the original invitation
to conference
Hopkinton, RI — 1801-02

"Beloved brethren, we having received the kind letters from various churches in our fellowship, are bound by the love of God and the law of gratitude, to give thanks to God for the common salvation he has provided for us all, and for civil and religious liberty, and for the day and means of grace and hopes of glory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

"To effect so good an end and to keep order in the house of church of God, let every member have a home, or be under the watch and care of faithful brethren, and not scattered in the wide world where no church can see them walk or discipline them, let them be careful to keep God's holy Sabbath, and join in social worship, statedly, likewise in private duties.

"It is expected that all the churches in our Communion will send letters or messengers, on both, to our next Yearly Meeting... with a statement of their literality towards defraying the charges of the missionaries. As purity of heart and morality of life constitute our chief happiness, and we all are put stewards of the manifold grace of God, let us give unto all their due. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."
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"Live as children of light"
August 1981
Volume 203, No. 8
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The Sabbath Recorder
A Seventh Day Baptist Publication

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ANNUAL CORPORATE MEETING

The annual corporate meeting of the American Sabbath Tract Society for the election of members and officers of the Board of Trustees and for transacting such other business as may properly come before the society will be held in the Board Room at the Seventh Day Baptist Building, Plainfield, N.J., Sunday, September 20, 1981, at 10:00 a.m.

NOW AVAILABLE!

The new Seventh Day Baptist Audio-Visual Catalog is now on its way to every church. Browse through it and find suggestions using a filmstrip or cassette for Bible School, Sabbath School, informal discussion groups, youth group, Bible Study group, or Lone Sabbath Keepers. For those individuals wanting their own catalog or churches wanting more copies the catalog can be ordered from the S.D.B. Publishing House, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N.J. 07061. The price per catalog is $1.50.

The Sabbath Recorder

A Prayer of Thanks
I thank you, Lord, for the stars, the moon, the sun, the objects, for without these, there is no day.

I thank you, Lord, for the green, the blue, the plants, the trees, for without these, there is no food.

I thank you, Lord, for the hills, the water, the rocks, the plants, for without these, there is no life.

I thank you, Lord, for all my friends, for without them, there is no me.

—Bernard Wright, page 11

On Friendship

A friend loves you as you are. He accepts you for yourself. Without trying to change you. You don't have to be somebody else when you're with him.

A friend looks at things through your eyes. He understands how you feel. He finds happiness in your good fortune. And is one with you in your pain.

A friend is worthy of your trust. The secrets you confide in him. Will always be kept safe.

A friend is honest with you. He may hesitate to tell you when you're wrong. But will do so in the most gentle manner.

A friend completely forgives you. He believes you when you say, "I'm sorry!"

A friend never laughs at you. But will often laugh together. Because in many ways you think alike. You may share your deepest thoughts with him.

A friend, in being himself, helps you to see yourself. A true friend is one of God's most precious gifts.
FROM JUDAISM TO CHRISTIANITY

by Bill Kanengiser

I was raised in a suburban Jewish home. Judaism never gave me any grasp of the character of God. The Bible seldom was read. Absurd rabbinical traditions, a guilt complex and a self-righteous elitism characterized my religion.

At a point of great need in my life, I began to encounter Christians. I resisted at first but soon was impressed by some young Christian medical missionaries who stressed God’s love for me the sinner and that salvation was entirely by grace through faith in Jesus. The book of Romans was often quoted to me. The Gospel really sounded like “good news” to me!

The fact that these medical missionaries took such an interest in health and stressed nutrition, exercise and proper rest seemed appealing to me. This church worshiped on the seventh-day Sabbath which is also the day of worship for the Jews so it seemed right to me.

I joined this church but soon began having problems with its teachings. While seeming to extoll the Bible as God’s word to man, it consistently looked to the church founders’ writings for doctrine. The church seemed to think it alone was God’s remnant church which denies the plain New Testament teaching that the true remnant of God is Jesus Christ and all who have been grafted into His holy history.

This denomination also puts great stress on certain obscure passages in the book of Daniel, instead of teaching that the true remnant of God is Jesus Christ and all who have been grafted into His holy history. The true body of Christ are those in every denomination who make Jesus Lord and Savior. Presently I have left my former church affiliation and have become a Seventh Day Baptist.

As Christians saved by grace alone, our standard of living is faith working through love. Holiness is a natural by-product of looking back at Calvary. The seventh day Sabbath is a public statement that I am resting in the merits, blood and power of the Lord of the Sabbath. In Matthew 11:28 Jesus shows us the true rest. He is the reality of every Old Testament ceremony or law.

Dietary considerations and Sabbath observance became testing truths while the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the simple message of God’s love for fallen man was seemingly pushed to the rear. Apocalyptic speculations from Daniel and Revelation even though from clear became great rallying cries.

I felt very distant from the mammoth hierarchy that in a Vatican-like manner ran the church while stifling freedom of thought. The church weekly paper presented it seemed to me only one side of an issue.

Eventually I noticed that the church was stripping a distinguished theologian of his teaching and preaching credentials. This started a chain of events where any minister differing from the church position was removed.

At this point I felt I needed a church where freedom of thought was encouraged. I wanted a fellowship where there is no sense of sectarian triumphalism, but rather a humble following filled with thanksgiving because of the eternal life and abundant life they possess because of the doing and dying of Jesus Christ.

The true body of Christ are those in every denomination who make Jesus Lord and Savior. Presently I have left my former church affiliation and have become a Seventh Day Baptist. I view the seventh day Sabbath just like I view water baptism. They are forms or signs. The reality is identification with the virgin birth, holy life, brutal death, glorious resurrection, and exaltation of man’s representative to God’s right hand. As the hymn aptly states “My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness.”

As Christians saved by grace alone, our standard of living is faith working through love. Holiness is a natural by-product of looking back at Calvary. The seventh day Sabbath is a public statement that I am resting in the merits, blood and power of the Lord of the Sabbath. In Matthew 11:28 Jesus shows us the true rest. He is the reality of every Old Testament ceremony or law.

As Seventh Day Baptists we preach Christ crucified. That is the main thrust of our holy calling. The gospel of grace should bring freedom in its train and lead to loving acceptance of all our brothers and sisters in Christ despite differences over lesser points. □

Bill Kanengiser is an attorney practicing in New York City. He is a new member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Plainfield, N.J.

A Message to Young People On Alcohol

Every young man and woman who is looking forward to parenthood is hoping for a healthy baby. Expectant parents should know then that some of the things they do and some of the things they don’t do can have an effect on the health of the baby.

Most of these health aspects of parenting will be discussed by the doctor during prenatal care; so it is very important for the expectant young mother to seek out competent medical care as soon as she suspects she is pregnant. However, one thing young couples should know before they plan to have a baby is that the alcoholic beverages they drink can have an effect on their baby’s health.

