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Jerry Pakivai.
Photo: J. L. Wilson.

GRATIFYING EXAM RESULTS

J. L. WILSON, Principal,
Kabiufa Adventist High School

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE there are few occasions that are more suspense-filled (with a mixture of hope and apprehension) than when the results of an important exam are awaited. Therefore, at our high school at Kabiufa in Papua New Guinea, there was both relief and rejoicing when the "Post Courier" of February 4 published the Form 4 School Certificate exam results. The thirty-seven students who had sat these exams gained between them thirty-three distinctions, which is three times better than the average. A group of twenty-five History students who studied under former deputy-principal, Brother Alwyn Campbell, gained twelve distinctions.

But the biggest thrill was to see, published on the front page of the "Post Courier," a photograph of the pupil who came top in the School Certificate exams for all the Territory: Jerry Pakivai, a student from Kabiufa Adventist High School!

Jerry, who is sixteen years of age and one of the youngest to sit the exams, was born in Papua New Guinea of Solomon Islands parents. For some years his father has been a teacher in our mission primary schools. At the present time he is president of the Morobe Mission of Seventh-day Adventists in the Papua New Guinea Union Mission.

Jerry has also won the distinction of being the top Maths and Maths/Science student of the year and for this he receives the Papua New Guinea Scientific Society's prize of \$20 toward further study. It is interesting to note that in the five years during which the society has offered this prize, students from our schools have taken it three times, and twice our pupils have been the top Maths student.

We are grateful to the Lord for His guidance and blessing in our educational work and for the encouragement these exam results give to both students and teachers.

The Western Australian Conference reports . . .

Inspiring Camp Meeting with Strong Health Emphasis

W. G. DOWLING, Secretary, Department of Communication, Western Australian Conference

OFFICIALLY OPENING the seventy-first Convention of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Western Australia, Pastor C. S. Adams, the Conference president, said that the year 1973 had seen encouraging progress in almost every area of the church's programme.

"As a result of the increased financial support by members during 1973, we have this year been able to call three additional ministers to meet the needs of our expanding programme." Pastor Adams expressed appreciation for the liberality of church members not only in the support of local programmes but in giving to meet urgent needs overseas, such as the Ethiopian Famine Relief (\$5,000), the Brisbane Flood Victims Fund (\$7,000) and the mission programme in Fiji (\$7,000).

"It is also encouraging," said Pastor Adams, "that the church's school enrolment last year was the highest ever. Furthermore, young people made up 50 per cent of the church's increase in membership during 1973." The measure of success achieved under the blessing of God was due to the combined efforts of ministers and laymen, and particularly an increased involvement of laymen.

Tithe receipts also increased during the past year to an all-time record. "However, progress should also be measured in terms of spiritual values," said Pastor Adams. "How do we measure up to our spiritual forebears? There is need for a greater faith in God. The faith demonstrated by such Bible characters as Enoch, Abraham and Moses should be our example."

Faith and respect for spiritual values are vital for stability in community and home relationships. Pastor Adams called attention to the Convention motto, "The Christian Home—A Circle of Strength," prominently displayed above the pavilion



Pastor E. L. Minchin, himself a former Carmel College student, was delighted to be associated with the special Carmel College programme presented the first Saturday night of camp. Pastor and Sister Minchin are pictured with Conference president, Pastor C. S. Adams.

Pictures this page: R. K. Brown.



Sister M. Barnes, pictured with the Carmel College programme compere Gerry Blum (right) and Pastor M. Tonkin. Sister Barnes, who is now eighty-two years of age, was a student at Carmel in 1907, the year the college was opened.

platform. He then made an appeal for greater dedication on the part of the membership, both in faithfulness and commitment to God and also in service to our fellow men.

They Came Home

A very much-appreciated feature of the camp meeting programme was conducted by Pastor C. R. Stanley, the Division Ministerial secretary. "Happiness Home-made," the title given to a bright and highly practical half-hour, was based on the timely counsel in the book, "The Adventist Home," by Mrs. E. G. White.

Other representatives from the Australasian Division were Pastor C. V. Christian, Youth director, and Pastor R. A. Vince, associate director, Department of Communication. Representing the Trans-Commonwealth Union Conference were Pastors E. F. Giblett, Lay Activities secretary; O. L. Speck, Trust Services director; R. K. Brown, Health, Temperance and Communication secretary; and W. Pitt, Publishing Department secretary. Pastor R. H. Parr, editor of the SIGNS OF THE TIMES, RECORD and GOOD HEALTH, represented the Signs Publishing Company.



Sister Grafham points out to Pastor R. H. Parr a six-year-old girl, herself, in the group attending the first camp meeting in Western Australia, held in 1902. Brother Grafham looks on.

Photo: R. K. Brown.



Pastor H. G. Halliday (left) carefully times Mr. Barry Chapman pedalling the exercise cycle at 60 m.p.h. for one minute. Barry believes in keeping fit, and he also believes in health evangelism. Last year he met a young couple who were holidaying near the family farm in Donnybrook. Barry recognized their interest in vegetarianism, gave them helpful information, studied with them and invited them to Pastor Pearce's Bunbury mission. When they returned to their home state the interest continued, and the last Barry heard, they were preparing for baptism.

Picture: R. K. Brown.

A warm welcome was given to Pastor and Mrs. E. L. Minchin upon returning to their home state. Many friends of by-gone years were delighted to exchange greetings and recall the blessing of past associations. Pastor Minchin's ministry during the camp programme was a source of inspiration and strength. His appeals for reconsecration and dedication to the finishing of the task brought a ready response.

"What part of the camp programme do you generally enjoy most?" I put this question to one who has had ample time and opportunity to form an opinion. You see, Sister L. H. Grafham has now attended seventy-one Western Australian camp meetings! Her reply to my question came without hesitation. "The early morning meetings, of course. In fact, I never miss any of the meetings at camp," said Sister Grafham. Sister Grafham attended the first camp in Western Australia, held in 1902, and has a picture to prove it. In the early camp-meeting days—for twenty years in fact—she led the camp programme for primary-aged children. Both Brother and Sister Grafham are retired, but, as many RECORD readers will remember, they have given very valuable volunteer service in Island Mission building projects.

Health Evangelism

Strong emphasis on health evangelism resulted from the combined efforts of the Sanitarium Health Food Company, the Trans-Commonwealth Union Conference and local Conference Health secretaries and a group of young people led by Brother Elwyn Scale.

Doctor Murray Howse and Brother Chris Chapman (dentist) joined with Pastors R. K. Brown and W. G. Dowling in presenting four afternoon Health programmes. These were designed to give practical help on subjects such as the use and misuse of analgesics, the laws of nature, dental health, cancer—early signs and symptoms, and the value of exercise for healthy lungs, heart and general fitness.

The ABC Television News Service was interested in this aspect of our programme, and filmed demonstrations of

(Concluded on page 14)



In response to the appeal of Pastor C. V. Christian and his missionary associates, these children eagerly filled the canoe two or three times. Their parents responded by giving and pledging just over \$14,000.

Picture: W. G. Dowling.



TOGETHER

—WITH THE PRESIDENT

The Harvest

IT HAS BEEN well said that harvest time is always the present. Christ emphasized the urgency of reaping. He did not suggest that it was something that would always be future, but dwelt upon the NOW. (John 4: 35.)

As we consider the evangelistic outreach of the church in Australasia in 1973, the question arises as to whether there was a successful harvest or whether we failed in the work of reaping. Naturally, we can never be satisfied at the results achieved, but are always grateful and encouraged as God blesses the joint efforts of the ministry and laity as they move forward together.

Statistics reveal that in 1973 a total of 6,918 souls were added to the church. This is a greater figure than that attained in any other year since the message of the three angels was first preached in this Division. Of this number, 4,889 were baptized in the mission field and 2,029 in the home base. We now have 63,328 members in the three Union Missions and 43,927 in the two Union Conferences.

It will be observed that in recent years the rate of growth in the South Pacific has somewhat exceeded the advance in Australia and New Zealand. It is very apparent that the seeds sown so well in the mission field over many years are now bearing fruit. For instance, the record baptism of 3,309 in Papua New Guinea will greatly rejoice the hearts of all who have laboured in that field. It has been said many times that it took twenty-two years to win the first twenty-one converts in that country. The present membership in Papua New Guinea is 38,592—the largest Union in the Division.

The total Division membership of 107,255 represents a ratio of one church member to every 189 of population. In penetration of population, Australasia leads the world field. In twenty years the Division membership has trebled, and it has doubled in the past thirteen years.

Are we satisfied? The answer must be a concerted No. Gratified? Yes. But the Lord of the harvest continues to look for reapers. (Matt. 9: 37, 38.) He expects that there will be acceleration in the promulgation of the gospel, for soon the final harvest is to take place. In Rev. 14: 14-16 we read of the final reaping. The time for the gathering of all honest hearts; the gathering of the righteous.

Events within and without the church continue to point up the great final events. Every alert church member is conscious of the dramatic moments in which we live. The last calls must be made in preparation for the final thrust of the sickle held so firmly in the divine hand.

