This is great news! Seventh Day Baptists seek spiritual partners in the worldwide work entrusted to them. Here are some immediate suggestions for you:

You can help by praying
- For the Seventh Day Baptist message being proclaimed across the U.S. and in some twenty-three nations around the world.
- For the overseas missionary staff; for national ministers overseas; for workers serving in North America.
- For over 52,000 baptized church members overseas and in America.
- For overseas schools and clinics; for ministerial students in this country and around the world.
- For our active publishing ministry.

You can help by supporting financially
- The 1977 Our World Mission budget of $260,215, a monthly need of $21,685 to cover missionaries' allowances; subsidies to foreign fields; U.S.A. missionary pastors and outreach programs; administration and board ministries.
- The Commitment to Growth program which will result in new members and new churches in 1977!
- Retirement funds for those who have given their lives in the ministry of the church.
- Your local church program, as well as that of your Association.

It is always springtime in the heart that loves God.
Mary Visits Elizabeth

Mary Visits Elizabeth

Soon afterward Mary got ready and hurried off to a town in the hill country of Judea. She went into Zechariah’s house and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby moved within her. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and said in a loud voice, “You are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the child you will bear! Why should this great thing happen to me, that my Lord’s mother comes to visit me? For as soon as I heard your greeting, the baby within me jumped with gladness. How happy you are to believe that the Lord’s message to you will come true!”

Mary’s Song of Praise

Mary said, “My heart praises the Lord; my soul is glad because of God my Savior, for he has remembered me, his lowly servant!

From now on all people will call me happy, because of the great things the Mighty God has done for me.

His name is holy; from one generation to another he shows mercy to those who honor him.

He has brought down mighty kings from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away with empty hands.

He has kept the promise he made to our ancestors, and has come to the help of his servant Israel.

He has remembered to show mercy to Abraham and to all his descendants forever!”

Mary stayed about three months with Elizabeth and then went back home.

By Mrs. Jean Albion, Kalamazoo, MI

Do you ever go shopping - window-shopping, that is, for the car you can’t afford - the car of your dreams? For some it’s a shiny black Cadillac - to some it’s that bright red sports car, and to others it’s a station wagon. There you stand - with your nose pressed against the window and sigh, “Oh, if only we could have that car.” You can - the sign says so - “Very low down-payment - Come on in.” And they come. The fast-talking salesman gets them to sign on the bottom line - but they fail to read the fine print. The monthly payments are high - the interest, out-of-sight, and the upkeep terrific!

Another great salesman is Billy Graham. He really preaches up a storm, and at the end of his dynamic message he gives the invitation to come forward and by doing so to make a public commitment to Christ as their Savior - And they come. But they fail to read the fine print.

Christ said - “Come unto me - come to the cross and your sins will be forgiven” - And they come - they give the down-payment - but they don’t read the fine print.

Coming to Christ and having your sins forgiven is only the down-payment. And it’s not monthly payments, it’s day-by-day, hour-by-hour payments.

“Keep My Commandments - Watch, Love one another - Tend My sheep - Preach the gospel to all the world - Love your neighbor - Honor your parents - Keep the Sabbath - Love your enemies - Tithe - Fast - Heal the sick - Teach - Ceaseing - Bear much fruit - Judge not - Be born again - Prophesy - Witness.”

How many can afford the upkeep? -the everyday, hour-by-hour of keeping His commandments - and loving one another?

Let’s look at the fine print. “Well,” you say, “I do most of those things. I’m as good as the average Christian.”

Christian people, as a rule, are not drunken, or vicious or immoral - but this can also be said of very many worldly, irreligious people. Isn’t it true that there is very little difference between the average Christian and the ordinary, moral “worldly man”?

How about tithing - do you tithe? Now a tithe is what belongs to God - it isn’t even yours, I’m not talking about an offering - this is what you give over and beyond your tithe. Do you tithe? “Well,” you say, “I give what I can. I really can’t afford to tithe. I need the money more than God. He wouldn’t want me to go without things I really need.” How about eternal life - do you need that? Well, you might not get it. “What’s a little thing like tithing?” God doesn’t think it’s such a little thing. Tithing is a payment of your loyalty to God. It’s easy to say you love God, but can you back it up with loyalty? No - God doesn’t need the money for Himself, but He knows His church needs it. We wouldn’t be in the red most of the time if everyone in our church tithed. And think of the blessings promised.

Turn in your Bibles to Malachi 3:8 - “God talking” - “Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me.” But ye say, “Wherein have we robbed Thee?” “In tithes and offerings,” saith the Lord! Now, robbing God - that’s stealing in my Book - and yet we fail to read the fine print.

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The fruits of the Spirit, listed in Galatians 5:22-23, are characteristics the Holy Spirit develops in a person who turns his life over to Him for development and use. These characteristics are called "fruits," or outward "signs" of the Holy Spirit’s dwelling in one’s life.

The first fruit listed in this passage is love. Love is the most important fruit because without it there would be nothing for the other fruits listed to build upon. Love is the foundation of Christianity. Without love God would not have sent His only Son to die on Calvary’s tree, that you and I might receive His gift of love (Jesus), forgiveness from our sins, and eternal life in Him. John 3:16 says “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” First John 4:8 says: “…for God is love.” God loves us despite our sins. Love is Christianity. Without love there is no true Christian spirit.

We find Paul speaking of the various spiritual gifts in First Corinthians, chapters 12 and 14. In chapter 13 Paul says that even though he has these other gifts and does not have love, he is ineffective and has nothing. To quote Paul in verses 4-8: “Love is patient, love is kind, and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.” And in verse 13: “But now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

The Bible gives us many ways in which we can practice this fruit of the Spirit. We find Jesus saying in Matthew 22:37-40 that God’s law is a law of love. We are to love the Lord God with all our hearts and souls, and with all our minds. This is the great and foremost commandment. And the second is to love our neighbor as ourselves. We are instructed by Jesus to not only love our neighbors in Matthew 5:43-44, but to love our enemies and to pray for those who persecute us. In John 15:1-11 Christ speaks of forgiving our enemies because God Himself “is kind and forgiving to ungrateful and evil men.” We are to “be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” Jesus forgave us of our sins because of His love of us. We are to love and forgive others because this is Christianity in its purest form.