The Bible, in the 12th century B.C., Book of Judges (13:4), records one of the earliest warnings about drinking during pregnancy when an angel advises Samson’s mother to “drink no wine or strong drink” before conception and during her pregnancy. Although other cautions have been stated throughout history, it has only been recently that these alcohol effects were “rediscovered” and classified as the “fetal alcohol syndrome.”

What is “fetal alcohol syndrome”? Researchers have discovered that babies of women who drank heavily during pregnancy may have a “definite pattern of physical, mental and behavioral abnormalities.” Such babies were discovered to have “abnormally small heads, several facial irregularities, heart defects, and poor coordination.” They were of lower weight at birth, were shorter than average and, even with special care after birth, they did not “catch up.” Further, it has been found that most of these babies with fetal alcohol syndrome were mentally retarded and had a variety of behavioral problems, including extreme nervousness and poor attention spans.

With today’s casual attitude toward alcohol, most of us fail to recognize that alcohol is a powerful drug that can have many serious long-term effects on the baby. Recently, however, medical researchers have begun intensive studies of the effects upon the unborn baby. Scientists have not yet determined just how much alcohol, over how long a period of time, is required to cause damage to the unborn baby. However, they do know that alcohol passes through the bloodstream of the baby in the same concentration as that of the mother. So, if the mother becomes “drunk,” the fetus is equally drunk. A key point is that the fetus is a very immature being and its body systems are incapable of handling alcohol. In fact, the fetus is dependent upon the mother’s system to burn up the alcohol and pass its by-products from the body. The use of other substances such as caffeine, nicotine and other drugs can also affect the unborn baby.

Scientists at present don’t know how much, if any, alcohol is safe during pregnancy. It is clear that if the expectant mother doesn’t drink, there can be no fetal alcohol syndrome, and this seems the wisest course to follow to avoid any possible effects of alcohol on the unborn baby. Mothers who are problem drinkers or even alcoholic can lessen and, sometimes, even escape the adverse effects of alcohol on their baby by getting treatment and avoiding alcohol.

It is important to remember that the unborn baby can’t say, “No thanks, I don’t drink,” or “Thanks, but I’ve had enough.” The unborn baby is totally dependent on a caring and responsible mother to protect its health.
Believe in the Righteousness of Christ

by Dr. Desmond Ford

It has become an old joke to refer to the statement that years ago people who missed a stagecoach were prepared to relax and wait a week for the next one, whereas today some of us almost have a nervous breakdown if we miss a section in a revolving door.

Take the country from which I write—Australia. One would think that this land is sufficiently removed from Western culture to represent a more relaxed way of life. But not so. A well-known anecdote here concerns one who came from the outback to the city of Sydney, and whose first words were, "What is everyone running for?"

Yet it is not really a twentieth-century disease to which we refer. An ancient Chinese parable tells of one who promised a flock of wild geese, "If you will all be quiet, I'll tell you something which will turn you into human beings." Thereafter one was quiet and then another, but never all at once. The sage is said to have waited and waited till he grew gray and old with the passage of the days and years. Eventually all the geese were caught and eaten.

The right relationship between work and rest is a fundamental problem. Our proverbs on the matter contradict each other:

1. Labor conquers all things.
2. He who hesitates is lost.
3. Look before you leap.
4. Rest awhile that you may finish the sooner.
5. Beware of activity without achievement.
6. Step back in order to jump farther.

Physically speaking, life consists of a rhythm of work and rest on a daily and weekly scale. Even our yearly holidays are a concession to this fact. What about spirituality? Does the same principle apply? As regards our eternal salvation, do works, or the rest in faith, count the most? What is the relationship between God's part and ours in genuine Christian life?

Scripture gives us many illustrations of the issues involved. There is Martha, cumbered with much serving, and Mary, sitting in calm adoration. Even our yearly holidays are a concession to this fact. What about spiritual life? Does the same principle apply? As regards our eternal salvation, do works, or the rest in faith, count the most? What is the relationship between God's part and ours in genuine Christian life?

Scripture gives us many illustrations of the issues involved. There is Martha, cumbered with much serving, and Mary, sitting in calm adoration. Even our yearly holidays are a concession to this fact. What about spiritual life? Does the same principle apply? As regards our eternal salvation, do works, or the rest in faith, count the most? What is the relationship between God's part and ours in genuine Christian life?

One Old Testament parable tells of a man who was "busy here and there" that he lost what had been entrusted to him (1 Kings 21:40), and consequently lost his life as well. Another passage also from the Old Testament condemns those who in complete relaxation are "settled on their leases" (Jeremiah 48:11). We read of some of the Galatians who insisted that salvation had to be earned and of others (the Corinthians) who said that mere faith was enough and that behavior did not matter.

Yes, at first sight even the Bible is confusing on this issue. "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." (Philippians 2:12). "Fight the good fight." (1 Timothy 6:12).

And on the other hand: "A man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." (Romans 3:28). "Come unto me, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28).

We have already done for me through His perfect life and His death on the cross?

A changed and purified heart demands also a changed and purified life. One cannot take place without the other.
Elements of Success

Dale D. Thorngate, Executive Secretary

No one begins a new venture with the intentions of failing. On July 1, I began work as the Executive Secretary, believing that with God's help I will be successful and our denomination will grow both spiritually and numerically.

The dictionary partly defines success as "a favorable termination of a venture." I'm not already looking to end this new responsibility, but I am looking for the necessary ingredients to help us all be successful in the years to come.

There are many books being written today on how to be successful. I have also discovered that there are cassette tapes and all kinds of courses available that will tell you how to become successful in so many easy lessons. "If you just follow the instructions you can become rich and successful in the years to come.

S.D. Hiller's success is measured in money. Many easy lessons.

It is interesting how the element of timing was revealed to Moses. You remember that soon after he became a young leader in Pharaoh's household, he saw the suffering of one of his people at the hands of an Egyptian task master. Moses saw the need to do something for his people. He struck down the Egyptian and killed him. The reaction of the Israelite slave was: "Who appointed you as our ruler and judge?" We know that that was God's intention but not yet. The timing was crucial. Any venture must be approached from a perception of God's timing. Timing has two dimensions. When is the appropriate time and how long should it take. It took 40 years in the wilderness before the Israelites were ready to be a nation.

One of the biggest problems Moses had with the Israelites was commitment. They wanted to be released from their bondage to the Egyptians but once out in the wilderness it seemed like all they could do was complain. They were not committed. It wasn't until after their second 40 years in the wilderness and a whole new generation of people that commitment to the building of a new nation in Canaan was realized. Any project must have the commitment of its people both physically and financially.

