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Youth Speak Out in Cook Islands

A. J. BATH, Communication Director, Central Pacific Union Mission

THE MOST SCINTILLATING presentation in public evangelism I have ever experienced was given by a group of young people at the Voice of Youth outreach in the Matavera church on Rarotonga in the Cook Islands. I sat on the edge of my seat listening intently to every word of the varied programme.

The Honourable Minister, Mr. William Coloan, Member of Parliament for Matavera, opened the Voice of Youth programme. Matavera church was packed with people eager to listen to the youth of our church present reasons for their faith. Their theme song was "To Live Is Christ."

Speakers Chris Manu and Tutai Tetevano opened the meeting. One preached the message on the "Creation of Man" in English, while the other preached the same, well-rehearsed message in the local language.

Recitations from Psalm 23 and Matthew 5:5-12, demonstrated to all that our Christian youth today not only know, but love their Bible.

Audience Spellbound by Testimonies

Beautiful musical items were presented by individuals and groups. Public testimonies by other young people and the presentation of the Bible as the Word of God by eight Pathfinder young people, held the audience spellbound. Jesus Christ was publicly "honoured, loved and exalted." The entire meeting concluded in under thirty minutes.

The prime minister of the Cook Islands, the Honourable Sir Thomas Davis, and Lady Davis were in attendance, along with no fewer than six other ministers of the Cook Island Assembly and their wives.

One Government minister and his wife, who are members of a popular church in Rarotonga, expressed great appreciation for the strong witness our young people bore to their faith in Jesus, and suggested that this was the spirit they would like to see in their own church. Christian leaders from other denominations, who were also present, commended the speakers, the organisers and the church which sponsors such a programme. There is no doubt the Matavera youth are setting an example to our young people in every church. ##





TOP RIGHT: Chris Manu and Tutai Teterano preach during the Voice of Youth programme at Matavera church, Rarotonga.

LOWER RIGHT: Pathfinder Russell Thomas gives his testimony.
Photos: A. J. Bath.

Youth Feature . . .



The No-Love Story

KENNETH CAMPBELL

THE DOOR opened very slowly and quietly, but few doors are quiet enough to allow a new student to slip unnoticed into a public high school classroom. Most of us turned around to look.

There was a very definite and unanimous reaction from the fellows. An angel, or at least a living doll, was standing hesitatingly in the doorway. She had beautiful, long, auburn hair, brown eyes, and—well, let's just say she had it "all together."

Les formed his lips for a whistle, but caught himself just in time. Bob whispered a subdued but meaningful, "Wow!" I just sat there and felt my heart shift into a higher gear.

This is how we first met Leona. She soon walked as sweetly into our hearts and lives as she had walked into the classroom that day we first met her.

She was just shy enough to be mysteriously interesting, yet friendly enough to be accepted by all. Shy? Yes, but it didn't take her long to let us know that she was a Christian. She did it without being "preachy" or putting on any "holier-than-thou" airs, either. She had that rare ability of telling others that she was a Christian, without actually saying a word.

The age-old contest of the young began to take place. We competed to see which of us fellows could win her affections. For once I was lucky. Most of the other guys were better looking, a good many had greater athletic ability, and nearly all were smarter.

But in this particular case I had one distinct advantage. I was a Christian. At least in the eyes of my public high school friends I was one. **After all, I didn't smoke, drink, or dance, and I hardly ever swore.**

What else must you not do to be a Christian?

So I became Leona's special friend. We were both rather small for our ages. We enjoyed many mutual interests. In the eyes of our friends we were both Christians.

I carried her books as proudly as though they were bars of gold. I gallantly escorted her down the hill to town and back during the lunch hour. I helped her up the stairs and was *glad* there were a lot of them. My attitude toward school and life in general became a whole lot brighter. It was a great year!

I was actually sorry to have vacation time come. To me it meant only hard work at home on the farm. More, it brought isolation from the gang, and worst of all it meant separation from Leona for six long weeks.

It was a happy day when school began again, and I could at last climb aboard that long-awaited school-bus. It signalled an end to the loneliness that was a part of living on a remote farm and represented fun, companionship, and the beginning of another school year with my friends.

All too vividly I remember that day. Several of us were standing around, outside the school building, sharing vacation experiences and renewing friendships before classes began. A car drove up and a small, skinny form slowly, painfully, got out. She was either a very young-looking old woman, or an old-appearing young woman. Our conversation stopped abruptly as we forgot ourselves and stared.

I was the first to break the long silence as I softly asked, "Who is that?" I was totally unprepared for the shocking answer blurted out by a friend. "*You* ought to know, man. That's Leona!"

Someday I may forget how Leona looked the very first time I saw her. The chances of forgetting how she looked on this occasion are slim, however, because I have tried too hard to forget. As in a daze I heard such words as "brain tumour," "inoperable," "malignancy," and so on, but they didn't really register.

So another school year began. I helped her and befriended her as before—for a while. She was the same sweet Christian girl, just not so attractively packaged.

She really needed my help now. As the days went by she needed it more and more. Walking was difficult for her. Her legs were like stilts and she seemed to be losing her sense of balance. It was extremely hard and painful for her to go up and down stairs, and our school had too many of them. Those once beautiful, brown eyes seemed now to protrude from their sockets. She appeared to be staring at everything and everybody, yet seeing little.

Then it began. Have you experienced it? Have you cringed under the cruel, heartless, inhuman treatment too often practised by the "man animal" and especially by its young? Someone dubbed her Granny. One-time friends whispered and looked away when she painfully tottered by. A self-appointed messenger would hurry up to me and gasp, "Granny needs you right away to help her upstairs."

Soon her books felt like heavy bars of lead. As I helped her up the stairs I discovered our school had *too many* stairs. Then I began to find it more convenient to be elsewhere when the noon bell rang. In the mornings before Leona came I would find it necessary to go on up to study hall early.

So Leona was often late to her first morning class. What a vast difference from the first day she came to our school and made her grand entry. No whistles greeted her now as she painfully, unsteadily, shuffled to her desk, ignored. But I noticed, of course. **I was a Christian. I didn't smoke, drink, or dance, and I hardly ever swore.**

"Rumour had it that she was going to die. But I knew better. Things like that happened only in big, faraway cities. . . ."

Then came the day when she just couldn't make it to school any more. Rumour had it that she was going to die. But I knew better. Things like that happened only in big, faraway cities, and you read about it in the paper. Teenagers didn't die. Not in our pleasant little town, and most certainly not sweet, quiet, uncomplaining, Christian Leona.

I sat in one of the middle pews of the church during the funeral.

Yes, I sat right about in the middle of the church. I didn't want to be too close, yet I felt I couldn't bear to be too far away. I cried a little on the outside and agonised a lot on the inside. I cried a little for Leona. But I wept a lot for myself.

It hurts—oh, how it does hurt—to come face to face with a hypocrite who **doesn't smoke, drink, or dance, and hardly ever swears, but suddenly becomes aware that he's not a Christian.** The old adage says, "If the shoe fits, wear it," but nobody says it will always be comfortable.

Perhaps the saddest part of the story is that they still come. The Leonas are still with us. They totter slowly down the halls of high schools, academies, and colleges. They painfully drag themselves up the stairs of countless churches.

Some are poor and some are wealthy. Some are old, others young. Many are bent and crippled, while others walk straight and strong. On and on they march, ever striving to get away from their lonely, aching hearts. They walk with, yet aside from, their Christian friends.

They always remind me of Leona. God has mercifully forgiven, yet He does not allow me to forget. And I know that they don't always just die. Sometimes they get in the way and are accidentally knocked over by their Christian friends rushing for the middle of the church.

