

Australasian Record

and Advent World Survey

Publication of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Australasian Division

VOL. 88, NO. 13

April 9, 1983

CANBERRA'S SPECIAL SABBATH

EVELYN BEAN, Communication Secretary, Canberra National Church, ACT

THE RAAF'S loss became gain for Christ and the church when Walter Huber was buried in baptism by Pastor Cyril Brown in Canberra National church.

Walter's assignment was to pilot the prime minister and other VIPs by RAAF jet to designated places. As this interfered with Sabbath observance he, after unsuccessful negotiations with his superiors, chose to surrender his job. His compensation was Christ and a lovely bride, Mira Niewiadomska, the day following his baptism—besides an honourable discharge from the air force.

Seven others, who had been visited with tirelessly and faithfully by Pastor and Mrs Brown, also chose to follow their Lord that day.

Dirk Van Barneveld, having travelled widely overseas in search of the truth, finally accepted the religion of his mother, Elizabeth, a member of the National church for the past twenty-five years.

Al Maia, who came from Brazil several years ago, had his interest aroused by reading a "Letter to the Editor" in the *Canberra Times*. The writer gave the basic beliefs of our church, convinced they should be published because of recent false accusations. Al replied and a correspondence started. He read our literature, watched *It is Written*, accepted an invitation to Pastor Brown's mission and to church, and requested Bible studies, both personal and by correspondence—all within six months!

Donna Bean's face radiated happiness as she, of staunch Roman Catholic background, took her stand and became a member of God's remnant church. Her friend and neighbour, Janice Bray, unconvinced after a year's study with an ardent Jehovah's Witness, followed her. Seated to one side of the rose-lined font was a crippled father, confined by an accident to a wheelchair. He had travelled many miles to see his daughter Lisa Boyle, an athlete, begin her race for an immortal crown.

Last, but by no means least, two Pathfinders, Michelle Bockenek and Anthony Munter, gave their lives to Christ, remembering their Creator in the day of their youth. What a wonderful day, to see these eight precious souls, including the writer's daughter-in-law, follow Christ's example!

We joined with Heaven's host in rejoicing as these children were adopted into the family of God.

Forty precious souls accepted Jesus as their Lord, offering their lives in Christian lay service, as a result of hard work and cooperation between pastors and church members in Canberra last year.

A series of interesting lectures on the Bible and science was conducted in the Canberra Technical College by Pastor Brown, his wife, May, and their team of Canberra National youth.

Throughout the seven months, fifty to seventy people attended each week. In conjunction with these meetings, three 5-day Plans were held in the Royal Canberra Hospital Auditorium. Several Plan participants attended the Bible series as well.

Present also at the college were young people who had developed interest in the Bible through Pastor Graeme Bradford's Canberra lectures.

Local members pay tribute to the consistent, diligent and dedicated work of these "departing" pastors and their supportive wives. We wish them every success in their new fields and labour, Graeme and Fay Bradford in Adelaide, and Cyril and May Brown in Nowra. ■



Above: Walter Huber is baptised by Pastor Brown.
Below: The baptismal group at Canberra National church.
Photos: E. Bean.



**TODAY IS
EVANGELISM SABBATH**

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

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Local Reporters: Church Communication Secretaries

Annual subscription—post paid:

All areas covered by the Australasian
Division \$A13.50
Other countries \$A20.75
Air Mail postage rates on application

Order direct from the Signs Publishing Company,
Warburton, Victoria 3799, Australia.

All copy for the paper should be sent to The Editor,
RECORD, Signs Publishing Company, Warburton,
Victoria 3799.

Editorial Office: Phone (059) 66 2501.

Printed weekly for the Division by the Signs Publishing
Company, Warburton, Victoria.

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Editorial . . .

PRECIOUS, PRECIOUS TRUTHS!



THE 1,000 DAYS OF REAPING program is gathering momentum, both in our Division and abroad. This issue of RECORD contains several thrilling soul-winning stories which speak unmistakably of what God is doing to draw people to Himself and lead them to a knowledge of saving truth.

The 1,000 Days of Reaping concept is a worldwide thrust to baptise 1,000 souls per day for 1,000 days—one million souls in less than three years. It is a bold, courageous, ambitious scheme—one which testifies eloquently to the vision and faith of the leaders who conceived it. It is the kind of plan God delights to honour with His blessing. It will be blessed with success!

There is, however, one snare we want to avoid. We must not think of soul-winning success in terms of numbers. It is not numerical success that necessarily spells success in the sight of Heaven. Statistics don't always give the true picture. It is possible for a church to appear to be growing, because it is gaining ground statistically, when in reality it can be losing ground! If, in the process of numerical growth, its distinctive teachings, standards, principles and lifestyle have eroded, it has in actual fact retrogressed rather than made progress. We can speak of growth only when statistical and spiritual growth go hand in hand.

Is our evangelistic outreach merely an exercise in "pew swapping"? Are we simply trying to persuade people to worship in our church rather than somewhere else? Far from it! It involves confronting people with a system of truth which is not only important but beautiful, and giving them the priceless opportunity of embracing it as their very own!

The truths we hold are precious, precious truths!

What a precious truth it is that man is not an accident of fate who happened to evolve from some lower form of life; that he is a unique creation, created by a caring God who invites us to call Him our Father; that he was created in the moral image of God, and that God has made every provision for that image—lost through sin—to be restored!

What a precious truth it is that in coming to be our Saviour, Jesus not only paid the penalty for our transgressions, but made available the power we need to do His will; that "he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them"! Hebrews 7:25.

What a precious truth it is that God has communicated with His people through the instrumentality of chosen messengers, whom

the Bible calls prophets, and that through them He has placed on record a revelation of His divine will; that the Bible is not just a collection of ethical mores, but that it speaks to us with the authority of divine revelation!

What a precious truth it is that God has actually written with His own finger on tables of stone a code of conduct for His people, and that in terms of the new covenant He promises to write the principles of His law on the tables of our hearts, making its precepts the principles of our lives!

What a precious truth it is that the God who created the universe, chose to write His signature on time by creating the Sabbath as a memorial to His creative power and wisdom, and as a constant reminder to us that because He is our Creator He is also our King, and that He has a sovereign right to our allegiance!

What a precious truth it is that our loved ones who have been taken from us in death, are peacefully resting, awaiting the call of the Life-giver!

What a precious truth it is that Jesus is coming again! We preach not only that "Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many," but that "unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Hebrews 9:28.

What a precious truth it is that the long, dark reign of sin and suffering will someday come to an end, and that God will make all things new! Fires, floods, earthquakes, tragedies, disasters, hunger, poverty, unemployment, disease, crime and war, are not all the future has to offer. There's a better day coming when "God shall wipe away all tears . . . 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." Revelation 21:4.

These are some of the truths which it is our privilege to share with others. Precious, precious truths! We don't need to be apologetic about sharing them. We don't need to be apologetic about asking folks to accept them! We're not trying to persuade anyone to "swap pews" and join our church. We're inviting them to rejoice with us in a dynamic, hope-inspiring system of truth! Will you pray to be directed to someone who is longing to find just that, right now?

Geoff Garne



Peter and Karen Ridgeway and their two children.

God Has Been Good to Us

PETER RIDGEWAY, Leeton, NSW

IN 1981 a Jehovah's Witness representative dropped a Bible in at our home in Leeton, New South Wales. For many years I had led a wild, irresponsible life, not caring about God or religion. Many details of this life I do not wish to mention. Somehow or other I had grown up to be aggressive and with a deep resentment against society. I commenced to read this Bible dropped in to our home. Why, I do not know. I had had a godly mother who, I know, was still praying for me. Doubtless God was answering her prayers. As I read this Bible, a deep conviction came over me that God loved me and was calling me. That reading converted me, but it also convinced me that the Seventh-day Adventist Church was the church.

Griffith is sixty kilometres from Leeton, but, not knowing there was a Seventh-day Adventist church nearby at Narrandera, I decided to go one Saturday morning to the Adventist church at Griffith. I went without telling anyone where I was going.

The welcome and deep friendship of the good people at Griffith was tremendous. I felt I had come home to God. Pastor Morrie Krieg studied with me, and eventually baptised me. However, as I disappeared each Saturday morning to go to church, my wife became suspicious as to what I was up to, and where I was going! There was a confrontation, and to my relief and surprise my wife raised no objection when she found out that I (of all people) was actually going to a church! She even came to my baptism, but apart from that never came to church.

It had seemed as if we could have no children. My wife had suffered three miscarriages. Then came the amazing news that we were expecting triplets. I believed God had really answered our prayers. But at six months something went wrong and my wife, Karen, was rushed to the Wagga Wagga General Hospital. While there Pastor and Mrs Palmer

especially visited her from Narrandera to pray with her. This impressed my wife a lot. Soon Karen was rushed to Sydney by air ambulance and the triplets were born. They weighed only two pounds and later lost weight to only one pound—having been born at only twenty-eight weeks. One of the triplets, Paul, lived only two days. What a comfort it was to have Pastor Krieg conduct a little funeral service and to share the promises of God.

