Australasian Record and Advent World Survey

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August 2, 1982

HE SHOULD KNOW

W. A. TOWNEND

DR. JIM HANSON is the man who should know what happened to the biggest-ever annual offering for Avondale College, last year's \$37,164.14. What is it doing today? Is it really doing something towards better health for our students? For that purpose our people gave it.

Why should Dr. Hanson know? Because he is the academically and professionally qualified man from America who came to Avondale to set up the new physical education program; the dream and goal of our president, Dr. James Cox.

Every cent of last year's offering is out of the bank and in service today. In his new domain, the college auditorium, Dr. Hanson says, "Look down." Looking down, you see a whole brand-new floor. What an area! And what a floor!

Now, with that new floor under his feet, Dr. Hanson is training and leading students in proper indoor recreation "re-creation." Our teachers of tomorrow are now getting practical education that they can pass on to the thousands of boys and girls in our church schools. That is the wider concept of student health, part of the flow-on from the offering. And there is so much more, both being done and could be done if. Dr. Hanson knows about that, too.

Meantime, his eyes are twinkling with gratitude. He knows that the good start that has been made was because our people throughout Australasia gave that record big offering. What would another offering like that one do for Avondale's physical education program? Dr. Hanson knows. Talk to him sometime. It is very easy.

We know that today's health program for students is working. We see it in action here at Avondale. It is destined to grow, and grow. Ask Dr. Hanson about that. Ask his students, too. All we givers can know for sure that last year's big offering is working well. And there is much more to be done.

Dr. Jim Hanson, director of Avondale's Health and Physical Education Program.

Below: The new look inside the College auditorium. Photo: Harri Silvasti





Below: The college auditorium-still playing a vital role.



MORE GOOD HEALTH FOR STUDENTS **AVONDALE COLLEGE OFFERING, AUGUST 21**

Australasian Record

Official Organ of the AUSTRALASIAN DIVISION OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

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For your advertisement to appear, your payment must be enclosed with a recommendation from local pastor or Conference officer. In Touch With The President:

The Relevance of the Bible for a Virile Christian Experience

ONE THING I have observed through the years: a Seventh-day Adventist Christian is usually no stronger in his spiritual experience than his knowledge of the Word of God. There is, of course, nothing surprising about this. The essence of Christianity is to know Christ, and Christ can only be known as He is revealed in Holy Scripture. "This is eternal life, that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou has sent." John 17:3, R.S.V. "You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness to Me; yet you refuse to come to Me that you may have life." John 5:39, 40, R.S.V. Ellen G. White declares in "Steps to Christ": "If you would become acquainted with the Saviour, study the Holy Scriptures."

The moment we realise this we will recognise that the Bible is not just a book of proof-texts by which we establish certain doctrines. Rather we will see it, as T. H. Darlow rightly claims, as "a real sacrament of Jesus Christ Himself." Indeed, the whole paragraph in which he says this is an

excellent exposition of the New Testament as an experience of Christ:

"The New Testament has one supreme office," he declares. "It can introduce us into the very presence and companionship of the Son of God. . . . To faithful souls the whole volume becomes alive with Him whom having not seen they love. Those who are home in Scripture discover that it has no speech nor language where His voice is not heard. Through its chapters the Redeemer holds converse with His redeemed. There they behold His sacred face in almost every page. To those who use it aright, the New Testament becomes a real sacrament of Jesus Christ Himself."

What Darlow says about the New Testament is true also of the Old. For "the whole Bible tells of Christ. From the first record of creation — for without Him was not anything made that was made —to the closing promise, "Behold, I come quickly," we are reading of His works and listening to His voice. "—"Steps to Christ," page 88. That is why, if we would know the Saviour,

we must "fill the whole heart with the words of God,"—*Ibid*.

The truth of the matter is: Christ and the Bible constitute a single source of authority. For "by authenticating each other's authority, Christ and Scripture coalesce into a single font of authority. The Biblically-interpreted Christ and the Christ-centred, Christ-proclaiming Bible are from this standpoint one. As from the fact of inspiration we infer what Scripture says, God says, so from the revealed relation between Jesus Christ and Scripture we may equally declare that what Scripture

never do the Bible a greater honour than when we forget that we are reading a Book and realise that

we are communing with a Person.

This concept is profusely supported in the writings of Ellen G. White. Take, for instance, these

says, Christ says. "In a word, to know the Book is to know the Man. As someone has well said, we

lines from "Steps to Christ"

"Fill the whole heart with the words of God. . . . They are the living bread from heaven. Jesus declares, 'Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you.' And He explains Himself by saying, 'The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.' John 6:53, 63, Our bodies are built up from what we eat and drink; and as in the natural economy, so in the spiritual economy: it is what we meditate upon that will give tone and strength to our spiritual nature.'—Page 88.

In "The Desire of Ages" she reminds us first that "Christ became one flesh with us, in order that we might become one spirit with Him," and indicates how this is achieved: "It is through the Spirit that Christ dwells in us; and the Spirit of God, received into the heart by faith, is the beginning of life eternal." Page 388. But how can we conceivably behold His love and dwell upon it, other than

as we encounter Him in His Holy Word? Thus she writes:

"The life of Christ that gives life to the world is in His Word. . . . The whole Bible is a manifestation of Christ, and the Saviour desired to fix the faith of His followers on the Word. When His visible presence should be withdrawn, the Word must be their source of power. Like their Master, they were to live 'by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.' Matthew 4:4."—"The Desire of Ages," page 390.

Having established this truth, she immediately draws in the net as she lays it on the line that to receive Christ in His Word we must know that Word for ourselves, as a result of our own personal

attention to it.

"As our physical life is sustained by food, so our spiritual life is sustained by the Word of God.

And every soul is to receive life from God's Word for Himself. As we must eat for ourselves in order to receive nourishment, so we must receive the Word for ourselves. We are not to obtain it merely through the medium of another's mind. We should carefully study the Bible, asking God for the aid of the Holy Spirit that we may understand His Word."—"The Desire of Ages." page

Brother, sister, fellow pilgrim on the highway of life. I ask you: In the face of all that God designs His Word shall mean to us, dare we permit anything to supplant its primacy in our lives!

I cannot but urge, therefore, the pressing importance of our ever appreciating the relevance of the Bible for a virile Christian experience. For we simply cannot coast along with only an occasional and often casual reference to the Word of God and expect to "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3:18.

K. S. Parmenter, President, Australasian Division.

SNOWY PHOTO COMPETITION RESULTS IN "SCRIPTURE" PACK



THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS area of New South Wales is a rare example of alpine terrain in Australia. It is also a very popular tourist resort, with the snowfields attracting thousands of visitors throughout the ski season. With this in mind, the Cooma branch of the Bible Society thought about ways of incorporating these special features into a selection of Scripture leaflets.

A photographic competition was an obvious way to involve the public and to receive a range of photographs of the Snowy Mountains area. The honorary secretary of the Cooma branch of the Bible Society, Mr. Wally Mills, discussed the concept with the editor of the local newspaper, The Cooma-Monaro Express, and some local business people. The "Snowy Mountains Photographic Competition" resulted from these discussions, and a range of photographic equipment was donated by the Cooma colour processing laboratory, Photofast, as a suitable prize.

The competition ran for eight weeks and attracted 115 entries from Cooma and surrounding areas. The entries reflected the

stunning range of natural beauty that abounds throughout this part of Australia. Nine of the photographs entered in the competition were incorporated into a Scripture pack produced by the Bible Society, titled "True Rest and Peace," which contains twelve separate cards containing an appropriate verse from the Bible. The packs have been placed in shops and tourist centres throughout the Snowy Mountains area.

The promotion has been an effective means of Christian outreach into the community. The Bible Society is always looking to be involved with Christian groups and churches in the distribution of God's Word. If you have any ideas in this area, the Bible Society's National Distribution Consultancy would like to assist in the development of programs such as the one in

If you would like more information, please write to Mr. Stewart Jones, National Distribution Consultant, The Bible Society in Australia, P.O. Box 120, Revesby, N.S.W. 2212, Phone (02) 774 1222.

LAYMEN ARISE!

CHRIS DUNNING, Secretary, Queenstown Mission, South Australia

IN QUEENSTOWN, South Australia, a layman had a vision of the need that the community should be made aware of the nearness of Christ's second coming. He urged that the members appoint a committee of laymen to conduct an evangelistic mission in the area.

The committee agreed to ask Des Williams, a layman from Tooperang church, to be the speaker, as he had travelled last year, mainly at his own expense and with the assistance of laymen, in Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Syria, etc., and had now available many slides of archaeological sites in the Middle East.

Funds were raised by donations from the members of the church, as well as from friends and relatives and also from fundraising efforts such as trash and treasure. Costs were kept to a minimum. An Adventist layman from another church in Adelaide, who donated his time free of charge, did all the printing including the 20,000 handbills. The lecturer is travelling at his own expense about 160 kilometres each Sunday for a total of twenty weeks to fulfil this engagement. Finally, the Port Adelaide Town Hall was engaged and the area handbilled by lay people.

