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
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FEATURES

September 1981
Volume 203, No.
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The General Conference Bylaws were changed to read: “The name of this corporation shall be the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, USA and Canada.”

Related to this amendment was the recognition of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, as a member of the Conference.

Conference Statement on Abortion: “We believe that human life begins at conception and is precious and sacred. The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference deplores and strongly disapproves our society’s gross disregard for the sanctity of human life as reflected in current statistics on abortion and in today’s virtually unrestricted policy of abortion on demand.”

“The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference recommends that individuals and churches promote legislation and public policies that would reverse this alarming trend, as well as policies that would discourage the immorality, ignorance, and lack of restraint that produce problem Continud...
pregnancies.

"We believe that it is our responsibil­ity as churches, and as individual Seventh Day Baptists, to set an example to our society by living according to, and teaching, Biblical standards of morality, responsibility, and respect for human life."

A roll call vote of the churches was conducted on this statement and the statement passed with the following vote: Yes - 343, No - 215; Abstain - 42; No Response - 31.

The new members elected to the General Council are K. D. Hurley, President-Elect, of Salem, WV, and Mrs. Garth (Mayola) Warner of Verona, NY.

Seventh Day Baptists are now making plans for the 170th Annual Session which will meet August 8-14, 1982 at the University of Redlands, Redlands, California.

Special recognition was given to several: Dr. Melvin Nida for his years of service on the Council on Ministry; Rev. Herbert E. Saunders for his service as Dean of the Center on Ministry; Rev. and Mrs. Francis Saunders for their service to the Southeastern Association; Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Battle of Parkersburg, WV, for attendance at their 51st consecutive General Conference; Karl Stillman for his years of service to the Missionary Society; Mrs. Lloyd (Oma) Seager, the Women's Society Robe of Achievement; the ladies of the German SDB Church in Irvington, NJ, for their service to others; and the Washington, DC church for the greatest percentage growth during the past year—26%.

Both of the United State Senators of West Virginia were present for speeches before the Conference. Senator Jennings Randolph, a Seventh Day Baptist, spoke words of greeting on Sunday evening and later returned to attend the ecumenical dinner. Senator Robert Byrd, a Missionary Baptist, spoke on Friday afternoon.

Conference President Dorothy Parrott of Battle Creek, MI spoke to the Conference on the night after the Sabbath. The theme for the year 1981-82 will be "The Ministry of Reconciliation."

The Light Bearers for Christ will become an affiliate of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society. This announcement was made at Conference. The Missionary Society will give guidance to the musical ministry through a committee working with the Home Missions and Evangelism committee.

On Sabbath at Conference it was announced that the Sabbath School Missions Offering was $562,156. The amount given to Our World Mission was $26,694.19 with some churches still to report. Also the fund for the new Seventh Day Baptist International Center in Janesville, WI, was reported to have $32,000 in cash and pledges at the end of Conference week.

FUTURE CONFERENCE SITES

1982—University of Redlands, Redlands, CA August 8-14, 1982
1983—Allegheny/Central New York
1984—Southwestern
1985—Eastern
1986—North Central
1987—Mid-Continent
1988—Southeastern

This rotation may be revised by special invitation from churches and/or associations.

THE NEW PRESIDENT SHARES

BY DOROTHY PARROTT

LET US BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Lord, what a change within us one short hour
Spent in Thy presence will prevail to make!
What heavy burdens from our bosoms take,
What parched grounds refresh as with a shower!
We kneel, and all around us seems to lower;
We rise, and all the distance and the near,
Stands forth in sunny outline brave and clear;
We, kneel, how weak! we rise, how full of power!
Why, therefore, should we do ourselves this wrong?
Or others, that we are not always strong.
That we are ever overcome with care,
That we should ever weep or heartless be,
Anxious or troubled, when with us in prayer,
And joy and strength and courage are with Thee!

—Richard Trench

The richer blessing, however, comes in the beautiful worship experiences and the fellowship of brothers and sisters who love the Lord and who feel that Sabbath observance is very much a part of our delight in knowing Him. Every year I return home wishing that those who could not come could have shared.

Even though we can't all attend Conference we should remember that every member of every Seventh Day Baptist Church is a part of the team. In our covenants we pledge our love for and our support for the Kingdom of God.

In the coming year our study and our emphasis will be reconciliation (reunited) with God. We will consider:

1. Deepening our own relationship with Him.
2. Our ministry to others through:
   a. Ministry to their physical needs.
   b. Telling them the message of salvation.
   c. Deepening our own relationship with Him.
3. Our ministry to others through:
   a. Ministry to their physical needs.
   b. Telling them the message of salvation.

Remember— "He hath given you the Ministry of reconciliation."

II Cor. 5:18b NIV

September 1981
GROW WITH GOD
TO GENERAL CONFERENCE, AUGUST 1981
BY K.D. HURLEY

STRENGTH IN THE FAITH

"Since you have accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, live in union with him. Keep your roots deep in him, build your lives on him, and become strong in your faith."

1 Colossians 2:6-7 (TEV)

As I come to the end of another specific term of full-time service to the denomination my report inevitably takes on quite personal characteristics.

First I must testify that the past six years have been a time for strengthening my personal faith, thanks to the influence of strong and exemplary colleagues. One of the great joys of serving as Executive and Corresponding Secretary is to work with so many wonderfully dedicated people representing the various boards and agencies, churches and associations.

Second, my wife, Shireen, and I are very mindful of the loving acceptance which has been demonstrated by Christian friends throughout the country and around the world. Our lives have been enriched – and we are very grateful! As we move to a new home in a new location which will serve as a new base for service, we go not only with a sense of fulfillment but with a renewed confidence in the future.

Even the sometimes mundane, routine "chores" of office take on a special dimension of encouragement as I review the activities of the past year – and years. A "strengthening of the faith" has occurred for Seventh Day Baptists individually and collectively.

Corresponding Secretary

Throughout this Conference year, as always, a considerable volume of correspondence has been handled, including letters written in compliance with actions taken at the 1980 General Conference Session hosted in Denver, Colorado: responses to greetings received from missionaries, from other Seventh Day Baptist Conferences from leaders of other denominations, from a host of individuals and organizations and from the American Bible Society. Also, letters of appreciation were directed to the Denver Church for its special hospitality extended to the General Council members during the pre-Conference meeting as well as to all who attended General Conference; to the Host Committee through its chairmen; to the personnel of Loretto Heights College, where Conference was held, through its president; and to others who supplied equipment, rendered special services, or provided leadership for Interest Committees, associated and pre-Conferences, and all who handled the myriad details in running a successful Conference.