The twins who lived are now eleven months old, and are beautiful! Every day they become stronger and more active. God has been very good. But the greatest blessing is that my wife commenced to take studies and attend church with me. She was baptised three months ago by Pastor Nelson Palmer at Griffith. She is just as thrilled in finding this church as I am. God has been very good to us and we wish to thank Him. We know very soon we will be able to thank Him face to face. ■



Walter and Mira Huber

AN RAAF PILOT'S TESTIMONY

WALTER HUBER

I JOINED the RAAF as an unbeliever in September 1978. I developed an interest in Christianity during pilot training in February 1981, in Perth. In May 1981, I graduated from the pilot's course. At this stage I was well into religion, but uncertain of which denomination to choose.

It was then that I was posted to Canberra to No 34 VIP transport squadron to fly BAC 1-11s. I read *The Great Controversy* (given to me by my mother) and decided that the Seventh-day Adventist Church had the true doctrines.

I made my first contact with the Seventh-day Adventist Church in August 1981, and began Bible studies.

Early in 1982 I discovered that I couldn't be baptised with Sabbath problems. My conscience was telling me I had to stop working on Sabbath, but I had five years of contract left with the RAAF.

In April 1982 I began "behind the scenes" investigations on how to solve the problem. Finding no success in this way I confronted my commanding officer with the problem in June 1982. We decided to apply for a posting to a squadron where Sabbath work could be avoided, at the same time stating my religious convictions and mentioning my inability to continue working on Sabbath. Shortly afterwards I became engaged and determined to get married on November 21, 1982. The problem just had to be resolved!

In September 1982 I received word that a posting wouldn't solve the problem, and that I was to continue working as ordered (seven days a week if required), otherwise disciplinary action would be taken. I appealed against this unaccommodating decision and requested a personal interview with the supreme command of the RAAF. I also stated that after my baptism, set for November 20, I wouldn't work on Sabbath, regardless of the consequences.

In early November I had an interview along with the church pastor, the results of which looked more promising. I was told that discharge was the only way out, but I might have to repay money, due to an unfinished contract. I was baptised and married without knowing the final outcome. With God's help I had not flown on Sabbath since June 1982. Early in December I received confirmation of discharge without financial obligations. God's help and a firm stand produced this wonderful result. ■

YOUTH FEATURE . . .

10 Little Christians



Ten little Christians went to church when fine,
But it started raining, then there were nine.

Nine little Christians stayed up very late,
One overslept himself, then there were eight.

Eight little Christians on the road to heaven,
One joined a rambling club, then there were seven.

Seven little Christians kept the place alive,
One bought a television, then there were five.

Five little Christians seemed loyal to the core,
The pastor upset one of them, then there were four.

Four little Christians argued heatedly
Over all the changes, then there were three.

Three little Christians sang the service through,
Got a hymn they did not know, then there were two.

Two little Christians disputed who should run
The next social evening, then there was one.

One little Christian, knowing what to do,
Got a friend to come to church, then there were two.

Two sincere Christians each brought in one more,
So their number doubled, then there were four.

Four sturdy Christians simply couldn't wait
Till they found four others, then there were eight.

Eight eager Christians attending every week,
Soon encouraged others, troubled souls to seek.

All the seats in church are filled, not an empty pew;
O God, bestow this grace and zeal upon our own church too.

—The Reformer.



Al Maia and Mrs Evelyn Bean.

Communication Secretary's Witness Bears Fruitage

AS A DIRECT RESULT of a letter placed in the *Canberra Times* by a wide-awake press secretary, a seeker for truth was baptised into the message towards the end of last year. The man was Al Maia, an immigrant from Brazil. He read a letter placed in the paper by Mrs Evelyn Bean. She felt that we owed the public a clear statement of our beliefs in view of certain misconceptions about Adventists that had grown out of malicious rumours surrounding the Chamberlain trial. Brother Maia contacted the church immediately after reading the letter. His joy in now being a member of the family, was reflected in the smile on his face as he posed for his picture at the South New South Wales camp-meeting, with Mrs Bean, the writer of the letter. A copy of her letter, which appeared in the paper on May 26, 1982, exactly as she submitted it, is reproduced below for the encouragement of other press secretaries.

Seventh-day Adventists

Sir,

In answer to the questions that have been asked of myself and of others recently regarding the beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists, I, as a member of the church, would like to inform your readers, briefly, as to its basic beliefs.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church developed during the great spiritual awakening of the 1840s, when Christians in most Protestant denominations believed that major Bible prophecies concerning the Second Advent of Christ were in the process of fulfilment.

A mainline, evangelical, Protestant church, it holds beliefs in common with others, for instance: the Triune God, of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Christ's all-sufficient sacrifice, salvation by faith and grace alone, the inspiration of the Bible and the binding claims of the Ten Commandments.

As our name implies, we believe in the creation week,

keeping the seventh day (Saturday) Sabbath according to the 4th Commandment, and expect soon the literal, visible return of Jesus. That, at this time, Christians will be awakened from their sleep of death, and with living believers, taken to heaven and a thousand years later to the renewed earth to enjoy eternal life.

Adult baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper (Communion Service) are practised.

Believing the body to be the temple of the Holy Spirit, we abstain from alcohol, tobacco and harmful drugs and, for health reasons, advocate and adhere to a lacto-ovo-vegetarian diet.

Presently, the church seeks to preach the gospel and relieve suffering through the operation of a chain of hospitals, and health-training institutions around the world. Its community services include disaster and famine relief, Christian services for the blind and 5-Day Plans to stop smoking.

Trusting that these few facts will answer the questions of, and be of interest to, your readers.

E. BEAN, O'Connor.

HELPING STUDENTS OVER THE HUMP

W. A. TOWNEND



DARLENE Blagden, seventeen, has a hump. Stephen Higgins, twenty-four, has a hump, and 219 other students have a hump, as at the time of this writing. These humps are *not* physical deformities. But they are, dictionary-defined "critical point of undertaking, ordeal."

You see, Darlene Blagden is some 4,000 kilometres away from home, in a new environment, facing a many-sided, new experience. Stephen Higgins is in a new country, away from home, some 2,000 kilometres of water away. And, like Darlene Blagden, in his new environment he faces a many-sided, new experience, just as do those other 219 students who have just arrived at Avondale College for the first time, to join the around 300 other whose hump experience is in the past.

But what about Darlene, Stephen and the 219? What about those humps?

Help, practical and well-planned, started today, classes start tomorrow. Humps first! This way

What I see as a "people-caring" leadership of the college today divided the 219 into six groups (that's more relaxing and friendly than a crowd of 219) after a worship period together. The new young women students and the new young men students met with their respective residence deans for an hour or so of getting-to-know-you.

Then into those six groups.

Each group had what surely was a hump-therapy afternoon. Group 1 went first to a meeting with Dr James Cox, Avondale's caring principal. Dr Cox chatted informally and informatively about "How to Enjoy College Life" (and after more than thirty years of it he should know something). "Get regular and enjoyable exercise," he suggested. Equally practical tips were offered on the spiritual, social, cultural and mental aspects of life in an Adventist college. Good hump therapy. Good too was his "What are your observations, questions, gripes?" More good hump care in his friendly words "My door is always open," and his final "Have the best year of your life." Could there be a better place to have it?

Let's stay with Group 1, remembering that

the other five groups, as they moved from point to point on campus, got all what Group 1 got. A lot of hump therapy, in that everybody was getting everything being offered.

Dr Alex Currie, dean of students, had some really good stuff to offer on "How to Study." His thirty-point sheet about "Principles of Learning" was placed in the hands of each new student. Discussion and questions followed. That must have reduced the size of some of the student's humps. And simply listening to a well-informed, friendly man like Dr Currie must have helped further.

More help was ahead. For instance, down in the college library, among 63,000 books, periodicals, tapes and microfilms, our chief librarian, Martin Ward, helped the new students understand how a library works and how to use its facilities. More questions. More discussions. Great!

Likewise in the intriguing Ellen G. White Research Centre with Dr Arthur Patrick and his staff, "At your service, students."

You could almost feel humps being reduced in size and students getting on top of humps as you listened to Carole Ferch at yet another hump-therapy station. A qualified and practising pastoral counsellor, Carole Ferch talked about Avondale's Student Advisory Service which reaches out a helping hand in solving personal problems, career choosing, financial and academic problems, support in times of crises and family and marriage concerns. A friendly smile accompanied Carole's upward-inflected words "Student Advisory Service is your service. It is a real privilege to assist you in every way we can." Again: great!

What was the title I gave this report? Is it true?

Honestly folk, at the end of this refreshing hump-therapy day for Avondale College's 219 new students in 1983 I can say with conviction, "Yes, Avondale does help students over humps." And we all can help the helpers, and the helped—pray for them, Darlene, Stephen, Dr Cox, Dr Currie—every day. This is our daily part in the big program of Adventist education for Adventist young people in an Adventist college.

Avondale! God will bless it again this year as it continues helping young people. ■

Left: Dr Cox chats with Group 1 of Avondale's first-year students.

Above: Shirley Lewry (left) and Joan Howse, both dean of women at Avondale, speak with the new girls in the women's chapel.

