if we could all do it that way, we'd all become productive geniuses. Infinite power and finite wisdom would soon get out of control.

When Jesus came to this earth as our teacher and our example, He left behind His divine attributes. He left behind His glory and His omnipotence, His divine wisdom. He left behind that Spirit form which allowed Him to be God in the midst of His glory and omnipotence. Our teacher and our example, He left behind His divine nature. And so Jesus Christ worked as a reaper. That's what we need are reapers. It's the word of accomplishment, now spent on human resources of muscle and heart and brain. He spent those human resources that produced perception, fatigue, and exhaustion, but they also produced results. That same hard work does produce results.

Christ came into this world as the Light of the world and light is energy. The physicists call it radiant energy or luminous energy and Christ demonstrated that energy. Creative, healing, helping, searching, saving - because light energizes everything that comes under its influence.

I remember very well the first experiment that I ever had in physics while I was in high school. It was a very simple experiment. There was a little glass globe or sphere and I believe that it was a vacuum. Running down through the center of that was a slender metal rod, and there were how many miles in dust and heat and He sweat and He knew hunger, thirst, and exhaustion. A compelling force kept urging Him on day and night, a force that said, "I must be about My Father's business," "I must do the works of Him that sent Me." I must, I must. There was a sense of duty that compelled Him. And so He looked around Him and said, "Did you say there are four months yet until the harvest? Look, the fields are already white with the harvest. What we need are reapers."

And so He who used to speak the word of accomplishment, now spent those human resources of muscle and heart and brain. He spent those human resources that produced perception, fatigue, and exhaustion, but they also produced results. That same hard work does produce results.

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And so He who used to speak the word of accomplishment, now spent those human resources of muscle and heart and brain. He spent those human resources that produced perception, fatigue, and exhaustion, but they also produced results. That same hard work does produce results.
I think that Christians have known this experience. How many Christians have felt the effect of God's light shining directly on their lives? They've played themselves into a spot where God's truth and light strike directly into their souls, just like in the physics experiment, and they feel themselves stirring. Then they begin to move. Their pace picks up and they feel the excitement of motion and of action. They see opportunities for opportunities to serve the Lord, to do things, to accomplish things. As they go, they are treading on one spot and with all the energy and all the enthusiasm they had known become aware they are just going in circles. And what spot are they treading on? What is their tethery? I think that frequently it is a church.

Many times Christians are tied to a church whose activities are all within itself. A church which constantly talks inward, whose concerns are just for those who are already inside its doors. A church that has no awareness at all of the tremendous needs outside. A church that has no program that touches the lives of that community, of the city, of the multitudes outside its own walls. The members of that church, perhaps of every year, pass over their year of service, of being Sabbath School teachers, choir members, ushers, deacons, serving on committees. They look back over those years of going in those circles, tied to that one lonely little stunted nongrowing church and they wonder if that is what all the energy from the light of their life was meant to accomplish.

Christ did not stay inside the temple, the whole world was Christ's church. He went where the people were and where there was need. How did He find His disciples? He found one or two of them standing under trees. He found others漫步ing their nets. He found some collecting taxes. He met them doing a thousand little tasks because He wanted them where they were. How did Christ meet the woman at the well? He was moving on the move and He stopped for a drink, that was how. No one could accuse Jesus of going in circles, because He wasn't tied to a church building or to an office or to a study. He was where there was need, wherever and because of that He was where there was action, also. Christ moved, not in circles, but straight toward the goal of His life.

I don't know how many times I have heard the story of the four wires attached to the simple experiment. All you had to do was place the wires and pick up those words with the words of Jesus who said, "I came to seek and to save the lost." He didn't say He came just to save them, but Christ came to search them out and then save them.

Look at the parables that He told and see how He would have lost sheep been saved, if someone had waited instead of a while they may have known. If those Thessalonians really had known become aware they are just going in circles. That was one of my physics experiments.

And that was one of my physics experiments, one of the few, that really worked. Because as the sun's rays hit those little metal discs, soon the wires began to rotate and then picked up speed and pretty soon they were spinning beautifully around that central metal rod. I was very impressed with that experiment. But I looked back on it in later years and I recognized that while those discs were moving, they didn't do anyone any good. With all their activity they didn't accomplish anything, all they did was go in circles. And why did they do it? In circles? With the power of the sun? No, because it is obvious that God anchored, they were tied down to one spot.

This is true in life. You can take a young dog, for instance, and tie him, and no matter how much energy he has and how much enthusiasm he has and how much excitement he has and how much excitement he has, he can run as hard as he wants and all he'll do is go in circles.

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wherever we serve, the source of our spiritual energy and power is the same. The one source is the Sun. The Son of God.

And when the Light of Christ penetrates our lives, He energizes us. He motivates us, He empowers us with His power. There's absolutely no other way. Christ demonstrated here on earth. And the closer we are to the source of the power, the better we can be with Him, the greater the energy to accomplish His goals for our own personal lives and for His church.

The great men and women of faith were energized by their connection with Christ that they couldn't contain the energy. They had to let it out in purposeful action, doing those same works that Christ demonstrated to His followers. And Paul said, "the love of Christ constraineth us." He said, "Woe unto me if I preach not the gospel." You will remember that as the disciples watched the life of Jesus and they observed the passionate approach which He had to His work, they remembered the words of Scripture, "The zeal of thy house hath eaten me up."

I wish that every Christian, every Sunday School teacher, every church worker, every minister, every lay person, was so on fire for God, that they would demand beyond any ability to keep still. Beyond our power to keep silence, beyond our ability to wait for the Spirit, and wait and wait. The Spirit is here and God's time is now. The power is God's, and therefore we can follow the Son is waiting to be turned into energy which will turn the world upside down. And our power must come from the Son.

How often we hear the concern that we need a good spiritual energy and power is the same. The one source is the Sun. The Son of God.

and by frustration and by a failure to achieve, not by work. The servant of the Lord, whatever his role, is defeated by going in circles instead of using that energy received from God to accomplish a certain goal with positive results.

We say, "You must burn a candle at both ends," and I agree. That is so true. Burning the candle at both ends is mismanagement of one's resources. But that is a far different experience than Paul wrote about. And to the Corinthians, he said, "I will most gladly spend and be spent for your good." And to the Thessalonians, our struggles and hard work, my brothers, must still be fresh in your memory. And when you work for us, it wasn't hard work that killed Paul and the other apostles.

