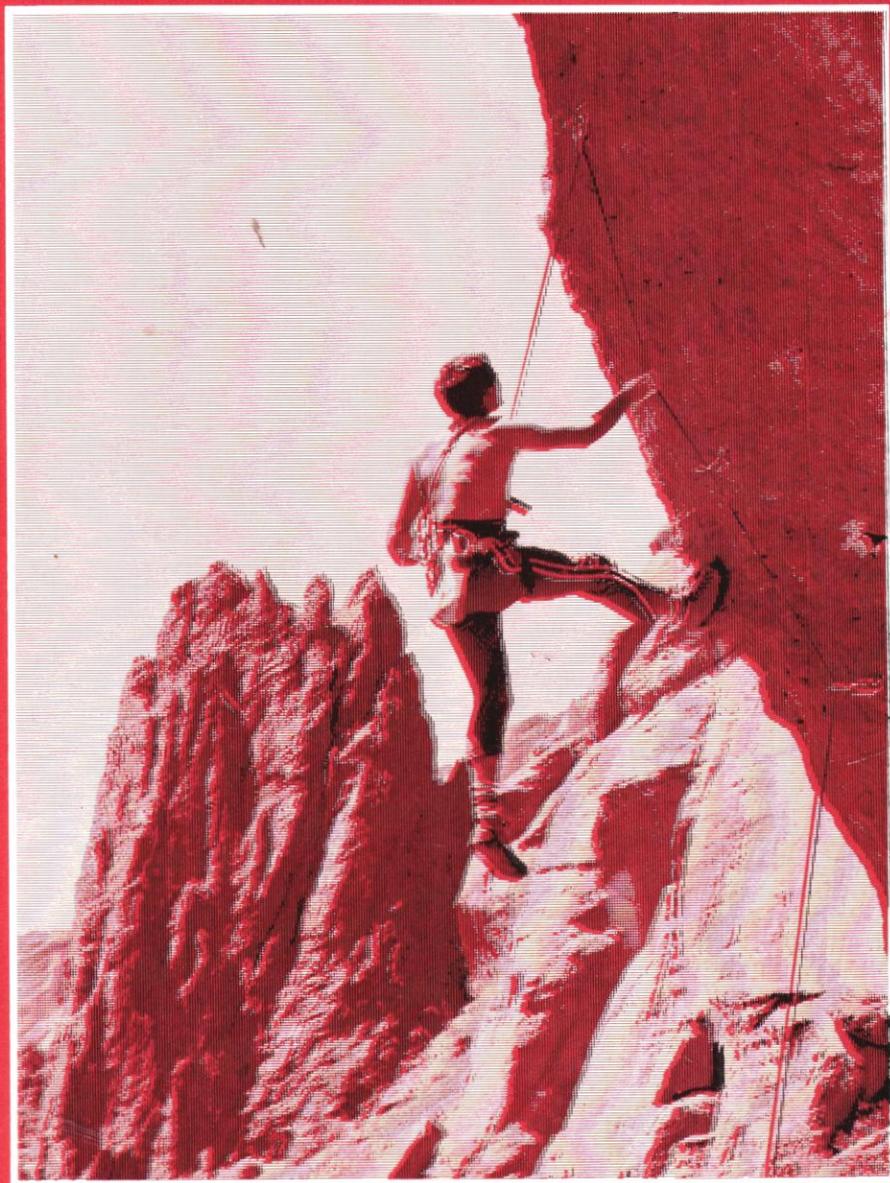


The SABBATH SENTINEL

Serving the Seventh-day Christian Community

July 1987



Herb Doggette: Exceptionally Blessed

By Vikki Montgomery Fields

Herbert R. ("Herb") Doggette, Jr., is an Adventist who lives several steps ahead of the rest of the world. Early in his life he set goals for himself that he quickly met and almost immediately exceeded. An outstanding man, he has been granted many exceptions, and he is the first to acknowledge that he has been blessed. He is deputy commissioner of operations for the Social Security Administration (SSA), a post he has held for seven years.

His resume chronicles a steady rise through the ranks at Social Security that he feels came about as the result of a once-and-for-all prayer he and his fiancée, the former Betty Branch, prayed when he was seeking his first job. He said, "Betty and I prayed that I would get a job that would give me some opportunity for advancement, because I didn't have a degree."

Herb's first job was mail and supply clerk at a Social Security office in Los Angeles. He worked hard to become the best employee the SSA would ever have, making it a habit to inject a little extra effort

into everything he did. "I didn't do it particularly to be noticed; I'm just a very thorough person, and whatever I do, I do with all my energy."

The result, however, was that people *did* notice him, and his promotions began.

At one point he was being promoted so fast that it was against the law, so he was granted a special exception. "I got two promotions in one year, so they had to get a special exception to the law. In effect, I had to quit and be rehired the next day at a higher grade."

While Herb was moving up the ladder inside the SSA, the United States was going through major social changes. During the summer of 1965 riots broke out in the all-Black Watts area of Los Angeles. Herb, who had worked in that area but had moved on, was asked to return as part of a special presidential taskforce. One result of the taskforce study was that Herb opened and managed the first Social Security office in Watts. The next year, because of the newly-unveiled Medicare program, he received the Commissioner's Citation, the

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Herbert R. Doggette: Photo by Meylan Thoresen; courtesy *Adventist Review*.

highest award given by the Social Security Administration from Commissioner Robert Ball.

Herb had spent two years at Oakwood College, interrupted by two years of military service, before beginning work at Social Security. It was at Oakwood that he met his wife. "At the point in life when I was ready for a serious relationship, I met Betty," he says.

"Betty lived in California, and I figured if anything was going to come out of this, it couldn't happen while I was in New York [his home] and she was in California, so I went to California." They were married two years later.

When Herb got to California, he began what he calls his "trek of

going to school at night and working during the day. I was determined to get a master's degree."