Photos: D. Blagden.

Youth Evangelism With a Difference

MARGARET SCALIA, Producer and Director, "Life Beyond the Mountain," an evangelistic play.

GOD Wants Us to Plant the Seed. On May 7 and 8, 1983, the "Aggelos" will be planting the seed. Several members from our local Seventh-day Adventist churches in Melbourne have formed together to present a Christian play. It will be performed at Prince Philip Theatre.

"Life Beyond the Mountain" is a fascinating and interesting story of a woman who experiences an unexpected turn of events that dramatically change her life. The play reveals how this troubled woman is influenced by two Christians who are themselves experiencing difficulties.

The concluding scene, which takes place in a court setting, reveals that there is certainly "life beyond the mountain."

Supporting the play will be music and singing featuring the Survivors, Spanish Singers and David Sikic on classical guitar.

During the program invitations will be given to those who are interested to attend other outreach programs that will be conducted in the metropolitan area. Proceeds will be forwarded to the Greek Church Building Fund, Melbourne, and Mirriwinni Gardens, New South Wales. Pastor Mastromihalis will be translating into Greek for Greek-speaking members of the audience. Invite your friends to our program. Doors will open at 4.15 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. on Sabbath, May 7 and at 2.00 p.m. and 4.15 p.m. on Sunday, May 8. ■

HE HAS LED, IS LEADING, AND WILL LEAD ME

MRS HEATHER HARDING, Glandore, South Australia

GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT led me to this church. I believe He is doing the same with many people who are becoming dissatisfied with the world and worried about the future.

I grew up in a normal, caring family. We seldom went to church, but we had some understanding of God. I could see that there were many things in the world that were wrong, but never gave it any serious thought until I was married with two small children. Sometimes I would look at my sons and wonder what sort of world I had brought them into, and I would lie awake at night worrying and thinking and becoming anxious. Why was the world in such a mess? What was the point of loving and being loved, of learning and teaching, of happiness and sadness and all the other experiences that make up our lives, if it all ends in nothing? How could God create beauty and ugliness at the same time? The things I saw and heard and read in the newspapers made me think that God had forgotten us.

One night I was lying in bed worrying and thinking and becoming anxious, when God's Holy Spirit touched me. How do you explain when love and peace and light come charging into your life, except to say "I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see"? Jesus said that He had come to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, and to set at liberty them that are bruised. He is still doing it.

I bought a Bible, and although I did not understand a lot of what was written, I noticed that God had promised to give wisdom to those who asked. Most of the important doctrines went straight into my head. I knew that Jesus was coming again soon, I knew that the dead were in their graves until He comes, I read the Ten Commandments (I didn't notice that the Sabbath was on the seventh day). I learned about the need for baptism, and the reality and power of Satan. I saw that Adam and Eve's sin was to ignore God, and that ours today is the same, and the root of all suffering and evil. I believed that the Bible was God's inspired Word, but best of all, I found that He has not forgotten us and that He cares about each one of us. He fills the emptiness within, and heaven begins here.

There were three things that God wanted me to do. The first was to be baptised by immersion, the second was to find a church in which to be baptised, and the third was to find out what or who or when the "mark of the beast" was. I would often read the Book of Revelation, and these words would always impress me, "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." God said He would bless those who read Revelation and He did, because it was these two doctrines (baptism and the mark of the beast) which helped me to find our church.

I visited various churches and met a lot of nice people who, like me, were searching for

answers. I read dozens of Christian books and gained a background knowledge of most of the large denominations, and was almost persuaded to be baptised into the Baptist Church. But every time I read these words, "If any man worships the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God." I knew I had to find an answer.

The answer did not take long to arrive, because not long after that I received a book in the mail which was all about the Sabbath. It was NOT a Seventh-day Adventist publication, but I was very impressed with what was written. The book mentioned most of the Sabbath texts from Genesis through to the New Testament and noted that the Sabbath was an outward sign of loyalty to God, a memorial of creation, and was made for all generations and all nations. Jesus and His disciples had kept the Sabbath, and they never mentioned any change. The book also pointed to the fact that people who forgot the Sabbath usually forgot God. I am very grateful to whoever sent me that book, but since I had never heard of the particular church that it came from, I decided to ring the only other church I knew of that kept the seventh-day Sabbath, and that was the Adventists. By this time I had become very wary of churches with unusual sounding names, so the poor man at the Seventh-day Adventist office was bombarded with questions. Luckily, or I should say, praise

God, he had all the right answers and a sense of humour as well. He told me that he knew what the mark of the beast was, but suggested I contact one of our pastors to find out more.

Pastor Geoff Agars taught me, from the Bible, God's final messages for our world—the three angels' messages, the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation, the mark of the beast, of course, and many more things. Ellen White's *The Great Controversy* was everything I had been searching for all rolled into one book. She made all the Scriptures clearer and more beautiful, and I am thankful to God for keeping us informed with all the past, present and future events. Although my family did not really understand what I was doing, or why, they came to my baptism at the Brighton church, South Australia.

Finding and joining this church was only the beginning of an experience that I am very grateful for. Nearly every day I learn something new about God or other people or myself. I have learned about faith, love, heaven, health, so many things; but the best thing I ever learned was the meaning of the sacrifice of Jesus.

You may be thinking that all has been sweetness and sunshine, so I must add that I have not mentioned the failures, the frustrations, the fears, mistakes and problems. However God has said in His Word that "ALL things work together for good to them that love God," and I believe Him. ■

Devotional . . .

The Thing That Grips Us

WHILE visiting Dundee, Scotland, an American who had heard much of Robbert MacCheyne was anxious to find someone who could give him a few personal reminiscences of the great preacher. For that purpose he went to see an old man who had known MacCheyne and his preaching.

"Can you tell me some of the texts of MacCheyne's great sermons?" he asked.

"I don't remember them," said the old man, shaking his head.

"Then can you tell me some of the striking sentences he uttered or some of his best sayings?"

"I've forgotten them entirely," was the reply.

The visitor was greatly disappointed, "Well," he said, almost in despair, "don't you remember anything about him at all?"

"Ah," replied the old man, brightening, "that is a different question! One day when I was a laddie playing by the roadside, Robbert MacCheyne came along and, laying his hand upon my head, said, 'Jamie, I've been to see your poor sick sister. I'm always glad to see her and help her as I can.' Then he paused, and after looking a bit into my eyes added: 'And, Jamie, I'm very much concerned about your own soul.' I've forgotten his texts and grand sermons, sir, but I can still feel the tremble of his hand and see the tear in his eye."

And so it is with Jesus and our own souls; it is His personal concern in our salvation that grips us. The world is full of great mottoes and fine sayings; and there are none better than those that Jesus Himself has given to us. Yet we may forget many of His words of truth, and much of His noble philosophy of life; we may fail to grasp the breadth, depth, and perfect beauty of His spiritual kingdom; but, having once come in contact with Him, we can never escape His interest in our personal salvation. We are ever fascinated by Him, whose heart yearns for the return of the prodigal, who left all to find the lone lost sheep, and who died on the cross to prove His love for us. The soul awakened by the touch and look of Jesus is never again satisfied with anything less inspiring than the presence of the Matchless One.

—Ernest Lloyd.

A Brazilian congregation's plan helps reduce apostasies . . .

The Secret of Conserving

JETRO FERNANDES DE CARVALHO



Captain and Mrs. John Short—he was Brother Troode's first SDA contact. He arrived on the USS *Okinawa* in 1980.

BROTHER LAURIE TROODE, of Gosnells, Western Australia, has his own "mission to seamen." Although he lives some twenty-five kilometres from Fremantle, one of the "gateways to Australia," and a regular port of call for naval vessels, he makes it his business to contact the Protestant and Jewish chaplains on as many ships as possible. By so doing he is then able to ascertain the names of, and contact, any Adventists in the crew.

Since becoming involved in this venture, Brother Troode has met chaplains who are actually Adventist ministers, and a number of sailors who belong to the church. Some of these men, and sometimes one or two of their shipmates, have been able to attend services at Gosnells, while others have participated in, and shared experiences at, the prayer meeting. Those men who have been to Gosnells have also enjoyed the friendship and hospitality offered in the Troode home. Several keep in contact with the Troodes—as is seen by the accompanying photos.

—G. W. W. Drinkall,
Communication Director,
Western Australian Conference.

Below: Brother Troode with Petty Officer
Walter Bacon III.
Photos: Mrs. L. Troode.

THE PROBLEM of apostasy in the Seventh-day Adventist Church is disquieting to pastors, administrators, and members. In its quinquennial plan the South American Division has given attention to this subject by confronting us with a sobering reality: 13,912 members were dropped in 1979 from the Seventh-day Adventist Church rolls in our division. If there were no more apostasies, the South American Division alone would have almost 1 million members by 1985.

In editorials and articles, the Brazilian *Adventist Review* has expressed the belief that the basic problem resides in the local church. It is a matter for the concern of every church member.

The trinomial slogan, Sowing—Reaping—Conserving, chosen to inspire missionary activities in the South American Division, underlines a concerted effort to seek the cooperation of members, with their varied abilities, talents, and interests. There is a niche for everyone. Every believer has opportunity to preach the gospel, to win souls to Christ, and to retain them within the church.