Who burned himself out any more than our example, Jesus Christ? He gave Himself day and night, moved by the practical philosophy, "I must do the work while it is day," because the night is coming when no man can work." Don't worry about burning yourself out. We have our energy is available and the light from Christ, but to receive no energy for lifting the burdens of those in need. Our energy supplies are far greater than we ever know, but to receive it and it is far better that we burn out than rust out.

You may remember Tennyson's great poem to Ulysses where he said, "How dull it is to pause, to rust unburnished, not to shine in use, as though to breathe were life." As though to go in the grooves of routine, church life was really living. And you remember very well Christ's word in Matthew 15 where He said, "Come and see. Come and see. Take your inheritance, the Kingdom reserved for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me a drink, and I was naked, and you made Me welcome, I was alone and you came and looked after Me."

The final test regarding real Christians is: What have we done for those who are in need, the least of these, His brethren? What have we done for them, that they need? And how do we go about doing those things for Christ? In the church? Well, possibly so. But, far more, we do them where the greatest need is and where the people who are need to us.

The city of God described in the Book of Revelation is said to have no temple at all. It is so beautiful, so appropriate. Because the people of God, His angels, His ministers, the temple of every kind, are scattered throughout the city, living for Him where they are, where they are, where they are. Because religion is not in churches, it is in lives.

Therefore our religion must reach out to lives and not remain in our churches. Church is full of people and not institutions. That is why God's church is people and not buildings. They have, after all, become aware they are just going in circles. People is energizing people, transforming love and life and love to other souls, and that takes time and it takes energy, and it wants people out. But the experience that says our energies renew our energy at the same time as we see and feel God's power at work.

It is truly a marvelous experience to know God's power at work. There is nothing greater in life than to know that God has reconciled us to Himself in Christ Jesus our Lord. But while that is a wonderful thing, it is a terrible thing to have that in part that Kingdom to which He has brought us. I think of what an important statement that Henry Drummond ever wrote was this, "Next to losing the sense of the personal Christ, the worst evil that can befall a Christian is to have no sense of anything else." To receive the glorious light of the gospel of Christ, but to receive no energy for sharing that light. To receive no energy for lifting the burdens of those in need, that is indeed a limited salvation, that is indeed a restricted awareness of God's call to His Kingdom.

God gave a tremendous task to His followers. The task of bringing the good news to the entire world. To every nation, kindred, tongue and people, and for that task He promised us "all power," all the power in heaven. And all of that energy is available. The limitless energy of God is at our disposal but if it's not effective energy, it must be harnessed. It must be channeled into useful work.

You can take a gallon of gasoline and set it on fire and that will (continued on page 18)
The total program of Our World Mission is propagated through the efforts of many agencies, one of which is our General Conference - the corporate and spiritual body of all Seventh Day Baptists.

The administrative work of our Conference is carried on by Commission and the executive secretary. Programming is accomplished specifically for General Conference through the Council on Ministry, Women's Society, Council on Ecumenical Affairs, Christian Social Action Committee, and other committees. Some other denominational boards and agencies are independently incorporated and coordinate their activities through General Conference.

Members of these agencies are dedicated, non-salaried church members who serve God and you.

The executive secretary of General Conference is the man with the oil can for Our World Mission. He tries to foresee any possible breakdown in denominational machinery before it occurs and comes to the rescue before progress is hindered. He also lubricates squeaky parts and facilitates smooth operation of our denominational mechanism.

Active participation, this year, in the Task Force-related special committee, the Commitment to Growth plan and study relative to the formation of a General Board will take much of his time and effort. He is required to travel a great deal in the pursuit of these and other efforts. He is salaried and so is his secretarial staff.

Additional funds are necessary for the maintenance of our Denominational Building: paint, repair, heat, electricity, insurance, and the like. Our Board of Trustees oversees the maintenance of our building.

Contributing money to these administrative functions of our General Conference may be to some, less glamorous than to the more visible programs of missions, publications, social action, etc., but funds are necessary.

A dollar a month from each Seventh Day Baptist is all that it takes to keep our denominational administration operating. Please do your part.
PERPETUATION OR ACCOMPLISHMENT

In some of our minds, the Church exists in order to perpetuate its existence. The Church should exist in order to accomplish the goals its Lord has put before it.

With these words, Rev. Alan Hendrix begins one of the chapters in his new book, *Management for the Christian Worker*.

He analyzes two basic mentalities which prevail at the opposite extremes of group situations: the centric group and the radic group.

The author explains that the centric group is characterized by a high degree of preoccupation with the religious, educational, social, or industrial, in which the general level of group concern is greater than the general level of personal concern. The result is an introspection, a turning inward upon itself.

With the radic group, Mr. Hendrix explains, there is an incompatibility of objectives. Where there is an ingrown aspect, the people involved tend to give primacy to their own objectives rather than to the objectives of the group. Not only that, but there is resistance to authority in the centric group. The centric group is generally control-oriented. Everyone is demanding to be heard and the centric group gives primary consideration to this question: “Are we structured so the everyone can have his say?”

An organization that is centric in its associations and functions from a group point of view is generally centered in human participation. Alone, they are spiritually responsible, imaginative, poised and disciplined. But in a group situation all the aspects of the centric group come to the fore.

Every form of government can degenerate into a centric group and any form of government can be a goal-oriented group.

The goal-oriented type of group, says Mr. Hendrix, is the radic group. This is the group in which the level of group concern is greater than the general level of personal concern.

Now, in discussing the centric and radic groups, the author warns that we should not assume that one is better and the other is sacred. That is not necessarily true. Some of the most radic groups are almost completely centric, he points out, using the U.S. Peace Corps as an example. A lot of the humanitarian enterprises of the world are radic. The point is that this group tends to radiate out rather than turn in. In this group you have goal-orientation and perceptive team work. The author concludes that this (the radic type of group) is the one “that Jesus Christ designed in both the apostolate and in the Church in its growth and development.”

In the light of recent denominational development - the action taken at General Conference, the research and recommendations of the Task Force, and the Planning Committee’s initiation of the Commitment to Growth plan - it is thought-provoking and challenging to consider Mr. Hendrix’ conclusions:

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**PERPETUATION OR ACCOMPLISHMENT**

*FROM THE DESK OF*  
**K. D. Hurley**

This is radic. Generally, a group starts out radic and degenerates to centric. The extent to which we have become centric is the extent to which we have passed down the line through work-orientation or task-orientation to the bitter dregs of control-orientation.