We read in First John 1:5-10: “The one who says he is in the light and yet hates his brother is in darkness until now. The one who loves his brother abides in the light and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.” Hebrews 10:12 states “Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all transgressions.” In First John 3:14-17 John becomes more practical in his teaching by stating: “We know we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.” Verse 16: “We know love by this, that He (Christ) laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.” He states that if we have the means and there is one in need and we close our heart against this need, how does the love of God abide in us? We are to “…not love with word and tongue but in deed and truth.”

In John 15:7-11 we find Jesus instructing His disciples in love: “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you. By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments, and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.”

In First John 4:7-21 there is a summary of what has already been stated but some verses need to be covered because they emphasize that God is love and we know we are of Him because we love also—the fruit of the Spirit. In verses 7-13 John states that we are to “love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.” God manifested His love by sending “His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.” This is love in that God “loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” “…if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us. By this we know we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.” And in verse 19: “We love, because He first loved us.” First John 3:23-24 further states: “And this is His commandment that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. And the one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And we know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit which He has given us.”

A Christian must love or there will be no concern for the lost and no effort to win the lost for Christ. Without love there is no hope for a lost and dying humanity that is blinded by sin and Satan. Love in Christ is the answer to the world’s problems today. If the world would accept this love there would be the greatest change ever experienced in the history of mankind, for God’s Spirit would turn hatred to love changing man’s thinking completely to mutual respect and love for one another. This love must begin in you and me as Christians. We should love one another as true brothers and sisters in Christ working together to...
proclaim God's love to a world that is starving for His love but does not know it. The world will only learn of this love through us as we proclaim God's love to a world that is starving for His love.

As we consider the fruits of the Spirit during this series of articles, remember that love comes before the other fruits given to us by the Holy Spirit, and that these other fruits build upon love. Love encompasses the whole of Christian living. He who has love has everything. He who does not have love, has nothing. Only through the Holy Spirit will we be able to receive and cultivate these fruits. Without Him there are no fruits of the Spirit. To be His we must be totally His, not partially, for He has to have all of us.

All Christians should pray and prepare their hearts to receive God's Spirit so that their lives might reflect the fruits of the Spirit and be a shining light in a dark world. God will give us His fruits of the Spirit beginning with love. Let's turn our lives over to the Holy Spirit so that we are totally His to be used by Him for His honor and glory in leading a world without love to Him who is the God of Love. Praise the Lord. Amen.

All Scripture used is from the "New American Standard Bible."
A Visit to the American Tropics

by Leon R. Lawton
February 6-March 14, 1977

The rugged small island of DOMINICA, in the eastern Caribbean, was the first stop. Elder William S. W. White has been in correspondence with Seventh Day Baptists in England and the USA for some time, following an early recognition by the Church of God (Seventh Day) in Salem, W. Va.

A public meeting was arranged and held at the Rosena Girls School on Tuesday, February 8. This was the first public SDB meeting in Dominica and was attended by over 40. Notice was given on the radio. Following a brief message and the history and faith of Seventh Day Baptists, many questions were answered. The Catholic church is the dominant faith in Dominica. Brother White suggested that a gospel team and/or a co-worker could help him launch a new church.

In JAMAICA, So. America (Feb. 10-27) visits were made to the four active churches—Kitty in Georgetown, Parika on West Bank, Demerara, Dartmouth on the Essequibo Coast, and Bona Ventura on the Pomeroon River. A new mission group is also meeting on Bent River. A new mission group is also meeting in Dominica and was attended by over 40. Notice was given on the radio. Following a brief message and the history and faith of Seventh Day Baptists, many questions were answered. The Catholic church is the dominant faith in Dominica. Brother White suggested that a gospel team and/or a co-worker could help him launch a new church.

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A new motion was also met in Bent River. A new mission group is also meeting in Dominica and was attended by over 40. Notice was given on the radio. Following a brief message and the history and faith of Seventh Day Baptists, many questions were answered. The Catholic church is the dominant faith in Dominica. Brother White suggested that a gospel team and/or a co-worker could help him launch a new church.
Pastor Rickford English (insert), a farmer and laypastor, serves the Bona Ventura, Guyana, church on the Pomeroon River. Over 90 filled the church when Pastor Lawton was there on Feb. 19; most pose here for a picture following the service.

All travel to the Bona Ventura SDB Church is by boat as there are no roads or paths along the river. It is near low tide when this picture was taken. At high tide the water level is near the top step.

A record baptism for 13 was held at Dartmouth, Guyana; the service was held in a main canal.

The candidates' average age was 21 and four responded to the invitation given after the first 9 were baptized. Pastor Sam Peters is third from the right, with glasses.

At the Bona Ventura, Guyana, church an installation service was held for two young ministerial students, Terrance Allen (with glasses) and Ewart Caesar.

Elder W.S.W. White reads in his room where he conducts Sabbath services in Roseau, the capital of Dominica. Pray for the new witness there.
SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS

By J. J. Rock

My sister Mrs. M. F. Palfrey, the late Mr. J. F. Palfrey and three daughters, Celine, Beatrice, Lilian, and I, J. J. Rock, were born of a Roman Catholic family, believing the doctrines firmly. We were associating with Sunday observing Christians who are Bible enthusiasts. However, we have discovered the truth in the Word of God, that the Christian Sabbath is the seventh day of the week and not the first day of the week.

Having the desire to learn and obey the will of God, we spent much time searching the truth in the Scriptures. We found that the Word of God is very emphatic regarding the Ten Commandments. In Psalm 111:7-8, we are told that all His Commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever. In Romans 7:12-14, we are also told that the Ten Commandments are God's fundamental moral laws. They are holy, just, good and spiritual. Further, James 2:8 indicates that they were nailed to the cross because they bear witness against us (Deut. 31:25,26). These ceremonial laws also foretold in Daniel 9:26,27 would be done away. The laws contained in this book, according to Acts 15:5 and Hebrews 7:5,12,28 is the law of Moses and not the Ten Commandments. It is evident from the foregoing references that the Ten Commandments are binding upon all Christians today, until the day of judgment.