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Gippsland Pathfinders at Sale. Back row (from left): Hank Pitsner, Anita Pitsner, John Findlay. Middle row: Jean Pitsner, Ellen Hingston, Dean Moloney, Paul Moloney, Julianne Findlay, Dennis Moloney, Marilyn Findlay. Front row: Trevor Brown, Leeanne Christianson, Robert Christianson,—, Peter Brown, Greg Iro, Frank Pitsner.
Photo: J. McCormick.

Pathfindering in Gippsland

JENNY McCORMICK, Communication Secretary, Sale Church, Victoria

THE GIPPSLAND division of Pathfinders, led by Mr. Hank Pitsner, is a rapidly growing and extremely talented group. Our Moe Primary School teacher, Trevor Brown, directs and encourages the Pathfinders' musical abilities, and on their recent trip to Sale church they played their various instruments and sang, to the sheer delight of all those attending.

As this is the only Pathfinder club in the Gippsland region, members must travel from as far as Maffra on the east side and Warragul on the west side. They meet fortnightly at Moe. ##

Making Sports History

NOEL H. J. SMITH, Minister, Greater Sydney Conference

FOR THE FIRST TIME in Australian Adventist history, an "Interstate Sports Spectacular—1981" was inaugurated by the youth of the church. This thrilling event made its debut at the Sydney-Bankstown Basketball Stadium on Saturday night, September 12.

So successful was the venture that the 400 who attended or took part in the programme overwhelmingly hope that this sporting fellowship will become an annual opportunity for our dedicated young people to fraternise between conferences.

This highly organised mini-Olympic games within the church in Australia could well mushroom into and become the embryo of a world-wide meeting of the sporting youth of this world-wide church.

Under the sponsorship of the Greater Sydney Conference Youth Department and the Sydney Adventist Sports Club, and organised by Pastor Trafford Fischer, Allan Bates and Carey Smith, the games committee could be widened to include other conference youth personnel and be played in other capital cities in Australia, or maybe New Zealand and the Pacific island capitals. The spirit of the teams participating in this carnival was excellent. A high standard of sportsmanship was seen between the participating teams, especially during the finals.

Most of the participants attended the Sabbath services at Ryde church and took part in Sabbath school, and an Avondale College theology student preached the sermon. Hospitality by the members of our Ryde church provided a delicious lunch for the interstate visitors.

The Sports Spectacular was opened at 7 p.m. by Pastor Ron Craig, Youth director of the Greater Sydney Conference, and the final games were played from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday. Each sporting participant wore a felt pocket-badge supplied by Ron Lamplough, Jr., and Clem Long. ##

Youth Ingathering Witness

JENNY McCORMICK, Communication Secretary, Sale Church, Victoria

THE SABBATH of September 12 was a day to remember for Sale church. Seven students from Lilydale Academy arrived to begin Ingathering in the local district, and were faced with conducting the Sabbath programmes.

Led by dean of men Lyn Burton, and Science teacher Stephen Walker, these young men proved to be a real credit to our academy. From the moment the boys arrived their conduct was exceptional, and their attitude regarding the Sabbath hours and toward their leaders also was commendable.

The boys hailed from various parts of the country, and all with varying family backgrounds. In a world full of violence, corruption and delinquency, it is heartening to see Christian young men choosing to be separate from the world and to witness for their Lord. All we can say is, "Thank you, Lilydale, and well done!" ##



Lilydale students at Sale were (not same order as photo): Brett Goods, Stephen Walker, Colin Bertrand, Craig Stanley, Lyn Burton, Malcom Goldsworthy, Greg Micklethwaite, Leon Dwyer, Noel Russel.
Photo: J. McCormick.

THE ELEVENTH AND CONCLUDING FEATURE OUTLINE OF . . .

WHAT SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS BELIEVE



Death and Resurrection

THE BIBLICAL TEACHING concerning the resurrection and the condition of men and women in death is full of comfort and courage. In times of sorrow we need not give ourselves up to uncontrolled grief, "even as others which have no hope." 1 Thess. 4:13. Our reason for hope is Christ, who said, "Because I live, ye shall live also." John 14:19.

In our understanding of what happens to a person at death, during the intermediate state, and at the resurrection, we Adventists differ from most Christians. We speak of the resurrection of a *person*, believing in the unity of the person and in the impossibility of conscious existence apart from the body. There is no Biblical support for the concept that at the resurrection there is a reuniting of the body with a soul from which, in death, it had been separated. The Hebrew and Greek words translated "soul" in the Bible basically represent the person himself, not a conscious, ever-living part of him that is capable of existing without the body.

At death, a person loses all consciousness (Ps. 146:4). The body disintegrates and becomes like the dust of the earth (Eccl. 3:20). The dead do not exist consciously in heaven or hell. Metaphorically, they sleep (John 11:11; 1 Thess. 4:14). They will be called to the resurrection from their graves, where, without being conscious of time, their wait will seem as though it had been but a moment.

This is another example of God's love and mercy, for if people were taken to heaven at death, how could they fully enjoy heaven's bliss as they watched the sorrow and pain their loved ones were suffering on earth?

Although the Bible teaches nothing about the conscious soul or spirit surviving the death of the body, it has much to say about life after death. It makes clear that death comes to all, the righteous and the wicked, but pictures a vastly different future for each (John 5:28, 29). After resting in the dust until the resurrection, the dead will live again to meet the consequences of their lifetime choices: those who have accepted Christ's offer of eternal life (chap. 3:16) will receive immortality; those who have rejected the offer leave God no other choice but to give them up to eternal separation from Him. They can receive life from no other source, nor can they continue to receive it from God, who because of His love for His redeemed children cannot allow selfishness and sin to coexist with them in His perfect universe.

At the second advent the saints of all ages will receive their inheritance simultaneously (1 Thess. 4:16, 17). On that day of resurrection each person will be a new creation and will be given a new body, and yet each will recognise friends and be recognised by them. Those who walk heaven's streets will be the very same people who lived on earth and passed through the experiences that made them unique. It is comforting to know that God will preserve people's characters and personalities, and on the resurrection day will restore them to their own special personhood.

Seventh-day Adventists consider death an enemy, as do others, but we are not terrified by it. We can face it confidently, trusting in the loving Father and in Jesus, our Elder Brother, whose victory over the grave can be our victory too, through faith.

An Adventist who had just discovered that he was the victim of terminal disease illustrated this kind of confidence when he wrote to a close family friend:

"On Tuesday afternoon . . . the original diagnosis . . . was confirmed. That was hard to take, as you can imagine, but everything is going to be all right, I know. God can still work miracles. That night my wife and I had a long talk together and really faced this whole thing for the first time together. Sometimes I believe God tests the fervency of our prayers and delays answering in order for our faith to be tested. No matter what happens, time is very short as far as this earth is concerned. We got to thinking about how it might be like a father telling his little boy that it was time to go to bed. The boy might argue and say he wanted to stay up a little longer, but the father would be apt to say, 'Son, there's a better day tomorrow, a new day in which to do the things you want so much to do.'

"If that's what God is telling me, why should I question His wisdom?"

For further study, see 1 Tim. 6:16, 19; Rom. 6:23; 1 Cor. 15:51-54; Eccl. 9:5, 6; Rom. 8:35-39; Rev. 20:1-10; John 5:24. ##



The Millennium and the End of Sin

THE BOOK OF REVELATION describes a period of 1,000 years known to Bible students as "the millennium." The term *millennium* is not in the Bible, but is derived from two Latin words—*mille*, meaning 1,000, and *annum*, meaning year. In discussions of the prophecies, Bible students use the term to refer exclusively to the 1,000-year period set forth in Revelation 20.

Of all the time prophecies in the Bible, perhaps the starting and ending points of the millennium are the easiest to establish, for the

millennium will begin with a resurrection and will end with a resurrection.