As I write, two pictures are before me on my office wall. Both depict harvest scenes. The first artist has used his brush to present a scene of peace and tranquillity. It is a clear day, the hay has been cut and the workers are gathering it on to a large wagon. In the background is water, and fluffy clouds fill the distance. One could quite readily get the impression that this represents harvest time under peaceful circumstances.

The other artist had different ideas. Here the last bales of hay are being gathered. The field is almost clear, and the wagon is being hurriedly loaded. In the background are most menacing black clouds. No water scene, no tranquillity. The storm is about to break and the workmen are no doubt conscious of the need for great haste, for soon it will be too late for them to accomplish their tasks.

I choose to have these two pictures before me, for they are a continual reminder of our task, our responsibility. We have had years, decades, in which to gather a harvest in what may have been more peaceful times. What we do now must be done in the face of the difficulties that are to multiply in these closing days of earth's history. The last souls must be gathered in, for soon it will be too late; the storms will break and probation will close. Then the final cries of rejoicing and sadness will be heard.

Again: "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4: 35.

ROBERT R. FRAME, President,
Australasian Division of Seventh-day Adventists.

"Isn't Jesus, My Lord, Wonderful?"

MARY STELLMAKER

Communication Secretary, Avondale
Memorial Church

WAS IT seven times they sang it at the Avondale High School one morning? It was sung at work, at the sink while washing up, on the way to school—in fact, wherever young people went.

It was Youth Week of Prayer, March 9-16, at the Avondale Memorial church. Guest speaker for the week was Pastor K. E. Martin, Youth leader of the Trans-Tasman Union. As he led out in the divine service on both Sabbaths he was assisted not by elders, but by young men who are serving the church as deacons.

Despite heavy rain on the Sunday evening, about one hundred and forty young people attended a youth tea in the lower church hall. The delicious meal provided by the church catering committee, attractive decorations, and the background music rendered by Mr. Roy Sodeman and Mrs. Snowda Siregar all helped to create a very pleasant atmosphere. As the meal progressed, the elders and their wives moved around among the young people, chatting in an informal way. After tea, the film "So Many Voices" was shown, followed by a few comments from Pastor Martin, and the tone was set for what was to follow during the rest of the week.

Special meetings were conducted each morning at the high school, some morn-



Pastor K. Martin, the speaker for the Youth Week.



Youth pastor of the Avondale Memorial church, Brother G. Kane (centre), with a group of young people at the youth tea.



The youth tea—all laid out and ready to go. Pictures, courtesy M. Stellmaker.

ings at the primary school, at state primary and high schools in the district, and each evening in the church. Every day Pastor Martin made himself available for private counselling. He shared in the experiences of the youth, and seemed to get right into their thinking. The presence of the Holy Spirit was felt in many lives as decisions were made.

"Fantastic"

Over seventy young people took part with church pastors and elders in a special ordinance service at the church on Friday evening. An earliteen who had drawn closer to Christ during the week described this service as "fantastic," and thanked the Lord for sending Pastor Martin.

But perhaps the best of all was on the last Sabbath afternoon. With Tom Mitchell at the organ and Max McDonald at the piano, the youth sang again and again the theme song of the week, "Isn't Jesus, my Lord, wonderful?" From the depth of experience they could now sing:

"Life's so rich, life's so full,
Isn't Jesus, my Lord, wonderful?
He's my Lord and my King
And my all to Him I bring."

Personal testimonies from youth pastor, Brother Geoff Kane, and Pastor Martin, opened the way for the youth to give their testimony. What a thrill for those who are older to see young people with conviction and purpose walk right to the front of our large church and speak for the Lord. There was the lovely young girl who said, "I found Christ once, then I kind of slipped away a bit, but I've found Him again this week." Then there was the young man who said he had found greater peace than he had ever known before, and another who dedicated his life to finishing the work.

One Hundred Decisions

After taking eighteen meetings in the week, Pastor Martin still had a smile on his face, and with good reason. Over one hundred young people had made definite decisions for Christ. Over thirty of these indicated that they had been baptized,

but would like to study further in order to consolidate. Another group of over thirty requested studies to prepare for baptism this year, while a third group of thirty younger folk requested studies to prepare for baptism at a future time, perhaps not this year. Now our church pastors, Pastor L. C. Coombe and Brother G.

Kane, have the happy task of organizing studies for a hundred young people.

"With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world."—"Messages to Young People," page 196.

WELL DONE !

It's been a long time since we acknowledged the faithful service of those who have recently retired, and to remedy this, we will endeavour to feature this column for two or three weeks. We begin with three important (but every worker is important) Health Food personalities:

Mr. William E. Zeunert (pictured, lower left) began his service in the organized work in 1932 as a colporteur. He served the Company in Brisbane, Sydney, Cooranbong and Perth until 1945, when he was called to the Division Office to the accountant's chair. Later, he was appointed assistant treasurer of the Division, where he served for twenty-one years. His last seven years of service were at the Health Food factory at Cooranbong, in management. Mr. and Mrs. Zeunert are enjoying the bracing airs of Warrunga in retirement, which began on August 1, last year.

Mr. Harold Eiszele (lower, centre), is a Tasmanian, and joined the S.H.F. Co., in 1926. He served in Hobart, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney, Hobart (again), and at the time of his retirement was manager of the Adelaide Factory and Wholesale. Of the forty-seven years he served, Mr. Eiszele spent thirty-eight in management. Word has it that, since his retirement on August 1 of last year, he and his wife reside in Sydney.

Mr. F. H. Pinfold (lower, right) retired according to one source, on July 14, and from another department we learn that his retirement began in October last year. However, it is safe to say that he has his feet up by this. A New Zealander, Mr. Pinfold entered the work in 1929, and from what we can gather, spent most of his service from that point on in New Zealand, working at Dunedin, in sales work in the North Island, in Wellington, and at the time of his retirement was Auckland Retail manager. His Australian service was as manager of the Hobart Factory and Wholesale. He gave sixteen years as an administrator in a total of forty-four years.



Stop Smoking Clinic in Sydney Town Hall

LAURENCE A. GILMORE, Communication Secretary, Greater Sydney Conference

STOP SMOKING clinics held around the Division today do not necessarily make top-headline news, for their novelty has worn off somewhat with the increasing number being conducted; but to the active participant who sees his smoking habit as a major problem, they are still life savers. And a 5-Day Plan held in the Town Hall of Australia's largest city is still newsworthy.

It is our firm conviction that there is no programme conducted by the Adventist Church which creates greater goodwill and friendship and genuine appreciation than the popular 5-Day Plan. It is a winner every time. As part of Sydney's "Grande Programme" for this year, Sydney's Lower Town Hall was given gratis by the Lord Mayor and civic fathers for five nights of lectures, and here the church offered a community service to the public.

How does one tell three million people living in one city that something good is coming up which may interest them? A bold advertising programme on a scale never before attempted in this Division was planned and initiated. Television and radio commercials on prime viewing time were used; large display advertisements in two of Sydney's popular newspapers were featured; a direct mail-out to selected groups was arranged, and propitious timing was scored when this city's popular medical columnist, "Dr. Know," wrote a feature article on the 5-Day Plan, and even mentioned the time and place of the clinic to be held in the Town Hall.

Twenty efficient and attractive nurses in uniform from the Sydney Adventist Hospital were on duty in the hall foyer to register and process the participants. This was ideal, because it created that certain clinical atmosphere, and helped inspire the public with confidence as to the veracity and substance of the programme. We were proud of the nurses—they looked good and they were good.

Special Guest

Let's be frank: We hoped for large numbers and, of course, planned for them. We felt that by obtaining the best in professional advertising, and utilizing the name and voice of Johnny Cash, well-known American entertainer who quit smoking because of attendance at a 5-Day Plan in one of our American Adventist hospitals, our programme would draw hundreds of participants. It didn't. Some 123 people arrived to be instructed by our team from February 25 to March 1.

Consolation is to be had in the fact that the advertising has not been lost; it has created in the public an awareness of our health work. Even the tobacco interests have been stung into challenging some of our statements. We believe that throughout the remainder of the year benefit will continue to be felt as a result of this publicity.

The opening night saw the Honourable Milton Morris, State Minister for Transport, as special guest speaker. He said:

"Smoking is the scourge in our community and the number of young people who are smoking is alarming. That TV and radio announcement given in its monotone voice after tobacco advertisements—'Medical authorities warn that smoking is a health hazard'—may not really discourage people from smoking."

Mr. Morris paid warm tribute to "the uncompromising stand by the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the smoking problem, the alcohol issue and other social

Classmates Participate

Presenting the psychological aspect of the smoking-habit problem was Pastor R. W. Taylor, Division Temperance secretary, while Dr. P. Cappe, Sydney radiologist, dealt with the physiological aspects. These two brethren were student classmates when in training at the old Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital. Now, as teammates in this 5-Day Plan, they presented a programme which held the participants' interest to the end of the five days.