In studying the Word of God, we find that Law and Grace are very closely related to each other. The law makes grace necessary, and that grace upholds and establishes the law. These two are inseparable, no one can be saved without the other. To remain in God's grace, we must, without any doubt obey God's royal laws (James 2:8). We can deduce that it is not a matter of law or grace, rather it is a matter of law and grace. If we live a life apart from Christ and His grace, then, the law behaves like an enemy. But the moment we accept Christ as our Saviour, we are under His grace and we are freed from the consequences of the law (2 Tim. 1:10; Gal. 3:13). It is apparent that as long as we live in complete submission to the Lord, we live in agreement with the Holy Spirit, just, good and spiritual law of God.

A further study on the question of Sabbath, Genesis 2:3 tells us that God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it. The Lord also hallowed it (Exodus 20:8-11). Called it His Holy Day (Isaiah 58:13). The Sabbath was to be a sign between us and God (Exek. 20:20). This sign is to last for ever (Ex. 31:13-17). According to Leviticus 23:3, Sabbath is holy, to be kept holy and is a day for Holy Convocation, it must be religious. We find in Isaiah 56:2 that the Sabbath was instituted for all mankind. And it also tells us that a man who keeps Sabbath is happy. Isaiah chapter 56 verse 6 warns us not to profane the Sabbath. Again we noted with interest that according to Isaiah 66:22,23, all flesh must observe Sabbath. No wonder Mark chapter 2, verse 27 points out that the Sabbath was made for man.

It is really surprising that we just could not find a single verse in the Holy Scriptures to state that the first day of the week (Sunday) is declared by God as holy, sanctified and hallowed. Neither could we find a text to testify the first day of the week (Sunday) to be the Lord's day.

We are convinced that God instituted the weekly Sabbath. God blessed and sanctified that day of the week and no other. Therefore the seventh day and no other day of the week is holy sanctified time. The Sabbath was given as a gift, a day of rest and worship. It is God's invitation to join fellowship with Him.

As Christians having accepted Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, we must, as required in John 5:25-3, keep His Commandments. We should not behave like those mentioned in Romans 8:7. But always remembering that if we are to enter eternal life, we must keep His Commandments (Matthew 19:17). With this in view, we prayed that the Lord would lead us to a group as referred to in Isaiah 8:20.

We were happy to learn that the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Rangoon acknowledges Jesus Christ for what He claims Himself to be in John 8:24, and upholds the Ten Commandments, observes the seventh day of the week as Sabbath, scripturally celebrates the Lord's Supper annually with unleaven bread and fruit of the vine (1 Cor. 11:24, 25; Mt. 26:26, 27), and baptism by immersion.

We are pleased to be able to have fellowship with the Seventh Day Baptist Church, thereby obeying God's law rather than doctrines of men (Acts 5:29). We have never had an occasion to have any regrets for the change we made and we do appreciate our present membership and association with the brethren of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Rangoon.

In John 8:32, we are told that the truth will make us free. It is our prayerful wish that Christians, like the Phebean (Acts 17:11), should search the Holy Scriptures daily, to prove all things, and hold fast to that which is good (1 Thess. 5:21).

Rev. L. Sawi Thanga, with his amiable nature and his lovely family, helps us and in the progress of the church. It is my prayerful wish that the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Rangoon, would grow to have, at least, three thousand members like the first church established by St. Peter, on the day of Pentecost.

Our prayerful wish that Christians, like the Phebean, should search the Holy Scriptures daily, to prove all things, and hold fast to that which is good (1 Thess. 5:21).

May 1977
"New People for a New World Through Jesus Christ"

Year of the Bible

Seventh Day Baptists are active participants in the affairs of the Baptist World Alliance.

Baptists around the world are responding to the call of the BWA at its 1975 Congress, to adopt as a common theme until 1980, "New People for a New World Through Jesus Christ."

Our denomination's preliminary response to the "call" is outlined on the back cover of the 1976 Bicentennial edition of the Yearbook and correlates with our Commitment to Growth plan.

We will undoubtedly find help and strength in coordinating many of our efforts with world Baptists in the three years immediately ahead:

1977-78 NEW PEOPLE THROUGH BIBLE STUDY-A call to real study of God's Word, for renewal.
1978-79 NEW PEOPLE FOR WITNESS AND SERVICE-A challenge to involvement in the world.
1979-80 NEW PEOPLE FOR A NEW WORLD-A commitment to evangelism around the world.

These three distinct emphases, all derived from the theme for the era, can enhance our distinctive struggle for renewal—and growth!

C. Ronald Goulding, director of the BWA Division of Evangelism and Education, asserts that "any hope of a successful outreach movement must begin in a renewed individual life of the Christian—renewed in the discipline of devotional life, renewed in the adventure of believing prayer, renewed in the challenge of Christian living, renewed in concern for those who know not Christ."

As the first part of the three-phase renewal emphasis, the aim is to "bring our people back to a renewed understanding of the place of the Bible as an essential guide for every part of life." The 1977-78 period has been designated the "Year of the Bible."

"Spiritual renewal demands a considered discipline," points out Goulding. Then he goes on to explain as follows:

"Not "I like" but "I ought to, therefore, I will." This is personal and demands the willing consent of each believer. One of the greatest blessings which comes to the Christian who spends regular time in prayer, meditation, and Bible study is that when he "counts the cost" (Luke 14:28) he becomes more impressed with the infinite possibilities of the power of God than with the resources of the enemy.

"...with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26).

"If God be for us who can be against us?" (Romans 3:31).

"...prove me now and see (if I will not open up the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it) (Malachi 3:10).

"...God from the wealth of his glory to give you power through his spirit to be strong in your inner selves" (Ephesians 3:16).

Seventh Day Baptists stand in a particularly good position, prepared by Growth Force studies, to "give our Lord the chance He longs for to mobilize a prepared people renewed and eager to do His will in the power of His Spirit even unto the uttermost ends of the earth."