When Moses was chosen by God to lead the people (Continued on page 23)

The Sabbath Recorder

LIFE-STYLE EVANGELISM

by RuthAnne Peil

I must have it easier than some women. Life-style evangelism seems to come as natural part of my day — it's built right in. I teach and supervise in a private Christian school.

Maybe I should say it has to be built in. Standing in front of 25 fifth graders is a real test of my faith some days. There are at least 25 ways to sulk and complain, and 25 excuses for not having an assignment. And I'm sure there are more than 25 ways they have learned to get on my nerves. That is not to say that teaching school is always a trial. I love it.

Decade of Discipleship

Decision to Discipleship

by Roxie Freeman

My experience with the Decision to Discipleship cell group has been very satisfying. My weekly participation in the group has caused me to grow both spiritually and emotionally closer to God. An unexpected benefit is the friendship that has developed between the cell group participants. This loving and caring relationship has helped me in my personal life.

I would recommend the Decision to Discipleship program to anyone who wants to strengthen his/her relationship with God.

The beauty of working in a Christian school is that life is placed in its proper perspective. All of my colleagues are born-again Christians and together our purpose is to change lives. We know that secular education doesn't change lives. It just makes erudite sinners. But to teach Jesus, to teach all knowledge as God's knowledge — that's an exciting proposition! God is working through history; His creation is manifest in science, and math! Math is the purest science, God's im­

perial thought. I get to talk about the Lord all day long.

Still, the place I evangelize is not in the lecture so much as in the unguarded moment. It's when I'm meeting my family and the world as just myself — wife, mama, Ruthie. It's when my toddler, John, spills his milk on my dress five minutes before we walk out the door. Then I have to ask myself if Jesus would have the urge to swat him and go yelling into the closet, frantically searching for something else to wear. It's when the fellow behind me on the freeway shakes his fist and yells an obscenity because I cut too close in the crowded traffic. The urge to snarl back at him is almost overwhelm­

ing. But a nod and a smile leave us both feeling a lot better. And I need to look more carefully the next time I change lanes.

There are so many places where others are watching to see if I'm living what I say, Was I really attentive when Carlos asked me a question? Was I on time for work today? Did I look for ways to help the teachers that I'm responsible for? And at the end of the day, was I able to greet my husband with dinner and a smile? Could I help my tired children to a happy bedtime? That's life-style evangelism. I pray the Lord will make me a more worthy vessel every day.

P.S. There's also overt evangelism. I'm trying to be prepared to share God's plan of salvation at any moment. There are five or six key verses that work like a roadmap to God's grace and forgiveness. I'm told people are dying to know.

HARD CHOICES AHEAD

As we enter this decade of the eighties, let us be bold to suggest some possible hard choices which most of us need to face.

First, we need to recognize the importance of qualitative growth which must continue alongside of any quantitative growth. We need to build a staff made up of the highest quality, gifted, God-anointed people that portion of the Body of Christ which we are building the individual strengths of business. We are in the process of being, with wisdom and creativity, in order to insure the blessing which is ours.

Second, in these "turbulent times" we must be able to be flexible without in any way losing integrity. We must be responsive to the needs of those to whom we minister and with whom we work.

This calls for a constant rethinking of what we are called to do, a continuous updating of the initial vision. Such rethinking cannot be done on a casual basis. We have to plan to think. We have to plan times of reflection and discussion. We have to resist the ever-present temptation to let the urgent crowd out the important. We have to answer the question, "What is our strategy for the future? Where do we think God is leading us? What do we think we need to do in response to that leading?"

Third, we must effectively use all of the available resources given to us, with wisdom and creativity, in order to insure the blessing of success, under God, of the ministry which is ours.

It is easier to talk about wisdom and creativity than it is to find and apply it. New ideas can be very unsettling. New ways of doing things often seem less desirable when all around us the world is changing at such a rate that we find it hard to keep up. This is part of the long range planning process. We need to build in ways to allow new ideas to come forward.

OUR FUTURE LIES IN THE FUTURE

Our work and ministry is a commitment to the future-to serve more effectively and more responsibly. As our friend, Dr. Bob Cook, president of King's College, says, "It remains for those who are willing to risk everything on God, to take hold of the opportunity, and to see it through."

The Christian organization has a plus that is unimaginable to the secular world. It is part of a worldwide network that is quietly at work to turn the world upside down. It is made up of men and women whose past is forgiven and whose future is secure. This means that we are constantly in tension between depending upon ourselves, and all the gifts that we find within ourselves, and at the same time being completely dependent upon God. This is not a comfortable tension. It has never been one. But it is one which we must consistently strive to keep in balance.

Let none of us fear "turbulent times" but believe that as never before God has His plan and pattern for us in the ministries which He has committed to us. Take heart!

The old cliche and truism remains a reality: "The future is as bright as the promises of God." □

From World Vision Leadership Letter (used by permission)

Teacher's Mini Lab

SOME DO'S FOR CREATIVE THINKING

1. Have vivid experiences (firsthand where possible, otherwise vividly describe with words and pictures) to recording processes such as drawing, telling, writing, dramatizing.
2. Let class participate in all steps of planning and work. Keep own aims and participation in the background.
3. Plan complete step, stage or process for a given period-avoid dangling ends.
4. Plan entire unit before beginning the first session.
5. Estimate costs of desired materials in advance, to allow time for substitutions when economy or other limitations require, and for ordering through the mail.
6. Make samples of any art work or craft work to be done, to familiarize yourself with the processes involved and be prepared for problems class may encounter. Practice music, choric reading, drama, etc. in advance.
7. Know the equipment available and how to use it (i.e., projector).
8. Have all necessary materials and tools ready, at hand where they can be distributed immediately as required.
9. Plan more than enough work for the allotted time; work may go faster than you anticipated.
10. Have either (a) enough materials for each child or (b) a plan for sharing. □

Classroom teaching is a rewarding experience for teachers who have the interest to develop several skills.

Classroom teaching can be a frustrating experience for a person who teaches because there is no one else to take the class.

Time and attitudes make the difference between a gifted teacher and a failure. Time is needed to develop skills.

Time is needed to prepare lessons. What better use of your time is there than to prepare to lead others to Jesus Christ and God, the Father of all?

Some skills are more easily learned than others but all are obtainable if a person really wishes to be an outstanding teacher. Begin with LOVE; all other skills will be easily developed. □

1. A TEACHER NEEDS SKILL IN SELF-UNDERSTANDING. Understands self and own feelings, accepts self and feelings, assesses one's own reasons for wanting to teach.

2. A TEACHER NEEDS SKILL IN LISTENING, ability to listen to others without evaluation or judgment, ability to hear the real problem or question.

3. A TEACHER NEEDS SKILL IN COMMUNICATION, can give information so it is understood by class, can handle conflict openly and constructively, does not insist on own ideas always being accepted.