The Sabbath Recorder

Christian greetings were extended to Seventh Day Baptist Conferences and Churches overseas. Messages were sent to our retired ministers and their wives, widows of former ministers and denominational workers, and to our retired and former missionaries. Those who could not attend Conference were sent copies of the 1980 HIGHLIGHTS. Boards and agencies were made aware of Conference actions related to their respective areas of endeavor. Elected officers and committee chairpersons were notified and asked to contact all members and activate their committees.

Seven hundred and fifty copies of the 1980 YEARBOOK, capably edited by Ethel Dickinson, were published and distributed as soon as available in May in response to orders received from churches and individuals; to executives of other Baptist denominations; and to a number of libraries, including the Library of Congress, and to seminaries where Seventh Day Baptist students are enrolled.

The regular flow of correspondence has been heavy week by week. But it is gratifying to note that an increasing number of inquiries about Seventh Day Baptists are coming from individuals of diverse backgrounds and from widespread places in the United States as well as other countries. In some cases, those who are already Sabbath-keepers are searching for new church homes more commensurate with their convictions and beliefs. Several have asked for membership— in absence — in our churches. A good many, with no current church affiliation of any kind, are seeking information on how to start churches in their areas. In one case, at least, a whole church has turned from Sunday-keeping to Sabbath-keeping.

The growth trend is exciting. It provides an encouraging dimension to our Decade of Discipleship activities and the goal to double in the decade. But a couple of imperatives become evident:

1. To expand our promotional efforts through radio broadcasts, newspaper articles, and advertising in national magazines; and, as soon as possible, to start the use of TV in major ways to publicize the important services we have to offer.

2. To initiate new procedures in "church planting" and to provide greater assistance for people who are questioning to know and do God's will in matters of church affiliation.

We need to capitalize on our new potential for service in Christ's name and for His sake.

Executive Secretary

Now, as I put on my Executive Secretary's hat for a moment, let me emphasize again my sense of excitement about the future for our denomination.

September 1981

My article in the January Sabbath Recorder suggested that with the new year our denomination was taking on a new look – in attitudes and activities related to growth. I quoted Michael Harper's observation, from his book Let My People Grow, that "if something is growing, it's alive... There are some other evidences of life, but growth is the most important and reliable one.

Seventh Day Baptists are alive and growing. Praise the Lord!

In June, under the heading of "On the Right Road," my Recorder article traced the development since the "cross-roads" decision we made a number of years ago to follow the pathway of discipleship. I expressed the confident belief that "we are now on the way to a new destination of achievement for Christ, determined not to turn off the main highway or make an unnecessary 'rest stop,' no matter how attractive and comfortable the 'worldly roadside plazas' may appear."

Last month my published statement reviewed, with satisfaction, the truly cooperative strategy that is evolving out of the work of the General Council. I summarized the accomplishments of the past several years and outlined the thoughtfully and prayerfully conceived recommendations now being made to this Conference. I concluded, with sincere optimism, that the representative concept of planning and coordinating through the General Council is working; that it provides another reason for enthusiasm as we face the challenges of the future;

and that God has been strengthening us while He has stretched us.

My Sabbath Recorder statements, in their entirety, are really a part of my report. Their contents are in my mind as I make the following observations:

A. There is a new surge of energy developing among Seventh Day Baptists. Commitment to Growth and Decision to Discipleship have both contributed to the inauguration of a decade in which we are determined to double in church membership and spiritual effectiveness. Seventh Day Baptist identify with other Baptists when it is said:

"Baptists are not content just to celebrate history. They are making history for the Kingdom of God — and doing so because their dreams are inspired by the mercies of God."

My confidence, as well as my primary personal reservation, is expressed in a letter which recently came to my desk from a fellow Seventh Day Baptist: "I feel more strongly than ever," the respondent said, "that the historic SDB Church has the message for the world today, but that we contemporary Seventh Day Baptists may lack the commitment and..." (Continued on page 28)
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT

The General Council meeting in Salem, West Virginia, July 28-31, 1981, has reviewed reports, programs, and the united budget proposal to be presented to the General Conference meeting at Salem College, August 2-4, 1981. In our commitment to the work of the Kingdom of God we feel God is blessing us as we continue to grow with Him. We are seeing evidences of growth, not only in increased numbers and new churches but also in a dramatic growth in our perception of how to be more effective disciples and in our commitment to be obedient to His will.

In this year, the second in the Decade of Discipleship, we can see the advantages of the efforts and programs of the entire Conference being coordinated by the Coordinating Leadership Team (CLT). The Executive Secretary of the General Conference and the executive (or other representative) of each board meet once a month to plan how, through cooperative effort, they can best meet the needs of the churches in the denomination. By making use of their suggested programs and by alerting the boards and agencies of our needs and concerns through the CLT we will be better equipped to fulfill our role in the ministry God has for Seventh Day Baptists.

May the Holy Spirit fill us with a burning desire and a determination to be responsible, effective witnesses to our love for our Lord.

Dr. K. Duane Hurley

General Council expresses its appreciation for the capable service of K. Duane Hurley as he has worked for his Lord and for the Seventh Day Baptist denomination as Executive Secretary the past six years (1975-1981). His ministry, carried out with dedication and commitment to the glory of God, has been a blessing to us. This has been a period of many suggested changes in our denominational structure, some of which were implemented. His expertise, patience, and zeal in doing the Lord's work has been of inestimable value as he has served us in this capacity.

We offer our heartfelt thanks for a job that has been done extremely well. We pray that he will find satisfaction and joy as he continues to serve his Lord in his retirement.
Albyn Mackintosh (1909-1981)

Albyn Mackintosh was a respected man, both in his chosen profession as an engineer and teacher and as a Christian. He was a man who knew his subject, whether concrete masonry or the Bible, both of which he taught around the world.

Albyn Mackintosh was unfailingly with his time and talents, sharing the special knowledge he had with others and serving both his church and his denomination. He served Seventh Day Baptists as a member of the Commission and, in his last days, as chairman of the Committee on Faith and Order. Two projects in which Albyn Mackintosh was actively involved were assisting in the building of churches and the development of the booklet Seventh Day Baptist Distinctives.

Albyn Mackintosh was a confident man, whose faith could be summed up in the scripture, “I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.” (II Tim. 1:12) Let us all praise God and thank Him for the life and testimony of Albyn Mackintosh.

Philadelphia Project

General Council notes with favor the initiation of the Philadelphia Project to establish a new church in that area. A committee of representatives from the New Jersey churches in cooperation with the Missionary Society has been active in this work. Janet Thorngate serves as chairman of this committee. The first public meeting was held May 23, 1981. It has been decided that for the time being the meetings will be Bible Studies in the home of Greg and Janis Holloway rather than more formal public services.

The Sabbath Recorder

The General Council recommended to the American Sabbath Tract Society that a pilot project be undertaken in 1982 to distribute The Sabbath Recorder free to each Seventh Day Baptist family, and that voluntary contributions be encouraged to cover the cost of printing and distribution. We commend the American Sabbath Tract Society for implementing this project at their meeting, July 19, 1981.