Let us give you a glimpse of one incident on the last night. The nurses standing up front had just given out some awards, when a distinguished-looking participant commenced to state, in well-chosen words, his reactions and his profound appreciation of the whole programme. "After smoking for over thirty years, and being a heavy smoker at that, I just cannot understand how the whole desire to smoke has completely left me. I am baffled. Initially, I was most apprehensive and fearful as to what would happen to me, for the small Seventh-day Adventist Church was the sponsor. May I be permitted to use the immortal words of the great Sir Winston Churchill to say: 'Never in the annals of human history has so much been accomplished for so many by so few.'" Thunderous applause from the participants followed his testimony.

We believe this fine group of Sydney people left us on the Friday evening with a better understanding of this church and its interest in the community. They will be good apostles of the 5-Day Plan, and also will, we hope, speak favourably of the humanitarian work of the Adventist Church. Perhaps when we follow the Master's example as evidenced in His mixing, helping, healing and teaching the people, then the preaching of the everlasting gospel will find a ready response among the great multitude during 1974.

Today, the vast majority of people have "turned off" religion, no matter how grand and colourful the handbill or how extensive and original the advertising of "Dead Men . . ." (or any other subject). Is it not time to take stock of what has traditionally been done, and then try to find what the public "out there" wants that we can give them instead of what we want them to have?

We pray for the success of all Stop Smoking clinics in Sydney and every other place in this Division through the remainder of "Impact '74" year.



Guest speaker, the Hon. Milton Morris, State Minister for Transport, praised Adventists for their work.

problems." He knew his subject, for he went on to say: "Smoking is a one-way ticket to doom. The Government receives \$250 million in duty and hands out \$200 million for free medicines and care."

In the Steps of the Pioneers

VALERIE FELSCH, Communication Secretary, Thornleigh Church, New South Wales

DOCTORS RUTH AND GRAHAM McMAHON and their children, Elizabeth and Norman, have recently returned to Australia after fourteen months abroad. Dr. Graham was on sabbatical leave from the University of New South Wales, and had arranged to spend some time at the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, and the University of Montreal, in Quebec, as visiting professor.

One of the highlights of their travels was visiting in the New England states and New York State, to see where the early pioneers of our work lived and preached the three angels' messages. A brochure issued by the General Conference was a great help in locating the various homes, churches, and graves of these pioneers.

The home of William Miller, which he built himself, is still standing. Adjacent to this was the chapel now owned jointly by Adventists and Advent Christians. The McMahoins stood on Ascension Rock behind the chapel—a massive outcrop of stone where, in 1844, a large group of Adventists waited for the Lord's return.

One Sabbath the McMahoins attended services at the Roosevelt church in western New York State. This is the oldest church built by Adventists still in use today. Here Dr. McMahon was asked to talk about the work in Australia. He spoke from a pulpit used many times by Sister White and at which she once had a vision.

First Church

Not far from here they found the remains of Hiram Edson's barn, still situated in a cornfield. It was here, after the great disappointment in 1844, that the Sanctuary truth was revealed to the praying believers.

A place of great interest was Washington, New Hampshire, the site of the first Seventh-day Adventist church. Close to the church was the home of Cyrus Farnsworth where, for eighteen years, the Advent believers worshipped on the Sabbath. In front of the house are still standing the maple trees under which Joseph Bates

and Cyrus Farnsworth studied the Sabbath truth.

Nearby was Millen Pond, where many of our early believers were baptized. In fact, on one occasion twelve young people chose to be baptized here when it was necessary to cut through two feet of ice, rather than wait for spring.

In Fairhaven, Massachusetts, the McMahoins crossed the trail of Joseph Bates. They saw his childhood home and school, and the chapel which he helped to finance,

and where William Miller preached. Of particular interest was the site of an old bridge on Fairhaven. In the middle of this bridge Captain Bates met an old friend, and to the question, "What's the news?" he replied, "The seventh day is the Sabbath."

From Fairhaven the McMahoins journeyed to Portland, Maine. One of the highlights of the visit there, of course, was to see the Harmon family home. It was to this home that Ellen was carried after her unfortunate accident. The house in which she had her first vision is still standing and in good repair. A few miles away in the little village of Gorham is the site of the house in which she was born. Unfortunately, this house was recently burnt down.

The McMahoins greatly enjoyed their travels throughout America, and they have most happy memories of the hospitality they received at the hands of fellow Seventh-day Adventist believers in that country.

Leaves from a Missionary's Diary

MOLLY RANKIN

December 18.

You would not believe what a cat could go through and yet come out alive. But perhaps Winston is a different kind of cat. After all, he was mentioned in a book as being the cat that caught a rat, at four in the morning, under the bed of the editor of the "Review and Herald" . . . but nevertheless, surely there is a limit to a cat's endurance.

While we were away meeting Paul, Winston disappeared. We heard rumours of capture, beatings and even death, but then we heard that he was still alive in the village. Ian investigated and spoke in no uncertain terms to the guilty boys, and this morning Winston arrived on our doorstep.

Almost unrecognizable, he was so thin he could hardly walk, no skin on the insides of all four legs, whiskers singed, eye swollen and bleeding, and orange fur blackened by dirt. Evidently they had tied his legs together, and after pushing a stick between them had swung him round and round the pole. We could only guess what else they had done. How could boys possibly be so cruel! But at least he is alive. They could have eaten him and worn his fur for decoration at sing sing time. I'm sure, with nursing and care, he will recover.

December 25.

Christmas Day! I thoughtlessly suggested last night that the first one awake could wake the rest of us up. David had banged on all the bedroom doors and shaken the three sleepers on the lounge floor, and there we were at 5.30 in the morning, bleary-eyed, sitting by gas light gazing at the Christmas tree with its nativity scene at the base, singing carols and having worship before we opened the presents.

As I looked round the room, I felt a surge of maternal pride and contentment as I studied the expressions on each dear, familiar face. In addition to Daddy and our own four, there were Martha and her girl friend who had come down from Sopas Hospital to spend their annual leave, and dear old Amos who had delighted us all yesterday afternoon by his unexpected, early arrival to take up his teaching appointment. At Kabiufa he had been Martha's classmate and our garden boy, and now after two years' teacher-training at Sonoma he had come to teach at Omapura, and had walked into the house as if he had never been away. And then there were Benave and Igen, two little Chimbu boys, brothers of another of our Kabiufa boys who is now studying for the ministry at Sonoma. I promised Nime that I would look after them while he is away, and now here they were, eyes shining with wonder and anticipation as they looked at the parcels under the tree.

At that early hour as we knelt in a circle, holding hands, thanking God for bringing us all together, His presence seemed very near, and as the day progressed nothing happened to alter the impression.

The early-hour visit with plates of butterfly cakes to the other staff families left on the station, the Christmas dinner for twelve, the giving of treatment to the sick children in our little hospital, and finally the togetherness again at evening worship, made us all exclaim, "Could any day have been happier and more blessed?"



Drs. Ruth and Graham McMahon and their two children.

An Australian missionary family leave Pakistan to study during furlough.

TO ANDREWS VIA EVERYWHERE

ADRIAN M. PETERSON, Formerly Temperance Secretary, Pakistan Union (now under appointment to the Ceylon Union)

FOR FIVE YEARS we have lived and worked in Pakistan, and during this time we have had many varied experiences. We have witnessed first-hand a full-scale war; we have seen riots and demonstrations; we have observed two coups d'etat; and we have seen the results of the world's most destructive cyclone. Above and beyond this, we have also seen development within the work of God, albeit very slow.

During the past five years, I have been engaged in departmental work at the Pakistan Union, with its headquarters near Lahore. The territory encompassed all of West Pakistan, Afghanistan and, for about three years, East Pakistan also. The major developments within the Union during this time have been the erection of a new Union office (the first denominationally owned in the country); construction of a dental clinic in Rawalpindi, the capital city; commencement of Seventh-day Adventist work in the hitherto unentered nation of Afghanistan; a new emphasis on branch Sabbath schools, some of which have been developed into churches, and the entrance of more Pakistani workers into denominational leadership.

Let me comment further on some of these matters. The 1971 December War between India and Pakistan, which resulted in the establishment of Bangladesh as an independent nation, was felt very dramatically in West Pakistan. We saw and heard the continual bombing raids conducted on a hit-and-run basis by fighter-bombers swooping down on to their targets in Pakistan.

Continually, day and night throughout the war, and after the cease-fire, too, we heard, felt and saw the heavy ground fighting taking place just a few miles from our Union compound. Although there was a great deal of aerial combat above our College compound some forty miles away, yet in West Pakistan no Adventist was hurt, and the only damage to any of our property was a few broken windows and doors brought about by concussion from aerial explosions.

In order to gain public attention during one year of civil unrest, there were wholesale demonstrations and riots throughout the country. The main streets of the cities were covered with debris, rubbish, broken glass, burned-out cars and, at times, human bodies. Yet, in all of this, no Seventh-day Adventist was hurt, and none of our properties anywhere were damaged.