Let's do it!

C. Ronald Goulding, director of the BWA Division of Evangelism and Education, asserts that "any hope of a successful outreach movement must begin in a renewed individual life of the Christian—renewed in the discipline of devotional life, renewed in the adventure of believing prayer, renewed in the challenge of Christian living, renewed in concern for those who know not Christ."

As the first part of the three-phase renewal emphasis, the aim is to "bring our people back to a renewed understanding of the place of the Bible as an essential guide for every part of life." The 1977-78 period has been designated the "Year of the Bible."

"Spiritual renewal demands a considered discipline," points out Goulding. Then he goes on to explain as follows:

"...prove me now and see (if I will not open up the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it) (Malachi 3:10).

Let's do it!

The Sabbath Recorder

A HISTORIC PEOPLE WITH A UNIQUE MESSAGE FOR CONTEMPORARY AMERICA.
SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS ESTABLISHED THEIR FIRST CHURCH IN AMERICA IN 1671 AT NEWPORT, R.I., AND SINCE THEN HAVE EXPANDED THEIR WITNESS FROM COAST TO COAST.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS ARE CHRISTIANS WHOSE POLITY AND BELIEFS, INCLUDING BAPTISM BY IMMERSON, ARE LIKE OTHER BAPTISTS, BUT WHO, UNLIKE MOST DENOMINATIONS, OBSERVE THE SEVENTH DAY AS THE WEEKLY DAY OF REST AND WORSHIP.
In salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and His atoning death.

A Seventh Day Baptist church is a Christian church, a local branch of the body of Christ, the Church Universal. Thus, the first requirement is that a person take his place as a guilty sinner before God, looking in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ, who was "made sin" for him. He must believe that Jesus, in giving His life as a sacrifice on Calvary, paid the penalty of sin, bearing our sins in His own body, and he must accept Him as his own personal Saviour from sin. By so receiving Jesus Christ, he receives from God the gift of eternal life through the new birth.

Romans 3:10-23; Romans 6:23; Isaiah 53:6; 1 Peter 2:24; John 3:5; Romans 5:8; John 1:12, 13; John 5:24

In surrendering the life to Christ for service.

In acknowledging Christ as Lord, we recognize His right to rule our lives, so we surrender them to Him for any service He may require. Since the main business of the church is evangelism, the main service of a church member is to witness for Christ, in an endeavor to win souls for Him.

Romans 12:1; Acts 1:8; Mark 16:15; John 15:16; 2 Corinthians 5:20

In living a life of Christian dedication.

Having received Jesus as Saviour and having confessed Him before men, we expect a member to live a Christian life, leaving the things of the world, the things that be of men, and setting his affections on things above, the things of God, acknowledging Christ as Lord.

Ephesians 4:22-24; 1 John 2:15-17; Colossians 3:1-3; 2 Corinthians 6:14-17; Romans 12:2; 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20

In observance of the Sabbath of the Bible.

As a part of Christian living, and of acknowledging Christ as Lord, we expect a member to follow Him as Lord of the Sabbath in observing the seventh day as the true Lord's day. Interpretation of what is meant by "in it thou shalt not do any work" is left to the conscience of the individual, as enlightened by the teachings of Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Mark 2:28; Exodus 20:8-11; Isaiah 58:13, 14; Matthew 12:12

In confession of Christ before men through baptism.

Baptism is the outward symbol of the inward change which has taken place. The water speaks of cleansing, of the washing away of sins. Burial in the baptismal waters speaks of the death of self to the old life and nature, and coming up out of the waters speaks of rising to live in newness of life. Being baptized is a means of confession before men that this change has been wrought in the life, and is a public declaration of one's purpose to dedicate himself to Christ and His service.

Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3, 4; Colossians 2:11-13; Ephesians 2:1-5

"Remember to keep the sabbath day holy. You have six days to labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord your God.

- From the Fourth Commandment.
With 210 members, the North Loup, Nebraska, Seventh Day Baptist Church is our seventh largest church; and although, like the rest of our denomination, it has suffered a decline in membership in the twentieth century, for the last two decades it has held at the 200 mark. It is a "solid citizen" in the Seventh Day Baptist community.

How it came to be is worth recalling in this time of "Commitment to Growth," for we are reminded that "church planting" is not a new discovery but a forgotten part of our heritage, and we are chided by the determination and perseverance of our spiritual forefathers more than one hundred years ago.

In the mid-1800's, Seventh Day Baptists, like many of their countrymen, were on the move — most of them farmers in search of rich but inexpensive land. Out of central and western New York State they flowed, and into the American Midwest. Not by a lucky throw of the dice, but by a difficult trial-and-error process, they arrived at their destinations; many families relocated several times in the span of a few years.

Such was the case with many of the residents of Dakota, Wisconsin, but each time they moved, they took their religion with them, and in 1853 they established a Seventh Day Baptist church in Dakota.

The land was too sandy though, so after the Civil War they began to talk again of new frontiers. In 1871 they formed a "colony association," but not for a moment did they forget their religion, for after stating their intent "to procure a suitable location," they agreed "to give such of our people as observe the Seventh Day of the week as the Sabbath the opportunity to settle together."

A "locating committee" trekked through Iowa and into Nebraska in search of a new site; their mixed opinions failed to impress the Dakota populace upon their return, but the enthusiasm of one of the scouts for the Loup Valley led to a second journey over the 1,400-mile round-trip route and the decision to migrate to Nebraska.

The first party left Dakota April 1, 1872, traveling by horse- and ox-drawn wagons through snow, mud, wind and dust. After a month and a half, they finally arrived, and one of their first activities was Sabbath worship: "on the west bank of the North Loup River; with a rocking chair for a pulpit, Elder Oscar Babcock preached the first sermon ever in this Loup country. One of the songs they sang on that beautiful May morning was "We Shall Gather at the River.""

On March 23, 1873, they organized the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church.