4. A TEACHER NEEDS SKILL IN EMPATHIZING, capable of identifying with another point of view, and a sincere interest in other persons, allows other persons to be themselves.

5. A TEACHER SEEKS GROWTH POTENTIAL, is able to see potential for growth in students, see future possibilities of students as well as present abilities, can help others discover their own resources and strengths and use them.

6. A TEACHER NEEDS SKILL IN FUNCTIONING WITH GROUP AND PERSONS, can easily establish a relaxed atmosphere for learning to take place, is open, frank, and trusting. Can adjust to the unexpected or special circumstances, can assess one's timing of suggestions and questions.

7. A TEACHER NEEDS SKILL IN PLANNING FOR CLASS SESSIONS, uses an orderly planning process regularly, involves the students in planning for the group sessions, knows how to discover the students' interests, needs, and how to plan to meet these.

8. A TEACHER NEEDS SKILL IN USING A VARIETY OF LEARNING ACTIVITIES, understands how persons learn and uses many different methods to help persons learn in the group; is able to determine which learning activities are appropriate in terms of the goal for the session and student's needs and abilities.

9. A TEACHER NEEDS SKILL IN SHARING PERSONAL FAITH, has formulated and continues to formulate a personal understanding of the Christian faith, is willing to share own understanding with class yet doesn't insist that own personal viewpoint or faith be accepted by all others. Is able to use the Bible and Biblical concepts in teaching-learning to help students relate these to their own life.

10. A TEACHER NEEDS SKILL IN EVALUATION OF WORK, makes a practice of thinking through each session evaluating its effectiveness, seeks student evaluation, and uses this evaluation in making future plans.
The Fall program of my church, and my life. I am to begin his field pastor ministry of the Central Africa Conf. of SDB's and support given through the Missionary Society is channeled under its guidance.

**SEPTEMBER 1981**

**Verse for the month:** “Though I am surrounded by troubles, You will bring me safety through them ... Your power will save me. The Lord will work out His plans for my life — for Your lovingkindness, Lord, continues forever ...” Ps. 138:7, 8

**PRAY FOR:**
1. Executive Secretary Dale D. Thorngate
2. Missionaries Rodney and Camille Henry and their children
3. Pastor Herbert Sanders, Millton, WI
4. Those whom God will lead into the ministry during this year
5. Pastor Perry Cain, Columbus, OH
6. The officers of the SDB Women’s Board, Los Angeles, CA
7. Field Pastor Joel L. O. Omare and his ministry this month in Kenya
8. The Fall program of my church, and my commitment
9. Missionaries David and Betty Pearson, Blinnere, Malawi
10. Pastor Robert Babcock, Houston, TX
11. New outreach by those in the Atlantic, GA area
12. Executives on the Coordination Leadership Team
13. Christians in countries who do not enjoy the freedom we have in the US
14. Extension Pastor Bill Shoffner and the Memphis, TN, church
16. The outreach ministries in the Pacific Northwest
17. Dean J. Paul Green, Center for Ministry, Plainfield, NJ
18. The lonely and sad faces I meet today
19. Retired pastors and their spouses
20. God’s vision for me
21. My next move as worship & his relationship with the Lord
22. The Toronto, Canada, church and Pastor Joe Santini
23. Editor John D. Besl of THE SABATH RECORDER/Pastor, Paint Rock, AL
24. My relationship to my family
25. Our World Mission giving of my church have I done my part and more
26. Yearly Meeting at Rockville, RI
27. My ability to share God’s love every day
28. Extension Pastor Bill Shobe and his ministry in Atlanta, GA
29. God’s strength that comes through the Holy Spirit
30. The Salem, WV, church and its ministry

**FOCUS**

**MISSIONS TODAY**

- **KISII, KENYA:** Rev. Joel L.O. Omare is to begin his field pastor ministry of the Church of Christ (7th Day) in Kitale, Kisii. He will be aided in his work by a group of deaconesses. His appointment was made at the third annual Convention of the Church of Christ (7th Day) held at Cuautla, Mor., in April is now available for showing in local churches. The Missionary Keyworker and Pastor have been informed and booking can be done directly with the Missionary Society office.

- **MALAWI:** Africa-Missionaries David and Betty Pearson spent most of June at Makapwa Station holding special training classes for pastors and church workers. The months of July and August are time for the district Association meetings. Their Conference session is to be held in September at Makapwa.

**GENERAL CONFERENCE, Salem, WV-Brief 30 minute presentations will be given on both International and National missions during these sessions. A display will also be available to share information. Sharing and fellowship as well as inspiration and united action will highlight the week of August 2-8! We hope to see many of our readers there.

- **CAMEROON, West Africa:** Because of gifts from the German SDB brethren through the SDB World Federation, a needed amount was sent to Rev. John Mpacko to be used to register the Seventh Day Baptist work with the national government. This is a necessary step before any public meetings or witness can begin. Pray that this matter may receive early action so that the work can move forward without undue delay.

**RADIO PROGRAMS**

Fifty-two new programs are to be produced this year for radio broadcasting. Pastor Herb Saunders and Pastor Kenneth Burkitt have already agreed to write some scripts, while some others are considering the responsibility. When scripts and programming details are complete, Pastor Charles Bond has said he would be our “Radio Voice.” More details will follow as plans progress.

**My Personal Testimony**

by Margie Shackleford

I want to share with you the blessings I have received in our church and also let you know how I became a Seventh Day Baptist. I have received mercy, grace, and light from our Lord Jesus Christ. There were some positive changes that took place in my life — but for the most part I was a “Sunday School church” person. I always wanted to have a deeper relationship with the Lord but I just couldn’t seem to outgrow my Christian infancy.

One Sunday, while I am sinfully in my pew, the pastor told a story about a stock collector and how the man would take continuous shots and after removing the tough edges how beautiful they became. I pray to God, take me and polish me, take all the rough edges off and make me what you want me to be.

Suddenly after that, I was introduced to the Seventh Day Baptist Church through the booth at the fair. I picked up some literature and after reading it, I said to my husband, “Jan, I believe this is right!” After much prayer and Bible Studies with Pastor Bill Shoffner and his wife Sandy, I accepted the precious gift of the Sabbath and the belief that going with the Sabbath would come a new and exciting life in Christ.

Praying for my growth and increased faith and love, I realize now that God had great blessings for me. I whispered that prayer in that Sunday morning service. I praise God for our Memphis SDB Church that offers such a deep fellowship and sacrifice. In our church I am constantly made aware of the love and power of our Lord Jesus and the working of His Spirit.

**FOCUS**

A Prayer Reminder for Each Day!!