Cyclone and New Buildings

The devastating cyclone in East Pakistan called out international sympathy, resulting in massive aid from around the globe. One million people perished in this disaster, which was the worst natural disaster in the history of the world since Noah's Flood. The devastation I witnessed was unbelievable in its extent and

fury, and I lost count of the number of dead bodies I saw. Switzerland was the first country to send aid, and this came from the Red Cross and the Seventh-day Adventists in Europe. In Bangladesh now, our church is administering huge aid grants from the United States Government, and this is being used to re-establish the people.

Several new buildings have been erected in Pakistan, such as village schools and churches in the Punjab and around Karachi. A new dental clinic was placed in operation in Rawalpindi, and this has been very influential among the government leaders in the capital city. The new Union office on the new Union compound ten miles south of Lahore has also been completed, and all its facilities placed in service. This new office has had a unifying effect upon our work in Pakistan.

In Afghanistan, there are no national Seventh-day Adventists. It is considered treason for an Afghan to become a Christian. However, the denomination has been working very judiciously with the Afghan Government in the development of medical facilities, and we now have half a dozen foreign workers engaged in this activity. The International Temperance Congress in Kabul was a major success, attracting 143 delegates from forty

countries, and bringing wide acceptance of our temperance work, particularly among the leading citizens. International news coverage was achieved for this event in Kabul. Our health programmes have also been broadcast regularly from the government broadcasting station.

National Workers Take Over

During the past five years of work in Pakistan, I considered that one of the most important phases of work was the training of national workers. When I left on furlough, it was with a great deal of satisfaction that I saw several national workers step in and take over the work I had been doing. World events make it very clear to all discerning Seventh-day Adventists that the end of the world is very close. Even though we are now the Protestant denomination with the largest number of overseas missionaries, yet we also know that we are standing at the end of the missionary era. Rising nationalism is bringing a much-needed development to our national workers, and placing more and more into responsible positions in our work in many countries.

There has also been a slight increase in church membership during the past five years, with several hundred people being baptized. This has been mainly through



Melvyn Peterson points out the traditional place of human sacrifice at the high altar in Petra.

baptisms of people who were previously Christians. The Moslems and Christians in Pakistan are now very susceptible to gospel preaching, and our work in Pakistan is on the very verge of a tremendous breakthrough.

When it came time to step into the plane in Lahore, on the first stage of our furlough, we could look back on these five years of labour and love for the Pakistani people. This furlough journey, which is intended to take us right round the world, has itself been packed full of interest and excitement.

When we were in the air, a steward announced that the plane would not fly on to Kabul, and we would all have to disembark at Peshawar. At Peshawar, as the taxi-driver was loading our luggage on to the top of his taxi, he pushed one of our cases off and it crashed to the ground, bursting open. (Our beautiful new case which we had bought specially for our furlough!) This taxi got to the top of the Khyber Pass and the sump hit a rock in the road, spilling all the oil. When the engine seized up, he just coasted down to the border.

On the other side of the border, we took another car for the journey on to Kabul. Some hours later we discovered that it had no lights. In mid-evening, we went through the dramatic Kabul Gorge, snow falling, no lights on the car, and a 3,000-foot drop over the edge of the slippery roads. All of Afghanistan was covered with snow many feet deep, and this did indeed make a beautiful sight as we left Kabul next day by plane.

The Gems of Iran

The next stop was Teheran, the capital city of Iran. In this Moslem country our work is also small but yet progressive. We saw in the suburbs the Union office, and also the boarding academy out in the foothills. This is near the Royal palace, and also near the hotel where the Big Three (Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill) held their summit meetings many years ago. The lovely two-storey day school was constructed with world-wide Sabbath school offerings back in 1968. Iran also is full of items of Biblical interest. The museum in Teheran has an excellent display of historical items from the times of Daniel and the Persian kings mentioned in the Bible. The Law of Xerxes is written on two tables of stone, a rather striking reminder of the Ten Commandments. The model of Persepolis helps one to visualize many events portrayed in the Bible.

The display of gems in the vault of the National Bank in Teheran is said to be the largest, most beautiful, and most valuable in the world—and this could easily be so. These gems form the stabilizing factor for the entire Iranian currency. There is a large globe of the world, and each country is studded with different coloured gems. The Peacock Throne is a reminder of Persian glory during the Mogul era. There are yards of curtains, all made up with tiny seed pearls, and there are huge delicately



Greek inscription at ancient Tyre. Tyre is mentioned as **TURIOS** in the third line.

coloured gems, so large they make one gasp in admiration. And yet, in heaven, God has beauties and glories for His people far surpassing the splendours and beauty of even this wonderful display of royal jewels.

While we were in the home of the mission president, the cuckoo clock began to strike on the hour. But instead of stopping, it continued until we lost count beyond thirty! This unique phenomenon reminded us all that the clock of time is soon to strike, closing man's last hour on this planet.

The Wonders of Cairo

There is only one flight a week from Teheran to Cairo, and it leaves at midnight on Saturday nights. We took this, and flew south and around Mount Sinai, its general area clearly discernible by the lights shining all around the locality. The Suez Canal was also well lit up with all its business functions moving smoothly. Our Union office is located in Heliopolis, which is quite close to where Joseph spent a great deal of his time under Potiphar when he was in Egypt. A Seventh-day Adventist student acted as our guide, and took us by taxi out to the Sphinx and the pyramids. These huge stone monuments, one of the great wonders of the world, are a mute testimony to the follies of ancient sun worship. We climbed inside one of the pyramids, and made our way right up to the royal burial chamber.

As I walked up the stairs and the gangway inside the pyramid, I thought of the strange theory that once claimed the minds of millions, the incredible belief that the stairway inside the pyramid was a prophetic outline of coming events. One

look at the inside of the pyramid was enough to dispel that impossible theory.

The Sphinx is a majestic monument, though disfigured by time and man. The stone tablet bearing an important inscription is still in place between the front legs of the Sphinx. This is the story of a prince who claimed he had a dream wherein he was shown that he would be the next Pharaoh. This event took place about the time of the Exodus.

The Cairo Museum is stacked beyond capacity with thousands of ancient items, relating to the days of Egypt's past glory. It would take weeks to absorb all that can be seen, and we had only half a day! Because time was short, we went around quickly, picking out all the items we could find of Biblical interest, and of these there were many. There were two statues depicting Queen Hatshepsut (who, when a princess, had taken Moses out of the Nile), as well as one depicting her daughter in the arms of a servant.

Tut's Tomb

Also in this museum is a room full of royal mummies. These bodies are all shrunken and shrivelled up and are arranged in rows in glass cases, reminding one of a morgue. Many of these kings and queens featured prominently during the ancient Egyptian period of Biblical history. Moses, it was planned, was to become a Pharaoh also, but instead of following in the footsteps towards royal fame he chose to obey God. When he died he was not buried in the Valley of the Kings, and he is not listed among the mummies in the Cairo Museum. Rather, he was taken into heaven, and no doubt he will be in the heavenly retinue with

Christ and the angels who come back to this earth at the time of the second advent.

Many of the items from Tutankhamen's tomb were recently on display in London. They were re-installed in the Cairo Museum the day we visited. Such a grand display of beautiful artistry from ancient days! Strangely, boomerangs were found in Tutankhamen's tomb, and these are on display in the museum. The boomerang was used in Palestine during ancient Biblical times.

An overnight journey by train took us down the Nile, past the Step pyramid, to the town of Luxor. The Nile river at this locality is wide, lazy and beautiful. In this locality, we visited the Valley of the Kings and went inside Tutankhamen's tomb, and also the tombs of several other prominent kings. Queen Hatshepsut's Mortuary Temple, in process of restoration, is a splendid example of ancient Egyptian architecture set against a rugged mountainous background.

In the Valley of the Queens we went into the tomb of Princess Amonhepeshefu, a teenager who died in childbirth. The infant's body is enshrined in the tomb, but the mother's body is in the Cairo museum.

There are two temples at Luxor, one known as the Luxor Temple, and the other the Temple of Karnak. This latter was the largest temple structure in the ancient world and, at the height of its grandeur, must have been a dazzling and glorious sight indeed. There are many reminders of Bible days here, including a tall column known as the Needle of Hatshepsut.

It was here in a small shop in Luxor, that a huge Alsatian dog attacked our nine-year-old daughter, Janelle. The great hound almost engulfed the back of her head with its fierce mouth. However, she was not badly hurt, and there were no untoward after-effects.

At Petra, an Adventist

We said farewell to lovely Egypt which is so superbly replete with reminders of Bible times, and winged our way right around three sides of Israel, until we came to Amman in Jordan.

The capital city, Amman, occupies the site of the ancient capital city of the Biblical Ammonites. From the top of the Roman arena in the city, can be seen the mountain ridge where Uriah the Hittite attacked the Ammonite stronghold and was slain. Amman is a modern city, very hilly, and the buildings, made of new limestone, all look shiny white. In Amman we have simply a small school.

Petra is only a couple of hours by car, along a well-made major highway. At the commencement of the trail into Petra is a modern hotel and restaurant, which cares for the needs of the thousands of tourists who make the pleasant journey to Petra. The building is so constructed, that the restaurant is actually a cave from ancient times cut out of the native rock.