Sunday, June 6, saw all in order. The Polish orchestra, the projection tea, the usherettes, those recording the interests, and the speaker; all were lay persons.

The Mayoresss said that the people of Port Adelaide would not come out to just any

function; even to a concert of first-class artists. but over 200 people were present at the opening lecture of the series, and of these there were at least 117 non-Seventh-day Adventists. Surely the Holy Spirit has moved on the hearts of these people to attend the preaching of the message which we have now been proclaiming for over a

Signs all about us say that Christ's coming is very near, and we pray that we may have the opportunity to warn many more dear souls while we still have time. This is the laymen's prayer, and we ask that you will pray for the Lord's continued blessing on the mission at Queensland.

Ushers and usherettes for the Queenstown mission, with speaker Des Williams.



An Invitation

We would like to encourage our readers to support the work of the Bible Society. Most of you will probably be given that opportunity through your local congregation. If you missed out on that opportunity, and would care to help, send your contribution care of the Editor, Signs Publishing Co., Warburton, Vic. 3799, and we will send it on to them together with those of other readers. See also the Bible Society news items on our Flashpoint page of this issue (page 16).-Editor.



4

Youth Feature . . .

The Girl From Monteagle

CHARLES D. COOK

I WOULD guess she was eighteen, perhaps nineteen; at least a year or two out of high school. She was blonde and good-looking, not the cute, squeaky type, but tall, lithesome, nice face, with a degree of sophistication (and I dare say she had her admirers). The bus was crowded, so she had little choice but to come all the way back to where I was sitting. Two little girls were with her. They were pre-schoolers, about the ages of my own daughters. I looked again at the blonde's face and judged they were not her children. She acted much like a big sister as she spoke sharply to them—with little result. And they were wrigglers!

Anyway, they couldn't find seats together so the blonde planted the wild ones separately, a couple of seats away, then dropped gracefully into the seat beside me. She crossed her legs, opened her handbag and pulled out a pack of cigarettes, thumped it on one hand to get a filter-tip, lit up, and blew curtains of smoke through the unfiltered air. It was June in Tennessee. The bus was supposed to be air-conditioned. The only air available, however, was slipping through tiny square holes below the locked window. "Push Forward for Air" read the reassuring instructions, but the tiny bit available wasn't a fraction of enough. The blonde, however, sat there looking as cool and refreshed as a model in a cigarette advertisement.

So we rode together many miles, up hills, through stagnant little towns, past red and black birdhouses with "Rock City" painted on them, past green fields with Holsteins, past giant yellow machines building interstate highways ... and time perched still and stifling upon the thick, unmoving air of the bus.

Reading grew wearisome for me, and my seatmate seemed bored also. Staring ahead, she spoke only an occasional calming word to the rowdy little girls. Hooked out the dirty window at the mountain landscape melting away in the ending of another day.

To break the tedium, I thought perhaps I would speak to her. But what to say to a pretty blonde and not be labelled in her mind as another guy wanting to "get acquainted"? I decided upon a straightforward approach. Casually (or so I hoped, as if saying, Care for some chewing gum?) I said, "Do you care to talk?"

She smoothly led with some question as to where I was going, and what came next I don't remember, but soon she was telling me of her interests, of old boyfriends, a broken engagement.

Our relaxed conversation wandered through many subjects, until, during a pause she asked, 'Have you ever used a ouija board?''

"No," I answered.

"Well," she replied enthusiastically, "I have, lots of times. In fact, I have one on the

bus with me that I am taking to my sister's."

In that instant I wished for a better knowledge of the ways of spiritism. I hesitated to approach a subject connected with religion with a girl so obviously swinging with the world.

But for some reason—perhaps because she seemed so strangely honest—I carefully explained how I thought this to be a dangerous game to play. Since its working was not explainable by natural means, and since it hardly seemed that God would stoop to communicate in such a way, it seemed to me that it must be Satan who controlled such devices. She seemed interested, so I talked of how I felt Satan used the occult by making it seem fun and exciting until he had gained control of a person's life.

Allison, as I had learned her name to be, took it all in silently, seriously, and then commented. "Well, I never thought about it like that."

The conversation turned, grew thin, and faded into the dim light of the bus while the firefly lights of night swiftly drifted past the window. The children grew quiet and drowsy.

Whether because of the conversation about ouija boards which had introduced religion, or just from a desire to kill the boredom of the ride with more conversation, I don't know, but after a long silence. Allison said something that fell upon my ears like a small bomb. It exploded in my complacent mind and shook the plaster from the walls of my indifference.

"You know," she remarked, "I used to read all the confession and romance magazines I could get my hands on. But one day I couldn't find one around the house that I hadn't read, so I picked up the Bible and began reading it." There was a pause, perhaps a hesitation to reveal something so personal. "I found the Bible so great and exciting that to this day I haven't read another romance. When I go to my sister's I can't help but get after her for reading worthless paperbacks and magazines. I am not a church-goer, but I try to get her interested in the Bible. I tell her it would change her life."

With enthusiasm, this tardy Christian told her how happy I was she had made this discovery. We talked of Bible study. She said, "Oh, yes," when I asked if I could send her some books on religious subjects to help in her devotional reading. As we pulled into her depot, she turned and spoke of how unique our conversation about spiritual things had been and how happy it had made her. I knew she meant it.

As I drove the rest of the journey in my car, a chorus sang and bells rang. And in the singing night I knew again an old truth: The Holy Spirit moves on the silence of moths' wings through the dusk of this world's evening, making no distinction of age, colour, caste, or position, ignoring the prejudices of men, the facades of exteriors, and alights where He will upon the waiting, lonely heart.

—Insight,

Trouble on the Home Front



ROBERT H. PIERSON

I WISH I did not have the uneasy feeling deep inside that many Seventh-day Adventist homes are in trouble.

My concern was heightened when a pastor with 150 members in his church recently confided to me that twenty-two couples are experiencing some degree of marital deterioration. "Several homes have already been broken by divorce," he writes. "Others are in the process of separating. In still others, trouble is brewing dangerously near the surface." Unfortunately, his letter is one of many bearing this bad news.

What factors have contributed to the unhappiness in these homes? Financial and social pressures that may threaten any home—Adventist or otherwise; wives and mothers burdened with outside jobs as well as homemaking; husbands and fathers too busy to give time and attention to wives and children; depreciation of moral values around us; the television; lack of a warm, personal experience with Jesus; breakdown of the family altar; poor communication; family togetherness crowded out.

Isn't it time we took prayerful inventory of our own homes and searched for answers before problems have developed too far?

TRUE TO LABEL?

YOU MAY HAVE SEEN the labels. One said "Alive" and the other declared "A giant step forward in practical training." Both were describing new, 1982, courses to be offered at Avondale College. Remember?

Perhaps if I mention the titles as they appeared in the RECORD you may remember more easily: "Is This Hat for You" (about a brand new cooks and bakers course) and "I Was Asked to Write This" (details of the new theology course).

Half of the college year has gone. What about those labels we put on those new courses? Perhaps an update will interest RECORD readers. I'll try.

Part of my answer on the cooks and bakers course cost me \$10 last night. Well spent, My wife and I and thirty and more other "paying guests" sat down at a candlelit table in a choicely decorated home economics classroom to enjoy a full, restaurant-style evening meal. with waiters, tasty "food trimmings" and all, including the beautifully home-cooked-style three main courses of healthful food. Yum! All the work of our cooks and bakers studentswaiters and all. They had fun, I'm sure. Great.

Then every Wednesday (as the label promised) these same students actually run the college "caf," without the regular caf supervision. Ask any of our hundreds of students about the food and service on Wednesdays! And the students are having three

hours a week in Bible class, they are learning basic and fancy cooking, they are learning (and demonstrating) catering for social occasions. they are attending lectures on human relations, physical education and kitchen sanitation and safety. Is the new course turning out true to label? I asked a female and a male student about

Mandy Hancock from Robinvale in Victoria was very frank in answering my questions about the course. "It's great," she declared with some animation, adding, "We have lots of fun." She said "the food side" was "terrific," but hoped that some of the class material would be more down to earth in future. And did Mandy's eyes light up when she talked about Mrs. Margaret Barons, the London-trained chef responsible for much of the practical work of the course! "She's great, just like a mother to us-joins in all the fun with us, and she knows such a lot about cooking and baking.

Then I turned around and looked at Stephen Johnson from Port Pirie in South Australia. "Your thoughts, Stephen?" "I reckon it's really great. Fun. Well worth coming to college for, and I want to get into denominational work." Yes, he liked the Bible classes, and so did Mandy

Mandy said she learned about the new course from the RECORD, Stephen from a student. Both of these young people gave me the clearest impression that the new cooks and bakers course is turning out true to label.