The chief danger for the radic group is in becoming so fragmented in its purposes that different groups and different individuals have different purposes and they begin to compete. This will always lead back into a centric orientation. It is not that any group is solidly radic. One aspect or the other tends to dominate.

Does the goal still grip us? Is it still worthy of our commitment? The danger here is to have one thing in writing and another thing in practice - a Jekyll and Hyde management practice....

What holds the radic group together? Is it the goal. The more we are connected with the goal, the more we are willing to tolerate individual differences within the organization. The less we are obsessed with the goal, the more we need to have personality conformity within the organization. Somebody comes to you and he does not say things just the way you would say them. If we are goal-oriented we say, “This man has something to contribute and we will endure much from him because he is going to help us reach our goal.” The breadth of tolerance in the radic group is much greater than the breadth of tolerance in the centric group.

A strong goal-oriented mission will tend to reproduce a strong goal-oriented church.” That is Mr. Hendrix’ main point.

My hope and prayer is that we, as Seventh Day Baptists, can become so completely united around the goal of church growth that we will experience a resurgence of God’s power in our personal and in our church life. A continuation of the man’s purpose of our denomination will be transformed into real accomplishment for Christ and His Cause.

The Sabbath Recorder

September 1976

by Maulene Fitz Randolph

Three weeks in July were spent in Jamaica, West Indies, and might well be described as the most diversely interesting three weeks of my life. As a school librarian, you editor went there to work in the library at Crandall High School, to help organize the materials there; to ascertain what the needs might be and to plan for the future development of this facility.

In any sort of accounting which deals with a project or an adventure, the story can almost never be told “all in a piece.” If time and space allowed I would describe for you the events of the three weeks’ stay there, but since there is not space or time some of the memorable events and impressions must have priority.

Most importantly, a really beginning was accomplished in the organization of the library. The retrieval system was set up and books are now in place on the shelves, ready for use by the students. They are labelled, numbered with Dewey decimal numbers; a card catalog is ready, filled with more than 2000 cards bearing Author, Title, and Subject headings. Some 760 books were catalogued, a colossal task of sorting took place; many were discarded and many were placed in the teacher’s room for their use. It was interesting to find many familiar names in the books which have been sent down to Jamaica from our people. It shows to me the widespread interest which our people have had in the Crandall High School project, for almost every church was represented there by some kind of gift. However, this kind of "chance" contribution does not make for a well-rounded collection, and plans for enlarging the "thin" areas are now in motion. More reference books are needed, as well as high-interest reading materials. This project did not end for me when I boarded the plane for home, but is a continuing object of prayer, planning and concern.

It was an unending source of interest to me to observe the people of the country. I mingled with the people of the SDB churches, feeling very much at home, and I also went about in Kingston, eyes opened; a society different in many ways from my own. One trait which is outstanding in Jamaicans is the dignity with which they go about their daily lives. It is evident even in the very young; a feeling of pride and self-esteem. The curiosity of the children as they stare at you gives you the feeling that you are different", but "accommodated.

A part of the pride of the Jamaicans is expressed in the manner in which they dress. You rarely see anyone who is not dressed in bright, colorful patches or recycled materials; ladies are in platform shoes, beautiful dresses or slacks; the men, too, are resplendent in suits cut in the latest styles of interesting and interesting colors. There’s nothing dull about the dress of the man or woman on the streets of Kingston! Of course we observed the opposite condition in Kingston. There was the other extreme—but we did not see much of this.

It was a privilege to attend three churches while there. The Charles Street church was well filled on Sabbath, July third. That day those of us from the States all wore red, white, and blue, and the birthdays were called for by the Sabbath School superintendent; we asked for a song for the United States, which the congregation rendered with enthusiasm. Pastor Joe Samuels led the worship. The memory work which the children did was quite impressive. It is obvious that much time is spent on this activity, for in each of the churches I visited, there was time given at the close of Sabbath School for reciting memory passages learned that day.

The second Sabbath of my stay there, the Mackintosh family, took me up into the mountains to the Luna church. As the road wound up and up it reminded me of the back hills of Virginia, and as we climbed higher and higher the scenery became more and more beautiful. There at the top of the climb sat the Luna church, a beautifully cared for and nicely decorated building. There are three or four rooms in addition to the sanctuary room upstairs, since some pastors come and stay overnight. This church too is served by Pastor Samuels. The congregational singing was beautiful. I was interested in the number of children present that I counted them and there were more than fifty!

On the third Sabbath we worshipped at Mountain View in Kingston. There, too, I was excited by the large group in the congregation. In all cases the churches were practically full, and the participation of the people in the songs and prayers made for a real time of worship.

It was interesting to visit with some of the women of the churches. As I asked them with the local organizations which they call "Leagues". The answer was, “We just can’t seem to get all of our women interested in taking part in your programs and meetings; it’s the same few who do all the work!” Does this sound familiar to anyone? It does to me, and I think we need to evaluate what we are doing, both here and in Jamaica, in relation to the needs of Seventh Day Baptist women.

How surely the Heavenly Father made us of one blood! We truly do have all the same kinds of problems, no matter where we are on this earth of His. Our concerns for our family life are the same, our children are like children...all these we do share with people of all lands and we must pray without ceasing for each other and for our world.
EXCHANGE CAMPER'S "FANTASTIC" EXPERIENCE

High school youth are chosen by their home camp to go to another Association's camp for the week's program. The national exchange is arranged by the Camp Committee of the Board of Christian Education. Report forms were sent with the original letter suggesting where exchange campers should go, asking for ideas on the program and the camper's experience.

The first camper to report shared some inspirational ideas. Where he came from and where he camped with new friends in a new situation is not important, at least for this Recorder report. Let's hear the camper's camp questions and his replies:

Q: What benefits for your Christian experience did you gain in fellowship, inspiration, service, learning and earth stewardship? Camper: I learned that Christian people a stranger can be accepted in a very short time. The fellowship was full of love, the learning experience seemed to keep your attention at all times.

Q: What was your most meaningful experience and why? Camper: Two experiences were so fantastic. I couldn't put them into words. (PTL) One reason is, my camp never went into such spiritual deepness.