The walk into Petra along the narrow defile between the towering, mountainous rock is most spectacular, and has to be seen to be believed. The first view of the Treasury Building, carved out of the rock at the end of the narrow defile, is breathtaking. We continued on into the ruins of ancient Petra, and came to the pathway up to the High Place.

I took my twelve-year-old son, Melvyn, up the Stairway of Death, and told him the story of human sacrifices as practised some 3,000 years ago. This is a long upward walk, with some spectacular views of the red-and-blue rocky-outcropped mountains. At the top, Melvyn posed as a victim at the place of sacrifice while I photographed him. Afterwards, we both knelt in prayer at this place of iniquitous worship, and prayed, not to the sun god, but to the God of heaven, thanking Him for a knowledge of truth, and for the living faith that has been manifest through Jesus.

While we were on the Stairway of Death, my wife, Vi, engaged in conversation with another tourist, who also turned out to be a Seventh-day Adventist. Judy Williams was an Adventist, educated at Walla Walla, and then at one of our hospitals in U.S.A.

Border Hopping

When I went to the airways in Amman to confirm our bookings, I discovered that we had been booked on to a "ghost" flight, which simply did not exist. No other planes were scheduled out for several days, so it was necessary to take a taxi from Amman in Jordan through Syria to Beirut in Lebanon.

At the Syrian border, the official was very suspicious of our travels, and questioned me very closely. I told him all about our temperance work, and the dangers of alcohol and tobacco. After going through these details twice, he was happy to accept the explanation and let us go through.

On the brow of the hill overlooking Damascus, where Paul received the vision from God, I wanted to take a photograph. However, I was not permitted to do so, because an army camp was stationed nearby. This is the one that featured in the recent Mid-East war.

In Damascus, we wanted to stop to buy food, and to visit the "Street called Straight," but the police forbade this. We were ordered to keep going, straight along the highway, and to leave the country by a certain time, which was checked in our passports.

We arrived in Beirut, Lebanon, about dark, having covered three countries by car during the day. Beirut is a lovely, modern, Western city, and it was here that we tasted the abundance of Western foods again for the first time in five years. We had forgotten many of the taste thrills, which we again began to enjoy!

While in Lebanon, we visited Tyre and Sidon, and saw ruins which are reminders of life in Bible times. Jesus on one occasion visited Tyre. There is the tomb of Hiram, the king who befriended Israel.

There is Sarepta, where Elijah raised the widow's son from the dead. North of Beirut is Byblos, beautifully situated on the edge of the Mediterranean. The Bible traces its name back to Byblos.

In the Steps of Paul

While travelling by car up to the Sun Temple at Baalbek, we witnessed an aerial duel between Israeli and Syrian jets. This was reminiscent of the December War between India and Pakistan.

The Sun Temple is another huge complex of grand architecture erected in honour of the sun god. Although earthquakes have felled some of the mighty colonnades, some are still standing, depicting a little of the grandeur that once was.

In Beirut we have the Mid-East office, and the lovely Middle East College. The young people there were conducting Week of Prayer, and there was a splendid attitude of devotion and worship on the part of the students.

From Beirut we went to Cyprus, in order to change planes and go into Israel. In Nicosia, between planes, we had just time enough to go into the city, and to meet our people. There is a small office and a small church, but the workers are carrying on the work quite courageously and cheerfully, without being too much aware that they are in the midst of great difficulties.

At the Nicosia Airport, before embarking on the old Israeli piston-engined plane, we went through the longest and most exhaustive customs check we have ever encountered. The whole procedure took two hours. We were glad that it was thorough, though, because, that same day, a Libyan passenger plane was shot down by Israeli jet fighters near Mount Sinai.

In Israel!

Our plane landed at Lud, the Lydda of the Bible, and then we went by bus through the "Valley of Samson and Delilah" to Jerusalem. Our work in Israel, as elsewhere in the Middle East, is very small. We have a fine office building and church, with its associated dwellings. It was here that we met Salva, a lovely Arab girl, who is the only Seventh-day Adventist in her family. A marriage with a non-Adventist was arranged for her, but she refused to marry one who is not an Adventist. An angel came to her parents one evening and gave the message that they were not to force their daughter to marry a young man not of her faith.

Israel, from north to south and east to west, is literally covered with evidences from Biblical times, both Old Testament and New Testament. Jerusalem is a fascinating city, with so many places associated with our Lord. The Garden of Gethsemane, Temple platform, Pool of Siloam, Mount of Olives, are a few of the places associated so closely with the ministry of Jesus. We saw Bethlehem, with its cave-enclosed mangers, Nazareth, where Jesus lived, Jericho, where He ministered, and the Sea of Galilee where He preached. The Sea of Galilee is comparatively a small lake, but very beautiful.



The harbour at Byblos. The Bible received its name from Byblos. A little further south is the traditional spot where Jonah was disgorged by the whale.

Pictures: A. M. Peterson.

All northern Palestine is beautiful, and it is no wonder that Jesus enjoyed ministering in this area.

There are lots of other places of immense interest to Bible Christians, such as Hebron, where Abraham and others are buried, and Capernaum, the house of Peter. We also saw the Mount of Temptation, Mount Nebo and the Mount of Transfiguration. We saw the Jordan Valley, the Dead Sea, and the caves of the Dead Sea scrolls. Jericho's walls are toppled, the Wailing Wall is still standing, and the walls of Shechem are in ruins.

On the Sabbath afternoon, we greatly enjoyed a very interesting walk. The mission president took us to the Palace of Caiaphas, and we saw where Jesus went through one trial, and where Peter denied Him. It was also the place where Peter and John were scourged. We walked down the stairway into the valley, over the same stones Jesus walked on, and we came to the Garden of Gethsemane and the place of Jesus' agony. From there we went further into the Garden of Gethsemane to close Sabbath. Growing in the garden was the beautiful lily-of-the-valley, a small vivid red flower, somewhat like a poppy.

On to Rome

After six most fascinating days in a very lovely and interesting country, it was time to leave. On the airport runway we saw the funeral proceedings for the French co-pilot and others who had died when the Libyan plane was shot down. As we left Israel and the Middle East, we did so realizing that we had seen much that gave evidence of Bible times. Egypt, Palestine, Syria, and Lebanon have many places which confirm the information contained in the Old Testament. Palestine has so much that confirms faith in the New Testament. And in all these countries we saw much that confirms our faith in the prophecies of the Bible, the

work of the great Advent movement, preparing a people for the end of the world.

Onward we went to Athens, and to Mars' Hill where Paul preached, and then to Rome where Paul was imprisoned in the Mamertime Prison. Rome is a fascinating city with many places of interest to Adventists. We saw Vatican City, with its great riches (but not as impressive as the crown jewels in Teheran), and the church of the Cappucian Fathers, with all its human skeletons. The catacombs are impressive, as is also the Colosseum. Pompeii, down near Naples and the Isle of Capri, is a well-preserved city, covered by volcanic ash and now partly excavated. That civilization was overwhelmed almost two thousand years ago as a result of the fire from Vesuvius. Our civilization is soon to be devoured by fire, when Christ returns.

In majestic Switzerland, we saw some of the beauties of the country, and we also met Mrs. E. E. White. Dr. and Mrs. White were in Australia for some years, where Dr. White was principal at Avondale and Division Education secretary at Wahroonga. Dr. White was on itinerary in Africa at the time of our visit, but Mrs. White spoke glowingly of their stay in Australia, and wished to be remembered to all their many friends.

About this time there was a double air crash over France, and because of this, all plane services over the country were cancelled. We travelled right across the country by train. Because of this, we were able to obtain a better impression of France.

To Andrews, via London

We left Dunkirk by ship, and landed in England, just in time to be in the midst of many strikes; rail, bus, gas, electricity, etc. We arrived in London just in time to be there for the first I.R.A. bombings carried out in that city. Our children were fascinated by the pigeons

at Trafalgar Square, and we were all enchanted by the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace. (All of that daily pageantry just for two men to go off duty?)

We went by train through the verdant English countryside to Newbold College. It was here that we met several other Australians. They were Gwenda Sanderson from Auckland, Faye Bussau from Melbourne and Mel Trevena from Brisbane. Leoni Steed (daughter of Pastor E. H. J. Steed of the General Conference Temperance Department) is also a student there. Pastor J. F. Coltheart conducted the Friday evening vespers service at Newbold while we were there. Mrs. Coltheart also came.

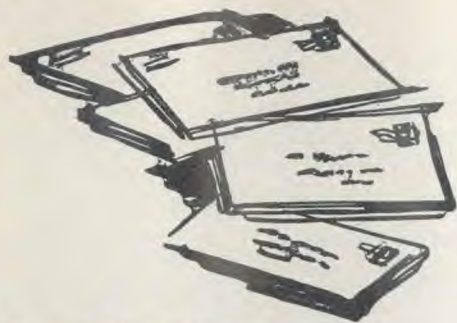
From England, we rode in a jumbo jet right across the Atlantic to New York. The journey took us over Eire, and the tips of Iceland and Greenland, and along the coast of Canada. The ocean in the northern Atlantic was full of icebergs, all neatly arranged in curved rows. The end of this plane ride brought us to the U.S.A., the land to which we had come to spend our furlough. This is a great country, so similar to Australia, with so many interesting places associated with the rise of the great Advent movement.