Theological training is a different matter, you remind me. True. Said the label, additional to what we have already quoted: "What a day this is for setting out to become a Seventh-day Adventist minister! And what good days there are ahead for our churches throughout Australasia.'

More than one theological student nearing the end of his four years of academic training here at Avondale is looking over his shoulder, looking at those coming along behind him, the twenty-three students who enrolled in the new course that commenced this year. Happy with their college training now nearing completion, these "old chaps" are sometimes heard saying of the "new boys" " academic opportunities and professional training-"wish we'd had that in my day." By the that I guess they are referring to the new features in the course, such as Seventh-day Adventist History and E. G. White; the Christian Home and Family Life; Speech and Communications; Pastoral Psychology: Money Management: Church Growth and Church Revitalisation. Or perhaps they are thinking of these new subjects: Preaching and Homiletics; Art/Music; Physical Education; Church Building Construction.

I see that the label for the new theology course had on it this line from me, "What I have written is the expression of my personal confidence in the new course, and my enthusiasm for it." That was one thing. But what about the 1982 theological students. What about them, the ones who have now done their first semester's work on the new course? Are they finding that it is turning out according to label? Let's ask them.

From December 27, 1982, to January 4, 1983, Avondale College offers something to everybody!

Avondale College Summer School

LOOKING for a way to enjoy the best year-end holiday of your life? Join the growing numbers of satisfied people who come to the Avondale College Summer School. Again, and by popular demand, Avondale College opens its doors to anyone between the ages of sixteen and ninety who may wish to enjoy the privilege.

This year, Summer School runs concurrently with several other activities including the outstanding and popular Music Festival, which, although it is a self-contained program, will also offer opportunities to Summer School students. With the various activities planned for Avondale this year end, we expect many folk will want to avail themselves of the opportunities of renewing friendships and pursuing some of those interests that have challenged them for so long. It looks like being the biggest and the best of Avondale's regular feature of vear-end activities

The expertise of the teaching staff of Avondale College becomes available to you in the Summer School, and, by way of special bonus, we have invited two overseas experts to join us. Dr. L. Geraty comes to us from Andrews University where he is professor of Archaeology and of History of Antiquity. Currently, Dr. Geraty is leading the Andrews University archaeological expedition in its digging at Jalul, Jordan.

From Newbold College, England, we have invited Dr. Brian Ball, author of "The English Connection," a book which clearly shows significant relationships between the Puritan Reformation of England and things we cherish as Adventists.

Think of the facilities of Avondale College. You can delve into the treasures of the library and the information filed, catalogued and available in the Ellen G. White Research Centre. You can visit the South Sea Islands Museum at Sunnyside or just enjoy the beauty of our

spacious, God-given college campus.

The 82-83 Summer School offers you a wide choice—Biblical studies, secular topics of current interest, study in areas relating to health, practical tuition in arts and crafts and culture.

Why not make such an attractive experience a missionary adventure? Share the Avondale Summer School with a non-Adventist friend! More and more of our people are doing it. Knowing the quality and enjoyment of the program, you could enthusiastically suggest to the person you love, the person you pray for, that here is a satisfying Christian experience that would be good to share together. Tell your friend about it-it is a unique opportunity.

With every pleasure He gave man, God associated responsibility and challenge. Developing our spiritual, social, physical and mental talents and abilities we join together in the sublime purpose of "glorifying God and enjoying Him forever." That is the real reason for the Avondale College Summer School.

The Summer School Director Avondale College P.O. Box 19, Cooranbong, N.S.W. 2265

Please send me full details of the 1982-83 Summer School
program, together with application forms for people.
NAME (Block Letters)
ADDRESS

STATE POSTCODE

A MEDITATION FROM THE MISSION FIELD . . .

With letdowns and thwarted plans on the increase . . .

Are There Any Promises We Can Trust?

D. E. HAY

DC-10s and Boeing 737s had flown long over-water hauls regularly for some years. People had become accustomed to the frequent roar of the jets soaring away from the international airport. As the sleek silver birds climbed steeply and headed out into the broad blue Pacific, they would align their noses towards a faraway island in the sun. On board were tourists "getting away from it all," and islanders eager for the atmosphere of homethe picturesque turquoise and blue lagoons, the relaxing humid air, and the laughter of loved ones and friends in the village. Cargo space was used too, even on return flights. Increasing numbers of farmers diligently tilled the tropical soil to pack every available space with fruit and vegetables for overseas markets. As an adequate air service had been promised to the island, all was going along well.

But adequate for how long? Steeply rising fuel costs and other inflational pressures affected the big jets. Higher air fares reduced the number of air travellers. Airlines struggled to show a profit. In the Pacific some lost millions of dollars. Reduced services were

inevitable!

On the island, farmers were concerned. With reduced cargo space what was to happen to their crops? Guesthouse owners wondered if enough tourists would come. With flights down to only two each week, people everywhere were asking a natural question: What had happened to the promise of an adequate air service for the island! While financial difficulties were blamed for the cutback, people felt they had been let down.

Some years ago on another faraway Pacific island, "good news" spread like wildfire among the villages. A pineapple cannery would start soon and thousands of pineapples would be needed. Promises of a bright future set the people to work enthusiastically. Before long new plantations were appearing everywhere. A spirit of optimism was in the air. When processing began, fruit poured in from all over

the island. Prices were good, too.

After some months of operation, complex problems began to cast their shadows, lightly at first, then with increasing heaviness over the new venture. The cannery struggled to survive and everyone wondered what the future held. Although valiant efforts were made to keep going, operations finally ceased. Life and death had occurred in the space of just a few short years. No more pineapples would be needed. As growers reflected on the situation, including all the effort they had put into the project, they couldn't help feel, despite the genuineness of reasons for closing down, that the company had failed them.

Other projects in the Pacific islands and also in Australia and New Zealand have commenced on good promises. Year by year they have flourished, and the promoters, confident of a rosy future, move ahead with expanded plans. Sometimes success attends their efforts. But with increasing frequency unpredicted difficulties, often devastating in their influence, rear their heads. They cripple operations and lead to permanent closure. Supporters are surprised, sometimes angered and at a loss to explain events. They can't understand why the promises have not materialised.

In today's inflationary world where uncertainty and unpredictability are powerful twins, failures often occur in new ventures. Bright promises picturing certainty of fulfilment attract many supporters. People want to believe "the goods can be delivered." They enthusiastically back what seems to be a sure and certain winner. But the passing of time brings unrealised promises. There is no success. People feel let down and wonder who they can really trust.

Are there any promises we can really trust? Such a bold question is a challenge to our thinking and way of life. Yes, there are promises we can trust 100 per cent. And they can do much to bring happiness to our lives right now as well as guidance for the days ahead. God's promises are absolutely dependa-

Is there any evidence of God's promises being carried out successfully, so we can have confidence in His Word today?

Way back in the history of God's people, a soldier, Joshua by name, took over leadership of the Israelite nation from Moses because the time had come for this outstanding commander to rest. Joshua pressed on with the main task of guiding his nation safely through hostile territory to new settlements in the district of Canaan. Sometimes the going was tough, real tough. A flooded river had to be crossed, walled towns conquered, and enemy kings

When it was all over and the nation settled down to peaceful pursuits, Joshua, now an old man, called the people together. He was soon to die and he wanted to say something important to them. Last words come from the heart, and people eagerly pressed forward to listen. As he looked back on his experience his voice rang out loud and clear: "You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the Lord your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled." Joshua 23:14.1

God's promise had been clear and specific. While the Israelites were under Egyptian

bondage, wondering if they would ever be free from their harsh overlords, God gave His word to Moses. He told him He was going to rescue them from the Egyptians "and bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey-the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites. Hivites and Jebusites." Exodus 3:8. Other promises were fulfilled too. The crossing of the flooded river Jordan (Joshua 3:5-17), the capturing of the walled city of Jericho (Joshua 6:2-27), and the destruction of the town of Ai (Joshua 8:1-29). Every Israelite knew the truth of Joshua's words and wholeheartedly agreed that all of God's good promises had been carried out. One thing was clear that day: God can certainly be trusted!

Moving on down in the history of God's people, we come to another public acknowledgement of God's trustworthiness in His promises. The people came in from all over the place to Jerusalem. A big event was planned. King Solomon, ruler over the largest land area ever owned by Israel, even to the present day, was to dedicate a new house of worship, called the Temple. And a magnificent edifice it was. Everyone had looked forward to this occasion and, as ceremonies commenced, pressed close to hear the king's speech. On reaching the part calling for the blessing on all who were in attendance, Solomon said: "Praise be to the Lord, who has given rest to His people Israel

just as He promised." 1 Kings 8:56.
Some years earlier God had told King David, Solomon's father, that He would give Israel rest from their enemies and peace in the land (2 Samuel 7:10, 11). Now this situation existed throughout Solomon's vast territory. There was no fighting and the people were indeed at rest. In reminding the thousands assembled before him of the fulfilment of God's promise, Solomon was saying what others before had also stated with confidence: God can be relied

There is one promise God made and carried out successfully, which sheds some light on today's perplexing questions; the ones that nag us at times. We've all come up against them. In a world with a bulging population, where am I going? Is death the end of a short life? What does the future hold in a world with a Damocles' sword hanging over it-the threat of nuclear annihilation!