The resurrection with which it will begin is called the "first resurrection" and will affect only the righteous dead, for Scripture says: "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection." Rev. 20:6. The resurrection at the end of the millennium is called the "second resurrection" and will affect only the wicked, for the Bible says, "The rest of the dead [those not raised in the resurrection of the righteous] lived not again until the thousand years were finished." Verse 5.

These are the resurrections to which Jesus referred when He said, "The hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His [the Son of man's] voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5:28, 29.

Because the Bible states clearly that the resurrection of the righteous will take place at Christ's second advent, we know when the millennium will begin. The Apostle Paul states: "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air." 1 Thess. 4:15-17.

Clearly, then, the millennium will begin at the second coming of Christ, for that is when the righteous dead will be resurrected. Then they, with the living righteous, will be taken with Christ to heaven, as He promised (see John 14:1-3). John the beloved says: "They lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." Rev. 20:4. During this period they will be engaged in a work of judgment. This judgment involves examining the cases of the lost, and is part of the divine plan for demonstrating to the entire universe that God is both just and merciful. The saved, having chosen God's way, receiving both title and fitness for heaven by accepting Christ's righteousness, will be acquitted and taken to heaven when Jesus comes.

Where will the wicked be while their cases are examined? Here on earth, dead. Only the righteous will be raised at Christ's coming, hence it is plain that the millions of unsaved people who died throughout past ages will remain in their graves until the resurrection at the end of the millennium. And the wicked who are alive at the second advent will be slain (2 Thess. 1:7-10; Jer. 25:33; Rev. 19:11-21). Thus, during the millennium the countless millions of the unsaved will be dead.

This helps explain why Scripture says that Satan will be "bound" during the thousand years. Ever since he first tempted Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, Satan has occupied himself with trying to deceive people and lead them into sin. But with the righteous in heaven and the wicked in their graves, he will have nothing to do. The Bible pictures him as being bound with a chain (Rev. 20:1, 2). The chain is symbolic, not literal, just as we sometimes say that we would like to go somewhere or do something but we can't because "our hands are tied." The translation of the righteous and the death of the wicked are links in the chain that will bind Satan.

The Bible says that the place in which Satan will be "bound" is "the bottomless pit" (verses 1, 3). This "bottomless pit" is our earth. At Christ's coming, through earthquakes, storms, and human violence, this earth will be reduced to chaos (see Rev. 16:18-20; Isa. 6:11; 24:1; Jer. 4:23-27). So devastating will be the destruction that pre-Creation-week conditions will prevail. In the Greek translation of the Old Testament, known as the Septuagint, the same word is used in Genesis 1:2 to mean "without form and void" as is translated "bottomless pit" in the King James Version of Revelation 20:1. Thus, for 1,000 years Satan will be bound by circumstances in this devastated world, able only to contemplate the ruin he has wrought in human lives and nature.

At the end of the millennium, however, he will be "loosed" or become active once more, when the countless millions of the wicked are raised to hear sentence pronounced and to receive their punishment. Scripture says: "When the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations . . . to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea." Rev. 20:7, 8.

Why will Satan gather the people for battle? Because he intends to make a final effort to be victorious in his rebellion against God. The Holy City, the home of the redeemed, having descended to earth (see Jude 14, 15), Satan prepares to attack. The prophet John sketches the scenario in these words: "I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven" (Rev. 21:2), and the armies of the wicked "went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city." Chap. 20:9.

But the attack will fail. Fire from God will consume Satan and his hosts. . . . The universe will be free from sin.

But the attack will fail. Fire from God will consume Satan and his hosts (verse 9). The whole earth will be turned into a lake of fire, a fire that will destroy every vestige of sin, and will purify the earth. The Apostle Peter describes it in these words: "The heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." 2 Peter 3:10.

Thus at the end of the millennium, Satan and those who have followed him in rebellion will be destroyed. The universe will be free from sin. And then God will re-create this earth as the eternal home of the saved. Wrote Peter: "We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." Verse 13; see also Rev. 21:5.

"The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love."—*"The Great Controversy,"* page 678.

For further study, see Zech. 14:1-4; Mal. 4:1; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Rev. 19:17, 18, 21. ##





The New Earth

WHEN SIN AND SINNERS are finally destroyed, at the close of the millennium, the fire that consumes them also will consume the ugliness of sin from this earth. Then God will make all things new, make them as He intended them to be when He first created this earth (2 Peter 3:10-13; Rev. 21:5).

The new earth will contain many delights for God's children, delights so far beyond our present comprehension that "men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, . . . What He [God] hath prepared for him that waiteth for Him." Isa. 64:4.

While we cannot imagine even the minutest fraction of the glories in store for the redeemed, the Bible still shares a surprising amount of information.

We will have places prepared for us by Jesus in His Father's house (John 14:1-3). We also will build homes for ourselves and inhabit them (Isa. 65:17, 21). We will till the soil and eat the fruit of our labour (verses 21, 22). With minds no longer hampered by sin or limited by time, we will be able to learn the wisdom of the undefiled universe.

The pain and sorrow that have dogged our lives will be no more. John the revelator shares this promise with us in ringing words: "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Rev. 21:4. Imagine, never again having to fear that time with a friend or loved one will be cut short by death. Imagine having all the time in eternity to develop new friendships, to keep those friendships active and growing. As one person put it, "We will be able to hold all those we love close, forever."

The changes wrought by sin in nature will disappear. People's bodies will be strong and youthful forever. Leaves no longer will fall in death. Animals will be gentle once again. "The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock. . . . They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, saith the Lord." Isa. 65:25.

The New Jerusalem, having come down to earth out of heaven at the end of the millennium, will be the capital of God's universe. There in the midst of the city will flow a "pure river of water of life." Rev. 22:1. On either side of the river will stand the tree of life, "which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." Verse 2. There will be no night in the city; it will not need light of the sun or moon because the glory of God will illumine it (chap. 21:23). Since God's people will not grow weary, they will not need the rest provided by the night.

But far beyond any material thing that we will receive as inheritors of this country will be the reward of open, unrestricted communication with God and Christ. While "now we see through a glass, darkly," then we will see Him "face to face: . . . then shall I know even as also I am known." 1 Cor. 13:12.

"And the years of eternity, as they roll, will bring richer and still more glorious revelations of God and of Christ. As knowledge is progressive, so will love, reverence, and happiness increase. The more men learn of God, the greater will be their admiration of His character. As Jesus opens before them the riches of redemption and the amazing achievements in the great controversy with Satan, the hearts of the ransomed thrill with more fervent devotion, and with more rapturous joy they sweep the harps of gold; and ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of voices unite to swell the mighty chorus of praise."—"*The Great Controversy*," page 678.

"The work of redemption will be complete. In the place where sin abounded, God's grace much more abounds. The earth itself, the very field that Satan claims as his, is to be not only ransomed but exalted. Our little world, under the curse of sin the one dark blot in His glorious creation, will be honoured above all other worlds in the universe of God. Here, where the Son of God tabernacled in humanity; where the King of glory lived and suffered and died—here, when He shall make all things new, the tabernacle of God shall be with men, 'and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God.' And through endless ages as the redeemed walk in the light of the Lord, they will praise Him for His unspeakable Gift—*Immanuel, 'God with us.'* "—"*The Desire of Ages*," page 26.

For further study, see 2 Peter 3:13; Gen. 17:1-8; Matt. 5:5; Rev. 11:15. ##

OUR LEADERS AFFIRM THEIR FAITH . . .

Confidence Confirmed

APPROXIMATELY thirty-six years ago, I became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and was baptised in the old church in Wolfram Street, Broken Hill. I became a member of the church because I believed in its fundamental teachings.

