

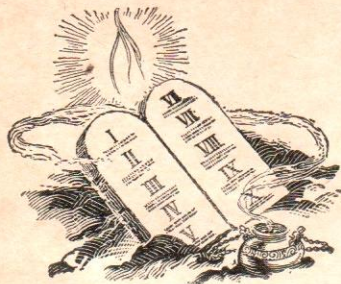
"Go, set a watchman,
Let him declare what he seeth."
— Isaiah 21:6 —

JANUARY 1974

The Sabbath *Sentinel*



H. Armstrong Roberts



Legalism

W. ALLEN BOND

SABBATH observers and promoters are often accused of legalism. Seldom will anyone admit that he is a legalist, for it is usually considered to be an uncomplimentary title. Well, I will admit that I am a legalist—by some definitions of the word. But by other definitions, I am not a legalist. So, before pleading “guilty” or “not guilty” we should first agree on the meaning of the term “legalist.”

If “legalist” means *one who believes in obedience to God’s law*, then I am a legalist. But I find myself in good company—with all the obedient heroes of faith of all times, along with Jesus (John 14:31 and 15:10) and Paul (Eph. 5:6) and Peter (Acts 5:29). By this definition, would you be called a legalist? Do you believe in obedience to God’s law?

Actually, the term “legalist” or “legalism” is used with some other meaning, often not too well defined in the mind of the user. Let us consider some other possible definitions:

1. Trusting in our own works (such as obedience to God’s law) as a basis in any way for salvation.

2. Emphasizing the letter of the law more than the spirit of the law.

Under definition 1, we find many who feel that their goodness is somehow a basis for their acceptance before God, for salvation. Their error is not obedience, but in trusting their works of obedience as having merit for salvation. But God has

declared it is a free gift, “not of works, lest any man should boast” or brag. If we are saved by works, in God’s sight, then we are working for ourselves. If our works are the “fruit, not the root” of salvation, done out of love for the free gift of eternal life, then only are we working for God. One who fails to trust Christ alone for salvation is denying the grace of God. Also, one who fails to live an obedient life is denying the grace of God that is “teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world” (Titus 2:12).

Some say the solution to this sort of legalism is to do away with the law. This is not scriptural. Jesus attacked legalism, but declared emphatically that He did not come to do away with the law. Doing away with the law is also not logical, for by such logic we should do away with all obedience and all good works, just because some legalists *trust* in these things instead of trusting in Christ alone. Such logic would

burn down a house to get rid of termites, and chop off the head to get rid of dandruff!

Under definition 2, given above, we are all in danger of legalism. The main teaching of Jesus regarding the Sabbath (and He said more about this than any other single commandment) was the attitude we should take in keeping it, in order to be obedient to the spirit of the Sabbath, and not merely the letter.

Why so much about the Sabbath commandment? Probably because right here is where it is so easy to be this sort of a legalist. It is still a favorite with many who would exalt their own righteousness and act superior to others.

Such an attitude on the part of Sabbath keepers to day is one reason many Christians are so disgusted that they never give the Sabbath claims a fair hearing. (This is an explanation, but not an excuse.) Often Sabbath keepers are "dead right." They should realize they are "dead" and others should realize that the Sabbath is right—even though Sabbath keepers may be in some error.

Are all Sabbath keepers legalists? Far from it.

Are they the only ones who are legalists? No, hardly!

The fact is, legalism is an error that is common to human nature—and human nature is certainly not limited to Sabbath keepers. Some churches are legalistic in the extreme about church membership. They seem to feel that membership is a ticket to Heaven.

But do you therefore refuse to have church membership? Or do we simply put membership down to its rightful place, as something that

should "accompany" (not accomplish) salvation?

Some make baptism the key to salvation to an extent that makes the legalist among Sabbath keepers look mild. So, when we see their error at this point, should we abandon the practice of baptism?

Some make communion an absolute essential to salvation. Should we therefore forsake this important remembrance instituted by Christ? Note that both communion and the Sabbath are memorials of a past work of Christ—creation, and atonement—and both are to be kept with an eye to the future coming of Christ as well. If the Sabbath is to be done away because it is a "shadow" of the past, then the communion of the Lord's Supper should be done away as well.

Legalism is of the devil, meant to keep man from entering into the inner freedom and beauty of "faith that worketh by love" (Gal. 5:6). Legalism is a snare surrounding each commandment given by God for our own good and His glory. It is something like the thorn on the rose bush.