Into a world of much hatred, jealousy, lying and cheating, where sometimes survival of the fittest seems the way of life, God sent His Son, known over the years by several names: Immanuel, Jesus, Christ and God. The Bible records the event in these words: "But when the time had fully come. God sent His Son, born of

a woman." Galatians 4:4. More details are found in the letter called Matthew. " 'The virgin shall be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel'-which means, 'God with us.' " Matthew 1:23,

The real significance of God's Son coming here is found in His mission. He said Himself: "I have come that they [the people] may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10. And this life Jesus gives is permanent, for "whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16.

The promises God gave, like the one given around 750 B.C. and recorded in Isaiah's letter, were fulfilled. "The Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child, and will give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14. God doesn't let down on His promises. The evidence shows He stands by His word. He can be trusted all right.

Back in the days of Jesus a woman was accused by some men of immoral conduct. They were quick to point out she was really no good and should be punished. After carefully listening to their harsh words, Jesus bent down and wrote on the ground. As they read the writing they felt uncomfortable and moved away. Not one wished to remain where their own wrongdoing was being revealed.

Now the woman stood all alone. Her accusers had faded into the surrounding shadows and the voice of censure had ceased. Jesus, looking with compassion upon the woman, asked if anyone remained to condemn her. On replying there was no one, Jesus told her He didn't denounce her either. Then He made His main point: "Go now," He said, "and leave your life of sin." John 8:11.

Jesus was telling the woman that in her desire to stop her immoral life, God would help her. When we make a decision to give up some

wrong course or weakness of character, we can look to God for His help. It is at this stage His practical promise is for us, for He knows from personal experience, temptation to wrongdoing will flare up strong and menacing to overcome our decision to leave sin alone. The promise of encouragement is that "God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." 1 Corinthians 10:13. Many people having made a determined decision to leave off sinnning, have clung to this promise and God has given them victory! "To God be the glory," they say, "great things He has done!" Can God be trusted? "Sure," they respond, "He's really reliable!"

Closely connected to this promise is the one offering forgiveness and a clean life. It comes to us in these words: "If we confess our sins, He [Christ Jesus] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9. Experiencing this promise makes the day go well and helps us to keep a song in our hearts.

A few years ago in 1962, the United States exploded nuclear devices at Johnston Island, a coral-encrusted atoll lying over 700 miles south-west of Hawaii. On the night of the big blast, some people on south Pacific islands eagerly looked north as 10 p.m. approached. They peered into the inky blackness hoping to catch a glimpse of something spectacular. And spectacular it was. Right on time the whole heavens lit up with light, exposing the surroundings near and far. Outlines of hills and faraway sea swells were visible. The night almost became day and some people on one island, fearful and shaking, fell to their knees in prayer, feeling the end of the world had come.

Jesus promised He would come again to this world. After telling His followers He would be leaving them for His Father's home in heaven, He added these encouraging words: "I am going to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am. "John 14:2, 3. Yes, Jesus wants all who love and accept Him to be with Him in heaven. Think of it: living for ever with no worries about sickness, death, food, clothing and the hundred and one things we face in living down here!

The future is bright. There's a new life coming, and it's available to all. But are we sure it's for real? Can we truly believe what we read? The past and present strengthen our belief. God has been faithful, is faithful and therefore will be faithful in fulfilling His promises. Why not trust Him now, accept His promises and move into the unknown assured He will stand by His word? "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful." Hebrews 10:23. ■

*All Scripture references are from the New International Version of the Bible.

Answering the Need for Signs

B. C. CAMPBELL, Publishing Director, North New Zealand Conference

DURING the last (1981) Signs campaign I received a phone call from a lady who is a member of one of the Auckland churches. She informed me that the year before she had donated forty subscripitions for the literature evangelists to distribute, and she wanted to know how they were used and were they needed. I promptly informed her of how the literature evangelists distributed them, and that not only were her forty needed, plus the other 200-odd that we received, but a lot more could be used. She asked how many could our team use. My answer, 1,000. She thanked me for the information and the conversation ended. Three days later, on returning to my office, there was a message that this good lady wanted to contact me.

The first words I heard on the phone were, "I believe there is a special rate for bulk subscriptions. How much in New Zealand dollars will it cost me to sponsor 1,000 Signs for your literature evangelists?" When I informed her she said, "Will you be in your office on Monday morning?"

"Yes," I replied.

"Well, I will come in and give you a cheque."



AUGUST IS SIGNS MONTH!

Two Special Union Councils

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

FOR THE FIRST TIME in eight years the Trans-Australian Union Conference held two consecutive councils in Melbourne: a Communication Council from May 31 to June 1, and a Health and Temperance Council from June 2 to 3, 1982. Delegates from the five T.A.U.C. conferences studied the latest developments and newest programs in these three depart-

In addition to local conference directors, we had the benefit of the contribution and counsel of Division personnel: Pastors R. M. Kranz, Communication; D. J. Silver, Adventist Media Centre; W. G. Dowling, Health and Temperance; Drs. R. J. Swannell, Health and Temperance; and H. Rainda, Health. We were also pleased to welcome the experience and advice of T.A.U.C. officers, Pastors C. D. Judd, president, and R. E. Clifford, secretarytreasurer.

Guest speakers who gave specialised presentations, included Pastors W. A. Townend (Newswriting); G. E. Garne, Signs editor; Drs. W. R. Chapman and A. Davison, W.H.H.C.; M. Steele, dietitian, W.H.C.C.; D. Bradshaw, Alcoholism Recovery Program, W.H.C.C.; Pastors H. J. Stanton, Victoria; R. H. Thomas, W.A. We also had two non-Adventist speakers specialising in newspaper writing and advertising.

Two twelve-hour days were spent in each council. These four days were filled with information, ideas, group discussion and feedback. This type of program builds strength and progress at all levels. These councils were characterised by a spirit of unity and fellowship.

Great emphasis is being placed on communication in the home, in the church, in the workplace, in the community. Who has not seen problems arise because of poor communication?

Adventist Survey

If you consider the impact of the church upon the community, it may come as a surprise to discover that we are hardly known. Dr. K. Mukergee, our guest speaker at the Communication council, has conducted a preliminary public survey on Adventists. He found the following:

Question: HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS?

Answer: 80 per cent-yes

20 per cent-no Of those who answered "Yes,"

40 per cent said they were:

a church

Americans

They call each other brothers

like the Witnesses and Mormons

like that man in South America who killed all those people

they sell the Watchtower

their church is called "Kingdom Hall" a bit like the Salvos without the clothes 60 per cent: Don't know much about them

The group of Communication directors in the Trans-Australian Union Conference, From left: Pastors R. M. Kranz (Division), R. H. H. Thomas (W.A.), H. J. Stanton (Vic.), R. K. Brown (T.A.U.C.), N. E. Devenish (S.A.), R. Tindall (Sth. N.S.W.) and E. H. Winter (Tas.).

Don't know anything about them The conclusion of the research was:

- 1. Most people have heard of Seventh-day Adventists.
- Half of those who have heard of Seventhday Adventists confuse the movement with other churches.
- 3. Seventh-day Adventists are most frequently confused with Jehovah's Witnesses.
- 4. This confusion does not enhance the image of the Seventh-day Adventist church.

The task as presented by the speaker is:

- 1. to demonstrate that S.D.A. is a worthy body.
- to demonstrate that it is not a Jehovah's Witness clone.
- 3. to demonstrate that it is an eminently rational and sensible organisation.
- 4. to demonstrate the S.D.A. movement is no more American than the Catholics are Italian or the Anglicans are English.
- 5. to demonstrate that the rank and file Australian has much to gain by joining a local S.D.A. congregation.

This writer does not necessarily agree with all the conclusions of the researcher, although some of the findings contain points to be considered.

Facing the Task

There are two ways of making the church better known and more acceptable in the community.

1. Mass Media

The mass communication media (press,

radio and television) has a powerful influence in moulding the opinions of people. Therefore we should learn how to use it more effectively to the glory of God. We must employ the best men as conference Communication directors and give them time to develop a mass media outreach. The same idea, but to a lesser degree, can apply at the local church level. Pastors and church leaders must give careful attention to the appointment of communication secretaries.

We are mindful of the counsel given by God's servant, Ellen G. White, on the topic of publicising the message: "We must take every justifiable means of bringing the light before the people. Let the press be utilised, and let every advertising agency be employed that will call attention to the work. This should not be regarded as nonessential."—"Testimonies," Vol. 6, page 36.

The onus is on the church, its leaders and members-to use every avenue of building up the image of the church.