The years that have passed have only served to confirm my confidence in the doctrines of the church. I was deeply impressed at the unity of thought displayed at the 1980 General Conference session in Dallas, and the Statement of Fundamental Beliefs recently released confirms our faith in the integrity of the message we love. Our safety in these times of stress is to turn neither to the right hand nor to the left. ##



PASTOR REX VERNON MOE was born at Broken Hill, New South Wales. He became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church at fifteen years of age. A graduate of the Theology course at Avondale College, he commenced his ministry in the South Queensland Conference in 1958. His service covers eight years in South Queensland, five years in North New South Wales, one year in North Queensland, four years in North New South Wales, as president, five years in Western Australia, as president, and he has just completed his first year as president of the Western Pacific Union Mission. He is married to Maureen, daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Gerald Peacock. They have two sons, Gary and David. ##

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

NEWS BRIEFS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Brazilians Dedicate Launch

ARTHUR S. VALLE

ANOTHER "White Angel of Blessing" has joined the fleet of fourteen medical launches plying various rivers in Brazil. One of the major newspapers, *The State of São Paulo*, gives this report of the dedication ceremony.

"In a festive spirit, the Seventh-day Adventist Church inaugurated the *Luzeiro Paulista*, a launch that is taking the place of old *Samaritan*, to care for the needy people living along the banks of the Ribeira de Iguape River. It is equipped to render medical and dental aid, but the team works primarily in preventive medicine and will be participating in the upcoming polio vaccination campaign. The launch also has a pharmacy carrying a basic stock of medications. . . . Its cost of 3 million cruzeiros ($US30,000) is hardly one-fifth of its actual worth. This low price was made possible by various business firms and private individuals who donated the engine and other pieces of equipment."

Osmundo dos Santos, East São Paulo Conference president, in his address to the various government officials and others present at the ceremony, said, "Now we have yet another launch to minister to those in need. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is duty-bound to be present where there is pain, hunger, and misery, so that in sharing the little it has, these people may have a little more. But the main, compelling reason for carrying on this activity is the love of Christ and the certainty that Jesus will come soon to bring forever to an end all pain and suffering." ##

South American Division . . .

Membership Passes 500,000

ENOCH OLIVEIRA

BY THE END of the first quarter of this year the Adventist membership of the South American Division reached 500,000 members.

This number reflects the fruitage of a church committed to the proclamation of the "everlasting gospel." After fifty-five years of hard work, many struggles, and sacrifices, our membership in 1949 numbered only 50,000 baptised believers. About that time, however, the Adventist movement began showing signs of increased vitality. By 1960 the church membership had reached 100,000. From this point on, the Adventist cause surged forward with tremendous momentum.

This strong growth of the Adventist work within the division territory is the result of the co-ordinated action of ministers and laity alike, who sowed the good seed and now can witness the fruit of their dedicated labours.

The reports and statistics from South America show that the "forbidden land" of the past is now wide open to the gospel. In spite of theological controversies, political uncertainties, and economic crises, the Lord's work continues to move ahead with indomitable enthusiasm and accelerated pace. ##

New Seminary Dean

GERHARD F. HASEL has been named dean of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. The action was taken as the board of trustees met on campus on September 1.

The former dean of the seminary, Thomas H. Blincoe, has returned to the classroom as professor of theology.

Dr. Hasel is professor of Old Testament and Biblical theology, and serves as chairman of the seminary's Old Testament department and as director of the school's Doctor of Theology programme. The theological seminary at Andrews has nearly 400 students training on the graduate level to serve as ministers in the church.

A native of Germany, Dr. Hasel came to the United States in 1958, and was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in theology and German from Atlantic Union College in Massachusetts in 1959. He received two graduate degrees at Andrews: a Master of Arts in systematic theology in 1960, and a Master of Divinity in 1962. In 1970 he received a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Dr. Hasel has served as an assistant professor of religion at Southern Missionary College in Tennessee and as a pastor in the Southern New England Conference.

Dr. Hasel has written several books on Old and New Testament theology, as well as a number of reference works on books of the Bible.

Dr. Blincoe, who served as dean of the seminary for the past five years, has been at Andrews since 1962. He at one time served in Japan, where he taught religion at Japan Missionary College. He has also taught at La Sierra College in California. ##

AN ADVENTIST CORRESPONDENT SEES . . .

A Different Perspective to CHOGM

R. K. BROWN, Communication Director, Trans-Australian Union Conference



The official opening of CHOGM in the Melbourne Town Hall. The prime minister of Australia, Malcolm Fraser, is addressing the forty-one heads of government. The delegates were seated in a circle with a colourful display of flowers surrounding the CHOGM symbol.
Photos: R. K. Brown.

AUSTRALIA HOSTED the biennial Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) when the leaders of forty-one countries met in Melbourne and Canberra from September 30 to October 7, 1981.

The importance of this meeting can be gauged from the fact that thirty countries were represented by their president or prime minister. These leaders spent a whole week considering the great issues of the world.

The chairman of the meeting was the Australian prime minister, Malcolm Fraser. In an address to the nation, prior to the opening of CHOGM, he said, "There is no other international meeting of any kind which brings together so many heads of Government for so long."

The nations represented ranged from India's 700 million to small island states who number their people by the thousands. Some were among the richest countries in the world, while others were among the poorest. Together they represent a quarter of the people living on the earth.

News of CHOGM went far beyond the shores of Australia to many distant lands by satellite and by radio-telephone. Some 1,194 accredited correspondents, radio and television crews represented the major media channels on planet earth.

Adventist Interest

What could there be in CHOGM to interest a Seventh-day Adventist correspondent? Armed with a special CHOGM pass (a miracle in itself), I was able to penetrate the tight security and share the elaborate press facilities available to the media. Through the good offices of the media secretariat, I was able to attend media briefings and contact extremely busy world leaders. Firstly, I was surprised how much some of these world leaders know about Adventist work in their own countries, especially in Africa. Many spoke in glowing terms of our schools, hospitals and mission stations. For example:

Mr. G. N. Nyaanga, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Kenya Government, attended Adventist schools. He spoke very highly of their influence upon him in earlier years. His parents are Adventists.

The Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga, prime minister of Jamaica, has Adventist parentage, and is not ashamed to tell people he was reared an Adventist.

The prime minister of Sri Lanka, the Hon. Ranasinghe Premadasa, is a non-smoker, non-drinker and a vegetarian.

The Hon. Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, president of Zambia, is a practising and praying Christian, the son of a Presbyterian missionary, and was reared on a mission station.

In an exclusive interview on the forty-ninth floor of the Wentworth Hotel, Dr. Kaunda told Dr. R. E. Clifford and the writer of his personal convictions on healthful living. He is a non-smoker, non-drinker and does not take tea, coffee or cola drinks. (A full report of this interview will appear in a future issue of *Alert.*)



Wise leaders are never too busy to give attention to physical fitness. The prime minister of Singapore, the Rt. Hon. Lee Kuan Yew, took time out for a run in the Fitzroy Gardens, Melbourne, during CHOGM.
Photo: Courtesy Herald and Weekly Times Ltd.

Dr. Kaunda also assured us of his belief in the power of prayer, and how he prays before important engagements and speeches. At his suggestion, while his aides waited outside his executive suite, we knelt together in prayer. Pastor Clifford prayed and asked God's blessing upon this head of state and the important conference that was in session.

The Zambian Union has 260 Adventist churches and 40,000 members in a population of 4 million. Owing to financial pressures, Zambia is to lose fourteen overseas budgets in 1982.

World Trends

Secondly, CHOGM leaders were probably not fully aware that matters they were discussing and the problems they were facing have been clearly foretold in Scripture.

The communique issued by delegates on the last day carried these statements, "Heads of Government were conscious that they were meeting at a time when there was a growing sense of insecurity among the people of the world; they expressed grave disquiet at the marked deterioration that had taken place in international relations since their last meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, 1979."

The Bible says, "Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom . . . and there shall be famines and troubles. . . ." Mark 13:8.