A lack of judgment and good planning has made conserving the Achilles' heel of every evangelistic project. It is easy to forget that each baptism represents the birth of a new creature. Whoever leaves the baptismal pool is not a spiritual adult, but a child, a sentient, unprotected, dependent human being. Spiritual children require constant attention in the realm of instruction, friendship, involvement in church activities, and the certainty that they are useful and needed.

Should we discover that a spiritual birth has been premature, we should, rather than criticising and disciplining, place the new church member in the incubator of fraternal love, personal concern, and sincere friendship.

How may this be accomplished? With

Jetro Fernandes de Carvalho, a surgeon, is the first elder of the Recife Central church in Pernambuco, Brazil.

sermons? Already these are plentiful. With personal appeals? All are quickly forgotten. So the back door of the church remains open. The problem perplexed our local congregation, so we prayed for guidance. We decided to establish a Society of Caring Members.

Our church is located in the heart of Recife, the Venice of South America. Captain Joseph Bates, prior to becoming an Adventist pioneer minister, sailed his ship into this port of north-east Brazil.

Our Society cares for members this way: On the first Sabbath after their baptism, new members are called to the front to receive baptismal certificates. They are presented to the church in a dignified manner as the hand of fellowship is extended to them by the pastor and the elders. The new members are requested to choose some from among the established members that they would like to have for their caring, favourite friends.

The new member is urged to select someone not already working with another person. The caring member is called to the front, and both fill out a "Joint Form of Friendship," in which are recorded names, addresses, and telephone numbers. The caring member thereby promises to pray for the new member, to be his or her friend, and be alert to changing conditions of the new member. The original form is given to the new member, the second to the caring member, and the third to the leader of lay activities, all signed by the pastor and the leader.

The caring member should be concerned whether the new friend is present at church services, has the Sabbath school lesson quarterly, and is studying the lessons. If there are doubts about doctrines or absenteeism, the caring member should find out why by visiting the absent one, phoning, or writing a letter. When possible, they will sit together in meetings and will work together in personal or class missionary endeavours.

The Society of Caring Members fosters a wholesome relationship between new and established members. Fraternal love is developed, the union of the new member with the church is strengthened, and settled members of the church are stirred into action.

The caring members are reminded of their obligations every Sabbath. On the first Sabbath of each month some are called to the front of the church to give a testimony about their activities. The love relationship fostered by this plan reduces apostasy, helping the church to grow.



YOULDEN WORLD REPORT

DAVID BRYCE

ONE SABBATH early last year, a young Papua New Guinean woman came along to the Town church in Townsville. She was rather quiet and shy, and managed to leave before we found out her name or where she lived. We didn't see her for several weeks as she was visiting at the Aitkenvale church.

Our next contact was when Frances Bryce (wife of Town church minister) met her at some sewing classes. Over their needles and thread a friendship developed, and we found out that Leisa had been brought up an Adventist on Mussau Island. The friendship developed at subsequent sewing classes and at church. Soon Leisa brought her husband, Salam, to church. Both enjoyed the fellowship lunches and the church social events, where Salam proved quite a formidable opponent in any sporting event.

Then the Youlden World Report commenced. Leisa and Salam wished to go, but their car was out of action. While their car was being repaired (with some help from Patrick Krogdahl, an Adventist layman), they were transported to the program by Frances. During this time the Bryces and the Malaguns met frequently for meals and games evenings. It was then that Leisa and Salam told us more about themselves.

Salam had been brought up a Lutheran at Madang. He had come to Townsville to do his Master of Science degree. Leisa's mother had died when her younger sister was born. This sister was brought up on the mission, and was named Kerrie after the daughter of Pastor Colin Winch. Leisa confesses that she was the only one of her sisters to "backslide," and that it caused her father much grief. During the time when she had turned from the church, she met Salam.

Before they left for Australia, Leisa's father urged her to find a Seventh-day Adventist church, and he reminded her that if she wanted to see her mother again she would need to change her ways and turn back to God. This she did.

As the Youlden World Report progressed, Leisa and Salam attended faithfully. Their two lovely little girls were favourites of the usherettes, who cared for them during the lectures. Salam proved very earnest in studying the fundamental beliefs, which were somewhat different from those of his previous church, and he indicated that he wished to be baptised. It is good news for those who know Leisa that she was rebaptised along with her husband. This fine young couple have proved popular in Townsville, and we shall be very sorry to lose them when they return to Port Moresby in May. Parents, never weary of praying for your children.

Witnessing to Others

The story begins in 1962 when Bill Walker and his wife Genevieve were baptised by Jim Cherry. Over the years they worked, especially for the sick and the elderly. But gradually Genevieve became incapacitated by the crippling illness that left her bedridden and



finally took her life. Over this period, Bill became disillusioned and stopped attending church.

We go now to 1979 when Graeme Bradford baptised Helen Seymore in Townsville. Helen's life had been a nightmare for seven years as she had become demon-possessed through experimenting with a ouija board. She wanted to tell others of the wonderful God who had released her from bondage, but she felt that she didn't know enough. However, she teamed up with Sister Galletly in visiting the elderly and the ill, and in early 1982, they visited the Walkers. Their obvious sincerity and deep concern for others soon ensured them a ready welcome from Bill and Genevieve.

Just prior to her death in July, Genevieve requested Helen to continue to visit her husband. This she did. Bill returned to church and started to attend the Youlden Bible lectures. At his request, he was rebaptised. He said, "I really went along for my wife's sake before, but now I understand and I feel I must make a stand for myself."

But the work of these two ladies didn't end there. All along they had been quietly witnessing and praying for Helen's husband, Bob. Although Bob was a heavy drinker and smoker and wanted no part of church, he didn't stop Helen from going. Gradually Bob started to change as the Holy Spirit led him. After coming home from the hotel, he would listen as Helen read the Bible to him. Eventually he agreed to accompany her to church and to the Youlden World Report, which soon gained his interest. He even missed a fishing trip, rather than miss one program.

Bob lists the reasons he kept coming back as: the change in Helen's life when she became an Adventist; the friendliness and acceptance of the church folk; the captivating presentation of God's truth at the lectures.

Every conversion is a miracle, but in Bob's case it was startling. Bob was still drinking and smoking, although he was gradually cutting back. One night he stated that he would probably need at least twelve months to quit, and he didn't want to be pushed. Two days later I received a phone call from a very happy Bob, who stated, "I've been born again. God spoke to my heart and told me to give up drinking and smoking, and to tell my workmates why." And Bob did just that.

It is wonderful to see the way in which the lives of these people have been changed and the tremendous witness that they are to others. Praise be to God for His love which changes the lives of men and women and prompts them to pass this love on to others.

We want you to know that in north Queensland there are many stories to be told of the various ways in which the Holy Spirit has acted on the hearts of those prepared to heed His

Carter Mission, 1983

DURING the weekend of April 29 to May 1, the 1983 Carter Mission will commence in the city of Sydney. Meetings will be held *every night* for *twenty-three* nights. Thereafter they will continue to run every Wednesday and Saturday for one month. After these initial seven weeks, they will transfer to the Opera House for Saturday morning meetings.

The venue for this mission will be a seven-pole tent, seating 2,500, which will be pitched at the corner of Loftus and Gipps Streets, Concord, Sydney, one of the best spots in the city. There is plenty of car parking, and special buses will operate from Strathfield Railway Station.

The mission team will comprise Pastors John Carter and David Pearce, Mrs B. McMurtry (lady Bible worker), Mr T. Rowe and Mr P. Ansell.

HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED. The assistance of laymen and retired ministers is needed to help pitch and guard the tent. The mission also needs help in visiting the expected large number of interests. Retired active ministers are especially invited to help.

Most of all, the prayers of our members everywhere would be greatly appreciated. ■

promptings. Not every story can be told—the RECORD would be full for a year. However, we do want to share with you a couple of stories that thrilled those of us involved.

On November 13, one of the many baptisms for the year was conducted at the West End church in Townsville (locally known as Town church). We plan to share the stories of the folk who were baptised that day. The church was full to overflowing, and perhaps the greatest number of the visitors was there on account of Fred Walker. Fred would be well-known to many old Townsvillites, both ministry and laity alike. Fred is the last of his family to come into the church—his wife, Thora, and his three children have been members for many years. During all those years, many prayers have been offered up on Fred's behalf by his family.

His daughter and son-in-law, Jan and Merv Todd, and their son, Clinton, are the only ones still living in Townsville. They have maintained close family ties, and the three generations of consistent witness, together with persistent prayer and much love, played a large part in leading Fred to baptism. It's not that Fred hasn't known the truth. He's well read and has attended more missions than many Adventists—he merely needed a catalyst to help bring all the influences together, and this appeared in the form of Geoff Youlden.

If Fred knew so much, why did he hang out for nearly twenty years? Although he doesn't say much on the topic, one can read between the lines. Briefly, the answer is that Fred detected inconsistencies between the lives and the profession of a few Adventists.