In the process of trying to reach that goal, he attended seven schools, receiving a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Maryland in 1974 and a master's in public administration from George Washington University in 1978—both by going to school at night.

Lacking a degree never slowed Herb down. He was nominated for a Congressional Fellowship in 1968. Under the sponsorship of the American Political Science Association, he worked on Capitol Hill for a year for Representative

Brock Adams (D-Washington) and Senator Joseph Tydings (D-Maryland).

After he completed the fellowship, Herb decided to settle his family, which by now included Michelle (born in 1962), Carol (1964), and David (1969), in the Baltimore-Washington area. Betty and the children, who had moved eight times in five years, including across the country twice in one year, were more than happy to move into their permanent home in Columbia, Maryland.

Herb continued his pattern of excellence and once again was awarded the Commissioner's Citation, this time for successfully negotiating the first national agreement between the SSA and its employees. Again an exception had to be made for his exceptional performance. Agency policy stated that the award should be given only once in 15 years to the same person. Seven years had elapsed since he received his first one. The citations are only two of the many awards he has received from various organizations over the years.

In spite of his busy schedule, Herb always makes time for his church and his family. He has always held more than one office in every church of which he has been a member. A member of the Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brinklow, Maryland, he sings in the choir and is an assistant Sabbath school superintendent and an elder (though he says he plans to give up one of these responsibilities to make room for younger people).

Herb is always looking for an opening to share his beliefs. "I have a strong feeling that people should have the opportunity to hear. I will tell people in a minute what I believe without trying to entice them to believe the same thing. I'd much rather say, 'What's your belief? Here's my belief, here's why I

believe, and if you'd like to visit my church sometime, we'd be more than happy to have you to'—but without any pressure. When they express any interest at all we try to find something to invite them to."

Religion has never been a problem on his job. "I make a point of telling every new commissioner, 'By the way, I'm a Seventh-day Adventist. I don't work Friday night or Sabbath.' The answer is usually 'OK'. The acceptance that is extended to him, he extends to others. "None of our employees has a problem with Sabbath or with any religious-observance day if he just tells us. We work around it."

On Sabbath, May 24, the Doggettes celebrated their twenty-seventh wedding anniversary. Betty, wearing a sash given to her by Herb, publicly thanked God for a good 27 years. "To God be the glory," she said. "We have been truly blessed."

—The author is editorial assistant for Listen magazine. Article was condensed from Adventist Review by John Stickle. © 1986. Used by permission.

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Adventists and the Soviet Union



Harold Otis, Jr., and his wife Rose (right), presenting Chairman Kharchev (left) with a picture, during their January visit to the Soviet Union. Deputy Milovanov looks on from back. Photo courtesy *Adventist Review*.

It was the International Forum for a Non-Nuclear World and the Survival of Humanity, sponsored by the Soviet government and held during February in Moscow. In attendance from 60 countries were some 850 delegates, including such well-known figures as Mikhail Gorbachev, Henry Kissinger,

recently-freed Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov—and a number of Seventh-day Adventists. The Adventist delegation was led by General Conference President Neal C. Wilson and included Dr. Jan Paulsen, president of the Trans-European Division, Dr. Ray Hefferlin, a molecular physicist

from Southern College of Seventh-day Adventists, and Roland Hegstad, editor of *Liberty*, a magazine of religious freedom.

The Adventists presented a paper at the forum, addressed to General Secretary Gorbachev and Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the Council on Church Affairs. An abridged version was given orally by President Wilson to the religious section of the conference. He urged Soviet officials to release all prisoners of conscience and to respect the right of individuals to observe religious holy days and to witness freely to others. He explained that there is a perception among Christians in the free world that there can never be peace between the superpowers because the Communists do not recognize the supremacy of God and therefore cannot be trusted. He challenged Soviet leaders to release all prisoners of conscience, thus proving that the democratization currently promoted in the U.S.S.R. "is something more than 'window dressing of tired propaganda.'" The Adventist president also offered to consider ways in which the SDA church could cooperate with the Soviets in science, medicine, education, substance-abuse programs, and other humanitarian activities.

Roland Hegstad, in reporting on the conference wrote that in his address General Secretary Gorbachev, "Assured the 850 delegates in the Grand Kremlin Palace and a worldwide audience that the 'new thinking' on the 'humanitarian problem' was already a reality." Hegstad also noted that seated only several seats from him was evidence of that reality—in the person of Andrei Sakharov, recently released from seven years of exile.

There have been a number of

steps leading up to current state of affairs in the relationship between the Adventist church and the Soviet government. In May of 1986, President Wilson was in the Soviet Union, shortly after the Chernobyl disaster, and met with Konstantin Kharchev to press for more freedoms for the SDA church in the U.S.S.R. In September, Kharchev was presented with a check from the General Conference for the Chernobyl relief fund. In October, Kharchev visited Adventist facilities in the U.S. In January 1987, Harold F. Otis, president of Review and Herald Publishing Association, and his wife visited six Russian cities and received permission for a joint Russian/English publishing proposal. Soviet authorities have already turned over a building near Moscow to the church for use as a seminary and publishing center.

In writing about the warming of relations with the Soviets, *Adventist Review* editor William G. Johnsson stated, "In my judgment, the Lord has opened a door of opportunity during this past year. Adventist leaders have done right in grasping the opportunities that have come our way.

"But there are dangers.

"We do well to keep a discreet distance from political ideologies and leaders of government. Political pressures and short-term arguments, coupled with headlines that come from being received and welcomed in high offices, can combine to sway our judgment.

"We are here for the long haul—until Jesus returns to earth. Always we must think and plan for the long haul."

—Based on articles in the May 7, 1987, issue of *Adventist Review*.