"Heads of Government recognised that they were meeting at a time of economic crisis. Recession was persisting and was accompanied by stubbornly high inflation and rising levels of unemployment. . . . They were experiencing serious balance-of-payment and debt service problems . . . acute poverty, hunger and malnutrition."

Prime Minister Fraser, as on many occasions, has stressed the importance of the north-south dialogue. In other words, the widening gap between the rich and the poor countries. The meeting noted the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer.

We are reminded of the statement of James 5:1-4: "Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted. . . . Behold the hire of your labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud. . . ."

A Sure Solution

Thirdly, as the leaders of the Commonwealth countries were meeting in Melbourne trying to find answers to the great issues of the world—war, poverty, apartheid, hunger, financial problems—Adventist preachers, teachers and missionaries in these same countries were proclaiming the return of Jesus as the sure solution to the world's needs.

Jesus said, "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:28.

Seventh-day Adventists, as heralds of the three angels' messages, are proclaiming the gospel in all the Commonwealth countries represented in Melbourne, and beyond into 195 countries of the world's 210. In spite of the best efforts of world leaders to improve the social and economic conditions of mankind, the only real answer is in the coming of the Lord and eternal life.



The president of Zambia, Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda, with Pastor R. E. Clifford, T.A.U.C. secretary-treasurer, during an interview for *Alert*. Dr. Kaunda is a non-drinker, non-smoker and practices a healthy life-style.

"In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. . . . They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages."—*Testimonies*," Vol. 9, page 19.

Let us pray for the leaders of the nations. Many are great and good men, trying, within the limits of human wisdom, to make this world a saner and safer place. They need the support of our prayers in providing a favourable climate for the proclamation of the everlasting gospel.

The next meeting of CHOGM will be in Delhi, India, in 1983.

SPECIAL NOTE

A sidelight from a Sydney newspaper report indicates at least one reporter is aware of Seventh-day Adventist standards:

"Members of the non-smoking, non-drinking Seventh-day Adventist Church must be glad that CHOGM is over. The conference's official directory of media representatives accredited one reporter as working for 'Seventh-day Adventist Pubs.' They meant 'Publications.' "—*Daily Telegraph*, Thursday, October 8, 1981. ##



The Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga, prime minister of Jamaica, speaking during a briefing session at CHOGM. Mr. Seaga was reared a Seventh-day Adventist.



A layman discoveres the art of news-writing as an avenue for communicating the gospel.



South Australian Communication director Nat Devenish speaks during the seminar.
Photos: N. E. Devenish.

1981 South Australian Communication Seminar

N. E. DEVENISH, Communication Director, South Australian Conference

THE WORK of a communicator can be exciting. This and many other facts were learnt by thirty-two Communication secretaries and church officers who gathered together on Sabbath afternoon and Saturday night, September 19, at the Trinity Gardens church in Adelaide. The occasion was the 1981 South Australian Conference Communication Seminar. Guest instructors were Pastor G. E. Garne, editor, Signs Publishing Company, and Pastor R. K. Brown, Communication director, Trans-Australian Union Conference.

Topics such as writing for denominational journals, the philosophy of communication and the work of the communication secretary were dealt with by the guest instructors.

One very profitable feature of the seminar was when those in attendance divided into four groups to discuss topics dealing with communications within and without the Seventh-day Adventist Church. After the discussion period, a report from each group was presented.

The South Australian Conference Communication director, Brother Nat Devenish, announced plans to broadcast once per month, on Radio 5UV Adelaide (an AM access station) a special programme for Adventists entitled "Advent Radio Magazine." (A report on this venture will appear in a later edition of the RECORD.)

Those in attendance were delighted that our conference president, Pastor C. V. Christian, took time to be present for the seminar and conduct closing Sabbath.

With the enthusiasm generated by our guest instructors at the seminar, I can safely say the work of communications in the South Australian Conference is definitely on the move. Really, the role of a communicator is an exciting one. ##

FM RADIO FELLOWSHIP

J. B. TRIM, Communication Director, Trans-Tasman Union Conference

SINCE LAST DECEMBER, the Communication director of the Greater Sydney Conference, Pastor E. B. Price, has organised a monthly Radio Fellowship Tea. This is to provide an opportunity for local broadcasters to exchange ideas and experiences.

Each month a guest speaker is invited to address the Fellowship, and one of the recent speakers was Mrs. Lorna Harrison. Mrs. Harrison hosts her own forty-five-minute magazine radio show each week over station 2NCR-FM at Lismore. Upon retirement from a lifetime of service in the mission field, she and her husband, Roy, settled near Lismore. Lorna then began a new career in radio.

The accompanying photo shows Mrs. Harrison at the far end of the table. Just in the picture on the right is Andrew Ostapowicz, who broadcasts in Polish. On the left is Pastor D. K. Down, who conducts a regular weekly broadcast on archaeology on 2SER-FM. Next to him are Dr. and Mrs. R. M. Ellison. Others present were Graham Duffin, who also broadcasts weekly on 2SER-FM, Pastors E. B. Price, J. B. Trim, R. H. Parr, Conference president, and Judith and John Northeast, Judith being the announcer on Pastor Down's programme. ##



BETTER FOOD FOR KUKERIN

LARRY J. LAREDO, Church Pastor, Central South District, Western Australia



Kevin Hardes extolls the virtues of health foods to two women who attended the dinner.
Photos: L. Laredo.



Some of the Kukerin locals were a little apprehensive at first as they sampled some of the new dishes, presented smorgasbord style.

YOU PROBABLY have never heard of Kukerin. It is a small town in the wheat-belt of Western Australia, 323 kilometres from Perth, and forty-two kilometres from Lake Grace.

Two Adventist families, Kevin and Kerry Driscoll and Peter and Diane Pulman, are involved with several business enterprises in the district; the Shell fuel depot, the school-bus, and one of the town's two stores.

Over the past few months Kerry and Diane have enjoyed the fellowship of other Christians in the area through the ladies' guild of the Uniting Church. The idea of holding a vegetarian dinner to raise funds for repairs to the church was put forward by the two Adventist ladies, and was enthusiastically received by the group.

Naturally, the Sanitarium Health Food Company was very happy to assist with this project. A fine display of products was presented by Western Australian wholesale manager Kevin Hardes, and Dr. Sid Cole, manager of the Carmel Sanitarium factory, gave a thought-provoking talk on the importance of correct nutrition and a balanced diet. Many questions followed, and it was very evident that the people attending were delighted with the evening.

The goodwill created by this project has been really wonderful. Please pray for the folk at Kukerin who are a witness for the special truths for these last days.

Several weeks ago a company was formed at nearby Lake Grace. This is another exciting story which will have to wait for another report. ##

Wynnum Health Programme

DELL TOPEL, Lay Activities Secretary, Wynnum Church, South Queensland

A DELIGHTFUL smorgasbord was enjoyed on July 14 by the participants who had just completed the six weeks' cooking demonstration series. Mrs. Jean Lemen, of Mount Gravatt church, demonstrated savoury dishes using various beans, lentils, gluten and cheese. Bread-making and fruit dishes were also shown.

Twenty-six people, including twelve Adventists, attended the series. This was the climax to our health programme for 1981.

The health programme began with free health tests which had been requested by the manager of the new Wynnum Plaza. One-hundred-and-seventy-two availed themselves of the tests, and thirty-two of these participated in the Heartbeat programme.

A 5-Day Plan and a parenting programme were also run. It was observed that each of these programmes attracted a different segment of the community. ##

Vietnamese Contacts

TOM STEVENSON, Wangaratta Church, Victoria

RECENTLY the Wangaratta church sponsored a Vietnamese family for the Refugee Settlement Committee. Our church set them up in a house, paid the "bond" and the first fortnight's rent, and supplied most necessities, such as crockery, cutlery, and furniture for kitchen, bedroom and lounge. We also gave them a washing-machine, refrigerator and a black-and-white television set. Some of these items had to be purchased, but most were donated.