2. Personal Witness

There is no substitute for personal witnessing and living a good life in getting decisions for the kingdom of heaven. What a person is like in his work, his business, his school, his home, is more to do with the proclamation of the gospel than most realise.

Note the following statement from God's servant: "Paul carried with him the atmosphere of heaven. All who associated with him felt the influence of his union with Christ. The fact that his own life exemplified the truth he

proclaimed, gave convincing power to his preaching. Here lies the power of truth. The unstudied, unconscious influence of a holy life is the most convincing sermon that can be given in favour of Christianity. Argument, even when unanswerable, may provoke only opposition; but a godly example has a power that it is impossible wholly to resist. "-"Gospel Workers," page 59.

Health and Temperance Council

Health and temperance are very relevant today. Health: because many people are concerned about the increasing rate of coronary heart disease, cancer in all its forms, and other lifestyle diseases. Temperance: because it has to do with the current problems of alcohol, tobacco and drugs.

Today, many people are inquiring about the vegetarian diet. They see the Adventist lifestyle and diet as a key to better health and longevity. Scientists in various studies show there is a link between diet and cancer. In fact, many scientists believe that some cancers and heart diseases are 50 per cent nutritionally related. What a day in which to be living when we can bring so much help to people!

In this council a large proportion of time was spent studying the topic of vegetarianism. Aspects included:

- * Vegetarianism and Health
- ★ Nutritional Adequacy of Vegetarianism
- Economics and Ecology of Vegetarianism

This year, beginning with Health Week, in our churches we are concentrating on vegetarianism. The theme is "The Vegetarian Alternative." A special poster display has been arranged for churches to use. These consist of large colour posters depicting whole grains, fruit and vegetables and can be displayed in supermarkets and shopping centres, etc. A new leaflet, "The Vegetarian Alternative," by Dr. R. J. Swannell, is an excellent "give-away."

In temperance there is an ever-widening field of need. Many parents, teachers and civic leaders are concerned about the drug situation in Australia. Pressure and partisan groups are agitating for the legalisation of marijuana. The police drug squad is keeping a constant vigil on the smuggling into Australia of drugs from overseas. Enormous amounts of marijuana, worth millions of dollars, are being grown illegally in Australia.

Alcoholism

Alcoholism was another topic dealt with at the council. This is a growing problem in the community, particularly among teenagers. It is the single greatest social problem in universities and other educational institutions. As a result, the percentage of alcoholism in the community is growing rapidly.

In the past three years the Warburton Health Care Centre has established an "Alcohol Recovery Program," which has proved very successful. People in all walks of life have come to this program. Its popularity has spread throughout Australia and is being recommended by doctors and ministers everywhere.

Don Bradshaw, coordinator of the Alcohol Recovery Program at Warburton, attended the council. Don has personally assisted 107 alcoholics at the institution during these three years and has seen over 65 per cent to sobriety.



The Health and Temperance council for the T.A.U.C. was held on June 2 and 3, immediately following the Communication council From left; Pastors D. K. Hosken (Sth. N.S.W.), W. G. Dowling (Alert editor), R. H. H. Thomas (W.A.), L. N. Hawkes (W.H.C.C.), Dr. H. Rainda (Division), Pastors A. R. Dickson (S.A.), R. K. Brown (T.A.U.C.) and K. Dixon (Health Centre, Tas.)

This is believed to be the highest success rate in Australia.

The major project this year will be a display of posters, non-alcoholic wine tasting and literature distribution in shopping centres. The theme of the campaign is "How Much Is Too Much?" The progression of drinking is illustrated in the pictures and captions which can be placed on the special aluminium display stands. (The stands, normally priced at \$400, are available to the churches at a subsidised price of \$200.) A special leaflet, "How Much Is Too Much?", is available for mass distribution at the display and through the churches.

A valuable "tool" in the education program is our magazine Alert. Alert gives the latest

scientific information on the problems of alcohol, tobacco and drugs. People like its topical format and illustrations which make it such a popular journal. It is a great magazine for missionary work and can be used as specialised reading and projects in school libraries, waiting rooms, non-Adventist organisations and many

The councils closed with a high resolve on the part of all attending to give strong leadership to these matters in the conferences and institutions. We have been given special "light" on these subjects and therefore have a big responsibility to give guidance and help to the community. May the Lord help us to be faithful to the task so that souls may be rescued for the kingdom of heaven.

Pastors R. M. Kranz, These Times speaker (centre); G. E. Garne, Signs editor, and Dr. Kim Mukergee of Melbourne (left) Pastor Garne Is presenting Dr. Mukergee with a copy of Signs of the Times.



WINDOW ON THE WORLD

NEWS BRIEF FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Australian Appointed Lay Activities Leader in Far Eastern Division

PASTOR PETER JACK has been appointed Lay Activities director of the Far Eastern Division. Concerning his appointment he writes: "It has been my privilege to be associate Ministerial secretary and Division evangelist for the past three and a half years. This appointment has come as quite a surprise. The brethren are wanting an evangelistic emphasis in the Lay Activities department, which means I will continue to conduct public crusades.

"The Far Eastern Division committee is made up primarily of personnel from the U.S.A., together with representation from the Chinese, Philippine, Korean, Indonesian and Japanese cultures. There is one other worker from Australasia apart from myself; Pastor Max

Townend, who is Communication director, is well known back home.

"This is proving to be a busy year, with two major crusades in the Korean cities of Daejeon and Pusan now concluded. At total of more than 1,500 precious souls have given their lives to Christ. The Holy Spirit is continuing to work in a wonderful way in South Korea.

"Three further major crusades are scheduled for the remainder of the year. These will be conducted on the islands of Guam and Palau, with the final crusade for the year to be conducted in Hong Kong."

Included below are photographs from the crusade at Pusan.

Below: The Seventh-day Adventist church in Pusan where Peter Jack conducted a major crusade which commenced on April 16. Three sessions per day, seven days per week for the entire three weeks were necessary to accommodate the average attendance of 1,300.



Pastor and Mrs. Peter Jack and their three sons. Stephen, David and Paul. This was taken at Christmas time, one of those rare moments when all of the family was together in Seoul. Stephen is currently seiling insurance in Sydney, David is almost through his third year of theology at Pacific Union College, and Paul has Just graduated from the

Far Eastern Academy In Singapore

Below: Peter Jack and translator preaching during the Pusan crusade.





Nursing staff from the Pusan Adventist Hospital were prominent in their enthusiastic support of the crusade: through the ministry of song and in bringing interests to the meetings.





The team of Pusan pastors were introduced on the final night of the crusade as the speakers of the follow-up Advanced Prophecy Seminars to be conducted in all of the nineteen churches in Pusan. One innovative pastor has drawn a large map to show just where his church is located. This was the most successful evangelistic campaign ever conducted in the history of our work in Pusan

"I Was There

B. SEARLE, Communication Secretary, Papakura Church, New Zealand

ONE OF THE THINGS many people are afraid of is involvement. I heard of a case where a woman was being murdered in full view of men and women on a busy street in a large city and not one of them lifted a finger or did anything to prevent it. Afraid of becoming involved! "Afraid of being killed myself," one would say. Another, "It's none of my business," and so on. In the Lord's work we face similar situations; so when the organiser of a V.B.S. in Pukekohe made an appeal for helpers, few responded-"Don't want to get involved" was the attitude. That's a little how I felt, but I volunteered in spite of my inward resistance. Did I enjoy it? It was a most inspiring and satisfying experience.

Some 130 children came to what was advertised as a "Happy Holiday Hour." They knew it was a V.B.S., but calling it this probably appealed a little more, so they came. What's more, the attendance hardly varied over the five days. "Did they enjoy it?" you ask. Well, if happy faces and spontaneous involvement in the singing, crafts and games is an index, I would say, "Absolutely!" The lovely Christ-centred, little choruses were sung as only children can sing them. Choruses such

"Over and over like a mighty sea, Comes the love of Jesus Rolling over me,

and many others with a similar message were sung with obvious sincerity and enjoyment. Big and small, old and young joined in the action part of the songs, quite uninhibited. A nurse from the Kingseat Psychiatric Hospital attended as an observer, and she came every day. She sat just a little in front of me and sang happily with obvious enjoyment, doing the actions just like the rest of the children. When asked whether she was enjoying the experience, she unhestitatingly replied that she was indeed.

In the little group which I had for Bible study, a very heartwarming experience took place. A box was covered with a pretty gift-wrapper and each child was asked what he/she would like to receive out of the box. One said he wanted a pair of roller skates, another wanted a skateboard, and so on. But one of the little girls, of about nine years of age, said she would like a Bible. My heart thrilled at this request, so I happily handed to her the Gift Bible that I was using and told her that her wish was fulfilled. The little girl sitting next to her said she too would like a Bible, so the next day I was able to give her one in fulfilment of her wish. Her little eyes shone with pleasure when she received it.