The seed was sown, and the trials began, but for some reason, the pioneers chose North Loup as the place to make their stand. They created dugouts and sod houses for shelter, and they prepared to reap the fruits of their labor. At the end of their first winter, thinking that spring had arrived to stay, they were totally unprepared for "The Great Blizzard of '73." Lives and livestock were lost; but the blizzard was nothing compared to the grasshoppers that came in '74, '75, '76 and '77. In '78, it was a prairie fire; in '92, '93 and '94 — drought; but the people stood firm, and a church was planted!

May we, as we seek a new "Commitment to Growth" in the 1970's, rediscover the spiritual traits of determination and perseverance; and may we be successful in planting new churches... a la 1872!
OPEN YOUR MINDS AND SAY "AH!"

by Madeline Fitz Randolph

How many of you have seen the interesting line of posters that has been shown for sale in book and department stores? Some of them are captivating; some of them downright funny; some of them make us stop and wonder if that particular saying could be exactly what we wanted to say? Right now I am looking at one which shows a small man sitting under a large tree. At this moment, a very large nut, (more like a melon) has fallen down from the tree and struck him directly on his head. He has a surprised look on his face, and the caption underneath the poster says, "Open your mind and say 'Ah!'" Let me explain why this says something to me, and also to us as women...you see, our board of directors feel that the promotion of our Bible reading as we have been reading from the New Testament is a great need for us. For they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the educated leaders, for theirs is an enduring investment. Blessed are you if you ask the Lord for the best place to worship and the people will come. First there was the formation of the Board of Directors; and then from the Board, the Executive Committee was formed. Our Board of Directors decides what to do on the local level. We must become leaders. A new dimension has been added to our Bible reading as we have been reading from the New Testament. We open our minds and say, "Ah, yes!" The Lord added to the church, even for the second time, and some have not returned since that first visit. They are the ones who promised to be part of the company. They shall inherit the world. The kingdom of knowledge is their. . . . .

BOOK BEATTITUDES FOR CHRISTIAN LEADERS
Blessed are leaders who feed the mind, the kingdom of knowledge is theirs. Blessed are the well-read leaders, for they shall be enriched.
Blessed are the educated leaders, for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the leaders who invest in good books and literature, for theirs is an enduring investment.
Blessed are the well-read leaders, for they shall be enriched.
Blessed are the leaders who persevere in good reading, for theirs is an enduring investment.
Blessed are you if you ask the Lord for the best place to worship and the people will come.

Guidestuds of CWF for Spring 1977

The Sabbath Recorder

A History of the New York City Church

by Rev. Socrates Thompson, Pastor

The New York City Seventh Day Baptist Church came into being in a somewhat mysterious situation and continues to exist as what seems to be one of God's modern mysteries. It was not known to Jamaican Seventh Day Baptists living in New York, that there were several members of the Jamaican churches residing in the city, however, several of these Seventh Day Baptists had apparently been making contacts with other SDB's and these contacts either filtered into Plainfield, or were made directly with key persons in Plainfield.

Unconfirmed reports state that a key denominational worker was asked to make contacts with two possible leaders in the city with a view of getting them together, hoping to lead a Seventh Day Baptist drive on the city. The report states that one of these possible workers was visited. It is confirmed that the other was never contacted.

It was late in 1973 that the fateful straw seemed to have reached Plainfield and broke the camel's back. Rev. Herbert Saunders, then pastor of the Plainfield church, and Brother John Bevis, editor of the Sabbath Recorder, visited New York City with the view of organizing an SDB Fellowship. Some of those attending were saved. The free style Bible study continued in New York City, the choir was organized, and the next Sabbath Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship was held in one of the chapels of the Volunteers of America, and from the General Conference in California in August. On September 27, 1975, the dream became a reality. The New York City Seventh Day Baptist Church was organized and received the blessings of Eastern Association in Plainfield in May and General Conference during the 1976 sessions at Houghton College in August.

Problems do not just go away and ours were no exceptions, but we continued to hold together, experiencing some miracles, one similar to Peter's deliverance from prison. Our membership rose twenty-one, with two permanently moving to other parts of the country, one temporarily, and one becoming inactive. Of the remaining seventeen, three are unemployed or students in college without employment. Others work when employment is available, while others are thankful to be employed. Our Sabbath attendance varies from 35 to 50.

Tent and offerings account for the entire support of the church, except for two donations from Eastern Baptist Association. A special offer for women is one of these Bibles from the American Bible Society, Box 3524, New York, NY 10023. Just send and ask for the Good News Special Edition for Women, Control number 0061; send the payment with the order; $2.05 includes shipping. It is beautiful!

I just noticed another poster... there is a profile of a child silhouetted against a sunset, holding a candle, and the caption is, "There are two ways of spreading the light; to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it."
Television Advertising in Seattle

The thirty-second commercial consisted of five color slides, with Pastor Duane Davis reading the script and a musical background. The pictures included a crowded street in downtown Seattle; Mary Beattie looking across the city to the skyline and bay from a hill in Seattle; then Pastor Davis holding up the six Bible lessons in front of one of our church's beautiful stained-glass windows. These were followed with the Seattle and Canada addresses.

The script read, "Ever stand in a crowd and wonder... What's all about? Where have the purpose and the fulfillment of life gone? The Bible has the answers... but maybe you didn't know where to look! The Seventh Day Baptist Church would like to send you six personal Bible lessons, "Guide to Understanding the Bible," It's all free... no obligation. Write to these addresses or the phone. The Seventh Day Baptist Church... 762-3340 today! It can mean a new beginning!!"

Seattle church members responded by manning the phones at Christ's Training Center, our church building, throughout the showings. During the first few weeks, screens and many of these people are now hearing completion of the series of six. Others have called for more information about the beliefs and practices of Seventh Day Baptists and many of our friends have shared our joy as they tell us they watched the commercials. Several visitors have attended our church services on Sabbath in the first few weeks after the ads were aired.

More gifts were designated for our advertising after the commercials were over, and so the church is following this ad up with a two-column inch ad on the television news page of our morning and evening newspapers for one week in the middle of March. We are also following up as many of our calls as possible with personal calls and contacts through our Evangelism Explosion classes.