Q: What would YOU "do differently next time" in any of the camp experiences you've had? Camper: I couldn't change it. It was fantastic.

Q: How did you enter into leader or follower roles in the camp you visited? Did you feel free to offer service? Camper: After a few minutes I felt a big member of the group, and would help anybody who asked.

Q: What did you learn from the host camp's facilities and how they were used in achieving Christian camping goals? Camper: That because the facilities weren't that good it didn't bother the Christian experience.

Q: What would you like to see done in your home camp as a result of participating in another camp? Camper: The camp experience and spiritual activities. I also liked the camping recreation and more spiritual activities.

Q: What unique experiences did you have in (any or all of) these activities—worship, study, recreation, nature study, vespers, group projects, etc.? Camper: I felt a love for each person through all worship.

Q: Do you have suggestions on how the Board of Christian Education can improve—or your own camp program committee might improve the SDB Camper Exchange program, and the sharing of personal skills or group experiences? Camper: They are doing a super job.

We here at the board office feel much hope in getting reports like this. We hope it is only the first of many. We shall be open to radical criticisms but hopeful of constructive intent. We want to make the "exchange" of campers a real "fantastic" experience for sending camps, camps, host camps, staffs and campers, and local SDBFY's! Keep the reports coming—campers and committee leaders!

HELPING HELPING HAND HELPERS!

The Fall Quarter of the Helping Hand is an adaptation of the Summer Quarter of the Uniform Lesson Series. The Resource Development Committee of the Board of Christian Education asked the editor to produce the lessons, into which she and several other writers were putting much effort, at a time when a most consistent attendance would occur. So wasn't Jim Stonestrom's idea to create the switch of quarters, which caused adjustments for those who supplement Helping Hand lessons with International Uniform Lesson guidebooks.

So don't misplace your '75-76 Uniform Lesson Teacher's Manual (by whatever name) if you want help in preparing the Fall Quarter of Helping Hand lessons. You will find a challenge to study more SDB history, but you may also find the supplemental Uniform Lesson materials helpful in rounding Jim's study of how the Bible was used in churches and homes through the centuries.

The Fall Quarter of the Helping Hand is a "Living Reality," namely Elmo Randolph for the idea of such a retreat and to the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund Board for making funds available for the retreat, the Creative Camping Manuals, films and scripts of the actual retreat. We are deeply indebted to the work of Herbert Saunders, Dale and Janet Thorgate, for the filming and script of the activities.

The Seventh Day Baptist camps in the United States have and will prosper from the activities of the "Creative Camping Retreat," so we feel it proper and fitting to dedicate this filmstrip to the person who worked so hard to help promote these camps, and who convinced the Memorial Board to fund the project. This individual has worked hard to promote Seventh Day Baptist Camper among, as president of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund Board, to help to have funds available for camp improvement and leadership training.

It gives me great pleasure to present this filmstrip and script to Mrs. Ruth Rogers of the Camp Planning Committee of the Board of Christian Education I would like to take a few minutes at this time to thank those who made the Creative Camping Retreat a reality, and to the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund Board for making funds available for the retreat, the Creative Camping Manuals, films and scripts of the actual retreat. We are deeply indebted to the work of Herbert Saunders, Dale and Janet Thorgate, for the filming and script of the activities.

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We are always grateful for criticism aimed at improving our educational ministry among you with Christ. Some calls for changed ways demand more grace than others to receive and creatively use for improvement. Sometimes we are caught in the pressure of prior demands and may seem to prove blind to the sense or intention of constructive criticisms. If we can learn from each other, we shall better enable our members, friends, neighbors, associates—to our "enemies"—to grow toward the full stature of Jesus the Christ. (Dave Clarke, on behalf of Ms. Stonestrom and the RPC)

THANKS TO RESPONDENTS

Editor of the Helping Hand, Jinx Kuehn Stonestrom, joins the Resource Development Committee and Mrs. Helen Bond who chairs the Communications Interest Committee this Conference, in gratitude for the almost 100 responses to the questionnaire on the Helping Hand. Ninety-four individual questionnaires were returned, some of them prepared in group discussions, but most of them seeming to have been written as individual respondents.

The Resource Development Committee, in studying the responses and making up a summary sheet, reported to the board at its July 18, 1976 meeting: "We are happy to report that the vast majority are generally satisfied with the work of our diligent editor, and she is to be commended."

We are always grateful for criticism aimed at improving our educational ministry among you with Christ. Some calls for changed ways demand more grace than others to receive and creatively use for improvement. Sometimes we are caught in the pressure of prior demands and may seem to prove blind to the sense or intent of constructive criticisms. If we can learn from each other, we shall better enable our members, friends, neighbors, associates—to our "enemies"—to grow toward the full stature of Jesus the Christ. (Dave Clarke, on behalf of Ms. Stonestrom and the RPC)

SANDFORD AUTHORS NEW BOOK
ON S.D.B. HISTORY

"A Free People in Search of a Land" is the title of a recently published book by the Rev. Don A. Sanford. The work traces the history of Seventh Day Baptist expansion from the first church in Newport, R.I., in 1871, through the various stages of frontier migrations to the present.

For sixteen years, Rev. Sanford was the editor of the Helping Hand and has pastored churches in New York, Michigan, and Wisconsin. He is currently teaching in Ft. Atkinson, Wis.

The book was written as a partial fulfillment of requirements for the master's degree from the University of Wisconsin. It was introduced at the recent General Conference session at Houghton College and was an immediate sell-out. The book is a joint publication of the S.D.B. Historical Society and the American Sabbath Tract Society, and was published at the S.D.B. Publishing House.

To order your copy send $5.00 to the S.D.B. Publishing House, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N.J. 07060 - the supply is limited. Also for those who purchased books at Conference and would like a copy of the bibliography these will be sent upon request - please send a postpaid self-addressed envelope.

Official General Conference accreditation was voted to Rev. Wayne Babcock, pastor of the Dodge Center, Minn., church. We pray God's blessings on Pastor Babcock as he continues to minister the Word of God.
News Notes

- "Fair Time Is Harvest Time" was reprinted from the Sabbath Recorder and published in The Sower, publication of The World Home Bible League. The article, written by Mrs. Jesse Pitts, tells the story of the successful S.D.B. Fair Booth at the Ventura, California, Fair.