Yearbook

The General Council recommended that the General Conference office and the American Sabbath Tract Society implement a pilot project to demonstrate the feasibility of publishing the Seventh Day Baptist Yearbook in looseleaf form. We commend the American Sabbath Tract Society for their action, July 19, 1981, voting to implement this proposal.

Conference reports of boards and agencies are being published in looseleaf form to be distributed to Conference delegates and to be placed in three-ring notebooks to be made available to delegates. The innovative and creative way of having Conference materials and Yearbook information in this ringed binder is a positive way of cutting costs and improving our stewardship. We encourage all delegates to use and maintain this useful tool.

1982 Budget

In considering budgets in these times of severe inflation it is a temptation to look at an increased budget in terms of the difficult time we have had in raising the budget in the past and feel less than optimistic. There is another way of looking at budgets, however. The Lord has work for Seventh Day Baptists to do. Not only must we tell the message of salvation, but it is our responsibility and privilege to witness to our belief that God has commanded us to keep His Holy Day. The Conference has been challenged these past few years by Commitment to Growth and Decision to Discipleship. There is a new excitement throughout our churches as we continue to build on the work already accomplished over the past 300 years. We need only to read Acts and the letters to the New Testament churches to realize that Christ’s church has always known what it is to have “growing pains.”

New ways of accomplishing our goals in doing the Lord’s work require an adjustment in our thinking. The need for qualified, gifted leaders mandates that they be adequately compensated, reminding us that “the workman is worthy of his hire.”

The commission was to make disciples by going, preaching, teaching and baptizing. He promised that He would not give us a task too difficult to do, but He did not promise it would always be easy. Let us go forward, confident in His strength, believing we can support financially those programs proposed by the committees and boards we have chosen to lead us in accomplishing our ministry in the work of the Kingdom.

The Sabbath Recorder

September 1981

CONVICTIONS ABOUT WHAT THE ENEMY IS DOING

BY REV. S. KENNETH DAVIS

BATTLE CREEK, MI

BIBLE STUDY ON II TIMOTHY 3:1-4

We are about to look at one of the most terrible and depressing pictures in Scripture about what a society ruled by Satan without God is like, with all the miserable characteristics of Satanic influence set out in a ghastly negative series. In fact, in the Greek all but one of the immoralities listed is expressed with a negative prefix. The only thing positive that could be said about the passage is that it is positively negative. I can envision people in Paul’s day saying the world could NEVER come to that! But I expect the average remark today would simply be: “It sounds like Paul has been watching too much television” or “So that’s where they get the plots for Soap and Dallas.”

How is that for a catalog of sins? Does it or does it not sound like a good night on TV?

Increasingly we hear references to “the last days” mentioned in Scripture. What, actually, did Paul mean when he was talking about these things happening in the last days? The early church inherited from Judaism the concept of dividing time into THIS PRESENT AGE and the AGE TO COME. This present age was conceived of as being evil, whereas the age... Continued...
come would be one in which God's perfect reign would take place. And in between the two there would be the awful "day of the Lord," a day when God would personally intervene cataclysmically and shatter the world in order to remake it. And that "day of the Lord" would be preceded by a horrible time of terror when all of the enemies of evil power would be pit-
ted against God in one final assault, and the earth would be shaken—morally with all kinds of corruption, and physically with violent storms, earthquakes, fires, etc.

While the New Testament writers thought in terms of this occurring at the end of the pre-
ent age, they also envisioned that they were entering that age. So the author of Hebrews speaks of "these last days" and here in II Timothy 3, when we get down to the sixth verse, we notice that it changes from FUTURE tense to PRESENT tense. It is also inter-
esting to note that, while Paul speaks here in the future tense, this catalog is very similar to one in his letter to the Romans that is in the present tense.

So it may be concluded, first of all, that at least the seeds of all these sins were already present
in the time of Paul, and, secondly, that the New Testament writers believed themselves to be living at least on the edge of the last days, expecting the immin-
ent return of Christ. It is in-
teresting to note, too, that many times in the intervening cen-
turies the church has decreed its current generation for being gui-
ly of this list of sins.

Excuses For Sin

If they were living in the last days then, we are more so, both in chronology and in the degree, intensity and frequency of viola-
tions under the categories in our Scriptural catalog of sins. And of possibly greater significance is the way Satan allows us in our age to justify the sins. Here is a check list of excuses for the sins listed in II Timothy 3:1-4. Check yourself on the ones you use and give Satan ten points for each one.

"It's not doing anybody any harm and I like it."  
"Aw, the insurance company has lots of money. It's not as if I were stealing it."  
"But you don't know my parents. They're impossible!"  
"I'm not as bad as other peo-
pes."  
"Everybody's doing it."  

"I'm only doing it for his own good, to teach him a thing or two."  
"Hey, the Lord helps those who help themselves."  
"If I don't look out for numero uno, who's going to?"  
"We're two consenting adults. It's nobody else's business."  
"Oh, just watching that stuff can't hurt you."  

All these convenient excuses (and usually all they are is ex-
cuses) were manufactured in the devil's workshop. How did you grade him? He does good work, doesn't he?

And, finally, Satan has man-
aged to get a hold on intellec-
tualism and twist it around. Many of the schools and univer-
sities started by Christians to train men for the ministry, have now taken an unspoken but no less official stance against religious faith. It is sophisticated and intellectual to embrace the godless psychology of Freud and the godless science of Darwin. And anti-Biblical education is poisoning and leavening the whole lump. So with a denial of the basis for traditional stand-
ards of morality, everything is reduced to situation ethics with a great deal more attention to the situation than to ethics. With no
faith, there is no purpose or meaning in life. Without a value system or meaning the whole world becomes mad, absurd, stupid. And what is left is evil, then, except artificial "highs" created by stimulants alluded to in Paul's list of sins.

Perilous or Troublesome Times

The King James version calls these last times "perilous." That word is also translated variously "hard times," "troublesome times," "times of stress" and "dangerous times." Perhaps the most common translation is "dif-
ficult times" which most often is the sense in which the word is used, but the Greek word has some deeper connotations by its usage in some other instances. When Jesus met the demoniacs among the tombs that word was used to describe them, meaning that they were vicious and dangerous. Plutarch uses that word to describe an ugly, fester-
ing wound. And astrologers used it to describe the conditions when heavenly bodies came in conjunction with each other portending of unusuaI.physical and psychical disturbances on earth.

Paul puts his pen on the basic cause of it right from the
start—the basic sin of all sins, "lovers of their own selves." This is another fascinating tactic of Satan. He takes everything that is good and turns it into evil. When God completed His world, He looked at it and saw that everything was good—people, food, companionship, sex, wine. You name it, it was good. But that was before Satan and Adam got together and corrupted it.