The week passed all too rapidly, with at least 130 little "lambs of the flock" receiving into their hearts the seeds of God's Word, and the story of the love of Jesus. Who knows what the reaping thereof will be!

I'm looking foward to the next V.B.S., and can heartily recommend involvment to any who wish to have a most uplifting and refreshing experience.



The Heralds:" (from left) Jim Teel, planist; John Ramsey, first tenor; Jerry Patton, second tenor; Jim Ayars, bass, and Jack Veazey, baritone.

THE NAME HAS CHANGED, BUT THEY ARE . . .

STILL HERALDS

LINCOLN STEED, Editorial Assistant, AUSTRALASIAN RECORD

A MONDAY evening concert (July 12) in Warburton, Victoria, closed a two-week Australian tour for "The Heralds." Formerly known as "The King's Heralds," and until this year a part of the Voice of Prophecy, the group were here to demonstrate that this musical symbol of Adventism will continue to "Lift Up the Trumpet" through an independent ministry.

Good music, talent and a Bible-centred message never go out of date, and time after time on the Australian tour the singers renegotiated their special place in the Adventist consciousness. "The Heralds" are very much a viable outreach—the first word of a former title very much a descriptive and focal point of their message.

Over the years since taking the name "The King's Heralds" a total of twentythree men have sung with the quartet. First tenor John Ramsey has been with the group since 1971; second tenor Jerry Patton, since 1967; baritone Jack Veazey, since 1962, and bass Jim Ayars since

Before the concert I spoke for a few

minutes with the group as they relaxed after one of those famous Warburton Health Care Centre meals. John Ramsey in particular was confident in his tone as he expressed their determination to turn the severing of ties with the Media Centre into an opportunity for greater ministry. When one realises that they have already sung in twenty-six languages in fifty-two countries, it can be seen how wide their vision is. However the four singers and their pianist and arranger Jim Teel are very much in earnest about witnessing to their faith on such a scale. Their next concert tours will take them across the United States, through Canada and then on into the West Indies.

It was an inspiration to hear them sing at Warburton. Perhaps they've had more vocal audiences in other places and in former times, but I would like to send a heartfelt amen and God bless you to "The Heralds" from all of us who heard them in Australasia.

In a later issue we will feature a more complete coverage of The Heralds in Australasia, with more background information.

A.A.A. FLIGHT LOGS

IT WAS 7.30 p.m. on Friday as we bowed our heads and asked the angels of heaven to fly with us for our monthly trip to St. George, and our second only night flight. As the plane rolled down the Toowomba runway little did we realise, then, that our flight was to be one of incidents, and that it was to be only by God's grace that we would arrive safely at St. George,

Just over the town of Moonie we noticed all the lights going dull within the plane. Then, over Westmar, flying at 8,000 feet, we had a complete electrical failure. This meant no radio, no interior lights for our instruments, no external lights, no landing lights and no flaps with which to land the plane.

As we neared St. George, our pilot, Graham Barnett, told us we could not switch on the airfield landing lights, as these were radio controlled from our aircraft. We circled St. George for several minutes and buzzed the engine, hoping someone would switch on the landing lights manually. Eventually, someone did and the landing lights came on. By this time, police, ambulance, fire brigade and half the town were at the airport!

As we came in for our final approach, because we were unable to use our flaps. Graham had to land the plane at ninety miles per hour instead of the usual sixty miles per hour. Everyone remained calm during the incident, knowing God was with us, and it was good to feel solid earth beneath our feet again. We thanked the Lord for giving Graham the skill required to land safely, and no doubt his 1,000 hours of flying equipped him well for this

God's servant, Nancy Kepler, met us at the airport, and after a night's sleep, visitation was carried out by the team on Sabbath. On Saturday evening we had fellowship with an interested couple at Nancy's home, and are pleased with the progress they are making. Please pray for Nancy Kepler. It is a lonely job. but she is doing a wonderful work and is well respected in the town.

On Sunday morning the plane was repaired and it was found that a wiring terminal, with a value of only ten cents, had broken, causing the battery to go flat. We arrived at Toowoomba Airport later that morning and thanked the Lord for preserving our lives and for His ever-present supervision over the work of the A. Double A.

-Noel McKay (Toowoomba team).

SIX INTREPID SOULS departed from Archerfield at 7.15 in the morning of Sabbath. May 22, 1982, for Mitchell and beyond, with George Wells and Geoff Houstoun as ballast, and with the lightweights fore and aft. Geoff Yelaska and son in the rear travelled with guitars literally between their ears. The brown-paper-on-the-stomach-air-sicknessremedy worked fine on the outward leg for

A calm flight on a beautiful, sunny autumn day, took us to Mitchell by 10.15 a.m. By 10.30 a.m. most of us were calling with Signs on the road into town.

After a lovely meal at Col and Mary Beutel's, a warm afternoon service in the local school introduced us newcomers to some of the friendly souls who listened eagerly to Geoff Yelaska speak on the "Jubilee" and "Sabbath Rest." Some of the young children were most insistent in greeting "Mr. Laska"-their

A short flight around 4 o'clock took us to Lilypool, the property of Eric and Maureen McCulkin. What a joy to meet Ray and Elaine Woosley again at the plane! They had just driven over a hundred miles from Charleville to be there! Saturday night found twenty adults (with approximately 50 per cent non-Adventists) in the McCulkin lounge roomsinging some of the children's songs of the "Oh Friend, Do You Love Jesus?" variety, with evident gusto and enthusiasm. Brother Yelaska was so relieved to find that the heavyweight

music duo, Wells and Houstoun, could play competently, that his joy became contagious! All in attendance were rapt with the skilful picture of Jesus lovingly dealing with the real problems of all He spoke to-drawn by Brother Ray. Jesus took us to His bosom for a short season-and the cares of the world were forgotten by all. With many songs, favourites and secular, the evening program all too soon ended. The last of the invited neighbours left after an hour or two of cross-talk and encouragement, so that the cheerful "team" could find some rest around midnight.

After a hearty breakfast, we regretfully left the hospitality for the McCulkins to return to Mitchell. It was all so easy for us-but spare a thought and a prayer for the Woosleys, the Beutels and others who have so little fellowship opportunities.

Refuelling at Mitchell-by hand-with Col Beutel's able assistance-saw us once more airborne and homeward bound. The Lord has many jewels yet for His crown. If you are asked to help, do not hesitate. God's present rewards are in excess of His demands.

Thank you, Murray Hallam, for your flying expertise and constant good humour, a lesson in unselfish service for us all!

-Geoff Houston.

A LIGHT IN DARKNESS

JENNY SAUNDERS, Communication Secretary, Melton Church, Victoria

PRAISE THE LORD, Melton finally has the chance to grow. Over the past six months we have bought an acre and a half of land, in a prime position in Melton, all ready to start a building, hopefully by the end of the year. We worship at the moment in the Uniting Church in Melton, and are very appreciative to them for opening their doors to us, but it is not the same as having our own church. Imagine what we have to go through each week, setting up the cradle roll, then dismantling all the aids and flannelgraphs before the service. The juniors meet in a member's van with only limited space, and have to leave the church by 12.15. We are not able to use the church at all some weeks; if there is a wedding, or the grounds are used for a fete. Sometimes we are given only a few days' notice that we can't use it. And so the list could go on and on.

We are all the time working on fundraising ideas for our building fund. This is very demanding with a limited membership, and for mothers with young children. If anyone has any ideas that we can use for our fundraising, please let us know, no matter how small or how large the idea is. As it is, in August we will be featuring the movie "The Robe" at the Nunawading church hall. All are welcome.

For those who don't know where Melton is, we are one of the satellite suburbs of Melbourne, outer western, on the way to Ballarat. It is important for the continuation of God's work that we do grow. We are promised that if there is only one head bowed in prayer, God's presence will be there. That's very encouraging to us, as some weeks there may only be two or three heads bowed: but all with one accord.

We read in the RECORD each week of the missions on distant shores, and probably all feel, at one time or another, that we would like to be over there with them, sharing their faith. But here in Melton we are missionaries, probably with a harder task ahead of us than that of the overseas missionaries. We have to contend with a mission field that is full of people who know or have heard of Jesus, but are just not interested in listening to Him, as they are afraid they might have to change their lifestyles. We are not unique in that situation, as most communities are the same.

To be a shining light in the neighbourhood, we have to have somewhere stable to meet; we need welfare facilities to help the needy, and a place to hold social gatherings, so that we can invite our neighbours. To us the cause is very important, and in no way are we going to be discouraged by the number of members, or the lack of finance. Where there's a will there's a way, and in our members' hearts, there's a very great will.

So please remember us in your prayers. The church of God is made up of earnest Christians in all walks of life, seeking the Lord's return; and if we can let our lights shine in Melton, by having our own church, humble though it may be, we will be able to encourage more Adventists to join us, as well as non-Adventists.

May the Lord's return be soon.