Only a fool rejects the rose because of the thorn, and only a foolish person applies his nose to the thorn instead of the rose bloom. Legalism is not a new error that came only in the "dispensation of grace." Legalism is condemned as severely in the Old Testament as it is in the New Testament. (See the first chapter of Isaiah, for just one example.)

Legalism has always been a problem, but disobedience is not the answer.

This article is available in tract form from the Vision Press, 2401 3rd Ave., Marion, Iowa 52302.

Church Is Rededicated



THE Algiers, La., Seventh Day Baptist Church, located at 1130 Whitney Ave., was rededicated recently with a series of worship and fellowship meetings.

Originally the congregation met in what was Mrs. Mary Craig Johnson's beauty parlor. Later a little chapel was built to house the congregation of Seventh Day Baptists, and Mrs. Johnson was ordained a minister of that denomination. Through the influence of the indomitable Rev. Mother Mary C. Johnson, many souls were won for the kingdom of Christ and into places of leadership in His Church. She held the little church together in faith, believing that she was truly in the will of God. Her model prayer which has been re-

corded in the history of the local church is:

"Our Father, who art in heaven, make us aware of the responsibilities we bear as we call ourselves Christians. Make us worthy to be called by that great name. Hear our prayers for a new life, a new hope, a new consecration. Father, we thank thee for the gifts that come from thy good hands and for the men and women who, as thy messenger, have brought to us the gifts that we enjoy. Teach us to love them and to be ever grateful... May we live a life so abundant and radiant that we may be Thy epistle unto the world... let Thy power of the Holy Spirit guide us in our teaching, preaching, healing, winning souls for Thee in love... In Jesus Christ..."

The little church struggled for many years, but was steadily growing and prospering. Then tragedy struck! On December 2, 1969, the Algiers chapel was gutted by fire. Newsmen arrived to cover the story and asked if arson was possible. Mother Johnson's reply was kind, but her voice revealed that she was troubled. Suspicion of arson had paralyzed her. But she showed no bitterness or anger, only pity, when the possibility of arson was discussed.

That evening TV newscast showed the badly damaged building and de-

stroyed interior with Mother Johnson and Rev. Jack Hays, pastor of the Metairie, La., Seventh Day Baptist Church, beside the gutted chapel. Mother Johnson reported that "she was determined to rebuild the house of worship unless God clearly told her not to." Within five minutes of the newscast, a Roman Catholic layman phoned to offer a substantial gift toward rebuilding.

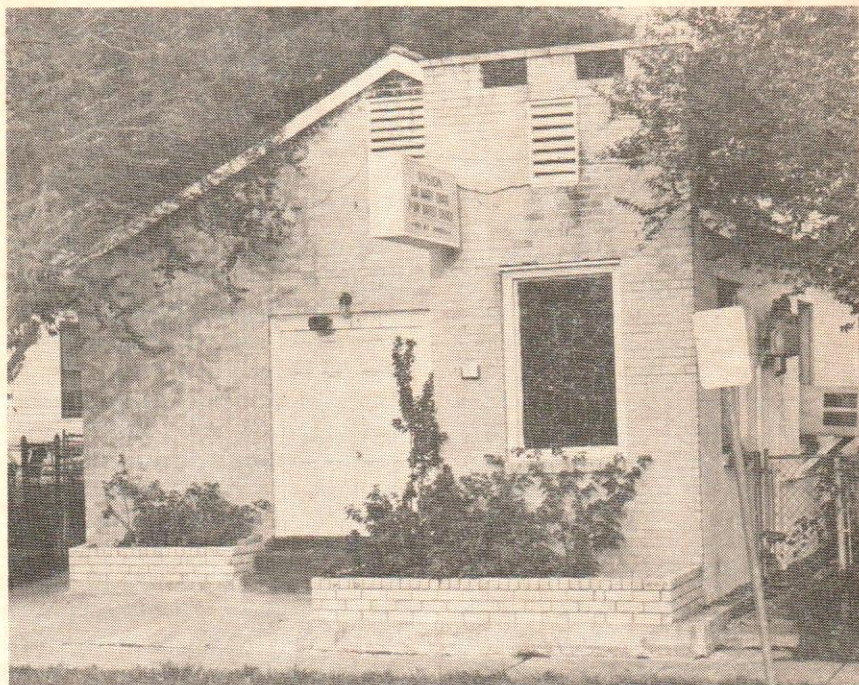
A start was made, followed by cake sales, cookie sales, collections, more to come . . . Some contents were replaced via a church that was buying new furniture. A new electric organ and refurbished pews and pulpit furniture were soon to be surrounded by new walls.