We are most grateful for the help of so many in making this venture in letting Seventh Day Baptists share their faith in the Lord. And especially we thank God for His leading and making clear to us that He wants us to share Him with the millions in our world today! 

Duane L. Davis  
The Sabbatical Recorder

SDB MEETING HELD IN MEDFORD

MEDFORD, OR.—Pastor Duane Davis and Larry Sanford visited Medford, Oregon, 450 miles south of Seattle, February 27 and 28. They were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Davis. A "Seventh Day Baptist Information Seminar" was held on Sunday evening at the Red Cross Building. Some of those attending decided to hold weekly Bible studies. On Sabbath Day, March 5, Mr. Leonard Davis was voted into membership in the Seattle Area Seventh Day Baptist Church. Please pray for him and for the efforts to establish SDB work in the beautiful city of Medford.

MEMORIAL WINDOW DEDICATED

DAYTONA BEACH, FL.—Spring is a busy time in Daytona Beach. Our church is participating in the Commitment to Growth program. Charles and Anita Harris, Margaret Kenyon, Lucile Todd, Leon and Iris Malby, Mary Green, Bernice Davis, and Pastor and Erma Van Horn comprise our Growth Force. They meet together every Tuesday morning for Bible studies.

The dedication of the new stained glass window over the front door highlighted our annual Homecoming weekend in March. This beautiful window with its symbolic dove has been placed there in memory of the late Dr. M. Josie Rogers. Special music was provided by our choir, soloists Alan Crouch and Bernice Todd, and by the Rogers quartet, composed of Dr. Josie's nieces - Dr. Ruth Rogers, Frances Spencer, Julia Drew, and nephew - Crosby Rogers.

Pastor Van Horn and Alan Crouch led the Homecoming Sabbath worship during Sabbath School the Historical Committee presented a list of gifts to the church and the donors, which are being recorded in a special book given in memory of the late Josephine Allen. Hannah Burdick, Kenneth Kenyon, and Dr. Ruth Rogers have spent much time researching this. The Annual Church Dinner Sabbath noon and the Annual Chicken Roast Sunday noon provided time for fellowship and fun.

We rejoice that Oti Lastinger, seriously injured last summer, is at last able to come to church again. His healing and recovery are not complete yet. We are thankful for the healing and care so far and continue to pray for his complete recovery.

We feel honored to host both Planning Committee and the Ministers Conference this spring. 

Janette Crouch

PARTY HONORS "YOUTHFUL CENTENARIAN"

SHILOH, N.J.—Over 200 relatives, friends and neighbors attended the 100th birthday party held for Harry C. Lapton in Fellowship Hall of Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church. "Harry," as he is affectionately called by his Shiloh community friends, was seated in his wheelchair at the head of the table, surrounded by his immediate family. His wheelchair is a familiar sight in the community. From it, Harry works in his garden and wheels himself around Shiloh corners to visit his grandson. Always an outdoorsman, Harry dug wells, installed windmills and pumps, and spent his spare time in the woods and marshes, accompanied by one of his favorite hounds. He helped with clearing underbrush and bushes for the building of the church camp, Jervey Oaks, several years ago. He avidly enjoys music, horses, and baseball. Coming from a musical family, one of his favorite childhood memories is of his family singing together. With his brother, Arch, and sisters, Elizabeth and Beulah, he formed a quartet, singing at community and church functions. He sang in the church choir for many years.

He married Olive Randolph, who died in 1957, and has continued to live in the home property in a section added for him by his son, Charles, who was associated with him in the plumbing business. His daughter, Elizabeth, who taught at Bridgeton
services at Riverside in the summer of 1976. He united in membership and Janet read an original poem, decorated with his favorite children Laurie, Greg, Janet and Tim Bond. A male quartet, occasion of honor with a love gift, a clock. Have in domain of glory, with a promise, a man and a child. Included were: "When Jesus Comes into My Heart," "The Old Rugged Cross," and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," sung by a mixed quartet featuring Mr. and Mrs. David Hitchen, Mrs. Richard Dixon and Tim Bond. A male quartet, Allen Davis, Tim Bond, David Hitchen, and Owen Probasco, sung two of his popular favorites, "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" and "Wait till the Sun Shines, Nellie." A special feature of the evening was a vocal selection by great-grandchildren Laurie, Greg, Janet and Karen Lupton of Probasco, Owen Probasco, lives in Shiloh. Two of his popular favorites, "100 Years Young." "Pop-Pop" Probasco, joined the church. Mrs. Elsa Farina, Mrs. Jane Jernoske, and Nellie Randolph. Mrs. Elsa Farina of the Boulder church has destroyed by fire while the Saunders church competed. Richard Nusom was given to them from the Boulder church. We need a church for a season, and using the computer in which the two adult classes of the church competed. Richard Nusom leading the Lord. Since then the Lord blessed us with much interest generated in a neighborhood. The Sabbath School of the Boulder school has had many members, the only acceptable is a "Bible Reading Contest." This has been initiated and promoted by Superintendent James August. An expert computer repair. 'd invent, Jim gave the results of the contest so much to the Lord. We trust that our strength may be forever in the job, and that the Lord led me step by step up the mountain, to the challenge of joining the new church. We need mature, responsible young Christians, not kids looking for a handout. Here is a summer project with something different. Sunshine Mountain has some very special needs, and it will take some very special people to fill those needs. Maybe there's a place for you here. Give it a thought. For more information write to: Sunshine Mountain, P.O. Box 37, Chatawa, MS.

HELP WANTED!

Brighten a child's day. Try your hand at writing children's stories. Good quality short stories are needed for publication in the Sabbath Visitor for boys and girls. Target group: 9-11 years. Scriptural or moral themes preferred. Submit typed work to:

Editor
The Sabbath Visitor
Box 868
810 Whiting Avenue
Plainfield, N.J. 07081

All work subject to approval.