For the first two months the parents attended English classes for three hours a day, during which time the two young children were cared for by church members on a roster basis.

The husband, who could speak a little English, obtained work at one of the local textile mills, just eleven days after arriving in Wangaratta.

Although not Adventists, the two children attend Sabbath school regularly and the parents frequently come to church. ##



Mr. and Mrs. Vo, daughter Minh (6) and son Tri (4), with Alexia and Tom Stevenson.
Photo: I. Stevenson.

Wise Men From the East

CONSTANCE GRIEVE

TWO WISE MEN from the East, and their wives have retired at Cooranbong. They are Pastor S. H. Lo and Pastor T. K. Chong, parents respectively of Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Lo. (For ten years Bruce has been a lecturer in the science department of Avondale College, and his wife Ruth is a graduate of the old Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital.)

We are delighted to have these good folk living among us, knowing that we shall be enriched socially and spiritually as we associate with them. We are glad to introduce them to readers of the RECORD.

Pastor and Mrs. Lo

They were both born into Seventh-day Adventist families, and Pastor Lo's father, Pastor S. C. Lo, was the first ordained minister of the Hucka Mission in South China. His wife was among the first group of girls to attend the Bethel School, opened in Canton in 1903 by a pioneer American missionary.

Pastor S. H. Lo was trained in Adventist colleges, majoring in education and mathematics. He commenced his service in 1937, and when he retired in 1980, he had accumulated forty-two years in denominational service.

At the South China Union College, from 1937 to 1960, he was teacher of mathematics, academic dean and acting president. For the next twenty years, our brother was a teacher and principal of the Kowloon Sam Tuk Middle School. This is a senior secondary school with an enrolment of more than one thousand students, who come mostly from non-Adventist homes. It is a powerful evangelising agency, baptising up to one hundred converts a year.

Pastor Lo gave freely of his abilities in a number of other positions, such as Education director of the Hong Kong-Macao Mission, acting treasurer, and director of Spirit of Prophecy Emphasis, and as a church pastor.



Pastor and Mrs. H. S. Lo.

Mrs. Lo is a graduate of the Canton Sanitarium and Hospital. She served there and in the Wai On Hospital; but believing that a mother's first priority is the care of her children, she suspended her nursing career for twelve years. On resuming her service, she joined her husband in school, teaching Bible, physiology and hygiene and home economics. She was also school nurse.

The Los' younger son resides in Houston, Texas, where he is an engineering consultant in a computer service. In the local Adventist church he gives valued assistance to the choir and musical programmes.

Pastor and Mrs. Chong

When Pastor Chong retired from the presidency of the West Malaya-Singapore Mission at the close of 1980, he had been fourteen years in that position, and had given thirty-two years of service to the denomination.

Our brother was employed by the Malayan Government in 1948, to ship propaganda leaflets to the cities of Malaya to prevent Communists stirring up trouble.

Mr. Chong was a heavy drinker and smoker, and spent much of his time at the neighbourhood hotel. One evening a newspaper advertisement caught his eye. Because it had the word "Free" in bold letters, he was interested and sent for the lessons offered by the Voice of Prophecy.

Several months later, after giving his heart to Christ, he decided that God's will for him included observance of the Bible Sabbath. In fear he approached his superior. To his surprise his request was granted. Of all the hundreds of employees in his section, he was the only one who did not have to work on Saturday, and he could make up the time on Sunday.

After his baptism, his job with the government lost its lustre. He felt a growing urge to be where he could more directly contribute to the spreading of the message he had come to love. At the age of thirty he enrolled in our college in Singapore, and two years later he was called to pastor the English church in Penang. During his ministry there one hundred and eight people were baptised. From there he moved to Kuala Lumpur and then to Singapore again, where he pastored the largest church. Finally, he assumed the presidency of the Malaya Mission.

In commenting on God's leading in his life, Pastor Chong says: "I shudder to think what would have happened to our home if it had not been for the Voice of Prophecy lessons that changed my life. I have a hope for the future and a peace in my heart, which comes from Jesus, that I could not otherwise have had. Thank God for the Voice of Prophecy."

Mrs. Chong gave her time and attention to rearing their five daughters, four of whom live in New South Wales, and all are nurses. The youngest, Hannah, is employed at the Sydney Adventist Hospital, Wahroonga. ##



Pastor and Mrs. T. K. Chong.
Photos: C. Grieve.

Roll of Honour

THE FOLLOWING denominational workers have retired. We express our appreciation for their contribution and wish them much of God's continued blessing:

MISS E. BADE

Retired October 7, 1981
(ill-health).
Last employed Sydney Adventist Hospital, 31 years of service.

W. J. STAFFORD

Retired June 20, 1981
(ill-health).
Last employed Avondale College, 37 years of service.

R. H. HILDER

Retired July 10, 1981
(ill-health).
Last employed Sanitarium Health Food Company, Cooranbong, 23 years of service.

MRS. E. ROWELL

Retired July 31, 1981.
Last employed Sanitarium Health Food Company, Melbourne, 26 years of service.

I. J. LACEY

Retired July 31, 1981
(ill-health).
Last employed Sanitarium Health Food Company, Melbourne, 34 years of service. ##



Singalong time at the Wynnum VBS follow-up camp finds all forty-four children involved in the fun.
Photo: D. P. Topel.

BEYOND V.B.S.

DELL TOPEL, V.B.S. Director, Wynnum Church, South Queensland

THE CHIMPS won with 297 points, and the captain was presented with the shield. Their counsellor had been voted the best counsellor, but when he was to be presented with a small trophy, he dashed away at full speed. Ever the practical joker, he didn't trust the contents of the billy, but returned when he saw his trophy was a grapefruit.

So ended the week-end camp of July 17 to 19 for the forty-four youngsters. This camp was part of the Vacation Bible School follow-up programme which is being conducted by the Wynnum church. Other activities this year have included hikes, an overnight camp, a barbecue, and craft and games evenings.

The camp began on Friday night with a hike, followed by the singing of gospel choruses around the camp-fire. After the Bible story of Joseph, superb nature slides were viewed. Later, the children *slowly* entered the dreamland of sleep.

On Sabbath morning, muscles were flexed in a short work-out before breakfast. Prior to parade and the inspection, units prepared their unit flags and elected captains. A song service and the Sabbath school lesson followed. For most of the children this would have been their first Sabbath school, as only three of the children were from Adventist homes; six others have been coming along to Sabbath school. The lesson was on the visit of the shepherds to infant Jesus; so the children should have been familiar with the story. Activity sheets based on the Primary lesson exercises were filled in, and then all enjoyed a short hike before lunch.

The afternoon programme included a talk on crocodiles, supported by a large crocodile skull, an introduction to Pathfinder activities, and first-aid with a mock broken arm.

After tea the children whole-heartedly joined in the sing-song with old-time favourites such as "Botany Bay." Around the camp-fire, each unit put on at least one short skit. The obstacle course followed with a run-off to find the winning unit. The children found dreamland much quicker this time! Even the counsellors around the fire were eventually chased off to bed by the light rain.

Next morning the children gradually emerged to sit around the camp-fire before breakfast as the sun tried to shine through the clouds. After alternating sessions on knots and fire-lighting, camp was dismantled and the final parade was held as parents waited to take their children home.