I REMEMBER

HOWARD G. DAVIS, Communication Secretary, Warburton Church, Victoria

YES: I REMEMBER. And who, after listening to the new "I Remember" cantata. presented after Easter in the Warburton Seventh-day Adventist church, could ever

Written and conducted by Pastor Leon Powrie, the cantata calls to mind the memorable last long weekend of our Saviour's

earthly ministry.

This cantata is not "just another." It is, we feel, a very clear and extremely personal portrayal of that most important chapter in Jesus' life, and which involves also both singers and those who listen.

If only words could repeat the sorrow-tinged harmony of the garden scene, we might try; but the words that led us to Gethsemane must

suffice.

"To the garden went my Lord, Burdened down with sorrow. Caring for a sin-sick world, Could He face the morrow?"

Then to be "Betrayed by a kiss. How can it be that one would stoop so low as this?

Following this heartfelt question, and each of Peter's denials, came the chorus that could not help but include everyone:

"Dare we deny the Lord who now stands trial in our stead;

Clothed in a robe of purple, and a crown of thorns upon His head? Accused by a mob of rabble, whose desire is that He die;

Dare we deny the Lord who cared so much for you and I?"

But "We've lived in our own sinful way And shunned God's Word,

Since first man sinned in Adam's day, We've crucifed our Lord.'

Jesus' mother then remembers the angel's announcement of His birth, and agonises:

"Now hang You there upon the cross, Smitten, despised and rejected: The Prince of heaven is crucified;

It is not as I expected."

The children, too, remember His love for them, and remind everyone of His admonition:

"Suffer the little ones to come unto Me. For of such is the kingdom of heaven." "Yes," says Mary, "I remember."

Then in answer to the thief's request that the Saviour remember him, the children answer with assurance-

"He'll remember!"

Again, after the chorus-

"You suffered alone the bitter cup So we could be Your children. Of the fruit of the vine You will not sup

Till we meet with You up in heaven." they reply:

"We'll remember."

And how could anyone ever forget how beautifully the choir each time echoed, "We'll remember"!

"Too late [said Nicodemus] I knew of their grim plot;

Too late to stem their anger: They've mocked and scourged and

This Galilean Stranger.

crucified

Now take His body from the cross, Handle Him e'er so gently,

And lay Him there in Joseph's tomb Among Jerusalem's gentry."

During and after the graphic recital, as each event of the resurrection morn was remembered, the final chorus was sung

"Christ is risen from the dead.

Glory, hallelujah!

He is risen as He said.

Glory, hallelujah!

Grave, where is your victory?

Death, where is your sting? Christ is risen from the dead.

Glory, hallelujah!'

If only the church choir-the children also-could visit each church, we feel that the blessing brought to our congregation, and then to the general public during a repeat presentation, would warm and inspire many more hearts and lives.

Thank you, Pastor Powrie, choirs and instrumentalists: and thank You, Lord!



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Diamond for Andersons

MRS. W. D. DYSON

SUNDAY, May 16, 1982, proved to be a high day for the thirty-nine relatives and friends gathered to honour Brother and Sister Cliff Anderson on the occasion of their diamond wedding. The tangible sign of the Lord's added blessing was the delightful sunny, autumn day He provided. This blended well with the tasteful decorations of the venue, lovingly executed by the Griffith Country Women's Association ladies in appreciation of Sister Anderson—as one of their very active members. Mrs. Spence, branch president of the C.W.A., spoke of her fellow-members' pleasure in being able to do the catering on this very special occasion.

Brother and Sister Anderson were married in Gilgandra, New South Wales, on February 15, 1922. They were not at that time Seventh-day Adventists. Their home always was and still is a hospitable place, though they are now living in retirement on the Smith family estate in Griffith. In the tough days of the 1930s numerous literature evangelists were glad of the hospitality of the Anderson home, then in Queensland.

The two surviving daughters and their husbands, together with five of the eight grandchildren and seven of the nine great-grandchildren, came from as far away as Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Perth to make this a memorable day. Also present were one of Brother Anderson's sisters (Mrs. M. Oehm from Sydney), and one of Sister Anderson's sisters and her husband (Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hubbard from Orange, New South Wales).

Congratulatory telegrams were read from State and Federal members of Parliament, the Premier and the Governor of New South Wales, Prime Minister Fraser, Governor-General Sir Zelman Cowen and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.



From left: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gillett (nee Heather Anderson), Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. David Dyson (nee Isobel Anderson).

Pastor Nelson Palmer, minister of the Griffith and Narrandera churches, said he felt honoured in being asked to be master of ceremonies on such a happy occasion. He offered congratulations for the past sixty years on behalf of all present, wished the guests of honour every blessing for the future, and gave thanks to the Lord for enabling Brother and Sister Anderson to achieve this honourable milestone together. Pastor Palmer concluded his remarks by reading Psalm 128, part of which says: "Blessed is everyone that feareth the Lord; that walketh in His ways. . . . The Lord shall bless thee out of Zion. . . . Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, and peace upon Israel."

For those families and others who may have missed their devotional reading book for 1982—the Adventist Book Centres throughout Australasia are offering as a special, Pastor Mansell's senior devotional book, NEW EVERY MORNING (\$A7.95).

• With a free copy of the 1980 junior devotional book CLIMBING JACOB'S LADDER—this volume is so written it helps our boys and girls to understand that Jesus is the only way to help us in our daily living—this offer is available only while stocks last.

Weddings

MORGAN—HARPER. Laurence George Morgan and Louise Adelle Harper were united in marriage on December 20, 1981. Pastor Peter Harper, who with Mrs. Harper received guests at the reception, also assisted in the ceremony at the Hurstville church, New South Wales. Laurence's father, Mr. J. Morgan, entertained the happy gathering at the church hall. We wish God's blessing on the new home.

G. W. Rollo

MAU—LAMB. On June 20, 1982, Ian Robert Mau and Denise Kay Lamb were united in marriage in the tastefully decorated Central Mackay church, Queensland, Ian is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Mau of Mackay, and Denise is the eldest daughter of Pastor and Mrs. David Lamb of Mackay. Many friends and relatives were present from far and near to witness this happy occasion and to wish the young couple God's richest blessings as they establish another Christian home to His glory.

D. M. Lamb.

TUCKER—DAY. Wednesday, June 9, 1982, was a very happy day for Pastor Evan Tucker and Nellie Day (nee Knowles) when they were united by sacred vows in holy matrimony. A number of relatives and friends gathered in the gracious home of Mrs. Olive White, at St. Ives, Sydney,

New South Wales, to witness the ceremony and to share with the bride and groom a very appetising wedding breakfast. This highly respected couple have both served the church of God for many years in Australia and New Zealand. As Evan and Nellie establish their home at Kressville, Cooranbong, we wish them God's abundant blessing. W. A. Stewart.

VIEIRA—SAN MARTIN. June 13, 1982, was the day chosen by Leonor San Martin to walk down the aisle of the Cabramatta church, New South Wales, on the arm of her father, Aquila, to meet Rui Alberto Vieira and be joined in marriage. Leonor was born in Santiago, Chile, and Rui in Funchal, Madeira Islands. The Spanish and Portuguese guests joined in wishing the blessing of God on the young couple as they set up another Christian home in Sydney.

C. T. Parkinson.

Till He Comes

DARBY. Charles Edgar Darby passed away on June 15, 1982, at the age of ninety-one years. He was cremated at the Rookwood Crematorium, Sydney, New South Wales, on June 17. His only daughter, Sister June Cappe, was a patient in Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, at the time. Our sympathy is extended to June, her husband Albert, and their children and grandchildren. May the resurrection morning be a time of rejoicing for them all.

C. T. Parkinson.

ELLERTON. Brian Donald Ellerton was born April 30, 1953, and laid down life's burdens on March 21, 1982. Most of his schooldays were spent at our Warburton school and going on to the Lilydale Academy. At an early age Brian showed keen interest in those less fortunate than himself, and often arrived home with someone lonely, discouraged or just needing a meal. In September, 1978, he married Carol Quick. To his wife and baby daughter, his mother (Mrs. Lucas) and to his three sisters, were given promises from the Word of God, both at the Warburton church and at the Lawn Cemetery, Wesburn, Victoria. We commit them to the all-wise Father above.

C. O. Lowe.

HILL. Mrs. Dorothy May Hill (nee Pritchard), wife of our esteemed Brother Michael Hill, and mother of Florence, Shirley, Oliver, Christopher, Elizabeth and Carol, fell asleep in death in the early hours of June 29, 1982. Born in India and migrating to Australia some thirty-four years ago, she lived in Cooranbong, New South Wales, with her husband and family A large number of relatives and friends gathered at the graveside as we laid her to rest in the Avondale Cemetery, Cooranbong, God understands our heartaches. Our hope is in Jesus. Surely "He doeth all things well." R. H. Abbott.