- Pastor Leroy Bass and Walter Loofboro of the New Auburn, Wis., church recently attended the Decision magazine School of Christian Writing in Minneapolis.

- Day Camp was held the week of July 12-16 at the Milton, Wis., church with forty-one children in attendance. Eleven of these children came from non-SDB homes. Assisting in the camp were the SSCS workers, Robin Gaston of Riverside, Calif., and Maurice Soper of North Loup, Neb.

- The summer Vacation Bible School sponsored by the Washington, D.C., church had an enrollment of thirty-seven, with ten staff members.

- The British S.D.B. Conference recently sent a cassette player to Rev. Ralph Cann, S.D.B. leader in Ghana. It is reported that Pastor Cann recently celebrated his 73rd birthday and continues to conduct evangelistic meetings. By his membership in the Christian Council of Ghana Pastor Cann is able to broadcast from time to time over area radio stations. Through the years the British Conference has been very supportive of the work in Ghana.

- A new book has been issued by Judson Press that is of interest to all Baptists. Baptists and the American Experience is edited by James E. Wood, Jr., and is based on the presentations made at the National Bicentennial Convocation on this subject in Washington, D.C. The price is $16.50 and may be ordered from Judson Book Stores, Valley Forge, PA 19481.

Marlboro, N.J. - The Easter Sunrise Service was held at Jericho Oaks Camp with a good attendance. The Salem, V. Va., youth group was渗 responsible for the singing and they presented a musical in the Shiloh church "Light Shine," in connection with the service. Following the service from our church attended the Eastern Association in Plainfield.

Several of the congregation took the training course for "Here’s Life," Cumberland County. The Senior Citizens Dinner was held at the church; visitors were made to feel welcome. Carnations were presented to all were seventy-five and over by Mrs. Mary H. Green.

Sabbath Renewal Day on May 15 was observed. We were glad to have Pastor Russ and Jenny Johnson and son from Alfred, N.Y., as our guests on that day. A fellowship dinner followed the service. Pastor Don Richards has been on Station WSNJ for the bicentennial program on Sunday.

On June 12 a fellowship dinner was served after church honoring the graduation of the college: Mary Jane McPherson (in December) and Sharon Cobb; from high school: Holly Boyd; from middle school: from eighth grade: Lynn Dee Davis and Diane Cruzan. Donna Harris was presented with a corsage and a certificate of her work as church director. A poem written by Mrs. Letha Miller expresses appreciation and accomplishments. Our love wishes are with Betsy De Richards as she goes into S.C.S.C. training.

Children’s Day was observed with much enjoyment under the direction of Barbara Froding and Edna Ruth Richards. Letha Miller and Lynn Dee Davis were the pianists. It was a time of presentation of parenting and children. Later a picnic was held for the children at Jericho Oaks Camp.

A farewell was held on the church lawn for Harold and Dorothy Davis who are leaving for Florida. They will be greatly missed. Our blessings go with them.

The C.E. picnic was held at Centerton Park, Barbecue chicken dinners were enjoyed at the Jersey Oaks on Camp Fellowship Day. A farewell was held for the people who have joined the North Jersey S.D.B. Church and Mayanna Van Meter Young who will join the Trinity Baptist Church, Cartersville, Ga. May they be blessed in their new surroundings and homes.

- Mrs. Ella T. Davis

The Sabbath Recorder

Church sheltered by new roof

Washington, D.C. - The Washington church has approved a new roof for the church building. The old tile roof is to be removed, the roof boards, repaired, new tar paper applied and the new tiles installed.

According to the plans, the church building is to be replaced with a new structure. The new building will be located at the corner of 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

The church has been in operation for over 100 years, and has served the community well. The new building will provide additional space for worship services and educational programs.

The church is grateful for the support of the congregation and the community in making this project possible. The church will continue to provide a welcoming place for all to worship and grow in faith.
BIBLE SCHOOL HELD

DODGE CENTER, MINN.—A civic and religious community celebration was held here July 15 since our last report. Seminannual Meetings were planned for the first week, held at the American Legion Hall. Conference President, could be with us while in this area. Attendance was up with the Wisconsin church also which makes our fellowship more complete. Nov. 26th. After the church and the Sabbath night fellowship hour features of our fellowship we were provided by the Christian Fellowship Group. President cordially welcomed一直 to the gathering and helped Bob Austin answer questions about the proposed restructuring and denominationalization during the afternoon session. Local Pederson led the Sunday morning devotionals and Claire Gallant presided over the business meeting which followed.

Word was received that same Sabbath of the death of Phyllis (Payne) Larson following a cancer accident. Although saddened by this news we rejoice that she has gone to be with her Lord. During her loved ones and friends have been blessed by her life of service to Him.

The Rev. Russell Johnson, Rev. Zwiwel, and Albert Rogers participated in the service.

Obituaries.

COOK.—Arabelia Hostetler, of Bridgeport, N.J., daughter of the late William and Mary Margaret Cook Hostetler, was born in Stone Creek Township, Cumberland County, Feb. 26, 1902. She was preceded in death by her husband, the Rev. Charles Hostetler, on June 12, 1976.

Survived by: a daughter, Mrs. Paul (Mary) Swart; a brother, a son, Edward Hostetler; a sister, Mrs. George E. (Dorothy) Schaefer; two sisters, Mrs. Robert (Deborah) Schaefer; a sister, Mrs. Elmer Dames, Salda, and Mrs. Alex (Alice) Hostetler, Bridgeport.

Funeral services were at Garrison-Stratford Home, Vineland, on April 8.

SEVERANCE.—Leonard G., (69) of South Madison, Mich., was born in Genesee, Iowa, Aug. 7, 1907, and died in the Butte County Hospital, Kalama, Wash., July 12, 1976. He was a retired employee of the Butte County Hospital for three months.

Surviving are: his wife, the former Betty Seaver; a son, Donald Seaver of Seattle; two daughters, Mrs. Mary (Richard) Pearson, who will present highlights of their work in Africa. We pray for God's blessing upon our work. Mrs. David Sutton, who served at Seattle, is truly missed in the Midwest. Their fellowship is truly missed in Richburg, however, we feel grateful that they are advancing God's work in that field.