Now all we hear is, "When is the next camp?" A vote of thanks is extended to all those who assisted in this outreach venture. ##

Fifty for Stratfords

H. G. JOSEPHS, Communication Secretary, Rendelsham Church, South Australia

BROTHER Colin Stratford and his wife Ethel (nee Galway) of Rendelsham, in the south-east of South Australia, greatly enjoyed an exciting evening at the community hall, Southend, on Sunday, September 13, arranged by their daughters, Rosalie (Mrs. Wallis) and Judy (Mrs. Eric Chambers), and granddaughter Jeanie Chambers. Uncle Bill Andrews from Warrnambool (father of two sons in the ministry) recalled events of former times, with the many relatives and friends present to congratulate them on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

With a reassuring smile of confidence in the Lord's leading, Brother Stratford recalled the heart-breaking experience when, on New Year's Day, 1955, soon after building their home, a bush-fire, fanned by a hot north-easterly wind, swept through the small town, devastating every second home. Colin characteristically rushed to help distressed people on the opposite side of the main road. A shift in the wind direction swept the roaring flames down from the bush at the back, ignited a hedge along the side of the house and engulfed their new dwelling. Being in the building trade, Colin set about constructing a new home. Today, the neat cottage and well-kept garden bear no marks of the former catastrophe.

This dedicated couple have close connections with the beginning of the church in Rendelsham. They accepted the Advent message in the early thirties when Pastor P. G. Foster was president of the South Australian Conference. Colin was a member of the first nominating committee when Rendelsham church was organised in 1939 by Pastor E. J. Johanson. He was then elected as an elder, in which capacity he has continued to serve. Sister Stratford has held the position of church clerk for over forty years.

Today their descendants, with their partners and children, number seventeen at the Rendelsham church alone, plus many other relatives further afield, which testifies to the spiritual guidance given by Brother and Sister Stratford.

With pleasure we join their family, including the ten grandchildren and ten great grandchildren, relatives and friends, in wishing Colin and Ethel the Lord's continued blessings. ##



Brother and Sister Colin Stratford of Rendelsham, South Australia.
Photo: H. G. Josephs.



COULSTON—STIRRAT. October 18, 1981, was a happy day for Robyn Stirrat and David Coulston in Rockhampton, Queensland, as they vowed their troth to each other. Many friends were there to wish them well on a showery day which added to David's joy—he is a farmer. We wish them many more showers of blessing right through to eternity. J. Kosmeier.

DOEBLIN—BORRESEN. Many friends and relatives gathered at the Garden City church, Brisbane, Queensland, on Sunday, October 18, 1981, to witness the lovely occasion when Wayne and Wendy promised to love each other faithfully. And it was fitting that Brother Bob Borresen, our A.B.C. manager, sought the Lord's benediction on his new son-in-law and daughter, during the service. Wayne is the eldest son of Clive and Hazel (nee Heise) Doeblin, and Wendy the eldest daughter of Bob and Audrey Borresen. We wish Wayne and Wendy much of the Lord's love and blessing in this, another Christian home. Ray Fraser.

SAVIGE—CRAIG. After the marriage service at the Toowoomba church, Queensland, on August 20, 1981, Peter and Donna Savige chose a beautiful Toowoomba Flower Festival garden for their marriage photos. Peter then led his bride to the banquet table where he thanked Mr. and Mrs. D. Craig of Toowoomba for the hand of their eldest daughter. Happy relatives and friends gathered about them to wish them God's richest blessings as they travel overseas for a twelve-month honeymoon. K. D. Grolimund.

TILL HE COMES

CRAMPTON. Frederick Crampton of Wangi Wangi, New South Wales, passed to his rest while gardening for a friend on October 7, 1981. He was born at Wallsend, New South Wales, on September 19, 1910, and was baptised at the Avondale Memorial church, December 2, 1978. Fred was buried in the Sandgate Cemetery following a service, conducted by the writer, at a funeral parlour in Wallsend. The blessed hope and the comfort of the Scriptures meant much to the relatives and friends as we laid our brother to rest to await the call of the Life-giver. L. C. Coombe.

EDWARDS. David Edwards was born in Dannivirke, New Zealand, in 1911, and died at his home at Papakura, New Zealand, on October 7, 1981. For forty-six years his life's work as a teacher and as a home missionary brought him joy and satisfaction. With Paul he could say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." Left to mourn are his wife Olive, and two daughters Laurel (Mrs. Chick) and Sharon (Mrs. McKay of Invercargill), and four grandchildren. Pastor Vince helped the writer to bring comfort and hope as we laid our brother to rest in the Papakura Cemetery, to await the call of his much-loved Lord. F. E. Baker.

MARTIN. After a period of distressing ill-health, Elma Alice Martin passed to rest in the Lord on October 4, 1981, aged seventy-six years. It was said by her neighbour, "I admired her courage during her sickness; she showed a great faith in Jesus." The only Adventist in a family of two brothers and five sisters, our sister's death was mourned by her daughter (Mrs. Maureen Lavery) and her surviving three sisters and brother. Her husband predeceased her sixteen years ago. Sister Martin was laid to rest in the Woronora General Cemetery, Sutherland, New South Wales, to await the return of Jesus. D. I. Jenkins.

RATH. Wilfred Patrick Rath was born in Cownpore, India, on September 10, 1910, and seventy-one years later closed his eyes in the "sweet sleep of death" on September 29, 1981, and was buried in the Canberra Cemetery, Australian Capital Territory. Thus a courageous battle with diabetes, necessitating a leg amputation four and a half years ago, came to an end just a short while after he reaffirmed his confidence in Jesus. Among those left to mourn his passing are his five children, Wendy (England), Wilf and Chris (Australian Capital Territory), Robert (U.S.A.), and Jenny (England), and to them the knowledge that our lives and destiny are in the hands of a loving and compassionate God, who holds the "keys of hell and of death," is indeed comforting. L. J. Evans.

ROSENBERG. Active in spite of her eighty-one years, Mabel Rosenberg suddenly fell ill one evening and passed away next morning, September 29, 1981. The Mannum church, South Australia, was filled to overflowing as relatives and friends gathered to pay their last respects to this generous Christian lady who had lived all her life in the Mannum area. She is survived by five sons and two daughters, all of whom were present, and also by her sister Ellie, whose home she shared for the last thirteen years after the death of her husband. To all was held out the wonderful promise of the resurrection morning. W. H. Kraa.

SNELLMAN. George Gordon Snellman was born in 1896 at Bald Hills Flats, and died peacefully on August 7, 1981, at the War Veterans Nursing Home in Kenmore, Queensland. Although George experienced great difficulties he showed a wonderful spirit, and eventually was led to the Saviour. It was my privilege during the funeral service to direct his loved ones to the God George loved and served. Ray Fraser.

STEELE. Lawrence Jack Steele was born in Blenheim on July 28, 1910, and passed away peacefully at his home in Blenheim, South New Zealand, on Thursday, October 8, 1981. Laurie and Marj Steele became members of the Adventist Church through the influence of Nellie Knowles and Brother Murchison. Following a service in the Blenheim Adventist church, which a large crowd of lifetime friends and loving relatives attended, he was laid to rest at Fairhall Cemetery. To his dear wife, Marjorie, daughter, Noeline (Edwards), sons, Matthew and Keith, and their families, we extend our sincere Christian sympathy and point those who grieve to the One who comforts the mourner and shares the sorrow of the bereaved. "Blessed are they who die in the Lord." And we all long for the joyful reunion on the glorious resurrection morning. R. J. Southon.

SUTTON. George Thomas Sutton was born in 1904 in Birmingham, England, and died in Brisbane, Queensland, on October 14, 1981. He first heard the Advent message in Rhodesia, but was baptised along with his wife in Brisbane in 1967. George was greatly loved by all who knew him. His skill as a tradesman was expressed by the soul of an artist. Moral perspective made him a realist, but his desire for others' welfare kept him gentle, solicitous and helpful. He was canonised in the affections of his six grandchildren. Fifty-four years of happy marriage leave precious memories with his dear wife. She, with her sons John and Fred, their wives and families, and their friends, committed their loved one to the care of Jesus. They rejoice with the many who wait in the hope of His coming. D. A. Brennan.