By the time of the rededication services the pastor's apartment on the back of the building had also been refurbished. A beautiful yellow

brick exterior, with its memorial speaker system for sharing music and word, now fronted the street. Many local volunteers have invested much in Christian effort to restore the church parsonage. Many Seventh Day Baptists in other parts of the country have made personal and group donations.

Mother Johnson, who is a new member of the Bible Sabbath Association, says: "We need communion glasses and a loud speaker for the interior yet, and we will be almost completely restored to our original condition."

Those who can appreciate the courage and love of this devoted minister may wish to write her a letter of encouragement. Her address is Rev. Mother Mary Craig Johnson, Seventh Day Baptist Church, 1130 Whitney Ave., Algiers, La. 70114.



The Confused Mr. Doe

Part III:

“Sabbath Keeping Is Not New Testament Teaching”

W. E. STRAW

(Continued)

Jesus and the Sabbath

Mr. Doe says, “We are told in John 5:18 that the Jews, rigorous Sabbath keepers that they were, sought to kill Jesus—‘Because he not only had broken the Sabbath, but said also that God was His Father, making himself equal with God.’ Jews hated Jesus because He himself did not keep the Jewish Sabbath.”

There was never a question on the part of Jesus as to what day should be observed. In this He fully agreed with the Jews. The trouble arose because Jesus threw off the traditions that had been added by the Jews.

Mr. Doe further states, “Jesus did not teach anybody to keep the Sabbath.” Did He ever tell anybody to keep Sunday? Where is the text? The difference in the two is this: Jesus never once mentioned Sunday in any way, nor alluded to it either by precept or example. He always observed the Sabbath as an example while He was here on earth. It was His custom. “And He (Jesus) came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day and stood up for to read” (Luke 4:16).

He proclaimed Himself to be the Lord of the Sabbath day. “And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath” (Mark 2:27, 28). It was made for man and given to him in the beginning.

What are we to learn from the fact that Jesus did not teach anybody to keep the Sabbath? I have never known of anybody telling others that they are to do what they are already doing. The fact that the Christians were already observing the Sabbath would make any command regarding it redundant and unnecessary.

But Jesus did certainly give decided instruction regarding the manner of its observance. Why is it that the four gospels never urge the people to avoid worshiping idols? There is not a word in all the gospels about this.

Why?

The other books of the New Testament are full of warnings against idols . . . The answer is simple. The gospels tell of the work of Jesus and the apostles as they worked in Palestine where the people did not worship idols. But the other books tell of the work of the apostles among

the heathen who were worshippers of idols.

Therefore, on the same basis, the very fact that Jesus observed the Sabbath and did not urge the people regarding it is evidence that the people were keeping it. Also the very fact that Paul observed it as his custom (Acts 17:2) but never urged the people regarding it is evidence that the people were keeping it.

Did Gentiles Keep the Sabbath?

Mr. Doe tells us that circumcision and the Sabbath are on the same basis and both ceremonial. When some of the Jews from Jerusalem came down to Antioch and taught the people that circumcision was necessary for non-Jews, Paul contended with them, and had a council at Jerusalem over this matter (Acts 15: 1-30). At the conclusion of this council it was decided to send word back regarding the things Gentiles were especially to guard. James said, "Wherefore my sentence is that we trouble not them which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: but that we write them that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood. For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day" (Acts 15: 19-21). Here the council and Paul took a decided stand against requiring Gentiles to be circumcised; but told these same Gentiles that they would meet on the Sabbath to get further instruction regarding their duties as Christians.

Thus Paul and the church make a decided distinction between Jewish ceremonies and the Sabbath. Gen-

tiles were not to be circumcised, but they were to keep the Sabbath. More than that, as Paul went to the churches with this document in his pocket to notify the Gentiles that they were not required to practice circumcision (Acts 16:4), he set an example of Sabbath keeping everywhere he went (Acts 16:13; 17: 2; 18:4).

Did Paul Observe The Sabbath?

Now let us look at the situation in which Paul found himself. After he had written his epistles to the Thessalonians, and after he had written his epistle to the Galatians, and to the Romans, and to the Corinthians—his so-called doctrinal epistles—he went to Jerusalem for the last time. When he got there, the brethren came to him and said, "Thou seest, brother, how many thousands of Jews there are which believe; and they are all zealous of the law" (Acts 21:20).