**DECEMBER TO DISCIPLESHIP**

Materials continue to bring blessings to groups in several of the churches in the USA. Though these were used in the first year of the DECADE OF DISCIPLESHIP, they are meant to have continuous use during the decade. If your church does not yet have DECESSION TO DISCIPLESHIP group(s) it is not too late to begin. Your Missionary Society has tri-folds and order forms for materials. Don’t miss the blessings these bring to individuals!

**SOUTH AFRICA-PASTOR N.J. Siwane reports their Conference session will be September 5, 6, 1981. This “synod” met the end of June. One of their pastors, Aaron Dymske of Ntabankulu, Transkei died after illness and Pastor Lande of Ovamboland is very ill in his home.” He concluded, “Give my Christian greetings to the church.”

**COLUMBUS, OH-Pastor Dale D. Thorngate left his ministry as a Missionary Pastor to become Executive Secretary of the Conference. Pastor Perry Cain began his ministry with the Columbus church June 1. The church is no longer a Missionary Pastor church but is assuming full support for its pastor.

PTL!

**FOCUS**

**THE PEOPLE PERSIST**

**FOCUS**
Pete Tarin: “The joy of the Sabbath must be shared with others in, if no other way, than by our Christian walk.”

Janet Thorngate: “Our liberation is complete in Christ, but the Sabbath remains, as long as we are on earth. God’s means of keeping us as we ‘keep it’ in the spirit of our Savior.”

Arthur Rowe: “Sabbath evangelism, like witness of the gospel, can be rooted only in a personal sharing of what is a significant and logical way to express harmony with one’s fellowman and Creator.”

Verne Wright: “Sabbath is sacred time set apart for the purpose of renewal and strengthening our relationship to God.”

Leon Wheeler: “The Sabbath is God’s window to eternity; it helps man to get a glimpse of the eternal God.”

Carlton Wilson: “The Sabbath rest enables one to detach themselves from their daily tasks. It gives a sense of continuation to the work of the previous six days and to life’s existence.”

Donald Stott: “The Sabbath is God’s window to eternity; it helps man to get a glimpse of the eternal God. . . . We must prepare to meet God everyday, but especially on the Sabbath, so that our walk with Christ will continue to be a walk with Him that is headed for eternity.”

Jerry Vaught: “Praise the Lord for the Sabbath!!! And thank Him too!!! He knew what we needed and He gave it to us.”
No one can escape the conclusion that 'parents of private and parochial school children pay both taxes and tuition,' to advance an odd principle of tax equity. The elderly, singles and couples without children support public services in general and don't want tax credits to evade supporting public education.

7. Beyond this, it's divisive. This sort of state support for church schools would arouse the competitive worst in the folks. They'd be rooting for tax credit advantage like an oversized brood of hungry piglets. The fellow who doesn't think Christian leaders would come to that needs to re-examine his understanding of original sin.

Senator Moynihan does not deny that the Constitutional problems exist, but with an attitude beneath the responsibility of the U. S. Senate says, 'pass the suspect legislation, let the courts decide.'

7. Next, it's expensive. Estimates vary from $4 billion to $6 billion annual costs, depending upon the exact plan passed, the extent of private and parochial school benefit. A tax credit is labeled a 'tax expenditure' and is just as much a cost to taxpayers as any other budget line item.

Odd, isn't it, that at a time of slashing federal aid to education some Senators are pushing for this sort of spending. As Senator Everett Dirksen said, 'you spend a billion here and a billion there and before long you're talking about real money.'

8. Finally, it's intrusive. Government regulations might lead to higher tuition. The fact that there is to advance an odd principle of tax equity. The elderly, singles and couples without children support public services in general and don't want tax credits to evade supporting public education.

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SERVICE HELD IN NEW CHURCH CENTER
BLOUNTVILLE, TN—May 30 was a day of celebration for the Upper East Tennessee Church. The first worship service was held in the new church center.

Much work has gone into preparing the way for this day; and we are very grateful to those who labored in the tearing down and rebuilding of roofs, walls, ceilings, etc., to those who donated much needed items, and to those throughout the denomination who supported financially. Although the official dedication of the center will take place at a later date, an expression of thankfulness was made to God for what He has provided.

The worship service, led by Pastor John Camenga, emphasized what a joy it is to know that God continues to take care of us and that through Jesus victory is assured.

Special music was provided by the Carpenter’s Tool, a newly formed group of our senior highs and young adults. Three of our graduating seniors—Yvonne Bacchiocchi of Andrews University, A. Dean Thomas and Denise Thomas—were honored during the sharing time.

Seven classrooms were ready for use for Sabbath School; some with a fresh coat of paint and new electrical fixtures and carpet. Only one classroom has yet to be finished.

Following a fellowship lunch the afternoon was spent in touring the grounds and relaxing in the beauty of the Christian Education building.

The evening program was a tribute to our Young Believers (those in grades 1 thru 6) under the leadership of Mrs. Agnes Bond. Ten YB’s participated in the presentations of their special project for this year, a tribute to “Down by the Creek Bank.”

The leaders of the YB program and all those who helped throughout the year were recognized. The highlight of the evening was when the YB’s received their butterfly emblems showing their growth. Our four sixth graders were also honored with a special butterfly pin in addition to the butterfly emblem on their banners.

Although an award will not always be given each year for an outstanding YB’s special recognition was given this year to Deanna Wright for her many contributions to the YB program.

All were invited to browse through the display of the YB’s posters, pictures and other projects done during the year.

And, as this day of celebration came to a close, bringing to mind all the blessings the Lord has given us, we think of the words to the last song in “Down by the Creek Bank” and ask the Lord “just what can I do for you?”

—Barb Wright

SEVERAL ADDED TO MILL YARD CHURCH
LONDON, ENGLAND—The Lord’s work is moving forward at the Mill Yard S.D.B. Church in London. On May 18 a year ago our Chapel was dedicated. We are thankful for the lovely facility in which to worship and expand our witness in this section of the city. On April 12 we had a service of baptism when five precious souls were baptized. At the same time a member of one of our churches in Jamaica who has moved here joined the Mill Yard Church. We celebrated the Lord’s Supper on April 18 and we plan another baptism in the very near future.

Since we began to worship in our own building the attendance has grown. We have services every Sabbath morning, and the Mill Yard Church is growing every Sunday night. Every third Sunday in the month is a special day of fasting and prayer. On Wednesday nights we have a service of prayer and Bible study in the Stroke Newington section of London.

During the recent demonstrations and disturbances in the city unkindly slogans were painted on the front of our church. Several other area buildings were defaced including a Jewish synagogue. It seems we are living in the very end when violence fills the earth even as it was in the days before the flood. God bless all our people everywhere.