Several young people participated in the summer camping program at Camp Harlem, New Hampshire as counselors or as campers. Also, three youth-Sue Bacher, Rachel Drake and Lynne Soste-attended Pre-Camp at Camp Vicks. Rachel Drake attended Camp Overview near North Loup, Nebraska. She was the exchange camper from the Allegheny Association to the Midwest-Continental Association. Since the youth people of the church are good, they are now joining with the young people from Richburg. Sue Bacher was graduated from Alfred Tech College in June and has a position working at the Competing Company in Corning, New York. Sue Bacher was graduated from Bolivar Central High School and is attending Alfred Tech College, New York.

Mrs. David Ralls had charge of the Association booth at the Allegheny County Fair in Angola, Indiana. Mrs. David Ralls in charge of the Association booth at the Allegheny County Fair in Angola, Indiana.

The Allegheny Association will meet October 15 and 16 at the Richburg, Bolivar, New Orleans meeting, and is attending the Annual Conference in Richmond, New York. Rev. C. W. Dunford will have charge of the Association booth at the Allegheny County Fair in Angola, Indiana. Mrs. David Ralls is in charge of the Association booth at the Allegheny County Fair in Angola, Indiana.
TENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BRITISH
Seventh Day Baptists

This Conference was held in the Congregational Church Hall, Algenon Road, Lewisham, London, during the weekend beginning Friday, July 30, 1976. Pastor McCleachy came down from Hull by rail that morning, and was kindly entertained by Brother and Sister Allen at their home near Deptford.

On Friday afternoon a meeting of the Executive Committee was held and Brother Owen Lynch from Birmingham explained the booklet he had printed, giving the agenda and programme of meetings, the Constitution, and other information.

The evening service was opened by Brother Henry Wright of Herne Hill. Brother Marshall played his melodica. Brother Willard Smith welcomed all to the Conference, and pointed to the theme of the Conference which had been beautifully hand printed by Brother Barrett, and appeared above the platform, "The Kingdom Come."

This is our hope as Christians, and Jesus has promised that it is our Father's good pleasure to give us the Kingdom. He alone can lead us into it. We have to seek the old paths, and uproot the weeds which grow in our lives and grow as trees planted by rivers of water, and so be ready to enter the Kingdom. The King of kings invites us to the banquet.

On Sabbath morning the Sabbath School was opened by Brother Slack, and Brother Smith welcomed the adults and Sister Kelly took the children. The lesson was, "Security in God's Love."

This was followed by the morning service, with young Brother Marshall leading out. Prayer was offered by Pastor Parr. The sermon was preached by Rev. J. McCleachy. His subject was the Conference theme, "The Kingdom Come."

The service was closed with the singing of "Ye servants of God your Master proclaims," and prayer by Pastor Parr.

The Young People's service was held in the afternoon. Gifts of interesting programme of recitations, songs, and choruses, Brother Cover spoke about the Kingdom of God coming soon. The parables of the Kingdom in Matt. 13 were read. Brother Barrett spoke in the evening on the enemy's work within the spiritual Kingdom, and announced a series of meetings to be held the following week, for which we were urged to pray.

The business session was held on Sunday morning. After opening by Pastor Peat, Brother Willard Smith read greetings from the U.S. General Conference, to which Sister Lynch, now in Jamaica for a holiday, had replied.

The minutes of the last Conference session of 1975 were read and accepted. Reports were read from the groups at Holloway, Herne Hill, and Birmingham. The German brethren had sent us 300 towards our building fund. Various sums had been sent by the Mill Yard Church to other fields abroad, such as Jamaica, India, and to lepers in the Philippines.

Reports were given by the Finance and Nominating Committees. Most of the officers were re-elected, and the budget for 1977 was presented and discussed, also the invitation to send a delegate to the World Federation in 1978, and how much we could contribute to the cost.

Meanwhile Pastor McCleachy with Brother and Sister Cover made a visit to Sister Slack at her home. She was in bed with an injured leg. This aged sister has been the means of gathering the people of Holloway together. We appreciate her zeal for her cause.

After the concert the re-elected officers stood on the platform, and were admonished to faithfulness in their duties by Pastor Parr, who preached in the evening after Pastor Peat explained a prophetic chart he had brought from Israel. Pastor Parr pointed to the signs of the times declaring the Kingdom of Heaven to be at hand, and how it will be set up at the Second Coming of Christ. We must put on the Wedding Garment to be accepted when the King comes in, and so shine as the stars forever.

DENOMINATIONAL DATESLINE

September 26-28 Planning Committee Plainfield, N.J.
October 8-10 North Central Association Battle Creek, Mich.
October 10 Memorial Fund Trustees
October 17 Tract Society - Shiloh, N.J. Christian Education - Alfred, N.Y.
October 24 American Bible Society Sabbath
October 24 Missionary Society - Westerly, R.I.

THE CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCHES IN THE NETHERLANDS met in Haarlem August 27-29; the theme was "Not by Bread Alone" based on Matthew 4:4.

DUTCH
CONFERENCE

AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND- This time I not only bring you the greetings from Holland but from Germany, too. The Lord is at work and even though our numbers are small the churches are very much alive. In Amsterdam we had a very good movie about the underground church in the Soviet Union which was opened for the tremendous needs in the Communist world for Bible and fellowship. So many years we just didn't know what was happening behind the Iron Curtain but now with more and more news coming through we may assist the Christians there through financial aid and the mailing of post cards to those in prison for their faith.

Personally, I'm still involved with Friends of Turkey, a group of people working among the Turkish migrant workers in Holland and Germany and a Bad Evangelist in Hungary. The Lord has been working in a wonderful way and beside a good number of tracts 500 New Testaments were distributed last year and the first months of this year. With so many Turks we would love to have a Turkish Bible, but it is a MUST to reach them with the Good News of Jesus Christ before they go back. Your prayers for this faith ministry will be appreciated very much.

May 21 I had the privilege to travel to Hilden, Germany, and visit the Szmarn family. They are members of the Harper Church but live in Germany. It was a real joy and I greatly enjoyed the warm fellowship. Although there wasn't a church service on Sabbath, the Lord's Day got a very special meaning as we walked through the forest and saw God's loving hand in nature.

On Sunday Irene Szmarn, a very dedicated kindergarten teacher in a school for children whose parents don't give them the love and care which they need, had to walk 10 kilometers about 6 miles with her children and I walked with them. Language problems or not, I soon had a nice little German girl on my hand who kept me company all the way. The event was part of an art week and at the finish we received a very nice silver medal and a soup.