Had these Christians forsaken the Sabbath and substituted another day in its place—these people who were all zealous of the law? How absurd. In making his defense after his arrest Paul said, "My manner of life from my youth . . . know all the Jews: . . . that after the most strictest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee. And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers" (Acts 26:4-6). "Neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, . . . have I offended anything at all" (Acts 25: 8). Then when he got to Rome he called the Jews together and said, "I have committed nothing against the

(Continued on page 17)

What You Want . . .

Is What You Get!

HELP US TO HELP YOU: A QUESTIONNAIRE

THE SABBATH SENTINEL is designed to be interesting to all Sabbath-keeping groups. Sometimes we succeed in this task. Sometimes we do not. We can come nearer to doing our job well if you help us know you better. Please complete the following questionnaire and return it to the editor, The Sabbath Sentinel, 713 E. 28th St., Marion, Ind. 46952.

1. Your age
 - Under 30
 - From 30 to 40
 - From 50 to 60
 - Over 60
 2. I rate THE SABBATH SENTINEL as
 - Excellent
 - Good
 - Fair
 - Poor
 3. I have been reading THE SABBATH SENTINEL for
 - Less than a year
 - Two to five years
 - Over five years
 4. List the articles that are the most helpful to you in order as 1, 2, 3, etc., (1 through 7)
 -Doctrinal
 -Question Box
 -Excerpts From Letters
 -Keeping Posted
 -Sabbath Keepers in the News
 -Letters from the President
 -The editorials
 5. I think the announcements section should
 - Be more open
 - Be more selective
 - Be discontinued
 6. What do you think of the cover art?
 - Like
 - Neutral
 - Dislike
 7. Which covers do you like the best?
.....
Why?
 8. Do you read all the articles that appear in THE SABBATH SENTINEL?
 - Always
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 9. Do you like pictures with articles?
 - Yes
 - No
 10. Do you want to see a change in the size and style?
 - Yes
 - No
 11. Do you see a need for changing the type used?
 - Yes
 - No
 12. Do you favor a moderate use of color in printing?
 - Yes
 - No
- What else would you like to tell us? Please write it out and send it along with the questionnaire.
- We thank you.



Light Bearers for Christ

"Light Bearers For Christ," a Seventh Day Baptist youth group, sing and celebrate for Christ. Those who have been fortunate enough to hear this excellent group perform are impressed by the dedication of these young people and their serious desire to be involved in reaching out to this world lost in sin in a personal way.

"Light Bearers For Christ" is a product of its time. The 70's have brought about an atmosphere in America that is conducive to sharing Christ on a personal basis. The Now Generation is probably the most seeking generation ever and the climate is right for leading many to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

"Light Bearers For Christ" is Sabbatarianism's counterpart to the campus Crusade for Christ, and Youth For Christ. Sabbath keeping young people can be true to their Sabbath convictions and still be active in witnessing for Christ by channeling their energy and dedication to the work of Light Bearers For Christ. "Light

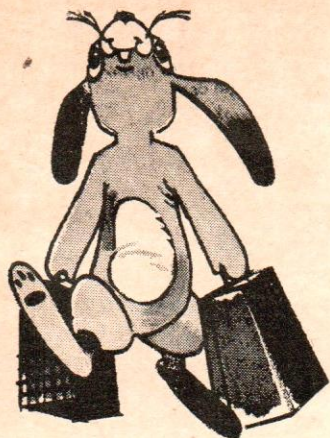
Bearers" have a music ministry, follow-up ministry, college and high school ministry, beach ministry, and small group ministry to reach out to the unreached for Christ.

"Light Bearers For Christ" work in and through the Seventh Day Baptist denomination, but not only there but wherever the Holy Spirit leads. Evangelist Mynor G. Soper, the founder and director, says that although "Light Bearers for Christ" is Seventh Day Baptist oriented, it is free and independent to work wherever and however the Lord gives opportunity.

AN APOLOGY

If you have written a letter recently to the editor and have not received an answer, please forgive us. Our duties of teaching and editing leave little time for writing letters.

We enjoy hearing from you—but if we don't always answer, please understand.



Get Ready . . .

B.S.A. Leadership Convention and Seminar

April 12-14

Fairview, Oklahoma

PURPOSE: Through discussion and workshops by representatives from various areas of society to endeavor to develop a scriptural, practical and meaningful philosophy of Sabbath observance in contemporary culture.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Anyone is welcome to attend. Especially invited are pastors, educators, officers, and directors of the Association, possible future officers, directors, and those who may feel the leading to start new B.S.A. chapters. There will be a closed meeting of directors during the session, but all others will be open to those attending.