Ephrata Cloister

By Clarence E. Spohn

In May of 1729, Lancaster County [Pennsylvania] was created from Chester County with its northern and western boundaries extending to the extreme borders of the colony. With the erection of the new county came new government officials who were not sympathetic toward the Beissel Sabbathkeepers who were in open violation of the Sunday (Work) Law of 1705. Beissel and his followers who were still residing in the Conestoga region of Lancaster County not only observed Saturday as their day of worship, but obeyed the commandment "six days shalt thou labor," thus working on Sundays in direct conflict with the law.

The civil authorities began the enforcement of the law by levying fines but to no avail. To one judge, according to the diary of the [Ephrata] community, a brother replied, "Lay aside thy English law-book, for thou art subject to a higher law, the Law of God." The judge

offered to forgive the fine if Sunday observance would be followed, to which the brother responded, "He would not cease to work on Sunday and besides the Judge could not remit what he had no right to impose . . . to which the Judge said nothing further."

Finally, according to a contemporary account, "They were arrested and driven in flocks to the jail in Lancaster. Not cast down in this, they sang hymns while in jail, but neither ate nor drank for many days; neither did they lie down to rest any further than to lean against one another as they sat. All of which moved the Governor to leave them at peace for that time."

This religious persecution continued in varying degrees through the 18th century at Ephrata and on into the mid-19th century at Snow Hill.

—The author is Tourist Guide Supervisor at the Ephrata Cloister; reprinted from Church News, published quarterly by the Snow Hill Society of German Seventh Day Baptists.

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America's Freedom

By Rahya Montuori

Thankful, oh, so thankful for my land that is still free,
Thankful for assurance that I can still be me,
Grateful to be able to help others to be free—
And thankful for the chance to protect my liberty!

Thankful for a way of life that suits me perfectly
And for the opportunity to be what I want to be—
To be rich or poor, good or bad, to have or to have not,
To work, to earn, to move, to build, to keep what I have got.

A chance for education, if I want to go to school,
Or just to be a wanderer, or even be a fool;
To make a dent upon the world, to put my worth to work,
Become a humanitarian, or prefer the chance to shirk!

In this great land I can be whatever beckons me:
A butcher, a baker, a candlestick maker,
Ditchdigger, housewife, a writer of poems,
Streetcleaner, scientist, actor, musician,
Farmer, policeman, or builder of homes.

Let me remember to show my land that I am thankful for her,
Let me show in a concrete way, that I am thoughtful of her,
Let me do my part to show my love; to work and to be a man,
To stand up and be counted for whatever or wherever I am!

To show my love in not mere words or fancy phrases spoken,
Let me reveal a heart sincere, with promises unbroken!
Help me do my very best to keep this land we love,
And to preserve the many blessings assured by God above!

May I always breathe this freedom air with gratitude and joy,
And for its length my inner strength and energies employ!
For as each of us enjoys the freedom of this land,
May each one help to strengthen our might on every hand!

For only as together like brothers we work and live,
Using nature wisely, will nature to us give.
We must abandon hate and fear, replace all ill with love
And make this love fit our lives like a hand fits a glove.

Stand up and shout for freedom and work for it with might,
Or we'll lose it without notice—lose our freedom fight!
Stand up and guard this lovely land or we could lost it overnight!

Pray for BSA Meetings

As this issue arrives in your mailbox, BSA meetings should be in progress in Denver (July 6 and 7). Please pray for God's guidance.

New Look of SENTINEL

New graphics, which began in the June issue, is the work of Elder John Garr and his staff at Church Publishing Co. in Cleveland, Tennessee. Other changes will appear in future issues as we seek to make THE SABBATH SENTINEL a truly outstanding publication. We welcome your comments on our "new look"—as well as on the editorial content of the magazine.

BSA-Sabbath in Pennsylvania

BSA is sponsoring an all-day Sabbath meeting in Harrisburg, Penna. on August 29th. Hosting the gathering will be Church of the Eternal God, 1280 Clover Ln., near Rt. 441, just off Eisenhower Blvd. Speakers from a wide variety of seventh-day groups will be featured. Make plans now to attend. More details will be announced.

Correspondents Needed

Reading many different seventh-day publications is one of the major responsibilities of the editor. He could use some help!

If you are a reader of several different seventh-day publications, perhaps you can help. Your job as a correspondent would be to keep your eyes open for significant news items, for short quotations, and for articles that are worth reprinting or condensing for the SENTINEL. When you see something you think our readers should know about, all you

have to do is send it to the editor.

For more information on how you can serve as a SENTINEL correspondent, write the editor at RD 1 Box 475, Falls, PA 18615.

New Sabbath Booklet

Being printed as this is written is a new BSA publication entitled "Why the Seventh-day Sabbath?" Twelve pages long, 3 and 1/2" by 8 and 1/2" in size, it gives six basic and compelling reasons for observing the seventh-day Sabbath. Copies are available for 20¢ each, \$17 per hundred. A minimum order of \$5 is requested. A free sample copy is available if you send a s.a.s.e. to BSA office in Fairview, Oklahoma.

Election Year for BSA

1987 is election year for BSA officers and directors. Nominations will be on the agenda for the meetings in Denver. The primary election will be held during the summer, with a run-off in the fall. Newly-elected leaders will begin serving a four-year term on January 2, 1988. If you are a BSA member and interested in the possibility of serving on the board, or if you know someone whom you would like to recommend, please let us know. If you're not a BSA member, we invite you to become one immediately so you can participate in this election.

Smokers tend to be bad drivers. They have 50% more car accidents and get 46% more tickets than non-smokers. Reason: People who smoke take more risks in general.

—Dr. Joseph Di Franza,
in Family Concern.



In the last couple of years, I have seen a flurry of articles, pamphlets, and letters about the need for unity in the body of Christ. Everybody wants it—yet unity seems as elusive as ever.

Why?

Because, I believe, unity is sought on the wrong basis. It is sought on the basis of what people do (external activities and practices), instead of on the basis of who they are (children of the Almighty).