—Pastor A. L. Pen

A STEP IN FAITH—NEW PARSONAGE PURCHASED
NORTONVILLE, KS—A step toward faith toward the future was taken recently by the Nortonville D.D.B. Church. At a special business meeting, the church voted to purchase the Z-yacht property immediately. The asking price for the property for some time was $42,000 but was reduced to $30,000 when the church became interested. The house is white with black shutters, wood frame construction in a beautiful condition. The house contains living and dining rooms, kitchen, three bedrooms, two baths and a garage. It has gas heat and central air with a full basement.

Why buy the property? The price was right to make it a sound investment. Also control of this property soon to close to the front door of the church is very desirable. It will make a more efficient energy parsonage, with the larger well-kept parsonage serving as the pastor’s study, church office, classrooms, small dinner meetings with overnight facilities available. Already half of the cost for this parsonage has been met with giving and pledges. The Youth Fellowship held a pizza supper with the profits going to the new property. The Lord’s Ace’s gifts have been designated toward this purchase. Stepping out in faith has been most satisfying. Everyone can pray and enjoy this.

As the church family attended services on May 30 they drove up the newly resurfaced driveway of asphalt chip seal. The resurfacing was done from the entrance east of the church to the exit on the west. Gone are all the temporary raised dangerous cement areas so much of a concern for walking, especially during icy or cold weather. The cost of the project was $1,325 and half of that amount has already been received/pledged. It has been heart-warming and gratifying to see the church family decide upon projects, seek bids, and to meet the expenses as soon as possible.

Mrs. Merlin Wheeler

OLDER AMERICANS SABBATH
ALFRED, NY—On May 23 a special worship service at the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church recognized the senior citizens of the church. Special affection was shown to those who have been long-time members of the church. Each member 65 years of age and older received a carnation. John Jacobs was honored for the 10 years membership in the church.

Mrs. Agnes Bond received a plaque as she was elected by her peers for the Outstanding Contributions Award for her dedicated years (68) of service to further the well-being of our church.

A fellowship dinner followed worship, with John Jacobs and Rev. Albert Rogers sharing some reflections from the past. Barb Snyder asked some questions that were answered in small groups by the Senior Citizens to enlighten the younger generation on how it was in the “good old days.” Cobblers la mode were then served for dessert, with Sharon Jackson and Sandy McGraw hosting the dinner.

MARRIAGES
KLEIDER HILES, — Russell Rieder, III; son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell (Elsie) Rieder of Portland, PA; and Holly Renee Hiles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Howard (Marie Marie Davis Hiles, of Bridgeport, NJ were united in marriage on May 15, 1981, at the Matthew Seventh Day Baptist Church by the pres. Rev. Donald E. Richards.

The evening was a highlight for all.

—Sripas

PACIFIC NORTHWEST SDA’S MEET AT SEATTLE
SEATTLE, WA—The second meeting of Seventh Day Baptists in the Pacific Northwest at The Seattle Church on May 9. Representatives were present from the Seattle Area, Portland Area, and Central Oregon churches and also from the Fellowships in Pacific, Spokane and Central Oregon. General Conference President, Pastor Charles H. Graffius of Los Angeles, was the guest speaker.

As a part of the evening program a sermon was given to a service of praise, led by Katherine Davis, with Maurice Poynter accompanying. Representatives from each church shared in excited developments of the Lord’s leading in church growth in the Pacific North West. It was especially gratifying to have Bill Goff and Frank Lozano from Spokane, Wa, and Mr. and Mrs. George Tuttle and their granddaughters, Tami, from Redmond, OR, with us to share about their newly organized Fellowships. Pastor Wayne Babcock’s solo, “The Longer I Serve Him the Sweeter He Grows” was a highlight for many.

A turkey dinner Kennedy sponsored by the Seattle Church, the Seattle Youth Fellowship presented a play, “Acts Chapter 16.” Evening activities were concluded with a Y F party, led by Justin Camenga; a young adult gathering at the home of Tom Brown; and a social time for “older adults” in the church basement. The next meeting was scheduled for November in Portland, Oregon.

It was decided to investigate organizational plans for SDB’s in the Pacific North West, with goals and possible incorporation. A committee with representatives from the churches was established.

—Sounding

BIRTHS
BRONER — A daughter, Kris Irene, was born on June 19, 1981, to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Broner of Dodge Center, MN.

CHURCH IN ACTION
ASHAWAY, RI—We have been very busy in Ashaway. On February 14 Sally Harrington and Tina Marsh were baptized. On Resurrection Sabbath night we had a celebration which was planned by Linda Lawton.

Our church hosted the Eastern Association May 15-17. Bill Bowyer served as President. Dr. Samuelu Bacchichiochi of Andrews University, author of FROM SABBATH TO SUNDAY and DIVINE REST FOR HUMAN RESTLESSNESS was the featured guest speaker. He presented “Experiences and Research at the Vatican University” and also “Divine Rest For Human Restlessness” and “Sunday: Holy Day or Holiday?”

Mary Clare, of the Board of Christian Education, conducted a workshop entitled: “Everyone a Teacher/Leader.” A gospel music concert was presented by Kenneth Dodson. The Executive Vice-President of the Missionary Society, Rev. Leon Lawton preached on “His Work—ours.” Music was provided by the combined choirs of the Wesley and Ashaway churches under the direction of Linda Lawton with Kathy Miller as organist.

Pastor Gordon Lawton recently completed a series of nine sermons on the 19th Conference Theme, “Growth with God.” Interested members have been meeting following the fellowship to continue prayer, asking God’s guidance for our local body.

The Light Bearers for Christ team shared their witness through word and song on June 1. Those who attended were very blessed. We are thankful that many of our members have experienced God’s healing in recent months.

—Helen Brayman

The Sabbath Recorder
August 1981
OCCIDENT MINISTRIES IN NORTONVILLE

NORTONVILLE, KS—On February 7 our worship theme was "Heaven," divided into three messages: Options for Obedience, Tests of Travel, and Facing the Future. Our service on the following Sabbath was an emphasis on the Christian Family. The sermon "Father's Failures" stressed fathers' providing leadership in their homes with their families as the top priority. During the children's time, children, parents, friends and relatives were given opportunity to pledge support of the family. Also, upon the couples came to the altar to renew marriage vows with each other.

During children's time each week preceding Easter, symbols were chosen to tell the story of Jesus—each symbol was given a symbol with scripture verse to take home as a reminder of Jesus. One symbol was hung on a cross each week.

After children's time, children up to third grade proceeded to the church basement for "Lunch With Jesus," with a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, served by Pastor Osborn and his family. We were blessed by Don's faculty observer, Mr. Steve Osborn, the music was sung with several children, young people, parents, and friends. The music, scripture and the observance of the Lord's Supper was an emphasis on the centrality of the communion, the communion of the monthly cassettes of THE SABBATH RECORDER.

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the workman like itself, but the workman makes the work like itself. So it is with the works of man. As the man is, whether believer or unbeliever, so also is his work—good if it was done in faith, wicked if it was done in unbelief.