Discussions will be directed to the entire structure of the B.S.A., including publications, radio, future conventions, and the function of the local chapter in the community. Panel discussions will terminate each session.

The first session will begin on Friday at 5:00 p.m., April 12, 1974.

REGISTRATION FORM

The Lord willing, I plan to attend the B.S.A. leadership convention seminar.

Name

Address

Name of denomination or group that you represent

Your position

Approximate date and time of your arrival

Send to:
THE BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION
Fairview, Oklahoma 73737



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

THANK YOU

I WISH to thank all members of the Bible Sabbath Association who voted in the recent election and the candidates who were willing to give of their time in the interest of the association. A special THANK YOU goes to all who gave me their confidence.

I am deeply grateful for those who have served in this office before me and especially for my predecessor, Mr. Albert G. Gearhart, for the meaningful ministry he has given and the sure foundation he has laid.

I came to this office two years ago as a pastor who for the most part had been involved in an inter-faith work since the beginning of my ministry over 15 years ago. Although my doctrinal persuasion is that of the Church of God (7th Day), I have made no pretense but that I am an ecumenist, and am committed to the cause of Christian unity.

As I look back to when I first ran for the office of president of the B.S.A., I am reminded of the story of a wealthy man who had a lake on his huge estate. In the lake were some alligators, water snakes, and man-eating fish. One evening the wealthy man had a dinner near the lake and invited 50 guests. As they stood next to the lake, the host

said, "Anyone who can swim across this lake can ask for anything he wants." No one moved. Suddenly there was a loud splash. A man was in the water! He fought off the alligators, tied the snakes in knots, and smashed the man-eating fish with his bare hands. Finally he made it to the other side. The host ran up and congratulated the guest, and said he could ask for anything he wanted. The guest just looked at the lake and said: "I just wish I could find the guy who pushed me in."

Well, regardless of who pushed me in, I have honestly enjoyed serving the B.S.A. as its president these past two years and am looking forward to serving another two. There are probably those who could have done a much better job than I have, but I had the job and I did the best I could with it. Now that I am working full time for the association I feel that I shall be able to help develop a more progressive program in the months ahead.

I have done my best these past two years to present the cause of the association as objectively and dispassionately as I could. If I have made mistakes, they were unintentional. I have tried my best to filter out my own prejudices, but they probably have penetrated nevertheless—often without my awareness.

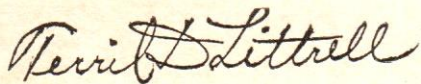
As I begin my second term of office, I shall continue to serve the members of this association with policy based on the decision of what is best for the growth and progress of the association. As long as I remain in this office, I shall remain dedicated to the cause that the B.S.A. serves as a conveyer to carry elevating concepts and sacred meanings from person to person; as a vehicle

to promote understanding and cooperation among ALL Sabbath keepers.

I feel that the B.S.A. must remain a place where honest diversity and differences are accepted—where we “accept one another as Christ accepted us” (Rom. 15:7, N.E.B.). Ours is a pluralistic organization with wide variance of denominational backgrounds, which in themselves are divided into regional backgrounds, life styles, ethnic origins, as well as educational, theological, economic, and class differences. I feel that it is part of my purpose as president of this association to maximize the richness that comes from diversity, striving to provide resources in which each group may see itself with reasonable frequency at the same time other groups are seen.

During my second term I shall cherish your support, your suggestions, your criticisms, and your prayers. May we grow together in “the knowledge of the son of God, to a spiritual maturity, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Messiah.”

Yours In His Love,



“SEND IT TO MY OFFICE”

Why not do what many businessmen do? Order a second subscription to THE SABBATH SENTINEL, and have it sent to your office?

That way you can look through it when the mail arrives—perhaps share it with a colleague. And you have the SENTINEL as a welcome companion on the ride home.

Chapter Chatter

ELDER FREEMAN SPEAKS TO WASHINGTON CHAPTER

Elder Kenneth H. Freeman, director at large and radio speaker of the Bible Sabbath Association, was guest speaker at the October 20 meeting of the Washington, D.C., chapter, held at the Lord Our Righteousness Church, Riverdale, Md.