As Sabbathkeepers, we seek accord based on our Sabbathkeeping—and we are only moderately, perhaps only slightly successful—considering the membership of BSA in contrast to the million or so Sabbathkeepers in North America. But imagine for a moment all Sabbathkeepers in harmonious association on the basis of the Fourth Commandment. Would we be satisfied with that? I doubt it. We would then want agreement, for example, regarding holy days and holidays, regarding the nature of the Godhead, regarding the time of the Crucifixion, regarding the use of religious symbols, etc. There would be no end to our quest for uniformity. Always the appeal would be that such and such a doctrine is clearly taught in the Bible—and those who can't see it are blind (poor souls) or are Scripture twisters. Some would even insist that those who refuse to accept such and such a doctrine worship a different Jesus than the one in the Bible. Unity would never be achieved!

What unifies your family? The fact that you all believe and act precisely the same way? I doubt it. Your family is bound together by common parents and by deep love—even for those members of the family who are “a little strange.”

What should unify the family of God? Not mere doctrines and practices—external matters! In an instant God could reveal to all of Christendom the truth regarding all points of theology—He could have done so in the Bible. But He didn't. Why? Because, I believe, He wanted His family unified on the basis of something that is far more important.

I'm certainly not against agreement in theological matters. But such agreement is insignificant compared to unity based primarily on love, acceptance, and respect. Consider Romans 14 as precedent. Paul could so easily have established rules regarding the issues that were dividing the Roman church. But he didn't. Rather, he urged something which is far more important—acceptance and love for one another as fellow children of God. On that basis, unity is possible.

Without love, unity of doctrine and practice is a hollow shell. With unity based on love and respect, we will find other issues aren't nearly as important as we once thought they were; we may find ourselves much more content to preach the Gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ and share the good news of the Sabbath, leaving other matters for Him to clarify when He returns.

That's my opinion. What's yours?

—Richard A. Wiedenheft

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The Bible Sabbath Association is a nonsectarian, non-denominational association dedicated to bringing together into one strong organization all believers in the Biblical seventh-day Sabbath (Saturday) regardless of sect, creed, or denomination. Its sole purpose is to promote communication, understanding and respect among all Sabbathkeepers and to spread the knowledge of, belief in, and observance of the Creator's Holy Day. The only qualification for membership in BSA is belief in the seventh-day Sabbath.

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Writers: Send manuscripts to Editor Richard A. Wiedenheft, R.D. 1, Box 475, Falls, PA, 18615; phone (717) 378-2056. We invite articles on various aspects of the Sabbath and on other subjects of general interest to Sabbathkeepers, however, we cannot pay for them. A writer's guide is available on request.

Opinions expressed in articles are those of the writers and not necessarily of The Bible Sabbath Association.

Christian Sabbathism: A Legalistic Remnant?

A Historical Survey of Seventh Day Baptist Attitudes Part 2

By Garry Hemminger

In Part 1 of this article, the author examined the attitudes of seventeenth and eighteenth century American Seventh Day Baptists toward the Sabbath and found an absence of legalism. In Part 2, he discusses the influence of the Protestant Ethic on modern Sabbath philosophy.

The Protestant Ethic can be explained as a value system which included belief in rational control of nature, active participation in society, and individual hard work, thrift, discipline, self improvement, and responsibility. Some historians trace the Protestant Ethic to Calvinistic theology. Others claim that political idealism, social pressures, and a spirit of individualism were more important factors than Calvinistic theology. Regardless of its roots, the Protestant Ethic influenced the attitude of the American people. In describing the mid-1800's, Samuel Morison states:

"It was America's busy age, or one of them. Eighteenth-century travelers scolded Americans for their insolence; nineteenth-century travelers criticized their activity. Each Northern community was an anthill, intensely active within and constantly exchanging with other hills . . . Nothing struck European travelers more forcibly than the total want of public pleasures like country walking. For Northern America had not learned how to

employ leisure. His pleasure came from doing; and almost everyone worked long hours six days a week . . . there was not much time for recreation . . ."

The Sabbath Recorder, in the latter part of the 19th century, began to reflect a broadening concern for social and ecumenical movements. The flavor of the Protestant Ethic, with its emphasis on work and involvement, became increasingly strong. By 1900, *The Sabbath Recorder* was saturated with messages of the work ethic. On the cover of the October 1, 1900, issue of *The Sabbath Recorder* was this poem:

Be Strong

Be Strong!
We are not here to play, to dream, to
drift.
We have hard work to do, and loads
to lift.
Shun not the struggle—face it; tis
God's gift.
Be Strong!
Say not the days are evil. Who's to
blame?

And fold the hands and acquiesce—
oh, shame!
Stand up, speak out, and bravely, in
God's name.

Be Strong!

It matters not how deep entrenched
the wrong,
How hard the battle goes, the day
how long;
Faint not—fight on! Tomorrow
comes the song.

Maltbie D. Babcock, D.D.

An article in another issue of
the same year was entitled, "Be
Ready":

"Promptness and punctuality
are virtues rated high by business
men, and one who possesses them is
very sure to advance more rapidly
than one who is unpunctual and
slow to decide on a course of action."

The emphasis on work did not
lighten any in the years to follow. In
the first issue of 1918, in an article
addressed to young people and
entitled, "A New Year's Letter,"
Martha Wardner exclaims, "I want
to emphasize . . . the value of
systematic work." The entire article
centered around the theme that
systematic work is a virtue which
will reap benefits.

Christian Endeavor was being
highly promoted for Seventh Day
Baptist young people in the early
1900's. Christian Endeavor was a
denominational society of young
people which stressed loyalty to
Christ, the church, and causes of
social reform. Signing pledges and
being expected to dutifully fulfill
obligations to the causes of the
society were hallmarks of this
organization. The goal was "to
make ourselves and the world
better."