The danger of dead words. Luther's statement, of course, was but a commentary on Romans 14:23: "Whateversoever is not of faith is sin." If we are not "in Christ," all our good deeds, as well as our bad deeds, are an abomination to God. All such "righteousnesses are as filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6). They are "dead works" (Hebrews 6:1).

The gospel is Good News, not good advice. It tells us that Christ has already redeemed the man. As the man is, whether believer or unbeliever, done in faith, wicked if it was done in unbelief. God by faith brings holiness, but heresy affirms that a self-achieved holiness can result in union with God. One writer has summed up the balance of truth as follows:

- There are two errors against which the children of God—particularly those who have just come to trust in His grace—especially need to guard. The first is that of looking to their own works, trusting to anything they can do, to bring themselves into harmony with God. He who is trying to become holy by his own works in keeping the law, is attempting an impossibility. All that man can do without Christ is polluted with selfishness. It is in Christ, through faith, that can make us holy.
- The opposite and no less dangerous error is, that belief in Christ releases men from keeping the law of God (E.G. White, Steps to Christ, pp. 59, 60).

Man's part in salvation is comparatively minute but nevertheless indispensable. While objectively, Christ is all, subjectively, faith is all, and it is a faith which every man must give. We are to prove we live by our actions. Our words, ways, and tempers should tell the same story. We should not live the torpid life of a tortoise or sloth but the energetic, vibrant life of a deer. Christians are not meant to be like insects which grow to a certain point of development and then stop. Rather, we should be like trees which ever increase in strength and influence.

God's work within. Now we can reconcile the apparently contradictory scriptures mentioned earlier. Yes, we must work out our own salvation, but the rest of the text says, "For it is God that worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure" (Philippians 2:13). We can work out only what we permit God to work in as we look to the crucified and risen Christ.

Whatever contribution men make to their own salvation is made by the grace of God. If there is in our celestial robe of righteousness but one stitch of our own making, we will be lost. If there is but one link of salvation's chain of ten thousand links that is of our own devising, we are hopelessly lost. God is both Author and Finisher of our salvation as we look to Him in adoreing faith.

The Sabbath Recorder

For further thought

1. Just how important is the righteousness of Christ to one's salvation? Can any works of ours add to what Christ has already done—through His perfect life and sacrificial death—in regard to our redemption and salvation?
2. Discuss the implications of the author's statement: "Apparently no sacrifice of our own to God is acceptable until we have accepted His sacrifice." How does this apply to man's activities for God?
3. What part, if any, do a person's works and deeds play in the salvation process? Are we saved by faith alone or by faith plus something we do?
4. What does it mean to "work from the cross, not to it"?
5. Just how important is the righteousness of Christ? Can anyone be saved without it? Were the people in the Old Testament redeemed by virtue of the animal blood shed through the sacrificial system?

August 1981
NEW YORK, May—"Despite the bad news in the world today, we have one piece of good news, and that is the authoritative Word of a good and loving God." Dr. Oswald C. J. Hoffmann, president of the United Bible Societies and world-renowned speaker of the International Lutheran Hour radio broadcast, told more than 450 guests and supporters of the Bible cause at their annual meeting recently that the American Bible Society in its belief is a growing concern with 165 years of history to prove it.

"The heart and soul of the Good Word is Jesus Christ, and He is the same yesterday, today and forever." Elaborating on the work of the American Bible Society worldwide, Hoffmann said that the highly important work of Scripture translation and distribution requires the best scholarship, the widest cooperation and the deepest commitment available on the part of churches, missions and Bible Societies throughout the world.

The Bible Society's annual report presented at the meeting revealed that a total of more than 40 million New Reader Scriptures were shared with new literates around the world during 1980. These Scriptures play a vital role in winning the world's peoples for Christ through Scripture evangelism.

Latest reports show New Reader Scripture Selections have been translated into a total of 348 languages and have been printed in 249 of these languages. Translation is proceeding in an additional 84 languages for a total of 432 languages in which work has been undertaken. Of these, 213 languages are spoken in Asia, 146 in Africa, 69 in the Americas and four in Europe.

The figures for 1980 reveal that the American Bible Society has 38,978 Volunteers nationwide, with 13,318 Church Representatives and 2,820 who maintain no Scripture Courtesy Centers.

The ABS world report showed that the United Bible Societies of which ABS is a leading partner, contributed significantly towards a total distribution of more than 440 million Bibles, New Testaments, Scripture Portions and Selections worldwide. In Africa alone, 16.6 million Scriptures were shared with the peoples of that land, with more than five million Scriptures made possible by donor gifts to the UBS world service budget of the American Bible Society. Worldwide, ABS contributed nearly 43 percent of the total number of 187.8 million Scriptures shared by members of the United Bible Societies last year.

Since 1816 nearly 3.2 billion Scriptures have been distributed worldwide by the American Bible Society. Throughout the years ABS has published and disseminated God's Word without doctrinal note or comment and without profit.0

Jews Oppose Anti-Abortion Bill on Constitutional and Moral Grounds

WASHINGTON—The American Jewish Congress urged the U.S. Senate to reject a sweeping anti-abortion bill, arguing that "the proper role of government in a free society is to allow the different religious traditions to inculcate their own beliefs about the appropriateness of abortion and to leave the final decision to the woman, answering to God and conscience."

In testimony before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Separation of Powers, Henry Siegman, executive director of the American Jewish Congress, stated that "this legislation takes sides not between a moral and a permissive approach, but between two conflicting approaches that are equally grounded in profound religious conviction and in a desire to enhance the sacredness and dignity of life."

Mr. Siegman told the panel that AJCongress also opposes the bill because "it usurps the role of the Supreme Court as the final arbiter of the Constitution" and because it is "a direct assault on the constitutional liberties of all Americans."

"We know of no Jewish organization, including those that oppose the right to freely choose an abortion and governmental funding for abortion, that believes that Congress has the power, by ordinary legislation, to overrule a decision of the United States Supreme Court (or any other court), which, interpreting the Constitution, recognizes a particular right as protected by the Constitution," he said.

Quoting from a 1943 Supreme Court decision which held that "the very purpose of the Bill of Rights was to withdraw certain subjects from the vicissitudes of political controversy, to place them beyond the reach of majorities and officials," the American Jewish Congress urged the Senate to reject a sweeping anti-abortion bill, arguing that "the latter view is unique to the American Jewish tradition that a fetus is not a person prior to birth, that abortion is not uniform, Mr. Siegman explained, because 'classical Jewish sources on the subject permit a wide range of opinion.'"

"There is, however, a consensus in Jewish tradition that a fetus is not a person prior to birth, and that abortion is not a capital offense, he said. "A distinction must be made between the view that the termination of potential life for less than serious reasons is morally objectionable, and the view that the fetus is a human life."