And so it is with "lovers of self.

There is a self-love which is a very natural and very useful, in-deed, an essential principle. Preservation of the species demands it. "No man ever hated his own flesh." Without healthy self-love a person would neither preserve nor improve himself. It is our love of self that is the criterion for loving our neighbor. Love of neighbor is predicated on healthy self-love. The more we love ourselves, the more our light shines out to those who need to be loved, just as the brighter the sun shines, the more warmth and light it gives. Only a person with a good feeling about himself is free to stoop down to help. A person without a healthy self-image would be afraid of degrading himself by stooping in order to lift another. There is a good self-love.

But that same self-love, when it becomes self-centered is the funda-
mental basic sin. Adam sinned because he wanted to advance himself more than he wanted to be obedient. And "self" has reigned in the heart of every human being since born into the world. By nature we are self-centered. If you have trouble with that thought, look at any baby whose will is thwarted at that point that he discovers that his will is not law. In laboratory tests it has been shown that rats will overcome almost any obstacle just to have their pleasure centers electrically stimulated. Personal gratification is a consuming passion, the sum-
mum bonom. Satan has found the big "I" and knows how vulnerable that big "I" is.

Love of Self

Short of being born, again, receiving a new nature and the Ho-
ly Spirit, and by the power of the Spirit putting Christ on the throne of one's life, Satan has a field day with self-love in an individual.

All of these other sins are derivatives of self-love. Notice that the list ends where it began and clarifies the point at which self-
love goes wrong. The last clause in verse four says, "Lovers of self..."
more than lovers of God.” They place their own wishes at the very center of their lives and “no man can serve two masters.” In essence, rebellion against parents can be brought against the parents for fulfilling their God-given role.

Time does not permit an in-depth look at each of the sins. It is worth noting that all of them are in greater evidence today than ever before. The message is: watch out for them, don’t let them sneak up on you unaware, don’t be discouraged by them or the times, be prepared.

In the final analysis, sick love of self is not nearly so dangerous to the victims of ill treatment as it is to the person who has it, the self-lover himself, for he is building a trap for himself from which some day he will not be able to extricate himself.

Back home we have a sparrow trap in our back yard. The county Health Department is monitoring the spread of disease by testing the blood of sparrows which are also susceptible to the same disease. It is interesting to watch the sparrows. I have suggested that we ought to award them pins when the same sparrow has given a total of one CC of blood. One reason we do not do that is that the sparrow is not really volunteers for the program. The way they end up in the trap is that the way into it is paved with cracked corn. And the sparrow is so intent on filling his stomach that he does not even notice that the wire mesh he is going through is so narrow that, once inside, he is not going to be able to figure out how to get back. He just pecks and runs right in without thinking. The Apostle Paul warned us of these sins so we would see that Satan was trying to ensnare us and knowing that we would studiously make a point of staying out of the cage—not even getting close. It is either wrong thinking or not thinking that en- traps us.

I would like to suggest two positive approaches we can take to keep from being lured by the enemy. First, we need to accept, fix our minds on and never forget to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, knowing that there can be no such thing as true happiness and peace and joy and fullness of life apart from love of God with all our heart, mind and strength. The second half of the Great Commandment is love of our neighbor.

Second, never forget that man is made for eternity, and not just for this life. No happiness can be true or solid that is not as permanent as we are. Anything that does not consider the future is an unworthy aim. [This Bible study was presented on Tuesday at Conference in Salem, WV]

FOUR KEYS FOR CHURCH GROWTH
(Continued from page 20)

Times in our personal spiritual lives and in our spiritual life as a church. The results were obvious to the early church as they saw the miracles of God performed, as they were moved to take care of one another and to witness to the non-believers on a daily basis. And God was faithful in adding to their numbers daily. I believe God wants to add to our numbers daily too.

What Is Our Vision?
Is this not the vision for Seventh Day Baptists? God calls us to a unique work. We are to take the good news of his love to new people. In cities and towns across our land they are calling “Come and help us.”

Where I come from in Ohio, besides a new church in Columbus there is new outreach in the Mt. Vernon area. The church is working with a young Adventist friend to bring God’s message of salvation by grace to new people.

In the southeast new groups are springing up. In Eastern Tennessee and in the Carolinas under the leadership of Pastor John Camenga. In Atlanta where the fellowship has called Pastor Bill Shobe to help them build a new church. In western Tennessee where the Lord is building a dynamic, exciting church under the leadership of Pastor Bill Shoffner. Early this spring after a visit by our Conference President, an active church in Arlington, Tennessee, that had already accepted the Sabbath truth became aware that there were other Sabbathkeeping baptists and asked for membership in our General Conference.

On the Pacific coast the Lord has given his vision for new groups in San Diego, California; Pacific and Spokane, Washington; and in western Oregon. In Wisconsin the Milton church has placed an experienced pastor on the field — his sole responsibility to make new contacts and nurture new small groups.

These people of God across our nation have caught the vision for a dynamic and growing faith: a belief in God’s promise of freedom, peace of mind, and a wholeness in relationship to Him through his son Jesus Christ. That is our purpose as Christians. That [Continued on page 19]
JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN TO BE NEW SITE FOR DENOMINATIONAL CENTER

During the last year the General Council requested that churches send, for evaluation, their suggestions for sites for relocation of the Plainfield offices of the denomination. This move would affect only the offices and activities currently located at the present building in Plainfield, NJ. However, the new facility should provide for the possibility of housing other board or agency offices when that seems advisable some time in the future.

Criteria for evaluation by the General Council included: public transportation; educational facilities (e.g. libraries, seminaries, public schools, colleges); availability of a growing, forward-looking Seventh Day Baptist Church; health care facilities; cost of living for employees; construction costs; available resources; possibility for future development; growth area, cultural advantages and recreational facilities.

Several attractive proposals were received by the General Council. They considered proposals for sites in Denver, Colorado; Battle Creek, Michigan; Memphis, Tennessee; Columbus, Ohio; Nashville, Tennessee; Milton-Janesville, Wisconsin; and other areas.

The General Council made the following recommendation to Conference which, following considerable debate, was voted on by the delegates with a secret ballot. "That the offices of the General Conference and the Boards and Agencies located at Plainfield, NJ, be moved to the Janesville, Wisconsin site and that the General Council be authorized to make the necessary financial and legal arrangements in cooperation with the General Conference Trustees and the Memorial Fund Trustees to effect the move."

The recommendation passed by a delegate vote of 235 in favor of the relocation and 67 opposed. Negotiations are currently underway to finalize the purchase of this new site.

During their Post-Conference meeting, the General Council authorized the Executive Secretary, Dale Thorngate, to negotiate both the purchase of the new building in Janesville and the selling of the present building in Plainfield. At this time an offer to purchase the Janesville building has been delivered to the present owner and we are waiting for his reply.