Many, many more examples of
articles espousing the virtue of hard
work could be cited. I am not
attempting to deride the value of
work, or question the noble

intentions of those who wrote
articles relating to work. What I am
suggesting is this: In a society
where hard work, self discipline,
and relentless attention to duty are
virtues of the highest order and, in
effect, become equated with
spiritual responsibilities, it is
difficult to expound upon a God-
ordained day of rest and
celebration. There would be fear
that rest can too easily encourage
slothfulness; celebration can lead to
undisciplined disorganization. As
an example of the lopsidedness that
existed, the 1920 issues of *The
Sabbath Recorder* contain pages of
articles and messages pertaining to
the value of hard work and
discipline. There is not one article on
the Sabbath. The message of the
day was, "hurry up, work hard, the
world needs your efforts!" The
message of the Sabbath is just the
opposite: "slow down, rest, forget
about the toils of the world." There
was no room for this kind of
message in the mind-set of the
times. The message of the Sabbath
became obscured; the American
value system prevailed.

This does not mean that
Seventh Day Baptists quit keeping
the Sabbath. However, I believe that
the emphasis for keeping it was
primarily because "God said so."
There was not a doctrinal shift, but
there does seem to be a silence on the
subject of the joys and benefits of
the Sabbath observance. What has
appeared to be legalism is possibly
the result of misunderstanding the
true meaning of the Sabbath.

How does this historical review
relate to the development of
Sabbath philosophy? It is very
relevant. A successful Sabbath
philosophy incorporates not only
theory, but practical application.
This brief period of history
demonstrates that in order to
experience the meaning and

validity of the Sabbath, it cannot be expected to fit into man's value systems. Values must be adjusted to fit within the context of Sabbath experience. This is the only way it can reflect the beauty and fulfill the purpose for which God created it.

In order to maintain a highly joyful, spiritual Sabbath, I cannot try to reconcile it to my contemporary culture. My culture, my value systems, must be reconciled to the Sabbath.

—Excerpted from The Sabbath Recorder, February, 1986. The author, who is pastor of the Seattle SDB congregation, wrote this article in connection with a course in Sabbath philosophy.

Seven-day Cycle In Body

According to an article published in the July '86 issue of *Omni*, a British researcher has discovered a medical seven-day cycle. Verna Wright, a medical doctor and professor of rheumatology at the University of Leeds, says that God programmed the human body to protect itself from too much stress by taking a day off every seven days.

Wright monitored a group of urinary hormones that are the breakdown products of the adrenal gland. High volumes of these are associated with stress. The researcher discovered that "there was a weekly rhythm of these chemicals. The lowest levels were on Sunday." Wright noted that attempts by industrial society to extend the week have failed and said, "We ignore the Sabbath at our peril. We keep it at our inestimable benefit." Wright may have the wrong day, but he's got the right idea.

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Record Year for SDA Accessions

The Seventh-day Adventist Church reports 426,678 new converts in 1986, the highest number ever. The increase was 4.9 per cent greater than in 1985 and represented a 6.7 per cent growth in church membership. Total membership worldwide is now set at 5,033,062.

Church of God in Nigeria

The Church of God, Jerusalem Acres, Cleveland, Tennessee, reports that the work in Nigeria is expanding rapidly through the efforts of Minister M. S. Attai. Some 987 converts have been added to the church, and a new school with 245 students has been established. However, there is also persecution and opposition, including a recent fatal attack on Minister Akpan E. Eti.

Adventist Hospital Cutbacks

In a recent article in *Adventist Review*, Adventist Health System (AHS) president Donald Welch explained the planned layoff of 400 to 600 employees at Loma Linda University Medical Center as well as cutbacks at other Adventist hospitals. Among the reasons cited were the doubling of malpractice insurance costs in the last year, demands made by health-maintenance organizations, insurance companies, small increases in Medicare payments, and technology that allows many treatments to be done without hospitalization. Welch wrote, "Currently the United States health-care delivery system is involved in a revolution. This

revolution is requiring change. Adventist health-care management is aware of these changes and is involved in restructuring at all levels."

Welch noted that the Loma Linda facility, a leader in fiscal management, has been very profitable in general and is in a much better financial position than most U.S. hospitals. However, in 1986 AHS had to divest itself of six smaller, less-competitive hospitals, while it explores alternative services such as drug rehabilitation programs. Concluding with a reference to difficult times ahead in the health care industry, Welch noted, "Unless we can find ways to reposition some of our institutions, it will be necessary to continue to divest."

In a related story, an Adventist hospital in Orlando, Florida, reported that it is only the second hospital in the country to offer a nonsurgical procedure for women with small breast lump. Using the TRC Mammotest needle biopsy machine, the hospital can localize and do biopsies on lumps so small they cannot be felt.

Official Decision on New SDA HQ

The Seventh-day Adventist Church's world headquarters will be relocated on Highway 29 in Silver Springs, Maryland. After a January 29 vote in favor of a site in Columbia, Maryland, and then an April 2 vote to reconsider the Silver Springs site, church officials announced on April 22 that the church would build on Highway 29,

continuing its 84 years in Montgomery County. Difficulties involving parking spaces and use of public transportation were worked out with county officials after a 30-month delay. Construction will probably begin in September of this year, occupancy early in 1989.

Andrews Musicians Won't Go!

In a competition with 46 other ensembles, the Andrews University Wind Ensemble was chosen by Extraordinary Students of America for a four-week, all-expense-paid European tour. However, when they learned that much travel and performance time would be on the Sabbath and that some performances were in night clubs, the 42-member group decided not to go.

Another Adventist Article in *Readers' Digest*

The May, 1987, issue of *Readers' Digest* featured a condensation of an article previously published in the May, 1983, issue of *These Times*. Written by Henry N. Ferguson, the article focused on the importance of praising and complimenting one's spouse, taking its theme from the proverb, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."