Friends, let's remember that, in this age of a multiplicity of versions of the Scriptures, most people read the BOTL Version (BOTL—Bible on Two Legs). Pastor Youlden has stressed many times that he runs a mission as a reaping program, and that without the witness of dedicated church members who are Christians, a mission can only have limited success. Let's ensure that our practice confirms what we preach, that we too might see loved ones come to the Lord and join with God's church. ■

Pastor Reaches 1,000 Baptisms

BILL ZIMA, one of the Mid-America Union evangelists, passed a great milestone in 1982—when he saw his 1,000th convert. His evangelistic thrust is based on an extensive visiting program with former members and others who already are familiar with the church and its practices. Pastor Zima follows an intensive Bible study schedule, and invites the interests to weekend decision meetings in the church.

Pastor Zima stated that he would be happy to teach others this effective and low-cost means of reclaiming former members, which he estimates costs approximately \$29 per baptism.

A contributing factor to the success of this type of evangelism is that he holds twelve to fourteen twenty-five-day meetings per year. During last year 253 people were baptised in the Zima crusades.

—Mid-America Adventist Outlook.



James Griffin, a forest ranger from Pagosa Springs, Colorado, is the 1,000th person baptised by Bill Zima.

Left top: David Bryce, Salam Malagun (holding Marlene), Leisa Malagun (holding Gwendolyn), Frances Bryce, Kathleen Bryce (front).

Centre: Bob Seymore, Helen Seymore, Bill Walker, Mrs Galletly.

Lower left: Fred and Thora Walker, Clinton Todd, Jan and Merv Todd.

Photos: D. Bryce.



Outdoor baptism of three young men and one old village man. Students and staff worked together three times a week for this baptism. Student-staff outreach from the college has netted about 100 baptisms in the past year or so.

Photos: E. Livingston.



Three Australasian Division families outside their apartments at Philippine Union College/Far East Seminary campus. From left: Pastor and Mrs Eric and Carol Livingston, Paul and Daniel; Mr and Mrs Neville and Rhonda Tosen, Richard, Kenneth and Allan; Mr and Mrs Ken and Juanita Elisha, baby Lisha.

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

NEWS BRIEFS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Some Australian Readers Will Discover Their Part in Five Baptisms . . .

EVANGELISM IN A FILIPINO VILLAGE

ERIC LIVINGSTON

SIX schools and 2,500 people on the campus. That's how it is at Philippine Union College campus, forty-two kilometres south of Manila.

The black, white, brown and yellow-skinned faces here (in primary and secondary schools, college, graduate school and seminary) came from twenty countries. The locals predominate, Indonesia and Korea follow.

Coming to a country where evangelism is netting hundreds of converts gave us the hope of successfully combining outreach work with a study program. We joined a college group of nine Filipinos who thrice-weekly conducted branch Sabbath schools, house visitation and Bible studies in a nearby *barrio* (village). An early experience: entering a house we launched into song and were soon joined by a mother hen and her chirping chicks searching the dirt floor for food. Only the Australians noticed them.

It was soon obvious that our main work was to encourage the college student workers. They could speak the villagers' language, and interpreting English was difficult and time-consuming. Fred, the group's speaker, a twenty-two-year-old first-year ministerial student, is very able and dynamic; the young ladies are talented; all can sing well; and we had a tireless organiser.

After a few months, a nightly reaping campaign was conducted out of doors. The weather held, the blackboard fell over at the right times, the emergency lighting was almost sufficient and the newly acquired picture roll and film strips synchronised (sometimes). Anyway, our young preacher had a message, and though neither my wife nor I could understand the words, we could catch the theme and sense the inspiration of the hour. The universal scope and relevance of God's final message continually creates a thrilling and

challenging atmosphere. "This man or Barabas. . . ?" "The three angels or the dragon, beast and false prophet?"

Twenty adults and twenty children regularly attended, and five young men were baptised. (In other fields of greater sowing and bigger budgets, scores of people are electing to join the remnant church here in the Philippines. Dr Ralph Larson, a seminary professor, has recently conducted a number of reaping programs where the locals saw as many as 400 of their interests baptised; and the big Manila campaign reaped over 1,100.)

When we witnessed the happy baptism of our local five candidates, people were thanking our family for making it possible. What had we done? Nothing, it seemed. "But," we were told, "if we didn't have the money for transportation, eating and equipment expenses, the campaign could not have been conducted." This was true, but our minds went out in

gratitude to the real (but unwitting) givers who funded the village campaign.

They were kind members of the Colac, Ballarat and Camperdown churches, Victoria, who gave farewell gifts with the remark, "You might find this handy over there." It has been handy. Our stay has been shortened, and we were able to pass this money into evangelism. (And the Australian dollar has many times the purchasing power of the local *peso*.)

Without that extra money the intense nightly reaping series (children's program, health segment and preaching hour) would not have been conducted, five young men would have missed the inspiration and challenge of a public series, happy barefoot children would have missed their program, young workers would not have developed and we all would have missed an evangelistic campaign. Much would have been lost.

But now much has been gained! Thank you, Australia. ■

Philippine International church after Sabbath service—2,000 members. Buildings on campus have been erected at the rate of one a month since development began about forty-two months ago. Presently, a clinic for a proposed medical school is being erected.



A Missionary's Apology

LOLA HILL, Principal, Sopas Nursing School, PNGUM

DEAR CHURCH MEMBER of the Australasian Division: We owe you an apology. You have not been told the whole truth. You have not been kept informed. In fact we have been very remiss in the matter of communication. If you think that everything is going smoothly in the mission fields, then it is not your fault—it's our fault for not keeping you informed.

Perhaps you believe that here we have everything; that the work is self-sufficient; that the needs are so small it does not matter if your Sabbath school offering today is the same as it was ten years ago—even if your income has gone up 400 per cent!

Don't feel bad—it's our fault because *we have not told you*. But now, we can't keep the lid on things any longer. *We are in big trouble*.

You see, even Papua New Guinea is feeling the effect of inflation and "the recession." And it seems our early missionaries made some big mistakes. They brought a better way of life to the people here. And do you know something? A higher standard of living costs more. It costs more to have a clean body, to wear clothes and keep them clean. It costs more to send your children to school than to let them remain illiterate. It costs more to live on better food, and to live in better, more healthful houses.

Children who are brought up in a better home, with more room, less overcrowding, are not happy to live in a crowded dormitory with twelve girls to a room, when they come to nursing school. A girl who has been taught to care for her clothes is not happy to keep all her belongings jammed in a suitcase under the bed because there is no other space.

Our early missionaries promoted the idea that our young people should receive a Christian education. This was fine when all you needed to run a school was a picture roll, some mats to sit on and a Third Grader for a teacher. But now our young people think they need textbooks, visual aids, classrooms, libraries, and even qualified teachers! And guess what? These teachers need a salary! They are not satisfied with a piece of soap, and a little salt each month, and a new *lap lap* once a year. I guess our early missionaries just did not know what it would lead to when they came to countries like Papua New Guinea and taught a better way of life!

Yes, we apologise for not keeping you informed of how things really are. You read the statistics and smile smugly as you sit in your pews, feet resting on the carpeted floor. You are proud of the new organ just installed—cost to five or six figures. The church parking lot on Sabbath morning takes on the appearance of a motor show. Sabbath after Sabbath you listen to the world mission news and smile to each other as you hear how the church is growing at such a rapid rate in the "mission fields" and think how much your dollar will accomplish as you drop it in the plate.

A recent RECORD (January 22, 1983) carried two interesting paragraphs. On page 3 was a note of appreciation from the Division

committee for the loyal support by the church members for the program of the church, making possible the continued advancement of the work both in the homefield and the overseas mission. In the same issue Flashpoint carried the news that twenty-two budgets from Eastern Highlands Mission have been dropped because of lack of funds. And this is one of the faster growing areas in church growth in PNG. Do you know that the fortnightly pay of one average church member in Australia would pay the wages of two of these workers for a whole year! (If only because these workers know the meaning of sacrifice.)

Serious consideration is being given to closing down both Atoifi and Sopas Nursing Schools, due to a lack of funds to keep up with rising costs. If the nursing schools close, how long will the hospitals keep going! *Not very long*.

Yes, we owe you an apology. But we do not apologise for disturbing your satisfied feeling about your support of "the work." Please don't misunderstand me. We do appreciate what is being done. We know that some of our members are giving "till it hurts." A few others have sacrificed time and money by serving as volunteers.

BUT ARE WE DOING ENOUGH? "Institutions that are God's instruments to carry forward His work on the earth must be sustained. . . . As the work enlarges, means will be needed to carry it forward in all its branches. . . . And when the members of the church wish in their hearts that there would be no more calls for means, they virtually say that they are content that the cause of God shall not progress."—*Testimony Treasures*, Book 1, page 543.