Pastor Gabriel Bejiani

RIVERSIDE SDB CHURCH CALLS ASSISTANT PASTOR

RIVERSIDE, CA.—Gabriel Bejiani has accepted the call to serve as assistant pastor at the Riverside S.D.B. Church. He began attending services at Riverside in the summer of 1977. He plans to attend summer institute sponsored by the COM in Plainfield, and is

LOVE AND WITNESSING TO THE EXTENT THAT I CALLED WITH THE APOSTLE PAUL, "THE LOVE OF CHRIST constraineth me"; so, I accepted the call to be assistant pastor of the church starting February 7, 1977. Now I can say from experience that the Lord led me by step by step and I can testify that we have faith. Do we know that all things work together for good to them that love God? Romans 8:28

PENS PAUL

Miss Peggy Sue Hayes 175 Westminster Danville, VA 24541 Age: 19, College student

Ralph Hays, Jr. P.O. Box 37 Chatawa, MS 36932 Age: 21, Graduate Commercial Art

COLORADO CHURCH HOLDS BIBLE READING CONTEST

BOULDER, CO.—The Sabbath School of the Boulder church has had many members, the only acceptable is a "Bible Reading Contest." This has been initiated and promoted by Superintendent James August. An expert computer repair. 'd invent, Jim gave the results of the contest so much to the Lord. We trust that our strength may be forever in the job, and that the Lord led me step by step up the mountain, to the challenge of joining the new church. We need mature, responsible young Christians, not kids looking for a handout. Here is a summer project with something different. Sunshine Mountain has some very special needs, and it will take some very special people to fill those needs. Maybe there's a place for you here. Give it a thought. For more information write to: Sunshine Mountain, P.O. Box 37, Chatawa, MS.

FARINA PARSONAGE DESTROYED BY FIRE

FARINA, ILL.—The parsonage occupied by Pastor and Mrs. Francis Saunders in Farina was completely destroyed by fire while the Saunders were away. Most all of their personal effects were also destroyed. Assistance was given to them from the Christian Social Action Committee as well as from several S.D.B. churches across the country. They would like to thank all who have helped.

An expression of heartfelt thanks is extended by Francis and Lila Saunders for all the love and concern which came from the churches and friends of our faith. Your gift to us through Christian Social Action (CSA) can be a wonderful help to us in getting resettled into a beautiful new trailer which the Farina church has purchased for a parsonage. Most of all we are aware of the love of our Heavenly Father which has come to us through each of you. We trust that our strength may be increased for more effective work for His Kingdom in the work of the Farina church. We realized that this way of saying 'thank you' is some-
DENOMINATIONAL DATING LINE

MAY 27-29
North Loup, NE—The Seventh Day Baptists of North Loup sponsored a Food and Freedom Gathering, held at the North Loup Baptist Church in North Loup, NE.

JUNE 4
Editor John D. Devis
S.D.B. Church
Salem, WV

JUNE 6
Women's Board Meeting
Denver, CO

JUNE 24-26
Southeastern Association
Bell S.D.B. Church
Salemsale, PA

NEWS NOTES

• The Committment to Growth of the Northville, Kans., church is an annual affair. Fifteen people attended a fellowship dinner followed by a fellowship meeting. The theme was "Missions by Mrs. Fred Anderson and Mrs. Bert Sheppard, long time members of the church. Each of the missionaries represented was: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Sheppard, and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Taylor.

• Seventh Day Baptists are now meeting each Sabbath in Alberquerque, N.M. The service is held at 10:30 a.m. at 2721 Genoa N.E. For further information please contact Pastor Charles Swain (505) 298-2273.

• The North Jersey church has averaged 32 as compared to 26 for the past ten years. The average age of the church is 57 years old. The church is located in Passaic, NJ.

• The Church at Passaic, NJ, has been averaging 57 as compared to 42 for the past ten years. The average age of the church is 57 years old. The church is located in Passaic, NJ.

• The New Jersey church attendance for the first quarter averaged 32 as compared to 26 for the same period last year. The church is located in Passaic, NJ.

• Dr. James E. Wood, Jr., executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, met with Dutch Seventh Day Baptists while in Holland to attend the First World Conference on Religious Liberty in March. He visited with 14 new members, average Sabbath attendance of 33 and increased giving to OWM. The current church membership is 17 and Sabbath attendance is 21.

• Larry Graffius, a ministerial student at North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, S.D., will serve the North Loup, Neb., church as summer assistant to the pastor.

Brookfield, N.Y.—This November following our worship service we conducted a special candle lighting ceremony dedicating the William Palmer family as a "Missionary Family" to the community of Blount. The two candle topics have been transferred by William's job.

The service was impromptu—a service from the hearts of the beloved brothers and sisters of the First and Second South Dakota Churches. Deacon Francis W. Palmer gave the commission to the church to carry on and Christ. An offering was taken to this new field. This was stressed by the lighting of a torch from the large candle which represented Christ's light of the world. In turn the candle given to William as head of the family was shared with the rest of the family.

Elise Croop fittingly presented the Palms with a small purse expressing the desire to help keep this light ever bright. Charles Tanney presented Grev with a following handprint plaque. 

The Week of Intercession followed by a fellowship service. Let's support them with our daily prayer.

Our Lord Jesus has been called to serve as pastor of the Los Angeles, Calif., S.D.B. Church. We pray the Lord's blessing on our work. Let's support them with our daily prayer.

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The Seventh Day Baptist Women's Society supports:

- MISSIONS (Love gifts for all mission fields and monthly expenses for Audrey Fuller)
- MINISTERS' WIVES (Tuition Fund)
- YOUTH (S.C.S.C.)
- LONE SABBATH KEEPERS (Mailings)
- PRAYER AND DEVOTIONS (Workshops)
- COMMUNICATION (Newsletter)
- COMMITMENT TO CHURCH GROWTH (Witnessing) ....and many other projects

HELP OTHERS!
BE AN O.W.M. GIVER

The Sabbath Recorder

DOLLARS – A measure of denominational faith and strength in Commitment to Growth

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OUR WORLD MISSION

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Total: $255,250* $52,676.43

MARCH SUMMARY

1977 Budget: $60,000.00
Projected for three months: $67,240.64
OWM Treasurer: $47,248.64
Boards Reported: 5,427.91
To be raised by December 31, 1977: $59,793.57
Percentage of year elapsed: 29%
Percentage of budget raised: 20.34%
Three months: Due: $60,003.77
Raised: $52,676.43

"Let's push it over the top in 1977!