Elder Freeman arrived in Washington Friday evening, spending the Sabbath with his friends and associates of the Church of God (Seventh Day), and the Bible Sabbath Association, and returning to Friendly, W. Va., Sunday. Elder Freeman was the house guest of Elder W. H. Olson, pastor of the Church of God (Seventh Day), in the Washington area.

Elder Freeman was guest speaker at the Sabbath morning service held at the Church of God, attended a Sabbath afternoon potluck lunch, and spoke at the Washington chapter's monthly meeting on Saturday evening. His topic at the BSA meeting was on how we as individual BSA members could better make the BSA a more useful instrument in accomplishing the task that God has given us to do in His behalf. His talk was well received by those who were in attendance.

We of the Washington chapter of the B.S.A. feel that we were very fortunate to have had Elder Freeman speak to us, and are looking forward to working together with him in carrying out God's mission for us in reaching many for Christ.

—Leo Floyd

Sabbath Keepers

in the News

PASTOR MAKES STUDY OF BIRDS

Paul Whitlow, retired Seventh-day Adventist pastor whose curiosity leads him into many adventures, got to wondering about the death rate of migrating birds, and causes of their deaths.



As a result, he is engaged in a voluntary ornithology project, making a bird count and noting other facts of interest to bird study at Indiana's tallest buildings.

He has concluded from his study that few birds are killed by flying into buildings with large areas of glass. The ones that do die are aging birds that probably would not have lived through the migration anyway.

"Apparently there is no problem in buildings that are well lighted," Whitlow said.

He finds that these older birds sometimes fling themselves against glass at lower levels in pursuit of flying, fluttering millers and moths, while larger birds, he believes, avoid flying directly through large cities.

He uses a powerful flashlight and bright lights surrounding the buildings for his nighttime observations.

Elder Whitlow majored in biological science at Union College, Lincoln, Neb. He spent 32 years as evangelist-

ist-district superintendent of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and was youth director of the denomination's conferences in Iowa, Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire, as well as superintendent of their parochial schools in northern New England.

Although "retired," Whitlow still preaches, baptizes, and performs weddings and funerals. He is a trustee of the Irvington Seventh-day Adventist Church and director of its temperance department.

* * *

MESSIANIC JEWS

Known as "Messianic Jews," a Sabbatarian body of people under the leadership of Elder A. N. Dugger prosper in Jerusalem, Israel. Their official magazine, *The Mount Zion Reporter*, goes to over 11,000 subscribers over the world. There are over 2,000 readers of the magazine in the state of Israel. Over three thousand people have ordered the free Bible correspondence course from the Israel Bible Correspondence School conducted by Mr. Dugger. The lessons are prepared in English, Hebrew, French, Romanian, and Russian, and more languages are to be added as time and finances permit. General manager and overseer of the Bible School is Mr. Harry Schlenker, who, with his wife Burnette Schlenker, came to Israel about five years ago to join with Mr. Dugger in this work among the Jews.

Elder Dugger had a keen desire to see a mission work started among the Jews in Israel as far back as the early 1900's. But prevailing conditions prevented him from being able to go there until 1931, at which time he came as a representative of the Church of God (7th Day) and pre-

pared the way for returning for the rest of his life as a missionary to the Jewish people. Now for over 20 years he has had an established work in Jerusalem, with a publishing house, living quarters, and a "guest house" to accommodate the many visitors that come from all over the world to spend the Sabbath at "The House of Prayer for All People," where Elder Dugger is the pastor.

All Sabbathkeepers who plan a trip to Israel are invited to spend the Sabbath with Elder Dugger and his group. His mailing address is Box 568, Jerusalem. If calling by phone from Jerusalem his number is 37814; if from Tel Aviv or elsewhere, it is 02-37814.

B.S.A. Receives Letter of Gratitude

To Board of Directors Of The Bible Sabbath Association:

I am writing to let you know how much we appreciated the recent weekend visit of Pastor Terril D. Littrell and family to our church in Mobile, Ala., sponsored by the B.S.A. We are a small group of Sabbathkeepers and desired so much for the association president to come and present the work of the association to the people in this area, but we could not have possibly paid for the trip ourselves. All of us appreciate what you have done for us and more

(Continued on page 19)

Blessed and Made Holy

BOB THROWER

NO doubt you have often heard it said, "We should keep every day holy." A statement of this nature sounds good on the surface, but when examined by the Word of God it is unscriptural. In the first place, God did not bless nor make all days holy and we cannot keep a day holy when it has not been made holy. A person could not keep all days holy any more than he could keep ice cubes hot.