Looking at the cost of the new building, and the cost to move the offices and employees, the General Council estimates that it will take approximately $400,000 to effect the move. The plan to raise the funds is a two-fold one: $200,000 to be raised by special gifts, either by individuals, families or churches and the other $200,000 through sale of the present building in Plainfield.

Our Lord has given us real challenge for today and for the future. We pray that our response will be indicative of our understanding of God's will for us.
TELEVISION SHAPES OUR LIVES
What Can We Do?

Television continues to be a critical issue and of vital importance to every thinking person in our society. Headlines in newspapers reflect strong differences of opinion about what is or is not suitable programming. Bumper stickers promote "clean up TV" campaigns. Lawsuits ask the courts to remove programs from the air.

If we stop to think, we wonder if the evening news is giving us all the news or if we’re getting information from only one perspective which may be biased or inaccurate. What kind of values are being communicated through game shows, the "soap operas," commercials?

Television is one of the major teachers of persons young and old but what does it teach? And how do you find out?

"Growing with Television," recently published by Media Action Research Center (MARC) and the Cooperative Publication Association, is finding enthusiastic acceptance in a wide range of settings. The series has been so widely accepted that five million copies are being published. The series includes kindergarten through adult; level materials. The Program蹒跚指南book provides help for training teachers and for planning and implementing the use of this series.

For more information contact: Shirley Whipple-Struchen, MARC, Suite 1370, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115, 212-865-6690; or Stuart Johnston, Cooperative Publication Association, Box 179, St. Louis, MO 63166, 314-371-6900.

—Cooperative Publications

Teacher’s Mini Lab

Creative Teaching

Creative teaching requires much time and thought by the teacher. A well planned lesson is imperative to making the best use of the time allotted.

There are many pitfalls into which inexperienced and inexperienced teachers alike, may fall. Some of these pitfalls are easily avoided if basic educational precepts are followed:

1. Activity must be a part of the whole lesson. "Art for Art’s sake," a "way to entertain or keep occupied," is a waste of learning time.

2. There are many types of responses to the lesson which are more suitable than "hand work." Try some drama, singing, writing poetry, choral reading, etc.

3. Be sure that the students understand the reason and/or purpose of activities.

4. Give adequate instructions, step by step if necessary.

5. Take time to work through the activity planned. Be sure students are teaching and capable of doing the activity whether art work or other response.

(Continued on page 14)

The Sabbath Recorder

DECade of Discipleship

Our church is being richly blessed by our Discipleship program this year. "Decision to Discipleship," a booklet worked out plan of study, working with a group in a "cell group," methods and materials, one-to-one discipleship classes between disciple and disciple. In eight week format the material is signed by all who participate and there are 7 of the 8 weeks featuring a complete Christian Growth Study. At present, we have 4 Discipleship groups, with 1 or 2 more being formed... are you interested in participating? Disciples are Pastor Davis, Katherine Dutta, and Rita Diaz. Groups are being held in Seattle, Federal Way, and Enumclaw.

—from Seattle Soundings

“OUR VISION — GOD’S GUIDANCE”

(Continued from page 15)

is the goal of this vision that God has given us. Our sense of fulfillment and success will be in the growth of Seventh Day Baptists around the world experiencing a total relationship to God.

Ministry of Reconciliation

Right now I am flying from Plainfield, New Jersey, to Janesville, Wisconsin, to negotiate the purchase of a new building for our General Conference offices. I go in response to Conference action in August. The move is to a more central location into a building that is energy efficient and well suited to support our vision of outreach and growth for the 1980s and 90s.

God has given his people a vision for the future. He is saying to us, “Build upon the hard work and achievement of your predecessors, but move forward. Accept the challenge of your new president Dorothy Parrott to a "Ministry of Reconciliation."

In this year of vision for Seventh Day Baptists I pray that as we relate to new disciples and new churches, as we move to our new site, that we will sense God’s leading us to share his message of love and peace.

Vision is not the only key to success. We will focus on four other necessary elements in the next few months. Without vision, however, the people perish.

September 1981

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 31)

The delegates rejected the General Council recommendation to make the Executive Secretary a voting member of the Council. They approved the changing of our Conference name to include “Canada” thus allowing the First Toronto Church to become a full member of the Conference. With many differences of opinion there was ample reason to sing from time to time our conference theme song, “Bind Us Together.”

This Conference was one of innovation in several exciting areas. All were entranced by the Magical Ministries with its special emphasis on the Gospel through the magical show. Ralph MacKintosh and his troupe are to be highly commended for their interesting and professional ministry.

Also we had our first viewing of the Media Project—the videotape ministry. Through videotape we were part of a an interview with Missionary Rodney Henry of the Philippines. We were also taken to the campus of the University of Redlands where Conference 1982 will be held. Pastor Charles Graffius and his staff have done an excellent job with the Media Project. They not only had the vision for this new ministry, but successfully got it off the ground this year - and we saw the results. We are sure that 1982 will be a year of even greater opportunities for the Media Project to have an effective part of the ever-expanding Seventh Day Baptistic ministry.

All in all Conference was a blessing. We express appreciation to the President and all who had a part in making it meaningful. We look forward to this new year with its opportunities and challenges. President Dorothy Parrott has chosen a good theme for us to consider, “The Ministry of Reconciliation." May God grant us even greater opportunities to share His love as we seek to reconcile the world to our Lord.
Four Keys for Church Growth

Luke then records in verse 42, what seem to be the four keys to growth for the Spirit-filled church.

"And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching which would be the teachings centered on Jesus Christ. We have their teachings in Scripture so the equivalent for our purposes would be to devote ourselves to the study of the Word. They also devoted themselves to fellowship, presumably with fellow believers, gaining strength and joy as they shared experiences in their new-found life in the Spirit. Today we are able to find that same strength and joy as we share with fellow believers what the Lord is doing in our lives. As I examined the third key, "the breaking of bread," I reasoned that this term must be a reference to Luke's supper. His other common reference for this term is that of eating meals and that seemed inappropriate in this verse. In his article, John Stott interpreted this as meaning a time of formal worship. I don't feel that free with the interpretation to name it as worship, so I call it a time of remembrance of the Lord's Supper. His sacrifice and a time of remembering Him. Certainly this was meant to be a very solemn, personal time of remembrance. If there was a time of remembering Who He is and we are brought to a time of thanksgiving and worship of God, the Father and the Son as we do this remembering. Finally we find they were devoting to prayer. I do not understand how prayer works nor why we must pray if we are to grow as a church, but I do know from experience that taking time together for prayer is an essential part of our growth and of any group of believers. Here is an example of prayer working in a group:

When I was in college, a minuscule group of believers met deciding that we wanted to see growth numerically of our group. We had no idea where to begin other than to set up times for prayer together. We met for an hour each evening to pray. Within four months our group grew from 4-5 believers at a prayer meeting, to 40-50 believers, many of whom were new believers, at each prayer meeting. In the fall when we opened the school with a barbecue, 200 college young people showed up to find out about the Christian group. We quickly felt the need for groups for Bible study and fellowship as well as prayer, and the group continued to grow spiritually and numerically. Prayer is vital to growth and I suspect is frequently an overlooked part of our church growth plans.