"The latter view is unique to the Catholic Church—and surely commands respect—but it is a view that is not shared by Jewish religious tradition or by other major religious traditions," Mr. Siegman said.

The legislation under consideration represents "not merely a clash of ideology but a fundamentally divergent approach to the most basic of human and religious values," he continued.

(Continued on page 17)

The ministry of disciple building is a critical aspect of God’s plan for growing churches and establishing His kingdom on earth. Unfortunately, this part of the church’s work has been practically nones- tent for centuries, and unless it is recovered and put into practice, Carl Wilson predicts devastating effects upon the church, especially with regard to its impact upon today’s culture, value systems and world view. Wilson points out that the foundation of the American society’s educational and philosophical systems was establish- ed by Protestant Evangelicalism during the eighteenth and nine- teenth centuries. But the eroding tide of secular humanism has invaded every facet of our culture, evidenced in the scores of educational institutions, once church af- filiated, having undergone the trans- formation to secular schools, liberal state and federal court systems and “progressive” legislation in recent years. Today’s church trembles before the Goliath of this onslaught of humanism.

The way that this trend can be stemmed or possibly reversed is through the rediscovery of training Christians to live a lifestyle of discipleship. Evangelism is not enough! Follow-up and membership classes only scratch the surface. The need is for long-term training using the method used by Jesus in His earthly ministry.

“When a close relationship is ac- companied by personal teaching and application,” says the author, “strong disciples who can multiply themselves by teaching others will be the result.” Effective disciple building occurs in small groups. Patterning after Jesus’ selection of the Twelve, the pairing of the Seven- ty for ministry and the inner group within the disciples, Wilson has found that groups of two to four, a group of about twelve and a larger group of learners is a good framework for growth.

Wilson asserts, “This principle of finding the interested and spending time building an intimate associa- tion with them is the key to Jesus’ approach.” The major scope of The School of Disciple Building is a syn- thesis of the Gospels into a systematic plan for discipleship as modeled by Jesus. Basing his study upon a harmony of the gospels, Wilson identifies seven stages in Jesus’ earthly ministry which serve as the structure for the plan: 1. Repentance and Faith, 2. Enlighten- ment and Guidance, 3. Ministry Training and Appreciation of Benefits, 4. Leadership Development and Government Under God, 5. Reevaluation and Separation, 6. Participation and Delegation, 7. The Rejected Life and Worldwide Challenge.

These stages are both cumulative and progressive, each building upon the teaching, experiences and in- volvement of the prior step, and calling the disciple to a deeper level of commitment, leadership and obedience.

The last part of the book is a discussion of some basic principles of disciple building to be used with each of the seven steps: Association for Communication, Fellowship for Discipleship, Involvement for Disciple Building, Motivation, Evangelism, Discipleship, Prayer, Application of Truth To Obtain Guidance and A Call to Strategy and Dedication.

According to the author, “History shows the importance of small groups for fellowship. Historically any revitalization of the church has taken place with a reassertion of sharing in small groups has been rediscovered.”

Carl W. Wilson is president of the Worldwide Discipleship Association, Inc., and has trained and taught disciple building principles for over twenty years with this organization, in the pastorate and with Campus Crusade for Christ. He has a Th.M. from Fuller Theological Seminary and has authored several other books and articles.

—Reviewed by Rev. Larry Grafston

A TRIBUTE TO DR. HURLEY

EDITORIAL

In September of 1975, Dr. K.D. Hurley became Executive Secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference. He came to the position after serv- ing for many years with distinction as President of Salem College in West Virginia. While at Salem College Dr. Hurley provided creative leadership and had the vision for the “Valley of Learning” which resulted in a new campus for the institution.

Dr. Hurley brought with him to the office of Executive Secretary a vision of a denominational movement forward in faith, led by the Spirit of the Lord. During his tenure many issues occupied our attention including church growth and reorganization. I believe it is safe to say that in the last few years we as a people have realized that we have much to share and that we can grow spiritually as well as numerically in the Lord. We have seen an attitude change on the part of many—and we are witnessing growth.

It is reported that President Harry S. Truman had a motto on his desk which read, “The buck stops here.” No doubt this is true in many situations with the office of Executive Secretary. Problems must be faced, decisions must be made and someone ultimately must be responsible. Through it all Dr. Hurley has sought to be fair, to bring unity and to exemplify Christian charity.

Personally, I have appreciated the opportunity of working with Dr. Hurley both at Salem College and in denominational work. He has given this editor much support and encouragement. He knows well the work of the editor, having served as editor of the SABBATH RECORDER 1945-47. During the past few years he has contributed much to our denominational journal. He has written a monthly page sharing his views on the issues facing us as a people and recently shared, “We have a burning desire to involve everyone to know the love and joy we experience in serving Christ.” That’s what it’s all about!

K.D. and Shireen will soon be returning to the beautiful hills of West Virginia where they are building a retirement home near Salem. We would express the gratitude of all our people I am sure, and the appreciation of working with Dr. Hurley and wish him and Shireen many happy years of continued service to others and to their Lord.

THAT'S THE NEWS AND BAD

The good news is that the five million people of Cambodia were saved from famine, disease and economic prostration which in the Fall of 1979 threatened their very survival. Many people—including movie stars, religious leaders and Mrs. Roslyn Carter—highlighted their situation. Americans of all walks of life joined in the effort to help the people once their plight was really known. An international relief effort contributed more than $800 million in aid—$500 million from western countries through the United Nations, $200 million from the Soviet bloc and $100 million through private organizations in the west.

So many times we only heard the bad news and not the good. The good news is that the plight of the Cambodian people struck a responsive chord and there was a response that resulted in the salvation of a nation.

All news regarding refugees is not so good. There is a crisis in Africa today where one out of every 75 is a refugee because of famine and/or war. To get this better into perspective, Kenneth F. Hackett of the World Relief Survey says, “If the same proportion were true in the United States, we would have received 3 million ‘boat people’ from Cuba instead of the 130,000 who in 1980 drew so much attention and protest.”

Almost every part of Africa has political refugees it

(Continued on page 23)

THAT'S THE NEWS AND BAD

The Sabbath Recorder

August 1981
This is what love is: it is not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the means by which our sins are forgiven. - 1 John 4:10.

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. - John 3:16.

Because of his love, God had already decided that through Jesus Christ he would make us his sons — this was his pleasure and purpose. Let us praise God for his glorious grace, for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son! For by the death of Christ we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the grace of God, which he gave to us in such a large measure. - Ephesians 1:5-8.

This love I speak of means that we must live in obedience to God’s commands. The command, as you have heard from the beginning, is that you must all live in love. - 2 John 6.