In an accompanying letter, Miss Hill wrote: "One thing that I find encouraging is the faithfulness in giving by our national brethren and sisters here at Sopas. We are a small group—about sixty Sabbath school members. There are two expatriate families and two single girls (expatriates). The rest of the group are made up of our national workers and students. The national doctor (medical director) receives a monthly wage of about \$300. The national sisters (trained nurses) on the average would be receiving about \$150. The students receive only pocket money—an average of \$20 a month. And yet on more than one occasion since I have been here, our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering has been about \$300. Our average weekly Sabbath offering is \$50. I wonder how this compares with churches in the homeland—especially when compared to income?"

"So we are not asking others to do what we are not willing to do ourselves." ■

New Office for Samoa

R. E. COBBIN, President, Central Pacific Union Mission

FOR MANY years the Samoa Mission office staff have had to do their work in very cramped conditions, in a little old office which had long proved inadequate for efficient and united service. But now all that is in the past, because on Thursday afternoon, February 3, 1983, the new mission office was officially opened. Pastor Cyrus Adams had the joy of seeing the fulfilment of his cherished dreams come true after being president of the mission for five years. A few days later he and his wife left for Australia on permanent return. He with his committee had planned and prepared for the great event for many months, but unfortunately he did not have the pleasure of occupying one of the spacious offices in the new building.

The new office was originally designed by Brother Vern Lewis of Auckland, and was constructed by a local Samoan building firm using local timber and skilled labour. It is well built and will enhance the mission compound with its neat appearance. The old office will be demolished, and any timber or materials of good condition will be used to build some staff homes needed on the compound.

The Central Pacific Union Mission officers were present for the official opening of the new office, and they were very pleased to see the almost completed building. As the staff transfer to their well-ventilated offices, we believe the Lord will bless their dedicated efforts to provide the mission with continued enthusiastic and encouraging leadership. Samoa Mission in 1982 had a very good year with a record 437



baptisms, and they have made plans for this year to be even better. All pastors are leading their churches into aggressive evangelistic outreach programs because they believe that time is short and there is still much to be done.

We have appreciated the tireless and dedicated ministry of both Pastor and Mrs. Adams in the central Pacific, and we wish them God's richest blessing as they fill the role in local church ministry in the city of Perth. Pastor Ripine Rimoni has been chosen as the new president of Samoa Mission. May the Holy Spirit empower and use him to lead the church in Samoa on to victory. ■

A Family Affair

P. H. BALLIS, North New Zealand Camp Communications Team

SEVERAL features combined to make the 1982-83 Camp of the North New Zealand Conference uniquely a family affair.

First and foremost is the fact that unlike previous camps, this year's was fundamentally "Kiwi." Although we were privileged with the presence of Pastors R. W. Taylor and E. C. Lemke for some of the time, and Dr and Mrs Ferch for most of the time, this camp was a time when local talent played the dominant role. Some of the most provocative and creative presentations came from lay members. Noteworthy was Professor L. F. Jackson's dynamic presentation on "Church Growth in New Zealand," which came to some as an "eye-opener," and made many more realise that there is yet still much to be accomplished in this Conference.

A second feature was the ethnic meetings—Maori, Rarotongan, Samoan and Tongan—which daily provided members with time to meet and praise the Lord in their own cultural and national families. During the first Sabbath, two ministers were ordained to the gospel ministry, Brethren A. Mulitalo and S. Rex. In fact, both men are representatives of ethnic groups, the first being a Samoan and the second a Nuie Islander.

The Family Workshops were another feature that helped to give this camp its distinctive "family" flavour. Seminars on Family Life, Parenting (Mrs Ferch), were other occasions when one could facilitate his learning in family-sized groups.

Finally, the introduction of CODE (Co-Ordinated Development Evangelism) encouraged every member of the North New Zealand Adventist family to consider his responsibilities in the light of his privileges. CODE is a new and creative idea which has been introduced to this conference by Pastors D. Hill and C. Townend with the aim of coordinating the available resources and with the intention of assisting church members to develop a forward-looking perspective of God's work in this country. Over 300 people responded to this project. ■



Left to right: Pastor and Mrs A. Mulitalo, Mrs Rex and Pastor Rex.

Photo: P. H. Ballis.

Ordination in Wanganui

J. M. MARSHALL, Assistant Communication Secretary, Wanganui Church, Nth NZ

SABBATH, December 4, 1982, was a day to remember in the life of Brother Leigh Rice and the Wanganui church. Brother Leigh was ordained to the gospel ministry—a unique occasion in that the service was held in the church he had pastored for the past four years.

Those who officiated at this solemn service were conference president Pastor D. Hills; conference secretary/treasurer Brother D. Watts and Pastors E. Greenwell, I. E. Trevena and I. Rankin.

A large attendance of church members, friends and visiting clergy of other denominations heard Brother Rice rededicate his life to his chosen calling. Because both Leigh and Barbara's families are in Australia, and were unable to attend, the service was video-taped.

At a tea and social in the evening, a large gathering of folk reluctantly said goodbye to Leigh, Barbara, Damion and Haylee. On the following day they were to leave us en route to Australia, where Leigh has gone to Avondale to do a Master's degree. ■

Keeping it in the family, although

Breaking with Tradition

KERRY HORTOP, Ministerial Secretary, Victorian Conference

FOR the first time in memory an ordination service was held on the final Saturday evening of the recent Victorian camp-meeting. This ordination of a young minister to the gospel ministry proved to be a great success and blessing to our church members.

The final Sabbath hours of our camp-meeting were brought to a close with a brief sacred concert by musicians from our Melbourne Yugoslav churches. This was followed immediately by the ordina-



From left: Pastor I. Trevena, Pastor D. Hills, Sister Barbara Rice, Pastor Leigh Rice, Brother K. Watts, Pastor I. Rankin and Pastor E. Greenwell.

Photo: Mrs V. Walker.



Left to right: Pastor Ken Low, Rosemarie Fletcher with baby Leesa, Pastor James Fletcher, Pastor Kerry Hortop, Pastor Keith Hankinson.

Photo: H. Stanton.

tion service. The seven-pole pavilion was almost filled to capacity and the spiritual atmosphere was indicative of reverence, joy and expectation.

Being presented for ordination was James Fletcher. It was a great pleasure to see James' parents, Pastor Austen Fletcher and mother Elaine Fletcher, present for the ordination. Austen is on the teaching staff at Avondale College and had been scheduled to lead a study tour through the Bible lands, but decided that being present at his son's ordination was more important than the Middle-East tour.

The president of the Victorian Conference, Pastor Ken Low, supervised the program with Pastor Mike Stevenson, assistant Youth Leader from the General Conference, delivering the ordination address. Pastor John Knopper, well-known to James, and Division Publishing leader, took the ordination prayer, and Pastor Keith Hankinson from the Trans-Australian Union, where he is Ministerial secretary, read the charge to the newly ordained minister.

Then a moment of great family joy followed, as Pastor Austen Fletcher welcomed his son James, and wife Rosemarie, into the ministry. There was something moving and touching about that moment.

A very large group from among James' fellow ministers and the congregation came forward to give them every encouragement in their new ministerial life. James and Rosemarie, together with their newly arrived daughter, Leesa, will be continuing their ministry in the western districts in Victoria at Portland and Hamilton.

Please continue to remember our ministers in your prayers, and James in particular as he joins the team of ordained ministers in this Division. ■

Media Outreach Story

NAT E. DEVENISH, Field Promotions Officer, Adventist Media Centre

PERCY Rishworth and his wife were members of the Christadelphian faith. Percy suffered a massive stroke, and to the surprise of his doctors and against all predictions, he lived, although he has a paralysed left arm and lame left leg.

One Sunday morning, when he was feeling somewhat depressed and wondering why God had let him live, he turned on the television. As it happened, "It Is Written" was on air. He liked what he saw and sent for the free offer. He continued to watch "It Is Written" each Sunday.

Percy felt he must visit our conference office, for he had many questions about our faith. He prayed for healing so that he could drive his car to the South Australian Conference office at Prospect. He believed that God would heal him, but was disappointed when, the next morning, he found his health condition had not improved in any way whatsoever.

Well, Percy thought, I don't know how God can do it, but I must visit those "It Is Written" people. The next night there was a knock at the door of the Rishworth home. Percy struggled to the door and was met by a gentleman who said, "Hello—I'm Henry Plewa from the George Vandeman "It Is Written" telecast."

Mr Rishworth believed God had sent Henry, and Henry admits to being very tired that night and not inclined to go out, but felt compelled to visit the name he had been given.

Henry Plewa visited that home once a week for four years. This finally led to studies with Pastors Robert Porter and Geoff Agars.

Because of his disabilities, Brother Rishworth could have joined the church on profession of faith, but he insisted on baptism and, because of his handicap, it took two men to baptise him. Sister Rishworth, in the early stages, had been opposed to the Advent message, but she became as keen as her



husband and entered the baptismal font with him.

Just after the Rishworths left the font, another lady, Sister Irene Bahr, was baptised. She had been won to the message through the Rishworths sharing their new-found faith. These three folk are now members of the Prospect church in Adelaide.

Why not introduce someone to the "It Is Written" television program? It just might be the beginning of another "Rishworth Story." ■

THE FOLLOWING was published in the *Barrier Daily Truth* in Broken Hill on December 15, 1982.

"A locally written, produced and sung musical, entitled *Prodigal*, has been performed in various churches in the city.