Luke finishes the chapter describing the results of the Spirit's work in the early church. "And everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles." (v. 43) He tells of their concern for one another, how they shared material wealth with those in need. He also tells how they were daily witnessing in the temple, fellowshipping at home and eating meals in one another's houses, "praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved." (v. 47) Their church was growing in an enviable way.

This passage seemed so significant as we met as a church last week to set goals and plans for our church growth. It stood out as Scriptural direction for planning our program. We do need times for study of the Word, for fellowship, for remembering Jesus and for praying. We need these plans (Continued on page 14)
God is so wonderful as He provides all our needs. Upon returning to Memphis we found that the price of the church building had been reduced by $15,000 to $95,000.

A very general description of the property follows. The land consists of five very beautiful acres with large trees on it including apple and pecan trees. A large shaded circular services in the new building. The sanctuary seats 120. There are six classrooms, completely furnished. We already can see how easily it will be to enlarge the sanctuary further if we also already have the blueprints for a new sanctuary when it is needed.

We have big plans, new ministries, and God’s Spirit guiding us. We’ve already begun to have local residents stop by to talk with us and we are praying for their openness.

In three short years Memphis has gone from a few people meeting in a trailer to a growing, visible body action in the power of God to a site where we intend to minister to all people of God everywhere. —Pastor Bill Shoffner

MEMPHIS, TN — When God decided it was time for the people of Israel to cross the Red Sea they didn’t have to go over or around it. He simply asked the waters and they went through it. When Jesus had to reach the disciples in a boat at sea He just walked across the water to get there. When the Lord decided it was time for the Memphis Church to have its own building it just seemed to happen.

When I left Memphis in June to attend Southwest Association meetings one of our church families had inquired about the property. There was no particular follow-up, the price was too high, and the Lord was still developing His plan.

At the Association meeting Memphis was chosen to host Association for 1982. We were asked to consider Memphis as one of the regional hosts for a pastor’s retreat in 1982.

NEW HOME FOR MEMPHIS CHURCH

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A GOOD DAY STARTS WITH SPirit BUILDER; FROM GODS HOLY MORDES.
Seven-Day Baptist Can help us in learning more about God and studying his word which is filled with spirit builders.

ATTENDANCE UP NEW FACILITIES PLANNED

BATTLE CREEK, MI — What a busy time in Battle Creek — for our city and our church! This is Battle Creek’s sesquicentennial year, so there have been lots of special celebrations, including the international Prayer Breakfast sponsored by the Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce, which was held the last week of June, a Sesquicentennial Memorial Day Parade, and Pioneer Festival May 24th.

The church sponsored a float for the Memorial Day parade. It was an ideal way for us to give a witness to God and our city’s motto, “Cereal City,” and to take our place with other churches and community groups in commemorating the special day and our city’s anniversary.

This year’s Conference theme, “Grow With God” and our city’s motto “Cereal City” were worked into the float theme which gave the marchers much visibility.

bowl with Spirit Builder cereal, represented by balloons on which fruits of the spirit were printed.

Reading the cereal box gave everyone the particulars on how to “Grow with God” — the cereal was “ready-sweetened with natural fruits of the spirit” and fortified with ten essential commandments with love. “Nutrition Information” on the side of the box listed the “Fruits — with God” as supplying 100 per cent of the daily requirements for nutrition. Jan Noel rode in the “cereal bowl” on the float to pass out the “fruits of the spirit” cereal balloons. We were proud of this witness to Battle Creek. After the parade the “cereal box” and “Bible” were saved and are now being on display in a new basement for “up-close” appreciation of the handiwork done.

The Ladies Aid Society ran a refreshment stand at the Pioneer Festival, which included working craftsman and featured a reconstructed log cabin at Lella Arboretum. Though the weather was rainy, the ladies fed many people and added to their treasury.

There has been noisy “busyness” outside our church recently. Two apartment buildings acquired earlier by us were torn down, giving us another whole corner of property at the corner of Emmett and Buckeye Streets. The large cement twostory apartment building at the corner was dated to us last year and had set idle until we could decide definitely whether to refurbish it as a Christian education building or to demolish it. The intervening - , attemptment then burned, and we were able to acquire it also. After consulting with an architect, the decision was made to demolish the corner building in addition to the burned out apartment house behind the church. The basements have been filled in, and the Trustees are getting bids on the corner building to make this new parking area on three sides. More than a year ago our Committee to Plan Church Growth proposed that we acquire these properties. With God’s help that has now been accomplished.

With our church attendance up 20 per cent the first quarter of this year compared to one year ago the members since the first of the year, we continue to make long-range plans to build additions to our church facilities. Phase II of the building proposal is for a lobby and ground level entrance on the North including a covered drive-through and ramp for the handicapped. Sanctuary-level restrooms would be built where our present facilities have bodies evident to each of us on Sabbath mornings.

In the last few months our Sabbath mornings have included two baby dedications with three babies being dedicated by their parents, graduation recognition, and a special commissioning service for our minister. The pastor reported that “it was the unanimous feeling of those attending the healing seminar in Canton that, though we have not attempted public healing services before that, there appears to be Scriptural warrant for it as followers of Christ. Our first public service for this phase of our ministry was set up by our Diacone, was held June 20th with people in attendance. PR.

—Karen Thorngate

STRENGTH IN THE FAITH

(Continued from page 28)

My prayer is that we will grow as individuals and as a denomination. My firm conviction, as often stated, is that our unity is in Christ. The foundation upon which progress will be built is spiritual renewal in our lives, in the lift of our churches and, therefore, in the life of our denomination.

RECORER REACTIONS

Sincere thanks to the many friends and relatives who helped to make our forty-eighth wedding anniversary such a happy time. The surprise celebration took place at our home on June 13, 1981, at the home of our children Robert and Mariette Fanster near Townsend, Delaware. —Mr. and Mrs. Don Gray

BIRTHS

HILL — A son, Gregory John, to Jeff and Suzy (McPherson) Hill of Canton, Ohio.

LOOFBOURROW — A son, Matthew John, to Todd and Michelle (Lindahl) Mee of Eaton, West. MI, on September 20, 1981.

BOLLINGER-DRABE — Wayne Bollinger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bollinger, and3 6 0 0 West River Road, North Canton, OH, on August 1, 1981, with Pastor Steven Crouches officiating. They now reside in York, PA.