Let me repeat, it is impossible to keep a day holy when it has not been made holy by God, and as far as the Scriptures teach, only one day has been made holy. That day is the seventh day or the day we call Saturday.

What people are actually trying to say when they tell us to keep every day holy is that we should live for Jesus every day, and this is certainly true. I have often said that I love Jesus as much on Monday and Tuesday as I do on the Sabbath. My love for Jesus grows every day. Not just on the Sabbath, but the Sabbath is different. It is the day God has called upon us to remember. Remember in a special way! Thus the Sabbath is holy and should be kept.

Have you ever stopped to realize that a person cannot keep every day holy? In the first place, this is asking more than God asked of us and in the second place it is impossible. How could we make a living for our families if we never worked?



A Note
from
the Editor

What's Ahead?

ONE thing about writing for a magazine is sometimes embarrassing for writers: there is a time lag between when something is written and the time the reader sees what has been written. During this period, an article that was timely and pertinent when it was penned may be "old stuff" when it is read. *Collier's* once published an article titled "Impregnable Pearl Harbor." If our memory is correct, we read it during the week which began on December 7, 1941.

Even with this magazine there is a five- or six-week lag between the writing and the reading. That fact makes the rest of this editorial hard for us to write.

Nevertheless, we're going to stick our neck out in voicing a concern which, hopefully will not materialize, and perhaps by the time you read this will be a dead issue.

The first day of voluntary compliance to President Nixon's request to close service stations on Sunday to cut down on sale of gasoline was a complete flop, as far as any saving was concerned. Many stations sold about twice as much gas on Saturday as they would have had they

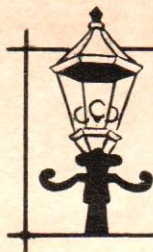
remained open the next day. One operator who remained open said that he respected the President but felt Nixon was exceeding his authority by specifying *which* day one must close his business.

It seems likely that by the time this appears in print, Congress may have given the President authority to make his request mandatory—or, not trusting to hand over this power to the executive branch—may have passed legislation having the same effect. But—like the attempt at voluntary compliance—it is doubtful that enforced Sunday closing of service stations will have any noticeable effect on gas consumption.

Pressure is likely to be put on Congress and on whoever is Chief Executive in 1974 to pass national legislation making it unlawful to operate stores, factories, and other businesses on Sunday. This will probably come under the guise of conservation legislation. Those who, for religious reasons, close their businesses on the Sabbath and who wish to open them on Sunday to be able to compete with other six-day establishments may soon be termed as "unpatriotic" and subjected to scorn by much of the public as well as harassment or prosecution by government authorities.

This is one prophecy that we would be happy to see fail. And yet trends seem to indicate that strict Sunday legislation is imminent. And the question comes to each of us: When it is no longer "respectable" to follow the Saviour and to honor His holy day, how will I stand?

Eugene Lincoln



KEEPING POSTED

Report on China

Congressman Jerry L. Pettis, Republican from California's thirty-third district, and member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, recently returned from a trip to China.

He was able to visit Shanghai, where Adventists had operated the Shanghai Sanitarium and Hospital. He found the hospital still in operation though now used as an air force facility. The former Adventist chapel next to the hospital, is now used as a warehouse. Evidently the Adventists no longer have any organized work in China. Pettis reported that it was estimated there were only some 70,000 Christians remaining in China and that all denominations belong to the "Church of Christ."

Regarding the future of Christianity in China, Congressman Pettis stated: "I, for one, do not foresee a time in the future when Christian missionaries will be permitted in China. The intense feeling of national pride that prevails, the conviction that China was exploited for centuries by Western nations, the determination to shut out influences that might prove distracting or divisive—all these factors I think keep China closed to direct exposure to Christianity. How, then, is the gospel commission to be carried out? I do not know. The

vastness of the country and the vastness of the problem must be put in the hands of the Lord, with prayer for His guidance."

THE CONFUSED MR. DOE

(Continued from page 8)

people, or customs of our fathers" (Acts 28:17).

Could Paul have said that if he had forsaken the observance of the Sabbath and introduced another day in its place? Anyone knows he could not. Therefore, we must conclude that he was loyal to the Sabbath to the last.

Doctor Harnack, the noted church historian, says, "The primitive Christians held fast to the faith and policy of their nation. They had no desire to be renegades, nor was it possible to regard them as such . . . The Christians did not lay themselves open to the charge of violating the law. They assumed no aggressive attitude. That they appeared before the local courts as well as before the Sanhedrin, the supreme national council tallies with the fact that on the whole, they remained Jews" (Adolph Harnack, *The Expansion of Christianity in the First Three Centuries*. Vol. I, P. 51).