*Note the difference between this total and the 1977 budget. Some extra giving will be necessary!

"Give, and it shall be given unto you—good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over." —Luke 6:38
HISTORY OF N.Y. CITY CHURCH (continued from page 23)

An anniversary celebration with a dinner and concert has been planned for April 17, in the hopes of raising funds for our church building project. With this large project before us, we find it quite helpful to contribute to most of the calls which come to us for money, but as a growing Seventh Day Baptist church, we are just unable to answer all of these calls and, at the same time, keep our light burning. The church is participating in the Committee to Growth program. We look forward to our second baptism on Sabbath, March 26, when the Light Bearers for Christ will be with us. We are asking for your help in the growth of our church. Help us by praying for God's leadership and for the support of our church. Help us by praying that God will make us His true witnesses in a city as New York.

"Pray that grace might be sent down from heaven, that grace might be sent down from heaven, that righteous man availeth nothing."

Pray for us.

BIRTHS

ASTROM.-A daughter, Megan Faith, to Daniel and Margaret (Cameron) Astrom to Capron, Va., on March 19, 1977.


FALON.-Dannie Marie, daughter of Mark and Elaine Fallton of Owatonna, Minn., on March 20, 1977.

GUYER.-A daughter, Leanne Paulsette, to Wendell and Patricia Guyer, Salemville, Pa., on December 19, 1976.


WALKER.-A daughter, Margaret Renee, to Alan and Elaine (Payne) Walker of Amas, IA, March 27, 1977.

OBITUARIES

CLARKE.—Nina Howe Clarke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Burdette Howe and widow of Carl V. Clarke, seventy-nine years of age, died at the Wellesley Nursing Home, April 12, 1977.

This woman was survived by a daughter, Caroline (Mrs. Charles Daugherty), of R.F.D. 2, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.; seven grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Her farewell services were conducted at the Wildman Funeral Home, Whitesville, New York, with her nephew, the Rev. F. Burdette Howe, officiating.

Interment was in the Independent Cemetery.

-F.R.E.

FURSEJT.—Agnes M. Emerson, daughter of Davenett and Martha Green Emerson, was born on October 16, 1882, at Utica, N.Y., and died March 26, 1977, in Memorial Community Hospital, Utica, N.Y., of some obscure disease.

She was a graduate of Edgerton High School and Madison General Hospital School of Nursing. She was a nurse at Edgerton's earlier hospitals and also a private duty nurse for some time.

She was married to Melvin C. Fursejt, March 15, 1907, at her home in Albion. They made their home on Albion Road, Route 1, Edgerton. He died Dec. 26, 1960.

Mrs. Fursejt was member of Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church and its Home Benefits Society, Albion Civic Club, Royal Daughters of America, Edgerton Senior Citizens and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 30.

Surviving are two sisters, Mrs. Edna Aultman, Malvern, and Mrs. Donald Payne of Claremont, Minn., and two nephews, Robert E. and Betty J. (Robert, daughter of Donald and Naomi Brown) Aultman, were united in marriage in the Woodbury, Pa., Church, at the Bremen on Sabbath afternoon, July 19, 1976. Rev. Raymond Boone, pastor of the First S.D.B. Church, officiated.

 скопировать
Everyone.

When the call is given to surrender to Christ, one Lord, one faith, one baptism ... so that we may no longer be tossed, tossed by the waves of unspiritual things, but that we may become one in purpose which is not fragmented by majoring in minors.


The Holy Spirit is a matter of life and death. And many of us have the SD's. Whenever minor matters occupy the attention — whenever we become so involved in unspiritual things, then the divine power is weakened, and we are not able to properly, makes body growth and uplifts itself in love. (Ephesians 4:2-5, 14-16).

The Lord gave the infant church a new commandment which was to love one another, in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. He reminds us that there is "one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one baptism". Paul also warns against being "tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the cunning of men, by their craftiness in deceitful wiles. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way unto him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every joint with which He supplies us, grows when any man isareth under grace. This is nonetheless another example of those who major in minors.

There are some today who insist that we must use the "Sacred Names" for God and Jesus. They teach it is sinful to refer to the deity in other than Hebrew terms. Many of these people have withdrawn from their various denominations to form "Yahweh" churches which are involved in a number of varying interpretations. To my mind these people, however sincere, have majored in minors. Should and want that undulating getting of the evils of anesthesiology. The author has started a new movement, not to preach Christ, but rather to reveal the necessity of the doctrine of God and that those who partake of it, whether in the dentist’s chair or on the operating table, are in danger of hellfire. No doubt this is not a major upheaval in religious thought, but it is nonetheless another example of those who major in minors.

Now the two examples I have used are extreme, nevertheless they are symptomatic of what goes on in hopefully a smaller scale among many Christians. I have observed that those who are most vocal in stressing a certain "minor" point often neglect many major ones. Many who would, for example, demand that women be required to cover their heads while in the church because it is "Scriptural," do not place the same emphasis on Scriptures passages dealing with Sabbath observance, or certainly not with the Biblical teaching of tithing perhaps we are all guilty to some degree of majoring in minors.

The Seventh Day Baptist Statement of Belief is purposed to be a concise and a clear guide rather than a guide for those beliefs that the majority of us hold. We have a unique and Biblical teaching of freedom and belief in the consideration. Freedom and belief in the consideration. Thus we allow for differences among our fellow believers on minor points of doctrine and interpretation. This works as long as we avoid pushing the other grow intolerant when others disagree with us. I feel we should stress those points on which we agree "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!" — Psalms 133:1.

The Lord gave the infant church a new commandment which was to love one another, in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. He reminds us that there is "one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one baptism". Paul also warns against being "tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the cunning of men, by their craftiness in deceitful wiles. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way unto him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every joint with which He supplies us, grows properly, makes body growth and uplifts itself in love. (Ephesians 4:2-5, 14-16).
Christ has filled us with His own Spirit, and released us to express to men everywhere the adventure of living in fellowship with Him.