HOPKINS. On Wednesday, June 30, 1982, Mrs. Helen Alice Hopkins of North Rockhampton, north Queensland, was laid to rest in the North Rockhampton Cemetery. Mrs. Hopkins, who was born in 1886, was one of the charter members of the Rockhampton church. She and her family had contact with Mrs. E. G. White when the "pioneers" travelled through north Queensland. Her friends and relatives were reminded that there is a blessed hope and very soon we all will meet again.

L. G. Parker

KNIGHT William Matthew Knight, of Cooranbong, New South Wales, passed away peacefully at the Sydney Adventist Hospital on June 15, 1982. He leaves to mourn, his wife, Lorraine, and children, Dale, Craig, Julienne and many relatives. The funeral service was held at the Hillview church, Morisset, by Pastor Neville McKenzie, followed by a life-sketch by Gerald Simms, a long-standing friend of the family. Bill was laid to rest in the Bethshan Mission Cemetery, Wyee, New South Wales, where the writer pointed to the promises of the second coming of Christ and the glad reunion day.

E. H. Vysma.

NELSON. Emelie Amanda Nelson, born in 1889, passed peacefully to her rest during the early hours of Sunday, June 27, 1982, in the Royal Newcastle Hospital, New South Wales. Predeceased ten years ago by her husband, John, she was laid to rest beside him in the Avondale Cemetery, Cooranbong, Loving friends were present on June 29 when we committed her to the keeping of her Saviour until she shall respond to the call of His voice on the resurrection morning. Her passing is mourned by two children, Estelle Liston and Eric Nelson, six grandchildren and seven greatgrandchildren. The writer was assisted in the service and in comforting the mourners by Pastors O. Twist and O. K. Anderson.

H. W. Hammond.

SHINN. Joseph Shinn was truly a warrior for Christ. When, in his ninety-third year, he closed his eyes at his home in Christchurch, New Zealand, on Sunday, June 13, 1982, it was with the fervent, thrilling hope of seeing his Lord, Joe and Clara (his loving wife for sixty-nine happy years) accepted the Advent message in 1914. The years following were spent in dedicated service for his Lord, first in the book work, then the S.H.F., and always for his beloved church. Together with his devoted wife and children Dorothy, Jill, Ivan, Valtnai and Kelvin, we look forward to the glorious reunion morn, when partings will be for ever over. Brother Steve Currow assisted the writer in the service. W. H. Otto.

SIMM. Beatrice Merle Simm (nee Furby) was born in Newcastle, New South Wales, on June 14, 1903, and passed to her rest in Melbourne, Victoria, on June 20, 1982. After graduating from Avondale College, Beatrice joined the office staff of the Sanitarium Health Food Company at Cooranbong, and remained with the company until her marriage to the late Bruce Simm of Melbourne on October 7. 1935, Sister Simm was a faithful member of our East Prahran church, but owing to failing health had been unable to attend for some years. After a short service in which we again reviewed God's gracious promises, our dear sister Simm was laid to rest in the Springvale Lawn Cemetery to await the Lord's call to life. She is survived by her two children, Val (Mrs. John McMahon) and Dr. Rod, and two sisters, Muriel (Mrs. Paxton of Coronella), and Ruth (Mrs. Price of C. F. Hollingsworth.

SMITH. Clarice Grace Smith, aged ninety-two, died on June 25, 1982, at the Charles Harrison Home, Cooranbong, New South Wales, where she had been a patient for the past ten years. Sister Smith had previously been a member of the Stanmore and Woy Woy churches, where her husband had served as elder. Five of her eight remaining children, Walter, Robert, Stanley, Frieda, and Ivy, were comforted in her confidence in the blessed hope. Robert, aged sixty-seven, died the following day.

L. J. Laws.

TICKLE. Mrs. Florence Eleanor Tickle, mother of Flo (Mrs. Lenord) and Mary (Mrs. Hilder), closed her eyes in the sleep of death on June 25, 1982. For thirty-nine years she had resided in Cooranbong, New South Wales, as a respected member of the community and an active member of the Avondale Memorial church. We laid her to rest beside her late husband, Richard Tickle, in God's Acre at Avondale, to await the life-giving call of Jesus. Very fittingly, a male quartet expressed our confidence as they sang, "The Golden Morning Is Fast Approaching." R. H. Abbott.

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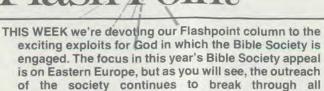
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SUSDASS SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Sydney University Seventh-day Adventist Students' Society is holding its Silver Anniversary Dinner on Sunday night, September 12. Past and present members and friends of SUSDASS are invited to attend. For details, write:

SUSDASS Box 34 Holme Building

Sydney University N.S.W. 2006 geographical boundaries.



- OVER 10,000 Polish Bibles were distributed by the Bible Society in Warsaw during the first two months of this year. There were also 3,500 Polish New Testaments and 2,450 Polish Gospels distributed during the same period. The distribution of 20,000 Scripture cassettes with the text of the four Gospels in Polish during the past six months has been a triumph for the Polish Bible Society under the present circumstances.
- 40,000 GEORGIAN New Testaments are to be printed, which will be in a modern Georgian translation. Georgia is a small Soviet socialist republic off the western bank of the Black Sea in Europe. The Georgian language is very different from Russian and uses its own script.
- THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA Government has authorised that Papua New Guinea Pidgin is to be officially referred to as Tok Pisin in future. Tok Pisin is spoken by more than one million people throughout Papua New Guinea, and is becoming the mother tongue of an increasing number of citizens. The translation of the Tok Pisin first common language Bible, which was begun in 1969, is now nearing completion. The New Testament and Psalms was published in 1979, and the final draft of the Old Testament is expected to be finished by the end of 1982.
- A TOTAL of 1,400 Scripture cassettes were produced by the Bible Society of Cameroon, West Africa, recently. The production included 250 cassettes in the Fulfulde language. In addition 10,000 copies of the New Testament and Psalms in Fulfulde have been sent to Cameroon for distribution there. The common language Fulfulde Bible is expected to be in Cameroon some time during 1982. Fulfulde, which is also referred to as Fulani, is spoken by an estimated six million people in Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria. The language is also used for trading purposes by thirty smaller ethnic groups in Cameroon.
- VIETNAMESE refugees in Malaysia have been receiving Scriptures in their own language, thanks to the Bible Society of Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei. The society has provided 1,100 New Testaments and 34,200 Scripture selections in Vietnamese for use by refugees. More than 13,500 Vietnamese refugees arrived in Malaysia during 1981. This is an 80 per cent increase over the same period the previous year. Nearly 5,300 refugees landed in Malaysia during May alone.
- THE OLD TESTAMENT Book of Proverbs contains many truths, but for the refugees of Kampuchea, Proverbs 28:28 must be their main strength and hope. It says, "People stay in hiding when bad men come to power. But when they fall from power, righteous men will rule



again." (T.E.V.) The Bible Society in Thailand has recently printed 50,200 copies of the Book of Proverbs in Kampuchean for distribution among the refugees along the Thai border. A donation of 10,000 baht from the Chinese church in Chiang Mai contributed to the project's completion. The Scriptures were distributed by the Overseas Missionary Fellowship, the Seventhday Adventist Mission, International Christian Aid, and the Southern Baptist Mission.

- A PILOT PROGRAM of Scripture cassettes will help reduce the 80 per cent illiteracy rate in the north-east African country of the Sudan. The Bible Society in the Sudan, in cooperation with the Portable Recording Ministries organisation, has recorded portions of the Bible in three languages. So far, 3,500 cassettes and 636 tape-players are available for use, which run on solar batteries.
- THE PHILIPPINE Bible Society has produced a common language version of the Tagalog New Testament on cassette. This special project will enable blind people to listen to the Scriptures in the major language of the Philippines. The recording of the New Testament was handled by the Far East Broadcasting Corporation which has studio facilities in the Philippines. The Bible Society had no budget for the project, but funds were donated by a local Christian businessman.
- A TOTAL of 10.4 million Bibles were distributed by Bible Societies throughout the world last year. The largest number of Bibles was distributed in the UBS Americas Region, with a circulation of 3,731,223. The Bible Society in Australia circulated 262,731 Bibles in 1981. There were more than 12 million New Testaments circulated worldwide last year. Bible Societies also distributed in excess of 30 million Scripture portions during 1981; over 7 million of these portions were targetted for people with limited reading skills. Also distributed were 391 million Scripture selections, many of them in leaflet form. The number of Bibles distributed by the United Bible Societies was three-quarters of a million more than the previous year.
- AS SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS we are "the people of the Book." Let us be in the forefront in our support of the work of the Bible Society! Most of our readers will doubtless have an opportunity to contribute through your local church. If not, you may send your contribution care of the Editor, Signs Publishing Company, Warburton, Vic. 3799, and we will forward your donation, along with that of other readers of both RECORD and Signs. See also the story on page 3 of this issue.
- "FINALLY, BRETHREN . . . ": It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness. Light a candle by supporting the Bible Society in its global program to dispel the darkness!