Reach Ministries into TV

John Sacoulas, director of Reach Ministries of Denver, announced that the ministry's primary focus is now a television program. Currently broadcast through six outlets in Denver, Palm Beach, and Ft. Lauderdale, the one-hour program features a variety of different guests and topics. The first 24 programs, all available on video cassette, included Christian music, personal testimonies, a theological

debate, interviews with people involved in a wide variety of different ministries.

Sunshine Mountain Honors Oldest and Youngest

Sunshine Mountain Home, operated as a ministry of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, honored its youngest and oldest residents with a birthday party on March 18. The youngest is three-year old Robert Hartley, who lives at the home with his sister Vanessa and mother Stacey.

The oldest resident, born March 19, 1907, is Clara Beebe, who came to Sunshine Mountain when her daughter and son-in-law Anne and Otis Lastinger, took over the job as houseparents for the special children at Sunshine Mountain. They are in charge of the Clifford A. Beebe Memorial Home, which is named for Clara's late husband, a Seventh Day Baptist minister, who served as a vice-president, director and editor for The Bible Sabbath Association in the early 1950's. Mrs. Beebe, soon to enter her 91st year, enjoys spending time with the children of the Sunshine Mountain, helping out with chores, reading, and corresponding with many people.

"The World Tomorrow" in the Ratings

According to the Nielsen and Arbitron ratings published in the *Los Angeles Times* during March, "The World Tomorrow" telecast, sponsored by Worldwide Church of God, ranked number four among religious programs. Robert Schuller and Jimmy Swaggart were ranked first and second; Oral Roberts was third. Further down the list were

Richard DeHaan, Jerry Falwell, Kenneth Copeland, D. James Kennedy, and "The 700 Club."

According to Nielsen, "The World Tomorrow" has 560,000 viewers each week; according to Arbitron it has 1,054,000 viewers and is on a total of 236 stations.

Also among the top 15 programs was George Vandeman on "It Is Written."

Garner Ted Armstrong on NCN

The Church of God, International recently announced it has purchased time on the National Christian Network, which is available via satellite to anyone in the Western Hemisphere with a dish antenna. The Garner Ted Armstrong telecast can be picked up at 9 a.m. (Central Time) on Saturdays and Sundays (Westar IV Satellite, Transponder 3X, channel 6).

Local TV stations carrying the telecast can now pick it up from the satellite, taping it for rebroadcast at the appropriate time.

Adventist-Owned Satellite TV

On April 1, the Three Angels Broadcasting Network, the first Adventist-owned satellite TV ministry, began broadcasting its 18-hours of daily programming. The station, based in Illinois, was put together by Danny Shelton.

Sacred Name Mailing List

Jacob O Meyer, directing elder of Assemblies of Yahweh and editor of *The Sacred Name Broadcaster*, reports that subscriptions to the magazine have topped the 14,000 mark. A printing plant addition, currently under construction, will give the Bethel, Pennsylvania,

assembly capacity to publish more than 100,000 magazines.

Phon-athon for Soviet Dissidents

Minneapolis area resident Steven Collins, member of Association for Christian Development of Rolling Bay, Washington, recently participated in a phon-athon on behalf of Soviet Jews and Christians who are being persecuted. Collins and other participants made phone calls to officials of *Tass*, *Pravda*, Russian trade organizations, the Soviet Embassy, and Soviet consular staffs—in an effort to bring some pressure on the Soviet government to ease the burden of those oppressed behind the Iron Curtain. Concluding his report in the *ACD Newsletter*, Collins wrote, "If you could have heard the stories of how these fellow Christians and Jews are harrassed and abused in the Soviet Union, you would have found the same benefit I did after the Phon-athon: a far greater appreciation of how blessed we are to live in America."

Tragic Accident in Philippines

Killed in a van accident in April were the president and secretary of the North Philippine Union Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist church. The van driver was also killed and three other Mission staff members were injured.

If you want to make people angry, lie. If you want to make them absolutely livid with rage, tell them the truth!

Use the Sabbath for Building Up the Body

By William E. Shobe

Perhaps you can remember new people who came to your church for a while, and then stopped coming. The problem is that they probably never became a part of the church. They did not feel as though they belonged or were needed in the church. This problem is especially great in churches full of *old-timers*, who have assumed all the service responsibilities in the church and have developed cliques. Somehow it is hard to feel a part of a church like that.

Willard Black has observed that ninety percent of new members will stay in their congregations if:

1. They can articulate their faith;
2. They can become involved in sub groups;
3. They have four to eight close friends in the church.

God's Sabbath gives us a vital opportunity to build these kinds of relationships within the church body. There may be Bible study groups, women's groups or youth groups that meet during the other six days of the week, but often we have little time in our busy schedules for new fellowship. It is hard enough to keep our existing relationships strong. But Sabbath provides us with hours of uncultured time, already dedicated to God's use for worship and fellowship.

Ask yourself a few questions! What activities does our church offer for building relationships within the body of the Sabbath day?



When was the last time I made a special effort to get acquainted with either a newcomer to our church or someone that I still do not know very well? Am I really open to using God's Sabbath to help people feel and become a part of our church by visiting them at their home or even inviting them to share a meal at mine?

What a life-giving opportunity God has given the church in the Sabbath day. It's a time to be a body, and enjoy the sweetness of all that we have in common through Jesus our Savior. It's a time for building up our body as we share our lives with each other, and strengthen our relationships. It is a vital time that too many of us are hesitant to put to its best use. Yet the growing church will see the opportunity, and use it to God's glory.

—Excerpted from *The Sabbath Recorder*.

Pornography got a boost from a May 4th Supreme Court ruling that community standards are not the only factors determining what materials are obscene. If a *minority of "reasonable" persons* finds value in material most consider obscene, the will of the majority can now be overridden. While this ruling has not yet been broadly applied, it is possible that few, if any, pornographers will be convicted from now on.