"*Prodigal* is based on the story Jesus told of the prodigal son. Local song writer John Harris wrote the music, Bruce and Margaret Manners the lyrics. . . .

"There's even a group in Melbourne translating it into Yugoslavian," Pastor Manners said.

"This is the second time that this song writing team has worked together. Last year their production called *The Waiting* was performed locally, at Mildura and at a church convention in Goulburn. And, a third is on the 'production line,' based on the life of Mary, mother of Jesus. It will be finished early in 1983."

(Shown is the Broken Hill group who performed *PRODIGAL*.)

Prodigal was given an enthusiastic reception at the local Salvation Army, Baptist, Anglican and Uniting churches. We made many friends among other Christians, and the message of Jesus' story was a blessing to all.

Prodigal music and tape is available to any group who may wish to perform it. The music is simple in form and within the ability of any group, while presenting a moving message.

—Mrs Marilyn Harris,
Communication Secretary,
Broken Hill Church, South NSW.



Investiture at Cairns

VAL KUM YUEN, Communication Secretary, Cairns Church, Nth Qld

A VISITORS' DAY, plus an Investiture, drew a goodly number of people to the Cairns Seventh-day Adventist church late last year. For the Pathfinders, it was a fitting conclusion to a busy year of activity.

The church was beautifully decorated, and the floral arrangements, from the artistic hands of Sister Jill Smith, gave an added emphasis to the praise and thanksgiving of the occasion.

Parents and friends could not help but feel a little glow as the Pathfinders marched down the church, holding high their respective ensigns. And what a band of young people they were! Exuberant, enthusiastic, with a challenging light in their eyes and the love of the Lord in their hearts. May they always keep their eyes focused on Him, the true Pathfinder Leader—for His path is the right path, and the way of the cross leads "home."

All the Pathfinders have been working diligently, as can be seen by the fact that thirty-six achievements were awarded to a much smaller number of children and leaders: thirteen awards to Janelle Bapty and six to Alison Miller and leaders.

Pastor Graeme Scott, the Youth leader of the North Queensland Conference, took the service. His timely message for young people as well as parents, brought hope and encouragement to many hearts. ■

CHILDREN'S CORNER

The Day the Car Stopped

ANITA JACOBS

"COME, Susie, it's time to get cleaned up so we can go to Grandma and Grandpa's house," called Mother. Seven-year old Susie was in the backyard watching the neighbour feed his small flock of hens when her mother called. She skipped to the house excitedly because visiting her grandparents was always a treat.

Grandma and Grandpa lived only about twenty miles away, but part of the trip scared Susie. The road went over a mile-long bridge, and Susie was afraid of the water.

When Susie was cleaned up and ready to go, she, Mother, and Daddy hurried to the car. As they were travelling along, they noticed the sky becoming darker and darker. "I think we are in for a storm," Daddy exclaimed with concern in his voice. "I've been having trouble with the engine when it rains hard enough for the wires to get wet."

His words made Susie more afraid, especially as they got closer to the two-lane bridge and it began to rain, lightly at first and then harder and harder. When they approached the bridge the sky seemed to open and pour down. It seemed that as soon as they got on the

bridge the car began coughing and sputtering and jerking along. All at once it just stopped. Daddy turned the key to restart the engine, but it only made a little click.

"Well," said Daddy, "I guess we will have to wait out the storm here in the car. Maybe it will stop soon."

Mother asked, "Do you have the lights on so other cars can see us?"

"I'm afraid we have no lights," replied Daddy. "What a mess we are in!"

Now Susie's Daddy was not a Christian, but her mother had taught her to pray. "Can't we pray and ask Jesus to send an angel to start the car?" she asked with a tremble in her voice.

Daddy laughed, "Why not? We need help!" Susie didn't think Daddy really believed that Jesus would answer her prayer, but she knew Jesus was interested in little children and heard their prayers.

So, right there in the car, in the pouring rain, Susie knelt down on the floor in the back seat and prayed, "Dear Jesus, our car won't go 'cause the wires are wet from all the rain. Please help the wires to get dry so we can get across this bridge. Amen."

Susie climbed back up on the seat. It was still raining hard, but she asked, "Daddy, please try again. It will start now."

Daddy tried to ignore Susie because he knew those wires were still too wet, but finally, to please her, he tried the starter. Instead of just making a click, the motor started.

Jesus had answered Susie's prayer. Daddy did some very serious thinking as they drove on to Grandma and Grandpa's house. ■

GOOD FOOD

by Sally Hammond

I HAVE a new toy in my kitchen. Actually it is an old new toy as I have had it for about eighteen months now. It is a microwave oven, and I am smitten with it. Not only do microwave ovens cook dishes in a fraction of the time, they also seem to me to be much healthier in that especially when cooking vegetables very little water and NO salt is the ideal. Also, washing up is marvellously reduced as vegetables and other foods often cook right in the serving dish. I haven't scrubbed a pot in months! So I thought that for the next few times together, I would share with you some recipes I have found to work particularly well in my oven, which is 650W. This one is wonderful for a healthy little-bit-different breakfast, and as you can see it takes almost no time.

BUTTERMILK BRAN MUFFINS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ½ cup hot water | 2 eggs |
| 1½ cups all-bran cereal or bran | 2 cups plain wholemeal flour |
| ¼ cup (60 g) margarine | 3 teaspoons baking powder |
| ½ cup brown sugar | ¼ teaspoon salt |
| 1 cup buttermilk | ½ cup sultanas |

Mix water and all-bran in bowl and cook 2 minutes on FULL POWER. Add butter and stand till melted. Beat in sugar and egg. Fold in all other ingredients. (PS. Make sure mixture has cooled before flour and baking powder are added.) Spoon into muffin cups, custard cups, etc, and cook 6 muffins, 4 minutes FULL POWER. NB. This recipe can be doubled, stored in the fridge in a covered container and used over 4 to 6 weeks as needed. Add 12 to 15 seconds per muffin if using chilled batter.

NOTE: Baking powder when used with buttermilk or yoghurt is not harmful. The two combine to produce a rising action, but the harmful effects of the baking powder are lost.

Weddings

OH—FOOK. At the Chinese Seventh-day Adventist church, Sydney, New South Wales, on October 11, 1982, Thomas Njuk Kiong Oh and Margaret Fook were united in marriage. The bridegroom is the son of Mr and Mrs Sioe Kie Oh of Indonesia, and the bride is the daughter of Mr and Mrs Denis Fook of Sydney. Many guests gathered at a grand reception to wish the happy couple blessings on their life together. G. W. Rollo.

RADFORD—GOLBY. At the beautiful new Taree church on Sunday morning, February 27, 1983, Karen, the daughter of Stan and Shirley Golby of Tuncurry, New South Wales, was united in marriage to Neil, the son of Kevin and Lois Radford of Narromine. A large gathering of loved ones and friends of these two well-known families were present to wish this lovely young couple much of God's blessing as they establish a new Christian home at Cooranbong. O. H. Twist.

REEVES—FLETCHER. In the Belmont Adventist church, Western Australia, Raymond, only son of Mr and Mrs Syd Reeves, promised to take Kerry, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Raymond Fletcher, to be his wedded wife and Kerry responded. Sunday, February 27, 1983, was the day they chose to link their lives together in the presence of many relatives and friends who came to share this special day with them and to witness their happiness. Surely God's blessing will be with Ray and Kerry as they establish their home in Perth on the principles of God's Word. H. J. Watts.

VAN-ITALLIE—WILSON. In the Sydney Adventist Hospital chapel, Wahroonga, New South Wales, on December 6, 1982, John Hermann Van-Itallie of Biloela, Queensland, and Margaret Helen Wilson of Marsden, Queensland, were joined in marriage. We wish them God's blessing as they set up their home together. G. W. Rollo.

BOOK NEWS NOTE . . .

IT'S HERE!

At long last the PICTORIAL AID, fourth edition, has arrived at the Signs from Hong Kong. In spite of the recent devaluation, the retail price will be \$A18.75 (\$NZ25.30) for the complete set. This includes the PICTORIAL AID binder and pictures, and a second, matching binder which contains the lessons.

Now is the time to get your order in to your local Adventist Book Centre.

Till He Comes

HAWKINS. Sharon, devoted wife of Jeff Hawkins, daughter of John and Jean Matthews and sister of Carol, died on January 28, 1983, in the Royal Brisbane Hospital, Queensland. Sharon married Jeff on November 1, 1981, and they had fifteen months of great happiness together. Although Jeff, and all who knew and loved Sharon, knew that her days were numbered because of cystic fibrosis, separation has been very hard. Sharon showed great courage and died peacefully. Pastor S. A. Bartlett assisted with the funeral service at the Mount Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane, which, like Sharon's life and death, bore witness to God's power. We look forward to that glorious resurrection day.