COCOA-SUTTON — William Philip Coca, Greene, NY, son of the late Wm. and Carmella Coca of Buffalo, NY, and Wendy to Sutton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Sutton, Greene, NY, were married in marriage on July 18, 1981, at the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church, Alfred Station, NY, with the Rev. E. J. Zabel, pastor of the bride, officiating. They will reside in Greene, NY.

BIRTHS

BETHEL — A daughter, Kristin Leigh, to Bill and Sue (McSparran) Bethel of Harrisburg, IL, on July 24, 1981.

CROUCH — A daughter, Sarah Lynn, to Steven and Rebecca (Davis) Crouch, of Little Geneva, NY, on July 20, 1981.

GRASSHAM — A son, John Phillip, to Roberta and Barbara (Burück) Grassham of Alhambra, CA, on February 25, 1981.

HOPKINS — A daughter, Lisa Jo, to Keith and Janice (Goodrich) Hopkins of Canton, Ohio.


KEOWN — A daughter, Bele Anne, to Buck and Debbie (Barber) Keown of Omaha, NE, on June 23, 1981.

LOOFBOURROW — A daughter, Amy Elizabeth, to Lyley and Denise Loof- bourrow of Milton, WI, on June 30, 1981.

RADLE — A daughter, Amanda Leigh, to Russell and Janene (Perrin) Radley of Waterford, CT, on July 15, 1981.

TERRY — Twin daughters, Jennifer Michelle and Jessica Marie, to James and Sally (Condinas) Terry of Waterford, CT, on July 30, 1981.

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MARRIAGES

BRANNON-SHARP — Dennis James Brann­ on of Morris, NJ, son of Waver and Marion Brannon, and Patricia Ellen Sharp of Wayne, NJ, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johanna Sharp and the late William Sharp, were married August 8, 1981, in the First Christian Reformed Church of Haledon, NJ, by Pastor Linda Webb of Savannah, GA, a friend and former associate of Dennis’. They will reside in Canton, OH.

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**OBITUARIES**

**BROCK.**—Hazel Langworth was born March 18, 1907 in Greene Settlement, NY, the daughter of Libby and Mary Langworth and died April 16, 1981 at her home near Petersburg, NY. She was baptized in Adams Center by the Rev. E. A. Witter when pastor of that Seventh Day Baptist Church, and was a very active member in her youth. She attended school in Adams Center then graduated from the Teachers Training Institute of Adams, teaching in rural schools in that vicinity. Later she went to Petersburg, NY. to teach and boarded at the home of Harold Brock, whom she later married. They had one son, Wayne, who lives near their rural home with his wife and two children. She spent her entire life in her rural home and, although she attended the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Berlin, NY, occasionally through the years, she retained her membership in her home church of Adams Center. Burial was in Petersburg, NY. —D.G.

**DAGGETT.**—Dorcas Evelyn, 79, was born August 26, 1901 in Dodge County, MN, and died suddenly at her home in Bloomington Prairie, MN, on June 20, 1981. She had been a member of the Dodge Center, MN, and Boulder, CO, churches. Funerary services were held at the Dodge Center Seventh Day Baptist Church with Rev. Milton Schoof officiating. Burial was in Union Cemetery at Dodge Center. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lawrence. Survivors include one son, Richard of Detroit; one daughter, Dagget of Spring Valley, MN; one daughter-in-law, Barb of Bloomfield Prairie, MN; one brother, George Sundberg of St. Cloud, MN, and nine grandchildren.

**HARRIS.**—Charles F., son of the late Lawrence W. and Jennie T. Harris, and husband of Anita Davis Harris, was born in Shiloh, New York, on August 2, 1911, and died suddenly on August 4, 1981, in Cooper Hospital, Parkersburg, following a brief illness. He was born in New York, NY, on August 2, 1911, and died suddenly on August 4, 1981, at Parkersburg, following a brief illness. He was married to Anita Davis (Billie) Polan, who preceded him in death July 29, 1979. Survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Gene (Carol Sue) Lowther, Bethune, three sons, Norm, Allan, and Tim, and a host of grandchildren.

**PATTI:**—Love Overflowing

**SAVAGE.**—Betty Delle S. Savage, 87, died July 25, 1981 in Greene Settlement, WV, a daughter of the late Andy and Mary (Eley) Savage, a mother of the late David and Norma (Harts) Savage, and a mother-in-law of the late Stella and Richard (Dagget) Savage. She was buried in Family Cemetery in Clarksburg, WV, on July 31, 1981.

**SANDI PATTI:**—Love Overflowing

**THE BIBLE:**—The Bible is then introduced as the word of God, His will to man as revealed in it. By omitting mention of the fact that only through acceptance of Christ’s holiness in place of our own can we achieve good standing with God, the implication is made that development of spiritual potential will be sufficient. However, the many Christians today who place a strong emphasis on personal holiness will find “Kids Under Construction” to their liking.

KIDS UNDER CONSTRUCTION: A Musical Blueprint for Becoming

This new musical from the Gaithers features several visual and auditory aspects that can be used to lead children to a commitment to Jesus Christ.

**SANDI PATTI:**—Love Overflowing

**SAVAGE.**—Mary E. Savage, 79, died July 28, 1981 in Greenville, SC, and a charter member of the Shiloh Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Mr. Paul Savage, and four nieces and nephews.

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STRENGTH IN THE FAITH

(Continued from page 7)

the courage to proclaim." That is why I continue to recommend that we as a people enter into a time of serious re-study of the Biblical basis for our politi

C. Other areas which still need attention, in order to bring our denomination into a position to take full advantage of current opportunities, are the following:

(1) Strengthen the associations so they will all become strong components of denominational life and organization, perhaps holding major meetings every other year to fill the gap between proposed biennial meetings of General Conference;

(2) Effectively increase stewardship as an "attitude of life" among all our people so more adequate support will become available for pastoral and other salaries, and resources will be more fully available for missionary and other outreach activities;

(3) Continue to recruit, train, and fully support capable and dynamic pastoral leadership;

(4) Encourage the General Council, in keeping with the vote of Conference in activating the Council, to take the initiative in becoming the truly planning, coordinating and administrative body for Seventh Day Baptists, utilizing to the fullest extent the management skills of the Executive Secretary.

The spirit among the members of the General Council is excellent; they are diligently handling budget analysis and preparation; refinements are consistently being made in the procedures, and suggested bylaw changes will further enhance the effectiveness of the Council.

Conclusion

Seventh Day Baptists are set to grow, doubling — and more — in the decade of the 80's. Churches that grow think growth, plan for growth and pray for growth. Full commitment on the part of every member of every church, in response to the Great Commission, is what is required.

My feeling is that Commitment to Growth and Decision to Discipleship are strong plus factors as we contemplate growth for our denomination. A great deal of progress has been — and is being — made as Seventh Day Baptists strive to answer fully God's call to service. The main elements needed for continued progress, in my opinion, are the following: unified action — denominational leaders and the people working together through agreed upon organizational patterns; strong financial backing — with steady support through Our World Mission; and full spiritual commitment — in response to the Great Commission.