Years of struggle by Christian groups to educate the community have finally brought about massive opposition to literature which causes sex crimes and destroys marriages. A poll of the very liberal New York City area by *American Demographics* magazine, for instance, showed that about 60% want sex publications out of grocery and convenience stores, from which they flow into the hands of millions of minors. The ruling has not reversed all the progress that has been made, but has dealt a serious setback.

Congress has the power to redress some of the Supreme Court's more grievous wrongs. Complain to your representatives at House of Congress, Washington, DC 20510.

Chlamydia, a little known sexually transmitted disease, has become the major communicable ill among high-schoolers, infecting perhaps 1/6 of the girls and 1/12 of the boys who are sexually active. If not treated soon enough, it can cause infertility and abnormal pregnancy in women and sterility in men. Though almost ignored due to the

AIDS scare, chlamydia affects 100 times more people, 3-4 million.

Persecution always has followed those who heed Christ's command to teach all nations. Now that the gospel is going out with more power than ever before, more opposition is arising. Hindu pressure has prompted Indian President Zail Singh to call for a "voluntary" halt to Christian missionaries' conversion efforts. Violence or government restriction of religious freedom is quite possible. Anti-government rioters in Nigeria have destroyed as many as 150 churches and killed up to 60 Christians, many of them pastors. Church leaders have told the brethren to love their enemies and pray for them.

Florida Churches must pay sales tax on money collected for weddings, funerals, suppers, etc., unless a recently enacted law is changed. It may be unconstitutional because of religion's exemption from taxes dating back to the Middle Ages, something accepted by most of America's founders.

Parochial school tuitions will be taxed while public school monies will not, putting the religious institutions at a disadvantage. Church school parents must already pay education taxes without their children receiving the benefit, an inequity that other states are correcting with tax-forgiveness or voucher systems. Many religious groups are fighting for a change.

Send clippings to Howard M. Mesick, RD 1 Box 229-1, Hartly, DE 19953.

TO REPEAT

SIGNIFICANT STATEMENTS BY OR ABOUT SABBATHKEEPERS

I suggest, then, that on or before May 1, 1988—the 1,000th year of Christianity in Russia—the Soviet government witness to its greatness and generosity of spirit by declaring amnesty for all “prisoners of conscience,” a gesture that would arrest and grip the attention of the world.

SDA General Conference President Neal C. Wilson, in a paper addressed to Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, presented at the Forum for a Non-Nuclear World and the Survival of Humanity, held during February in Moscow.

So many of the areas of controversy in Christianity are easily resolved when one looks into Biblical Judaism. We believe that the re-examining of Christianity's origin is the key to finding a common base upon which true Christian ecumenism can be established. The answer is in a Christianity that is set in its original Judaic heritage.

An article entitled “Right on Target: A Basis for Christian Unity,” in the Jan/Feb '87 issue of The Vision Speaks, published by The Church of God, Jerusalem Acres.

What a different picture we would see if the chinook of the Holy Spirit would cause the flakes to cling together in unity and cover the whole earth! If the world could see our unity, peace, trust, and serenity, wouldn't that stir them to sing out in adoration of the Creator and respect for His Holy Sabbath!

Lettie Siddens, in an article in Good Tidings, April, '87.

Some Adventists confuse faith with culture. For example, U.S. Adventists may think American, White, and Republican as their model of the church. Some missionaries have imposed Western, rather than Adventist, values upon converts. That type of thinking is outmoded. The worldwide Adventist brotherhood must grow up out of native soil, indigenous, not a Western transplant.

William G. Johnsson, editor of Adventist Review, in an article in the May 7, '87 issue of that publication.

Would it surprise you to learn that the only person in the Bible who uses the expression “my church” is Jesus Christ? In fact, there is not one possessive pronoun used of the church anywhere in the New Testament except those referring to God. It is not Paul's church, Peter's church, or John's church. It is God's Church which they are called to serve.

Ronald L. Dart, in an article entitled “Whose Church Is This, Anyway?” in The International News, Spring '87.

The views expressed are in no way intended to necessarily reflect those of The Bible Sabbath Association. If you read or hear concise, significant statements by or about Sabbatharians, please send them to us for possible publication in this column. Include name and address of author.

Objects to Article

Unless there is something I have missed, I am left utterly *amazed* as to why you should print an article that promotes the error that Sunday is the Sabbath [Rest? Never on Sunday, March '87]. You must surely be aware that the author is criticizing those who do not regard Sunday as the "Sabbath," and profane it. True, he may use some good arguments that may well be used by Sabbathkeepers, but in the process perpetuates confusion. All I can think is that you folks are getting very desparate for material. I did notice the responses that followed but does this justify the foregoing article? I think not.

—Gray Hodge
Tasmania, Australia

Editor's Note: We are aware the author was a first-day Christian, but as we took the article, he was promoting the principle of the Sabbath without any reference to the day of the week. We thought it very newsworthy that such an article should be published in Christianity Today.

Former Subscriber

I once subscribed to the SENTINEL, yet allowed my subscription to lapse. You had so thoroughly addressed the pros and cons of the Sabbath question that I found no need of further "convincing." Even so, I had forgotten the SENTINEL's value as an outreach tool, so I plan to renew.

I really believe BSA needs to more aggressively pursue the goal of

unity among the "divided house" of Sabbathkeepers. Disputes over matters unrelated to our salvation and not based in our Lord's teachings are accorded far too great importance. Much too frequently, our Master's simple directives are ignored in pursuit of denominational squabbles over doctrines and traditions that originate with men. The church walls may unify those within, yet they also serve to exclude those without. It is far past time to tear down the denominational walls.

—P.S., North Carolina

Inquiry from Poland

I am a Sabbath Day Christian Church member in Poland and am interested in other Sabbathkeeping groups. I would like to know as much as possible about you and would like to receive the SENTINEL.

—J.L., Bydgoszcz, Poland

Appreciates Magazine

I receive THE SABBATH SENTINEL, and it has much to offer in regards to the Sabbath issue. I pass out a lot of my extra copies, and people find them very helpful in studying the Sabbath question. It has helped me in my contacts and Bible studies.