During our study furlough at Andrews University, it has been our privilege to visit many of the places of Adventist historical interest. Guided tours of areas associated with the Millerite movement in New England, and Adventist beginnings in Michigan, are incorporated into some of the subjects studied at Andrews.

With our study furlough almost over, we lift our eyes again to far horizons, as we contemplate the journey across the Pacific and back to Australia. After visiting friends and relatives, we are scheduled to resume our journeyings, and to take our place once again in the work in Southern Asia.

Large Membership Loss Reported by Church of Scotland

A decline of more than 23,000 in the communicant membership of the national Church of Scotland (Presbyterian) was reported at the denomination's general assembly session in Edinburgh. The Reverend Andrew Herron, a former moderator, said that if the trend continued there would be nobody in the kirk within forty-four years. The important point, he stressed, was that those missing from the kirk were all in desperate need of what the kirk had to give them. The Reverend Herron drew special attention to the trend among young people to oppose anything that is organized. "It is not a problem of statistics," he said, "It is a problem of ministry. It comes home to every one of us."



LETTERS to the EDITOR

PLEASE NOTE: Letters are accepted for publication at the discretion of the editor; the receipt of a letter does not mean that it will necessarily be published. Correspondents should also understand that their letters will be sub-edited to bring them to a suitable literary standard, though every effort will be made to preserve the essential point of the original.

Pseudonyms may be used for publication, but the original must have the full name and address of the writer.

Letters published may not necessarily represent the ideals or the teachings of the denomination; such are found in our editorial, devotional and news columns.

That Is a Young Man—I Think

Dear Editor,

In your issue of 4/2/74, Roger K. Dawkins is concerned at the article written by Dr. Colin Standish on "The Youth Crisis," and feels that he had somewhat overstated the situation, and thus feels it is his duty to clarify some things. He tells of the fine work they have done in his field in street preaching and the very nice number of folk who have been brought into the message.

Dr. Standish has had a good deal of experience with young people and, I venture to say, has seen many more, and while his statement does not cover all young people (there are always exceptions), I feel there is food for deep thought in the situation that confronts the youth of our day.

The editor of the "Review and Herald," in the issue of June 24, 1973, writes on "Maturity in Dress and Appearance." "Right here we wish to say something about the current trend in the Western world toward a unisex society. Some people are amused over the fact that one cannot always tell whether a motorcycle rider with long hair flowing out from under his helmet, is a boy or a girl, or whether two young people walking down the sidewalk together are both boys, both girls, or one of each. We do not think it is funny. God intended that there should be a sharp distinction between the appearance of men and women. This is plain in Deut. 22:5."

Many years ago, Sister White wrote, "There is an increasing tendency to have women in their dress and appearance as near like the other sex as possible, and to fashion their dress very much like that of men, but God pronounces it abomination."—"Testimonies," Volume 1, page 457.

Not only do women want to look like men, but today men want to look like women! Recently, a young man was told that he looked effeminate, and he said, "That is how we want to look." What an

ambition for a young man, to want to look like a woman! God made the male to look like a man, act like a man and to be a man.

In 1 Cor. 6:9, the apostle outlines several things that will keep a man out of the kingdom of God, and one word used is "effeminate." According to my dictionary, effeminate means "to make womanish, to resemble the female." Unfortunately, this unisex fashion seems to have a deep hold on many Adventist youth.

In the December 13, 1973, issue of the "Review and Herald," Dan Bettie writes on the subject of "Dress and Body Language." He says, "There is another ideal struggling for recognition in the general turmoil. It is the rag-bag philosophy that decrees that dress is no concern. This philosophy ought to be rejected by anyone who thinks twice, realizing that a person's mental attitude and general deportment is largely determined by what he wears."

Personal appearance is a language more fundamental than words, and invariably gives not only the first impression but also the most lasting one. Frayed blue jeans and embroidered blouses made from unbleached muslin may not be suggestive (although this is an open question), yet a lack of cleanliness, neatness, and propriety hardly engenders spontaneous respect from others, for this philosophy of dress can be rooted in self-centredness.

We are certainly living in a sloppy age; today many young people seem to take pride in being sloppy. The more patches on their jeans, the better pleased they are. I have seen many young men grow up in my day, and with very few exceptions these young men took pride in being spick and span. With the advent, a few years ago, of the hippie cult, how quickly so many Adventists followed them, and not all were young men, either.

A few months ago, a group of Mormon young men were holding a meeting in Hornsby. They were the essence of neatness—no long hair or side levers, and very nicely dressed; it was a treat to see such a nice group of men. Compare this with a group of Adventist young people holding street meetings; they look more like a group of hippies than Adventists.

It goes beyond dress, too. A young man who had been a leader in a rock 'n' roll band accepted the message, and this group asked if he would go and play for them. He went, but only once, as he said he might as well be back in rock 'n' roll because of what he was asked to play.

During the first world war, certain of the army padres adopted the false philosophy that to help the men they must get down where the men were. They drank with them and they gambled with them. The result was that they were despised by the men. Dear young people, do we have to dress like a hippie, look like a hippie, act like a hippie, to take the gospel to them? When Christ stood before Pilate, the Governor said to the people, "Behold the man!" John 19:5.

W. N. Lock,
North New South Wales.

New Church at Talakali

GORDON A. LEE

President, Western Pacific Union Mission

"THIS CHURCH must be, without question, the nicest church in Malaita, possibly in all the Solomons," said the reporter from the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Service. He was toying with a microphone as he swept his hand to take in the panorama of the church site. We had just completed an interview for the radio broadcasting station.

"I'm amazed at you Adventists," said one lay preacher from a prominent Protestant church on the island. "You seem to have more up and go than all our other churches combined." "Things really seem to be happening in your church," said another.

It was December 26, 1973. We had flown from Honiara to Auki and caught the M.V. "Raratalau" to sail down here for this very special occasion. For the people in the Langa Langa Lagoon, it was the crowning achievement after a long road of hard work and sacrifice—this beautiful church at Talakali with its vinyl-tiled floors, glassed windows, full pew seating, cry-room and its own 240-volt fluorescent lighting system.

There is no air or road access to Talakali. You must journey there by canoe or boat. It is a fairly densely populated area. Many in the district still hold to their heathen gods and customs. Tourists like to visit the area because the famous shell money of Malaita is made here through many tedious hours of chipping, grinding, polishing, holing and stringing. Ancient heathen practices that persist around this beautiful lagoon are also a tourist attraction.

But Satan's reign is beginning to crumble. A strong Adventist faith has developed in the hearts of many. God has a foothold, and through His people and their new church, a brilliant light of truth is shining, to dispel the darkness and ignorance behind which Satanic agencies cringe.

Hard Work

The story behind the building of the church is one of vision, courage in face of unusual odds, and personal devotion to the cause. With no financial assistance available, nor any hope of receiving such, the people set about to raise their own funds.

A large group of able-bodied men made their way to Honiara. For two months they dived into the shark-infested waters at Lungs Point to bring up unexploded shells which the American army had dumped at the close of World War II. Their hard and dangerous work netted them \$2,000.



"The nicest church on Malaita." The new Talakali church on Malaita, Solomon Islands.

Another such project to raise funds showed enterprise and willingness. At the time, we were building the new headquarters for the Union at Honiara. A group of Talakali men came and asked us for a contract on the building. We took the chance. They did not let us down. Working till well into the evening, they completed our school building in six weeks. It is one of the best-constructed buildings on the compound. Those at home in the Langa Langa Lagoon area, unable to have an active part, sacrificed from their gardens and pockets to feed and keep the team the whole time they were here in Honiara. They did not want

any of the contract money used for maintaining the working team. It all had to go in to the building fund for this beautiful edifice—their house of worship to the true God.

With the steamy waterfront strewn with dugouts (with and without outboards), mission vessels and chartered inter-island ships, and the thick, deep-green mantle of the Malaitan jungle for a background, the new church stood decked as a bride on that glorious day. Some two-and-a-half thousand people of many faiths gathered together as we opened and dedicated it to the God of heaven. The heathen who attended

seemed to rejoice with us that another bright light of truth has now been lit in Malaita.

While there, we looked over an area of land most suitable for an airstrip. We have been requested by the people to advise and help them make an airstrip for the mission plane. What an opportunity! It would give us direct contact with this vital area. Pray with us that we may be able to keep pace with the openings and opportunities being presented to this cause. It is not only Macedonia today. It includes Talakali at Langa Langa Lagoon, Malaita.

Life Sketch of Mrs. Llewellyn Jones

ORMOND K. ANDERSON

THE LATE Sister Llewellyn Jones's association of approximately eighty-eight years with the one church, North Fitzroy, Victoria, must surely be an Australasian if not a world record.