In my Recorder articles, I have reviewed some of the accomplishments during my tenure as Executive Secretary. But I want to highlight again the fact that it has been a team operation, decisions being made by consensus and the achievements resulting from universal participation. I admire and am grateful for the efforts of my colleagues. I appreciate very much the faithful and effective service of my Executive Assistant and secretaries. I pray God's richest blessings upon Dale Thorngate as he assumes his leadership role and upon all the members of the team who will be working with him in the years to come.

(Continued on page 20)

The Sabbath Recorder

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THREE CIRCLE JESUS PUZZLE RACCOON

Hello,

I am Racco Raccoon. I am 3 years old.

I am learning a BIG word. It is rec-on-cil-i-a-tion. Reconciliation means to be made good again. I have made a Reconciliation. The Raccoon has 3 pieces. Do you see that only with the fish showing in me makes it a good. Ask your parents to please: 1. Trace the on another piece of paper. 2. Let you color the Cut the on the dotted lines. 4. Let you put the back together. Remember only the love of makes us all together and good.

See you next month,

Note to the parents: This year's Conference theme is "Ministry of Reconciliation." Even little boys and girls who see Jesus' love in their homes can share this love with others. How many little ministers do you know?

-LVHC

September 1981
The General Council meetings, extending over four days, were marked by a full agenda. Still they made room for an evening rally, open to the public, on July 1 at First Baptist Church, Carolina, PR. Music by a Puerto Rican group of young people inspired all worshippers and gave a good sample of the high quality of spiritual education and zeal offered by Baptist churches in Puerto Rico.

Dr. S.T. Ola Akande from the Nigerian Baptist Convention, Ibadan, Nigeria, was the speaker at the rally. The service was interpreted into Spanish and broadcast live to a large audience in Puerto Rico.

The elections made the Rev. Archie Goldie from Canada the new BWA associate secretary for Relief and Development. That freed Dr. Denton Lotz, who previously held the position, to become Director of the Youth Department, while also serving as associate secretary for Evangelism and Education.

Lotz will be assisted in the Youth Department by Samson Mabanganai, a young Baptist from Kenya, who was voted into the position of Field Assistant. Dr. Azariah McKenzie, of Jamaica, was elected regional secretary of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship.

On July 3, when most of the participants started returning to their respective Baptist unions and countries, there was an overwhelming feeling of gratitude and praise to God for the successful Council, Committee and Commission sessions.

Next year's meetings will be held in July in Nairobi, Kenya.

"SAVE THE FAMILY"
NAE THRUST IN '82

WHEATON, IL—Concern over the disintegration of the American home has caused the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) to announce a nationwide "Save the Family" campaign. The initial thrust will begin at the 1982 NAE Convention, March 1-4, in Arlington Heights, Illinois; but the campaign will precede the convention and continue to make positive contributions long after the convention concludes.

This fall, a national mail and advertising campaign will be launched to raise the sensitivity of concerned Americans to the crisis facing the family. NAE's constituency will be asked to respond to a carefully prepared public opinion survey with the results providing essential direction to campaign coordinators for the months ahead.

Concerning the convention itself, speakers for the main sessions are being selected for their expertise in understanding the family and their adherence to scriptural principles. Of special interest will be the select blue-ribbon task force to be announced at the close of the convention. This working committee will point to areas related to family need and concern in an effort to assist evangelical churches respond to major issues in an informed and responsible way.

Following the convention, Christians will be called upon to join NAE in its World Day of Prayer, March 5, which will ask participants to pray and reflect on the conditions of not only individual families but also the "family of believers," the church. A 16-page, two-color World Day of Prayer worship guide is being prepared to help individuals and congregations as they participate in this day of reflection.

The Sabbath Recorder

September 1981
schedule on Monday and Tuesday.

The General Council meetings, extending over four days, were marked by a full agenda. Still they made room for an evening rally, open to the public, on July 1 at First Baptist Church, Carolina, PR. Music by a Puerto Rican group of young people inspired all worshipers and gave a good sample of the high quality of spiritual education and zeal offered by Baptist churches in Puerto Rico.

Dr. S.T. Ola Akande from the Nigerian Baptist Convention, Ibadan, Nigeria, was the speaker at the rally. The service was interpreted into Spanish and broadcast live to a large audience in Puerto Rico.

The elections made the Rev. Archie Goldie from Canada the new BWA associate secretary for Relief and Development. That freed Dr. Denton Lotz, who previously held the position, to become Director of the Youth Department, while also serving as associate secretary for Evangelism and Education.

Lotz will be assisted in the Youth Department by Sanzion Mathangani, a young Baptist from Kenya, who was voted into the position of Field Assistant. Dr. Azariah McKenzie, of Jamaica, was elected regional secretary of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship.

On July 3, when most of the participants started returning to their respective Baptist unions and countries, there was an overwhelming feeling of gratitude and praise to God for the successful Council, Committee and Commission sessions.

Next year’s meetings will be held in July in Nairobi, Kenya.

"SAVE THE FAMILY"
NAE THREAT IN ‘82

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On Sunday evening our beloved Senator Jennings Randolph reminded us that this was the twelfth time Conference has met in Salem, the last being in 1974. Following the remarks of the Senator the Rev. Gabriel Bejjani, pastor of the church in Stanton, CA, spoke on the Conference theme of Growing with God. He stressed that the Lord wants us to grow as individuals and as a denomination.

The Sunday evening service seemed to set the tone for the week.

We appreciated the timely and challenging messages each evening as well as the special times devoted to Bible study. Many of these messages and studies will be shared through the pages of the Sabbath Recorder. Once again we were reminded of how the Lord has blessed us as a people with the gift of music. The Conference program was under the able direction of Miss Lois Wells and there was quite a variety of music and musicians during the week.

Conference is also business and this year there were some very controversial items for consideration by the delegates. Without question the most debated issue was the statement on abortion. The statement came to the floor in much different form from the one submitted to the churches for study during the year. Debate at times was heated and emotional, in fact a special business session was scheduled following an evening service to allow more time for debate. A roll call vote of the churches led to adoption of the statement, though not without considerable opposition.

The second item which was controversial was the recommendation of the General Council for a relocation of the offices in Plainsfield, New Jersey, to a new site in Janesville, Wisconsin. When the floor was open to debate on the issue it appeared that there was considerable opposition. However when the vote was taken, by secret ballot of the delegates, it was evident there was a clear mandate for relocation. The vote to move was 215 to 67 in opposition. Those offices affected by the relocation are: General Conference, Historical Society, Memorial Fund, Council on Ministry and the American Sabbath Tract Society.

(Continued on page 10)
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