—W.H. McCann
Dundee, Michigan

We welcome your letters, preferably short and concise. We reserve the right to condense and excerpt. Names can be withheld if requested. Address to *The Sabbath Sentinel*, RD1 Box 222, Fairview, OK 73737.



Resources Available From BSA

Books

<i>History of the Sabbath & Sunday</i> by John Kiesz (64 pp.)	\$3
<i>From Sabbath to Sunday</i> by Samuele Bacchionchi (372 pp.)	\$8
<i>Divine Rest for Human Restlessness</i> by Samuele Bacchionchi (320 pp.)	\$8
<i>The Law, the Gospel and the Sabbath</i> by Frank M. Walker (91 pp.)	\$3
<i>Right Face: A Handbook for Sabbathkeepers</i> by Eugene Lincoln (30 pp.)	2 for \$1
Directory of Sabbath-Observing Groups, 1986 Edition	\$7
Back issues of THE SABBATH SENTINEL	40 for \$5

Booklets

<i>Bible Truths about "Salvation by Grace Through Faith"</i> by Frank M. Walker (32 pp., 20/lb.)	50¢ each; \$8/20
<i>Questions for Seventh Dayists Answered</i> by Terril D. Littrell (18 pp., 30/lb)	20¢ each; \$5/30
<i>Sabbath Truth and Sunday Fallacies</i> by George A. Main (12 pp, 60/lb.) ..	10¢ each; \$5/60
<i>Has Sabbath Time Been Lost</i> by Joseph M. McGuire (10 pp. 60/lb)	15¢ each; \$9/60
<i>Why the Seventh Day Sabbath</i> (12 pp.)	20¢ each; \$17/100

Tracts

<i>Facts on Sabbath</i> (6 pp, 120/lb.)	5¢ each/ \$5/120
<i>Roman Catholic Confessions About Sunday</i> (8 pp, 100/lb.)	5¢ each; \$5/100
<i>Protestant Confessions About Sunday</i> (6 pp, 130/lb.)	4¢ each/ \$5/130
<i>The Weekly Rest Day</i> by George A. Main (4 pp, 200/lb.)	3¢ each/ \$5/200
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Because of high mailing costs, we request minimum orders of \$5, if possible.

You may mix various tracts to make up orders of at least \$5. Sample copies of tracts are available free if you enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with your request. THANK YOU!

Promotional Aids

Sabbath Calendars for 1987	\$1.75 each; \$1.50 each for 10 or more
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Sabbath seals	\$1/dozen
Post cards with Sabbath message on one side, space for message and address the other side	\$1/dozen

Bible on Cassette Tape available free on loan for cost of postage

Members of The Bible Sabbath Association may take a 20% discount off the list price of all items. Order from:

THE BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION
R.D. 1, Box 222, Fairview, OK 73737
Phone (405) 227-3200

Christians in Crisis suffered a computer disk failure during January. If you aren't receiving the newsletter, perhaps your address was lost. Write Christians in Crisis, 1111 Fairgrounds Rd., Grand Rapids, MN 55744. (7)

Free Bible Course, diploma upon completion. Write Zion Faith College, P.O. Box 804, Caldwell, ID 83606. (7)

Melbourne, Florida, Reformation Church, Sabbath worship 10 a.m., Sun Bank Tower, Rialto Place. Video Bible class follows. (5-7)

Free monthly Bible Prophetic Assn. Newsletter. Send s.a.s.e. for information to: Bible Prophetic Assn., 16050 69th St. S.E., Snohomish, WA 98290. (4-7)

50th year Jubilee, '87-'88. May be the most important 7 annual Sabbaths in our lives for receiving blessings of Deut. 27-28 and Lev. 23. For information about meeting at home or with groups listed in the Sabbath *Directory* in different states and cities, write or call Norman Keller, 1838 W. Hayes, Davenport, IA 52804; (319) 391-2728. (5-7)

The Christian Church of God holds weekly Sabbath services. Serving southeast Florida. For information, write P.O. Box 3827, Lantana, FL 33465. (7-7)

Word to the Little Flock 1847; Present Truth 1849-50; Advent Review 1850; Kellogg Interview 1907; Jones Letter; William Miller Chart 1843. All P.P. \$20. Write W.H. Olson, Box 1826, Washington, D.C. 20013. (7-8)

We have been blessed by the Holy Spirit with psalms and parables of love, prophecy, and warning, all in the form of beautiful music! We have transferred this blessing onto two, sixty-minute cassette tapes together with printed foldouts of the words. When requesting a set of two, sixty-minute music tapes, please include a minimum of one dollar's worth of USA postage stamps, only if you are able. Write: O'Leary, River Rt., Getta Cr. Landing, Lewiston, ID 83501. (5-8)

Free subscription to The Prophetic Word Magazine! Learn the prophecies now being fulfilled! Learn the prophecies for our future! Write Box 2442, Abilene, TX 79604 (1-12)

Classified ads are available at the rate of 30¢ per word (including each word and each group of numbers in the address). Copy for classified ads should be sent, along with payment, to The Bible Sabbath Association, Fairview, OK 73737. Deadline is the 15th of the month for the issue of the second subsequent month (e.g., April 15 for June issue).

BSA reserves the right to reject any copy; publication does not necessarily imply endorsement by The Bible Sabbath Association.

Information and rates for display advertising is available upon request.

"Build a better world," said God, and I answered, "How?"

"The world is such a vast and complicated place now."

"I'm so small and useless—there's nothing I can do!"

But God in all His wisdom said, "Just build a better YOU!"

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Check the label on your magazine: An "M" means you're already a member. An "L" means you're a life member. Anything else means you have the opportunity today to join with others in sharing the good news of the Sabbath with a world that so desperately needs God's rest.

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