As Bessie Irwin, through her mother's interest in the earliest preaching of the pioneer Adventist ministers, Pastors J. O. Corliss and M. C. Israel, in the mission tent on the corner of Brunswick and Scotchmer Streets, North Fitzroy (meetings being conducted from December, 1885, to January, 1886), she joined the Melbourne (North Fitzroy) Seventh-day Adventist church, the first Seventh-day Adventist church organized in Australasia.

At the age of thirteen, she was baptized in a service held in the North Fitzroy Temperance Hall. It was here that, after a few Sabbath meetings held in the Presbyterian Assembly Hall, Collins Street, and the Temperance Hall, Russell Street (now a multi-storey car park), the infant church found its first regular meeting place, and became the scene of the early baptisms. Also it was the place of the first Australian Conference meeting in 1888.

Interestingly, our late Sister Jones, under her maiden name, was the last survivor of the recorded donors to the cost of building the original section of the North Fitzroy church in 1886. Her passing closes a long chapter in the history of the pioneer church, organized in the mission tent on January 11, 1886.

With her husband, the late Llewellyn Jones, Sr., she made her home in the Melbourne suburb of Preston early in 1911, and lived there until her passing on February 17, 1974. Her husband was widely known in Melbourne, and highly respected in the community. As a councillor at Preston from 1917-1934, he served as Shire president, and as Mayor of the City for two terms. Also, he was appointed as the Administrator of the City during the darkest period of the Great Depression. In it all, our late sister, as the first lady, supported her husband with



The opening ceremony of Talakali church, Malaita, Solomon Islands.

Pictures: G. A. Lee.

grace and dignity. She also served as president of The Ladies' Benevolent Guild.

At the official ceremony of the opening of the Preston Electric Tram Service in 1920, she was given the honour of cutting the ribbon for the first tram to run. In her association with Preston, she saw it develop from a loosely settled rural community to the bustling commercial centre of today. In it all, she sought to encourage her family in the ways of God, and in particular in the faith of the Advent message, as she saw it grow, within her lifetime, from the one small company meeting in the Temperance hall, into the far-flung movement throughout Australasia and the South Pacific.

Perhaps her quiet conviction in the simplicity of her faith can be traced to an incident when her mother, to keep her new-found faith, and on the advice of her new ministers, felt impelled to take her eight children from the paternal home of plenty in order to serve God according to her convictions, and to be baptized. One evening, gathering her younger children around the white-scrubbed bare table, this dear mother told them that there was no food for the evening meal, and no money with which to buy any. But in the simple faith which had given her the strength to leave her comfortable home, she promised them that "the Lord will provide!"

Rising from a prayer of faith around the table, she took a sprig of geranium and a kitchen knife with which to set it in the garden. As she dug with the knife, lo and behold, with the soil that was thrown up, out came a whole shilling, a lot of money under the circumstances. God had answered the prayer! The children had their meal. Such was the faith and experience of the early believers, when so often it seemed impossible to "obey God rather than men."

Sister Jones's eldest son (Pastor Llewellyn) and his brother Laurie remember their mother telling of this when they were children, and how as a young mother she played the organ and sang the Advent hymns to them of a Sabbath afternoon. The hymns of the "early days" were a lifelong source of strength to her right into her later years, when with good voice for her age she loved to sing the old-time favourite from "Christ in Song," "Higher Ground." Indeed, it is a treasured memory for them.

As a close friend of the writer's family, she often recalled the Sabbath when the late Pastor A. W. Anderson attended the Adventist church for the first time, in 1893. She claimed to have known me "before I was born!" In my turn, it was my privilege, with that of my late twin brother Clifford, to enjoy her motherly care, as a youth away from home in Sydney. Others there are, too, who will recall the open door of her home, and who will remember this dear mother with lifelong affection. With her sons and daughters, we, too, "rise up and call her blessed."

W.A. REPORTING

(Concluded from page 3)

the spirometer, exercise cycle and exercise steps. A good report was presented on Channel 2 News the same evening.

Brother Elwyn Scale and his helpers manned a Health Evangelism Centre where a number of avenues for witness through Health Evangelism were demonstrated by posters, pictures and exhibits. Material displayed emphasized ways to help people with problems such as smoking, alcohol, and drugs. Emphasis was also placed on general fitness, good nutrition and the importance of sharing our knowledge with others. Appropriate film strips and movie films were screened each afternoon and evening.

Sanitarium Health Food representative, Mr. Brian Pasco, assisted by his good wife, emphasized the importance of good nutrition in their "Health in the Home" demonstrations. New Health Food lines were introduced as basic ingredients for healthful low-calorie-protein-rich recipes. Members were encouraged to share such recipes with neighbours and friends. Better still, they were urged to invite their neighbours to a good vegetarian meal, and

then the neighbours would be asking for the recipes. This can be a very successful health evangelism approach, as Brother Pasco has himself proved.

Another new feature was a group discussion period just before lunch. Four groups each gave attention to one of the following topics: Modern Religious Trends, The Charismatic Movement, The Sanctuary and Judgment, and Christ in All the Scriptures. Judging by the comments and the many expressions of appreciation, this feature was well received by our members.

The blessing of God has been evident during 1973. God has rewarded the faithfulness of His people, and the programme of His church has been strengthened. We look forward to further advancement this year as the ministry and laymen continue their united efforts in the proclamation of the gospel message.

"In this time of prevailing iniquity we may know that the last great crisis is at hand. When the defiance of God's law is almost universal, . . . the Lord will interpose."—"Christ's Object Lessons," page 178.

HILDA BARTLETT'S

Menu Masterpieces



You are in for disappointment if you put your faith in fads and magic medicine for weight control. There is only one good way to lose weight. That is by good habits and a food pattern that is planned to last a lifetime. Slow and steady is the way to win this race.

CORN DELIGHT

- 1 tin Nutolene (large)
- 1 tin corn nibblets

- 2 ripe tomatoes (medium)
- 2 onions
- 2 stalks celery

Method

Fry onions in pan until tender and golden. Add the celery, tossing frequently. Cut Nutolene into bite-size chunks and add to pan. Then add the tomatoes (cut either in slices or squares). Fry till all is tender. Then add the tin of corn nibblets. Serve hot on buttered toast.

Variation: may be served with rice.

CHOKO FRITTERS

- 1 choko coarsely shredded
- 1 chopped onion
- 1 egg, beaten

- 2 oz Nutolene, shredded
- 1 level tablespoon Torula yeast
- Salt

Approximately 1 tablespoon S.R. flour (mixture thins if left standing because of choko blending. More flour may be needed to make to batter consistency).

Mix ingredients thoroughly and fry spoonfuls 10 minutes each side at 280° to 300° F.

TILL HE COMES

Would those who send notices of weddings and obituaries please remember that two facts must be included in every notice. These are the date and the place at which the death (or burial) or wedding took place. Without this information the notices cannot be published.—Editor.

BATES. On April 4, 1974, Sister Lilian Maud Bates closed her eyes for the last time, having reached the age of eighty-four years. Baptized by the late Pastor Guiliard in 1939, this saintly lady was a member of the Albion church, Queensland, for over thirty years. It was in this church and later at the Bald Hills Cemetery that the writer, assisted by Pastor Rosevear, outlined again the comfort that comes through knowing the One who has become the resurrection and the life. Our prayer is that His sustaining grace will bring solace to her daughter with whom she has lived for many years, Sister Sheila Bates, also of Albion. B. C. Grosser.

BURTT. Hilda Adeline Amanda Burtt, aged eighty-two years, passed to her rest on April 1, 1974, in hospital after years of suffering—suffering that was not allowed to destroy her faith in God or dim her vision of the blessed hope. She leaves a husband, six daughters and two sons to mourn her passing. She sleeps in Centennial Park Cemetery, South Australia, there to await the Life-giver's call. Our sympathy goes out to her dear ones. We direct them to the promises of God for comfort and that preparation which will ensure a reunion when Jesus comes. W. T. Hooper.

GUSH. Janetta Adelaide (Ada) Gush passed peacefully to her rest at the Taranaki Base Hospital, New Plymouth, New Zealand, on March 29, 1974, aged eighty-four. Sister Gush, known by many as "Mother Ada," will be remembered for her labour of love during the war years, when she spent many hours at night listening to short-wave radio for news of New Zealand prisoners-of-war. This news she would pass on to relieve the anxiety of relatives. In 1965, as a result of the Cherry mission, she accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Saviour and was baptized. The writer was assisted by Brother W. Holland at services held at the New Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist church and the Taranaki Crematorium, where the large group of relatives and friends were pointed to the certain hope of the resurrection of all believers at the return of our Lord. J. Veld.