(To be continued)

Elder Quigley Passes Away

Elder C. Ithamar Quigley passed from this life on September 3, 1973, at the age of 85 years. Special prayer services were conducted at the Schmidt Funeral Home on September 5, 1973 at Elizabeth, N. J., with Pastor Irving Dow., Jr., in charge. Funeral services were conducted at the Mount Zion Chapel in Elizabeth, where Elder Quigley has been the pastor for 56 years, on September 7, 1973.

A faithful member of the Bible Sabbath Association and loving Christian gentleman, Elder Quigley will be remembered by many for a life of sacrifice so that others might be benefited. He wrote tracts that have been used by the Bible Sabbath

Association for several years: *The Resurrection—When? Christianity—What Is It? and The Christian Sabbath—When Is It?*

Members of the Bible Sabbath Association say "Good Bye" to our faithful brother, in sure hope and faith believing that we shall meet him again when all things are made new.

BE AN ACTIVE MISSIONARY

Send THE SABBATH SENTINEL to others: young families, relatives, ministers, teachers, seminarians, nuns, brothers, hospitals, nursing homes.

You can send it for only \$2 per subscription.

Order from the Bible Sabbath Association, Fairview, Oklahoma 73737.



"Echoes from Eden" Radio Log

The new "Echoes From Eden" is now on the air on these stations:

KBLE-FM, Seattle, Wash. (93.3 MHz)—12:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
KFNF, Shenandoah, Iowa (920 kHz)—4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
KOFE, St. Maries, Idaho (1480 kHz)—12:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
KXEN, St. Louis, Mo. (1010 kHz)—2:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
WMOO, Mobile, Ala. (1550 kHz)—3:35 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
WNWI, Valparaiso, Ind. (1080 kHz)—3:25 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
WLPH, Birmingham, Ala. (1480 kHz)—3:55 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
KXOW, Hot Springs, Ark. (1420 kHz)—12:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
KOAM, Pittsburg, Kan. (860 kHz)—11:45 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

We invite your support of the new "spot" programs on these and other stations. Send donations to:

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Fairview, Oklahoma 73737

(Continued from page 15)

than words can express.

Mr. Littrell did a wonderful job of presenting the Sabbath truth and the B.S.A. work from a non-denominational point of view. I feel that his broad knowledge of the various Sabbath keeping groups and their backgrounds has come to lend much to his ability to do the job that he is doing so well as president of the B.S.A.

Sincerely in His work,
Evangelist Erma L. Jones

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Copy must be brief. No charge will be made, but offerings to defray cost will be appreciated. The right is reserved to reject any proposed copy.

Send all copy to Bible Sabbath Association, Fairview, Okla. 73737. Information as to dates and places of Sabbath services, camp meetings, radio programs, desire for employment by Sabbathkeeping people or

vice versa, prayer requests, requests for information leading to Sabbath fellowship for isolated people, etc., will be included.

This feature, offered solely as a service for Sabbathkeepers, is probably not obtainable elsewhere and is for the purpose of fostering increased good will, love, and harmony among ALL Sabbath - observing people (John 13:35).

FREE BILL MICHAEL ALBUM— Bill Michael, inspirational vocalist from Joplin, Mo., announces that his album, **INSPIRATION**, Vol. I, is available free of charge to all who write and ask for it. The album contains 6 gospel songs and 4 inspirational paragraphs. This is a faith ministry dependent entirely upon God's supply through free-will offerings. No prices are placed on our recordings. When God motivates someone to give, they will give according to our needs. To get your album, write to Bill Michael, Box 2334, Joplin, Mo. 64801.

Please notice!

The date has been changed for the
**B. S. A. LEADERSHIP CONVENTION
and SEMINAR**

The correct dates for the Convention are

April 26 - 28, 1974

You will find additional information about the plans for the Convention, and a registration form, on page 11 of this magazine.

Thinking . . .



About your stewardship commitments for the new year?

About ways in which to help reach more people with the Sabbath truth?

About how to better your interfaith relationship?

Then Think . . . Bible Sabbath Association,
the ONLY international organization whose sole purpose
is the maintenance and promotion of the Seventh-day Sab-
bath on a nondenominational basis.

The Bible Sabbath Association needs the support of *thinking*
people.

Send your financial contribution today to:

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