With churches which are small and people living far away from each other I believe it's important to open up the communication channels more than ever and keep in touch. The weekend of May 27 took me again to Germany and this time I was invited as guest speaker at a Conference for Turkish Mission work in Germany. After a ten-hour journey I arrived in the beautiful village of Seeheim near Darmstadt where we stayed at the Bible School. It was a thrill to see several Turkish believers and hear their testimony. God can use a simple tract to speak to us and my ministry received a great push forward when I saw the results of what God can do through it. The meetings were in English with translations in Turkish. Books and cassette tapes were purchased to be used in Holland. New contacts were made and old ones renewed and it was a blessing to worship and learn together. Sunday on my way home was made and impossible to travel past Dusseldorf without making a stop in Hilden again.

This time too was a highlight of my vacation and the Lord gave us a wonderful day together. When I had to leave for The Hague my heart was very sad with the thought that it will probably take some time before I can visit them again. My vacation which was spent close to home this year will long be remembered.

I was at the Conference in Seeheim and the Dutch churches had a study weekend at the Harkampdennen. News about this weekend was not received yet so I can't pass it on to you. I hope to inform you in future more regularly with the news from Europe than in the past and will close with warm greetings from this side of the Atlantic Ocean. -John Farenohorst
produce just as much energy as a gallon of gasoline used in a car. But what difference in results. The electrical energy in those summer thunderheads building up over the Rockies is enormous but the little bit of electricity running our refrigerator accomplishes far more. And you can take all of that kinetic energy pouring over Niagara Falls; it doesn't do any good unless it is harnessed and put to work. I firmly believe that spiritual power must be organized and channeled into purposeful activities, if God's work is to prosper.

We may look at the ministry of Christ and His activities may appear very casual, but all of that work was in support of the known goal of His life. And you will remember that when He sent out seventy of His followers, He organized them, He divided them up two by two. He sent them into specific areas and gave them specific tasks to do. And through-out the history recorded in Scripture, when God has led His people it has always been in an organized efficient way, moving effectively toward an established goal.

Children sometimes ask a question: they say, "What does God do all day?" And I must confess that we really don't know what God does all day. I have no idea what God does all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day, all day. We was busy doing His Father's work. Helping those in need, lifting burdens of every kind. Searching for the lost and saving them. And I know what He wants His followers to be doing. The same thing He did, with the same dedication, with the same energy, and it will produce the same results.

Has the Spirit of the Lord touched you? If the Spirit of God has touched you, I know He has, then He has anointed you to preach good tidings, not as a preacher necessarily, but as a witness. He has anointed you to release the captives, to bring sight to the blind, to free those who are bruised and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. This speaks of liberty and of comfort and of beauty and of joy. When does it begin? "This very day while you are listening." "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in Heaven." 

"IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS, COME TO ME," KING TELLS BAPTIST

MADRID—King Juan Carlos I of Spain has told a Baptist leader, "If you have any problems at all in regard to religious freedom in your Baptist work, do not hesitate to come directly to me."

These words were spoken to Professor Jose Borras, President of the Spanish Baptist Union, during a recent banquet here celebrating the close of a series of special courses on religious and philosophical beliefs given at the University of Madrid.

Prof. Borras had led eight seminars on Baptist beliefs and practices. Queen Sophia of Spain, who had established the lecture series in the University's Department of Modern Humanities, had regularly attended Borras' seminars.

Borras, reporting on his contacts with the monarchs over recent months, indicated that changes being made in Spain offer tangible proof of the desire of the nation's young King and Queen to inaugurate a democratic form of government that will extend freedom to all religious faiths.

The Spanish Baptist president further spoke of inviting the King and Queen to be present at a Baptist worship service "in the near future."

A few weeks ago, Queen Sophia broke a five-hundred-year-old tradition to attend a service in a Jewish synagogue in Madrid. And, on June 26, she was present at a special Communion service at an Adventist church in the city.

"Ya," a Madrid daily paper, commented, "This is the first time in our history that a member of a royal family has attended a Protestant worship service." —European Baptist Press Service

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The Sabbath Recorder

September 1976

POWERFUL WAY TO MEANING

"Retreats can be a powerful way to meaning. Living together with a specific purpose in an 'away' place can bring forth spiritual growth, education, new perspective, deepened relationships, and renewal of strength and purpose in the life of the church fellowship." So say Virgil and Lynn Nelson in the introduction to their book, Retreat Handbook, published just this year by Judson Press.

Seventh Day Baptists are repeatedly using retreats for many different goals in the life of whole congregations, women's groups, YFs, Sabbath Schools, or other groupings. The Board of Christian Education has frequently loaned materials in response to retreat planners, and often has helped directly in leading retreats. We feel sure that this new aid will be frequently out on loan once a few of us have had experience in using it.

The authors speak from broad experience when they "hope that groups of many kinds with all levels of expertise can find useful resources in this manual. It covers the basics: WHY have a retreat, the nitty-gritty of PLANNING, EXECUTING and EVALUATING the retreat, and a wide variety of RESOURCE MATERIALS which have already been tried. This handbook is possible only through the generous sharing of materials and ideas, and we are grateful for your sharing them with us."

Danny's Cub Scout pack was going for a weekend camp-out. When Danny asked his parents if they could have money to go to his Father said, "Danny, we haven't much money for extra right now, perhaps you will be able to earn some to go."

Mother said, "I will share the money we get from selling eggs if you will help take care of the hens."

Danny worked hard feeding and watering the hens and gathering the eggs. On Friday he carefully washed the eggs and put them in a basket ready to take to market.

On the last week before the camp-out Danny was very happy, "Look, Mother," he said, "I have almost enough money to be able to go camping. The eggs we sell today will give me all I need. Thank you for sharing your egg money with me."

When the family reached town Mother handed the basket to Danny saying, "You take them to the grocery store and get the money while your Father and I do the other errands."

Danny waited until it was safe to cross the road then went to the other side of the street. Just as he was stepping on to the curb, two dogs ran by and bumped into Danny. Down went Danny! Down went the basket and crash went the eggs! What a mess, and worst of all, there would be no money for the camp-out!

A Bible verse to remember: "Faith, if it hath not works, is dead." -James 2:17 (KJV)

He was so unhappy he scarcely heard the women who passed by saying, "Too bad," and "I am sorry for him. I hope he has more eggs at home."