JONES. Mrs. Llewellyn Jones Snr., the longest-serving member of the North Fitzroy church, Victoria, and believed to be, with Pastor A. G. Stewart, the longest-serving member in Australasia, quietly passed to rest in Sydney on February 17, 1974, aged almost ninety-six years. Born Bessie Irwin, of a pioneer family in Armidale, New South Wales, in 1878, she moved with her parents to Melbourne in the early 1880s. It was here, as a result of her mother's being interested in the Adventist faith through the early preaching of Pastors J. O. Corliss and M. C. Israel in the tent at North Fitzroy, 1885-1886, that she joined the first Seventh-day Adventist church in Australasia, North Fitzroy. Later, she married Llewellyn Jones, who predeceased her by twelve years and who, after attending the Australian Bible School in St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, in 1895, was the fifth student to be enrolled at the opening of the Avondale College (as it is now) in 1897. He often spoke to his family of those early experiences, Sister E. G. White figuring in some of them. Born to their union were three sons (Pastor) Llewellyn, Laurie and Gordon, all of Melbourne, and two daughters Evelyn (Mrs. A. Watson), and Ruth (Mrs. S. Smith), both of Sydney. With twelve grandchildren and twenty-three great-grandchildren, they mourn the loss of this dear, devoted and loving mother. It was the privilege of the writer, who had known our late much-loved and respected sister for well over fifty years, and who had enjoyed her hospitality in youth, to lead out at a service at the funeral parlours, Melbourne, attended by the Mayor and Town Clerk of the City of Preston, and friends and loved ones (the City flag flying at half-mast, and the doors of the Town Hall closed as the cortege passed), to point all present to God's wonderful Tomorrow, and then to lay her to rest with her late husband in the Preston Cemetery, of which he had once been the last surviving trustee. Ormond K. Anderson.

LECHMERE. Originally from the United States, where he heard and accepted Christ's message for these times, Arthur Highway Lechmere, aged ninety-one years, after arriving in Western Australia, joined the Midland Junction church, where his zealous contribution to the cause in the West won him the respect and admiration of the entire church. Failing health necessitated his entering the Freeman Nursing Home, where he remained to the day of his death, March 8, 1974. As we laid our respected brother to rest in the Karrakatta Cemetery, we told the immediate relatives present of the Saviour's promise of His return and of a resurrection to life eternal. G. I. Wilson.

PICKNOLL. The late George Picknoll was not a member of our church but was fairly well known to the writer. Not long before his death he asked for us to pay him a visit. This we did on several occasions and unfolded to him the great plan of salvation. He listened quietly and attentively and we feel that before his death he accepted the Lord Jesus as his Saviour. On March 15, 1974, we laid him to rest in the Karrakatta Cemetery, Western Australia, in the keeping of the great Life-giver, pointing his sorrowing wife, family and friends to the day when sorrow, sighing and death will have for ever passed away. S. O. Jean Louis.

ROEBUCK. John Arthur Roebuck passed to rest in his house at Auckland, New Zealand, on April 3, 1974, in his sixty-sixth year. "Jack," as he was known to all his friends, was an ex-Royal Navy man, disciplined in life and good character, a fighter for every worthy cause and opinion as he saw it. He leaves to mourn, his widow, six daughters, a son, and twelve grandchildren. The service at the Waikumete Crematorium brought peace and assurance in Christ to his loved ones and friends from across the years. R. Pavitt Brown.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Adventist couple, no children, husband medical student, require furnished or semi-furnished accommodation Melbourne area from August 1974. Flat, bungalow or residence with caretaking duties considered. References available. Reply "Student," Signs Publishing Company, Warburton, Victoria. 3799

LET US ATTEND TO YOUR TYRE PROBLEMS: City Rubber Co. Pty. Ltd., corner Merivale and Russell Streets, South Brisbane. New tyres, recaps, retreads. Phone 41 1191 (Brisbane).

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C/- Box 16,
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AUSTRALASIAN RECORD and Advent World Survey

Official Organ of the
AUSTRALASIAN DIVISION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Editor - R. H. PARR
Associate Editor - K. S. PARMENTER
Office Secretary - DULCE RICKARDS
Wahroonga Representative
CELIA STOTESBURY

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First 25 words - \$2.00
Each additional 5 words - 10 cents

Remittance and recommendations from local pastor or Conference officer must accompany copy.

FLASH POINT . . .

- ★ Had a letter from that self-exiled Australian, Pastor Austen Fletcher, the other week, and things are going well for him in South Africa. Pastor Fletcher speaks of 1,000 people coming out to his opening night in Randburg (Transvaal, as if you didn't know), and by the sixth week there were still 300 people sticking with him. He also speaks of the young people of the church who are running a mission "under the auspices of our mission team." That means they get financial help, advice and technical know-how from the evangelist, but they are running the programmes. Going well, he says.
- ★ Up in Hervey Bay, Queensland, they are having their troubles. They outgrew their church building, and sold it. They moved to the Presbyterian church (thank you, Presbyterians!) and for six months were worshipping there on Sabbaths. But there was a problem here, too. Not enough facilities for the Sabbath school departments. But they are a doughty lot in Hervey Bay. They all put their shoulders to the wheel and before you could say, "Let's take up a Special Offering" (which Adventists can say faster than practically anything else), they had converted the old house (which was on the new property they had bought) into a meeting hall, and, Queensland houses being sensibly built on stilts, they soon had rooms underneath for the Kindergarten, Primary and JMV and Pathfinder Departments. The trouble is that now they are outgrowing this new locale! (They had about 200 people there on the Easter Sabbath!) Well anyway, they want visitors to know that they are most welcome, and that the new address is 77 Torquay Road, Scarness, Queensland.
- ★ You wouldn't believe it if you read it anywhere else, we know that, but on this page, a news item gets the stamp of authority. (Thank you, whoever said that.) Well, here's the thing that would have made old Believe-it-or-not Ripley stagger. A letter came in the other day from a dear soul who wanted us to change the address of her RECORD. To make it very clear that we had the new address right and clear, she printed it at the top of her letter, once in the body of the letter, once at the bottom of her letter, and once on the back of the envelope. That put the issue absolutely beyond doubt. We all believe that she has a new address now, and we could all recite it for you if you really cared. BUT did she give us her OLD address? Not even ONCE!!! Please, dear hearts and gentle people, give us your OLD address as well as your new one when you request a change of address.
- ★ Just a further word on that change-of-address business. You know, our addressograph people are a dedicated team. Even if you don't give the old address, they TRY to do the right thing by you and find out where you used to live. But we have six periodicals here, and it makes it doubly tough when you don't even mention the name of the periodical you want changed. But they search it out for you, bless their earnest souls, and you seldom hear a peep from them. But let's make 1974 Be-Kind-to-the-Mailing-Department Year. Let's all resolve to give the name of the paper, the old address and the new one, and you'll add years to the lives of a bunch of very nice and very dedicated people. On their behalf, thanks!
- ★ The Division Treasurer, Pastor L. L. Butler, announced something that is very heart-warming and so, not to steal his thunder, we'll let him give it in his own words: "The Flood Relief Offering that was taken up at such short notice in February, amounted to \$78,900. This was a most commendable response, and must be one of the largest offerings ever taken up in this Division." That made the total given for Flood Relief well beyond \$80,000 when gifts, etc., were added. Thank you, you big-hearted people.
- ★ A report just received from the General Conference indicates that laymen in 1973 helped to win a record 110,335 souls, almost 30,000 more than in 1972. Of this number, the Australasian field contributed 2,638.
- ★ You know that the General Conference will be held in Vienna next year. Interested in going? Then read on before you rush out and buy an air-ticket for yourself, your wife and five children. It comes from the pen of the Division secretary, Pastor K. S. Parmenter, and thus comes with the imprimatur of authority. His message reads. . . .
- ★ "The General Conference Session is to be held in Vienna, Austria, from July 10-16, 1975. Some of our people have indicated an interest in attending this Conference Session in Europe. The Division is not in a position to assist with either accommodation or travel arrangements. Those planning to attend should make these arrangements through a travel agency. We would recommend that you make your bookings early. The Australasian Division is to be allotted a seating quota of approximately 300 seats for non-delegates at the week-end meetings. This means that, in due course, there may need to be a cut-off point for non-delegate accommodation. Those requiring seating accommodation are advised to contact the secretary of the Division."
- ★ Next week, in our advertisements, there will appear a notice of a possible excursion or air-charter flight to Vienna at the time of the G.C. If you are interested, make sure you read it carefully.
- ★ Our Man in the Cook Islands (correspondents everywhere, as befits a magazine with a world-wide circulation), Tangi Tuaineiti, the L.A. secretary of that far-off place, tells us that already they have \$1,020 in hand for Ingathering (\$300 up on last year) and more to come. Brother Tangi tells us of one of our ministers who called on some folk in Avarua, the capital of Rarotonga. These business people had known our minister, Pastor Taa Kimi, in New Zealand—in fact he had lived with them there. But that was in the bad old days; before Taa Kimi had met Christ. So impressed with the change in their friend were these good people that the lady of the husband-and-wife business partnership suggested that she would like to give a donation of \$50 to the Appeal. But Taa didn't rush his fences, as they say in the hunting world, but played it cool, enjoying the reunion immensely. Then, with the neatest piece of timing since the whale snapped up Jonah, and choosing just the right words, Taa suggested that such a jolly reunion ought to be marked by \$100! Imagine his delight when the accountant made out the cheque for that amount. This is the largest single donation ever received by a collector in the Cook Islands, it is believed.
- ★ "Finally, brethren . . .": Hire purchase is a credit device by which the months are made to appear shorter.