THIEL. Friedrich Karl Thiel, a member of the Denmark church, Western Australia, passed away in the Denmark Hospital on May 14, 1981. He was eighty-four years of age, and known affectionately as Opar. Brother Thiel was born in Germany, where he accepted the Adventist message. In 1955 he and his wife migrated to Australia, and eventually settled in the Denmark district. Our late Brother was a loyal supporter of the church, and well respected in the community. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wife Olga (Omar), daughter Mrs. Richmund and other relatives. Today he sleeps in the Denmark Cemetery awaiting that "golden daybreak" when Jesus comes. L. S. Uttley.

TWEEDIE. Peter Gill Tweedie was born at Tranent, Scotland, on September 6, 1916, and passed to his rest on Wednesday, October 14, 1981. In recent years Peter and his wife came to love the Lord and desired to walk in His way. Peter was baptised in the Avondale Memorial church on July 26, 1981. He leaves his wife, Angela, daughter, Sybilla, son, Robert, and two brothers and a sister to mourn his passing. The writer brought comfort and hope to the sorrowing loved ones and a large number of relatives and friends as they gathered at the graveside in the Toronto Cemetery, New South Wales. With them we look forward to the glad reunion day. L. C. Coombe.

VANDENHOVEN. Brother John Vandenhoven, at seventy-eight years of age, went to sleep in Jesus at the Coronella Homes, Victoria, on September 29, 1981. A man of prayer and a student of the Bible, he spent eleven years as a literature evangelist in Holland, and had fruitage for his labour. A son, Henk, is a professor of dentistry at Loma Linda University. Peter is a cardiologist at St. Helena Hospital, near Pacific Union College. His daughter, Sylvia, is married to a well-known businessman, John van Schoonhoven. Brother L. Hardy and Brother R. Robe assisted the writer in bringing a message of hope and assurance at the Nunawading church. This Christian gentleman was laid to rest at the Templestowe Cemetery on October 2 in the hope of the great resurrection found in the Book that he loved. W. H. Doble.

WHITE. Lily Elizabeth Melville White, a devoted wife and mother, closed her eyes for the last time in the early hours of July 14, 1981, at the Freeman Nursing Home, Rossmoyne, Western Australia. Lily had suffered a severe stroke, and sleep came as a blessed release. Western Australian born, she attended Perth Church School and Carmel College, and later married Noel White, eminent school-teacher and worker for Christ. This loyal Christian couple together devoted their lives to the cause of others, excelling in teaching and music among children. Lily's music brought much pleasure to all at Sherwin Lodge, where the staff lovingly attended to her needs. Pastor G. I. Wilson gave a wonderful life-sketch at the graveside, and her loving children, Noelene, Janette and Ross, gently bid this beautiful Christian mother "good night" until the glorious resurrection morning. H. J. Watts.

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AUSTRALASIAN RECORD
and advent world survey

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FLASH POINT



☆ Linda Tyack, a Year 9 student at Lilydale Adventist Academy, and a daughter of Norm Tyack, one of the workers at the Signs Publishing Company, won first place for her level from 5,000 entrants, in the Victorian Maths Competition, sponsored by the Bank of New South Wales. Linda was also placed third in the Australian and New Zealand Competition which attracted 35,000 entries.

☆ Pastor Reg Brown, Communication secretary of the Trans-Australian Union, was granted a special media pass to attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Melbourne in company with 1,194 Australian and overseas press representatives. Be sure to read his centre-spread story in this issue of RECORD.

☆ Healesville church, with thirty-three members, has just increased its *Signs* order from 100 to 130 for door-to-door distribution in that town. One of these days Healesville is going to do some reaping where they're now sowing!

☆ The King Island church members have the "all clear" signal from the Tasmanian Conference to build their house of worship by the proposed "Fly 'n' Build" in late December. The plans for the building have now been passed, and building co-ordinator Garry Stoneman is confident that the membership support will ensure the completion of the church in just three weeks.

☆ The Southern Tasmanian Welfare Federation has voted to sponsor a Seventh-day Adventist refugee family from Vietnam. If the request is successful, this family will be a great help to their own people who are now coming to Tasmania to commence a new life.

☆ We have heard that a number of people would like to see the serial, "To Melanesia With Love," which ran in RECORD last year, printed as a book. We would need to know, however, that at least 7,000 copies would be sold if we printed it. We wondered whether those who would be interested, would drop a line to Book Editor, Signs Publishing Company, Warburton, Vic. 3799, stating how many copies you would buy if the story appeared on the shelves of your nearest A.B.C.

☆ Dr. and Mrs. Graham Higgins and family are back in Warburton, and Graham has resumed his duties at the W.H.C.C., after three months in Hong Kong where he was relieving at the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital. Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Davison, also of Warburton Health Care Centre and Hospital, have left for Hong Kong, where Andrew will be relieving till the end of the year.

☆ Dr. Joe Santamaria and Dr. David Pearce of the St. Vincent's Hospital Alcoholism Rehabilitation Unit recently toured Warburton Health Care Centre and were very impressed with the centre's Alcohol Programme.

☆ Miss June Ivey has been appointed acting director of Nursing at W.H.C.C. Miss Ivey is a graduate of the Sydney Adventist Hospital and a former matron of the Auckland Adventist Hospital. For the past three years she has been preceptress at the Marienhoehe Seminary, West Germany.

☆ The Hastings, New Zealand, congregation is raising funds for a new church building. Their fund-raising committee decided on a modern "parable of the talents" as one of its fund-raising projects, and gave 100 members $5 each to "work on." Already the $500 has grown to $2,500! They have also received thousands of dollars from "old boys and girls," former members now living, some of them, many thousands of kilometres from their "home church."

☆ As a direct and immediate result of the visit of Pastor George Knowles, General Conference Lay Activities director (and a former Jehovah's Witness), the Hastings church voted unanimously to buy a Dukane projector, slides and tapes. The cost of the "holy TV," as it has been nicknamed, is around $800, but that didn't deter members. "This is what it's all about," said one member. It certainly is!

☆ Our influence does tell! Here's proof in a snippet from "The Hawkes Bay Scene Church News," a New Zealand church newsletter in its nineteenth year of publication. The editor, Bryce Jones, writes: "We met a very wonderful Indian couple on Castaway Island, Fiji. The Drs. Munir and Chandra Kadri are specialists in Rotorua. In the course of conversation, we mentioned that we are Seventh-day Adventists. 'Is that so?' said Dr. Munir. 'I trained for my specialty under Dr. Roger Barnes at White Memorial Adventist Hospital in Los Angeles.' He went on to say that Dr. Barnes is one of the world's leading urologists. 'He's a Seventh-day Adventist, of course, and a saint of a man. I owe so much to him—not only my specialised skills, but he taught me patience as well!' How wonderful to be referred to as a saint of a man! And shouldn't this be the aim and desire of each of us?"

☆ The president of the Western Australian Conference, Pastor G. A. Lee, formed a new church company at Lake Grace on Sabbath, October 10. Lake Grace is about 300 miles south-east of Perth on the way to Esperance. The company of twelve is the fruitage of a number of influences over a period of four years, including the Adventist aviation team, a 5-Day Plan and the Youlden mission meetings.

☆ In South Australia two evangelistic programmes are scheduled for 1982. Pastor Graham Byrne begins in the Barossa Valley with the support of the Nuriootpa church. He will be assisted by Pastor A. McPhee. Brother Jim Cherry is moving to Alice Springs from Melbourne to assist Pastor M. P. Cozens in a full-sized evangelistic programme.

☆ "Finally, brethren . . .": Blessed is he who has learned to admire but not envy, to follow but not imitate, to praise but not flatter, and to lead but not manipulate.—"The Hawkes Bay Scene Church News."