Then a man stopped and said, "I am sorry fifty cents worth." Another said, "I am sorry twenty-five cents worth," Soon there was enough money in the basket to pay for all the broken eggs. The grocer came out and helped clean up the sidewalk. Someone else helped Danny stand up and brush himself off.

"Thank you," said Danny, "Thank you for being kind and helping me."

That night Danny told his Father and Mother all about the accident and the kind people who were good neighbors.

Father said, "Yes, good neighbors not only feel sorry when accidents happen, but do something to help."
produce just as much energy as a gallon of gasoline used in a car. But what difference in results. The electrical energy in those summer thunderheads building up over the Rockies is enormous but the little bit of electricity running our refrigerator accomplishes far more. And you can take all of that kinetic energy pouring over Niagara Falls; it doesn't do any good unless it is harnessed and put to work. I firmly believe that spiritual power must be organized and channeled into purposeful activities, if God's work is to prosper.

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Children sometimes ask a question: they say, "What does God do all day?" And I must confess that I really don't know what God does all day. I have no idea what God does all day long. But I know that He is busy all day, all day and all night. He was busy doing His Father's work. Helping those in need, lifting burdens of every kind. Searching for the lost and saving them. And I know what He wants His followers to be doing. The same thing He did, with the same dedication, with the same energy, and it will produce the same results.

Has the Spirit of the Lord touched your life? If the Spirit of God has touched you, and I know He has, then He has appointed you to preach good tidings, not as a preacher necessarily, but as a witness. He has appointed you to release the captives, to bring sight to the blind, to free those who are bruised and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. I can speak of liberty and of comfort and of beauty and of joy. When does it begin? "When every one while you are listening. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in Heaven."}

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**IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS, COME TO ME,** KING TELLS BAPTIST

**POWERFUL WAY TO MEANING**

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The Sabbath Recorder

September 1976

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**How Danny Went to Camp**

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Father said, "Yes, good neighbors not only feel sorry when accidents happen, but do something to help."
**THE SABBATH - THE LORD'S DAY**

Many denominations today attempt to justify their observance of Sunday as a day of worship by referring to it as "The Lord's Day." They often state that by worshipping on Sunday they are honoring and remembering the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the tomb, therefore, they feel there is a special significance about the first day of the week.

The use of the term "The Lord's Day" in relation to Sunday is of course incorrect. In a very real sense every day is the "Lord's Day." However, we believe that it is the seventh-day Sabbath that is the only special day of our Lord Jesus Christ. "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath." Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath (Mark 2:27,28). If Jesus is "Lord of the Sabbath" then it follows that the Sabbath is indeed the Lord's special day.

In a recent issue of Christian Herald the question was asked as to which day is the correct day for worship. The reply was: "There is no command recorded, and probably none was given, to change, but the change from the seventh-day, that is, Saturday, to the first day, Sunday, was made in celebration of Christ's rising from the dead." The author is certainly correct in stating that no command to change is recorded. However, he goes on to suggest that the Sabbath is not a specific day of rest, but rather a principle.

There is a larger meaning to the Sabbath for those of us who seek to observe it. The Sabbath is not merely one day in seven, just a time to rest from our work and worship with friends in church. The Sabbath is a point of living contact between God, the Creator, and His people; His creation. The Sabbath is God revealed in His holy time. And since the Sabbath question is primarily a biblical one; the Bible makes it extremely clear that the seventh-day is the Sabbath; Christ is the distinct and living expression of the Sabbath to the Bible. He is not an indefinite man among six other men, anyone of whom is as good as he. In the same way, according to the Bible, the Sabbath is not an indefinite day, or a principle of rest, scattered somewhere, anywhere, in the week.

The Jews welcome the Sabbath as a bride, with the lighting of the Sabbath candles at the setting of the sun on Friday. So Christians ought to welcome it with the light of obedient love shining out from their hearts and lives. It is indeed the "Queen of Days" - the day for communion with our God and our Savior Jesus Christ, "The Lord's Day."

**SUMMARY**

- **1976 Budget**: $205,749.00
- **Receipts for seven months**: $205,749.00
- **OWM Treasurer**:
  - **$10,249.31**: Arrears
- **$14,481.81**: Total Disbursements

Commenting on the Sabbath in his book, Christianity for the Twentieth Century, Mr. Burgess says: "...The practice of commemorating the resurrection of Jesus with the celebration of Holy Communion on the first day of the week, Sunday, and thereby, in effect, subsequently causing the movement of the day of rest from Saturday to Sunday is unfortunate because we are now faced with two conflicting observations of the Lord's Sabbath.

"As a layman it is more natural to me, as I expect it to be to others, to feel that Monday is the first day of the week and Sunday the traditional seventh day of rest, but this is not evidently correct...But to be strictly correct I would think that Saturday is the proper day of rest and thus most appropriate for ceremonial worship. The establishment of the Sabbath was of God but the appointment of the day for the celebration of Holy Communion, after the Last Supper, was apparently of man.

"The most natural time for the celebration of Holy Communion (which, in the Bible, is not directly related to the resurrection in view of the fact that the Lord's day of rest. The Sabbath is usually kept as a quiet day and I think that it is more in keeping with, and more commemorative of the time of death which Our Lord experienced than with the day following in which life and activity is renewed. In consideration of this I would say that the Sabbath is not just the beginning of the day for Christians to keep holy and to celebrate Holy Communion."

Those who are interested in further study on this subject may find two of our tracts very helpful: "The First Day of the Week in the New Testament" and "The Seventh Day is the Sabbath of the Calendar." These may be ordered by writing to the editor.

Jesus kept the seventh-day Sabbath - it was His holy day. Because He kept it we understand God better. Those who observe the Bible Sabbath today will be drawn closer to God, and will find a special fellowship as they join with others in worship and praise on the true "Lord's Day."
Recently Published

A Free People in Search of a Free Land

"A Free People in Search of a Free Land," by the Rev. Don A. Sanford is a joint publication of the Tract and Historical Societies. The book traces the westward migrations of Seventh Day Baptists from 1671 in Newport, R.I., to the present. This book has great meaning and interest for all Seventh Day Baptists in this Bicentennial year. Price $5.00 post-paid. Order from: The Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N.J. 07061.