R. J. Fraser.

HEWITT. Les Hewitt was a dedicated Christian husband and father, loved by all who knew him. His witness in sickness as well as in health testified to his faith in his blessed Lord through the varying circumstances of life's journey on earth which terminated for him at Palmerston North Hospital, New Zealand, on January 13, 1983. Les spent most of his life in the Feilding area apart from the service for his country in the NZEF, 1939 to 1945. A large number of relatives and friends and townsfolk came to pay their last respects at the funeral and graveside services in Feilding. To his wife Olive, children Brian and Jenny (Palmerston North), and Rosemary (Sydney), we extend our heartfelt sympathy and our certain hope of the righteous to eternal life.

A. W. Robinson.

HODGES. Dulcie Hodges fell asleep in Jesus after suffering a stroke at the Kings Langley Nursing Home, in Sydney's western suburbs, New South Wales. She had almost reached her ninety-fourth birthday. Resolutely witnessing to her Lord's love through the years, she was the only one in her family to be an Adventist. We laid her to rest in the Pine Grove Garden Cemetery on March 1, 1983, to await Jesus' call to life and fellowship with Him.

W. Sleight.

OFFER. Cecil George Offer of Ravenshoe, north Queensland, passed to his rest at the Sydney Adventist Hospital, New South Wales, on February 20, 1983, at the age of seventy years. He was a man who loved his Lord and loved people. Through the years he was active as a literature evangelist, Pathfinder director, friend of youth, church leader and branch Sabbath school director. He was well known in the Proserpine, Cairns and Atherton Tablelands areas. To his wife Ivy, children Jim, Fay (England), Charlie, Yvonne, Esme and Keith and brothers and sister, we extend sincere sympathy. A service was conducted at the Avondale Lawn Cemetery where a number of friends joined relatives to receive the comfort and encouragement of the Scriptures.

L. C. Coombe.

ROSE. Denise Lorraine Rose passed quietly to her rest in the early morning of February 22, 1983. Denise was born in Mauritius where she was raised an Adventist and where she married a childhood friend, James Rose. Three children resulted from the marriage. The family moved to Australia about fifteen years ago and settled in Sydney. Denise and James became members of the Hurstville church, and were much loved and appreciated for their service there. Denise became aware of a terminal illness almost two years ago. We tenderly laid her to rest in the Rookwood Lawn Cemetery, New South Wales, on February 23, reminding her loved ones that those who love the Lord never see each other for the last time. We look forward to meeting her again soon when our loving Saviour returns.

Max Hatton.

SHIPARD. Reginald Ernest Shipard passed to his rest in the Naracoorte Hospital, South Australia, on December 8, 1982, at the age of seventy-six years. Reg was a faithful member of the Naracoorte church and was well respected in the community by all who knew him, and I am sure he will be sadly missed by all. Reg leaves behind his beloved wife Rhonda, and their three sons Carl, Roger and Noel and their families. The friends and relatives who gathered at the graveside at Padthaway were pointed to the blessed hope of the soon return of the great Life-giver.

A. J. Croft.

RETURN THANKS

Thanks to all kind friends for their love and support to Joy, Phillip and Michelle on the death of our much-loved Arnold van der Klift. Mr and Mrs Alf Pratt and Rosalie.

John, Elizabeth Thierry and family, wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all kind friends who came to our aid at the time our home was burned by fire on Saturday, February 19. We do appreciate your concern, your loving ministry and material help on our behalf.

ADVANCED PALM NURSERY

Wholesale and retail (over 20,000 plants). 8 km from Gold Coast in northern NSW. Close to Kingscliff beach and church. 20 km to SDA primary and high school at Murwillumbah. 4 B/R, cavity brick home. Double garage/granny flat, on 8 hectares. Price negotiable. Phone (066) 74 1259.

ATTENTION BROKEN HILL PAST MEMBERS

In conjunction with our city's centenary celebrations, Broken Hill church members invite all former members to their Centenary Sabbath on June 11, 1983. RSVP May 6, 1983, to J. Harris, 264 Duff Street, Broken Hill, NSW 2880. Phone (080) 88 2625. Notify by April 22 if accommodation required.

BOOKS FOR SALE

One complete set *Testimonies to the Church* (black binding), 1 set of SDA Bible Commentary, both in perfect condition, plus several other SOP books, all for \$70 ONO or will sell separately. Phone (09) 390 9818.

COORANBONG, HOUSE FOR SALE

New B/V, three B/R house, fully carpeted 80/20 wool. Modern kitchen, walk-in pantry. Walk-in garage (possible fourth bedroom). Laundry. Two bathrooms (Italian tiles). Built-in robes with drawers. Cupboards galore. Also full septic system (not pump out). Situated in the new estate across the swing bridge from college and SHF. Valued at \$75,000. Will now sell for \$63,500. Must be best buy in Cooranbong. Phone (049) 73 2092.

FOR SALE

Spacious, 4-year-old B/V home within 5 minutes' walk lovely Lake Macquarie and fishing. Comprises 3 B/R, 2 with B/I robes, garage under main roof, carpets, window treatments, air conditioned, well-kept garden with trees. Corner position in good area. Few mins. to local general store. 2 km to Morisset station and shops. School bus handy. 8 km to Cooranbong. Phone (049) 73 2256. 30 Macquarie Street, Bonnells Bay, NSW 2264.

INTERSTATE CARTAGE

Have your goods transported around Melbourne and Sydney. Storage available. Daily parcel delivery covering Melbourne suburbs and outlying eastern districts. Light vans and semitrailers. Based at Melbourne and Sydney. Yarra Valley Messenger Service. (059) 67 1688.

HOUSE FOR SALE

Spacious, high-set 5 B/R home, 2 toilets, large lounge, large kitchen/dining area. Large pantry, sunroom, 30' x 10' sundeck, air conditioning. Downstairs: large room now in use as gymnasium, sauna room, shower, 3-car garage. Lovely views, right in Murwillumbah. SDA primary and high school. Best value in town at \$77,500 ONO. Health studio equipment available if required. Write to Benard's Slimming Clinic, 2 Mooball Street, Murwillumbah, NSW 2484 or phone (066) 72 3074.

LIVE-IN HELP

Responsible SDA lady required five days a week (adjustable) to live in to help with home duties and vegetarian cooking at home in Brighton, right on the water. Two boys aged 12 and 10. Wages negotiable (03) 592 2047.

NEW RELEASE—12" LP

ERROL COLLINS AND HIS MAGIC VIOLIN is a lighthearted special, guaranteed to brighten up any home. TMS-315. \$9 posted—Fidelis Records, 2 Kiogle Street, Wahroonga, NSW 2076. (02) 48 2137.

REAL ESTATE

For real estate in Cooranbong, Morisset, Dora Creek and the Lakes area contact Shirley Turner, representing Wilsons Better Homes Co., Newcastle. 563 Freemans Drive, Cooranbong. Phone (049) 77 1504. A/H 77 1330.

TOUR AUSTRALIA WITH ADVENTIST FRIENDS

June 7	NORTH QUEENSLAND Great Barrier Reef, Cairns, Port Douglas, Whitsunday Islands and Passage. 18 days \$998
July 3	CENTRAL AUSTRALIA The Red Centre, Ayers Rock, the Olgas, MacDonnell Ranges. 20 days \$1,085
Sept 25	WEST AUST & WILDFLOWERS The Karri forests, the Southwest, the Golden Mile, plus Perth and specially escorted northern wildflower tour. 27 days \$1,195
Nov 7	TASMANIA, including the rugged West Coast 12 days \$698

Tour in luxury and comfort, air-conditioned, toilet-equipped coach. Further details and brochure from KEN MORGAN, MORGAN'S COACHLINE, 16 Avondale Road, Cooranbong, NSW 2265. Phone (049) 77 2000.

TWO GEM SOUVENIR 12" LP RECORDINGS

TMS-245 TO JESUS WITH LOVE featuring Kevin Moore, Tom Mitchell, Black Diamonds and New Theme. Superb sound.

Another Kevin Moore Production; TMS-228 MELBOURNE JIGSAW—same artists and even some lyrebird calls, and other special sound effects, with tremendous sampler variety. \$9 each posted. Fidelis Records, 2 Kiogle Street, Wahroonga, NSW 2076. Phone (02) 48 2137.

WANTED

Church members with \$100 (or more) to open an AT CALL account (earns 9 per cent interest) with A.C.F. Investments.

Term Accounts with higher returns are also available.

Write for an Investment Brochure to:

Pastor L. McMurtry

Manager

A.C.F. Investments Ltd.

8 McIntosh Street

Chatswood, N.S.W. 2067.

Help "Avondale College Foundation" Build a Better Avondale.

WANTED

100 men and women to sell five sets of "The Bible Story" books per week. See your local Publishing director.

WORK WANTED

Hard-working family man seeks employment anywhere in Australia. Qualified motor mechanic and car salesman. Also builder's labourer. Will try anything. Contact Ken Nielsen, phone (071) 72 4501.

Flashpoint

LINCOLN STEED
Assistant Editor



SECOND time round spelled even greater success for the Bill Otto City Mission in Christchurch, south New Zealand. Opening afternoon crowds on March 6 numbered around 1,000. By month's end reports were just as encouraging. Later in the year the team travel to Timaru to spread the Word there.

A bemused Nat Devenish at the Adventist Media Centre passed on the fascinating news concerning a VOP letter mailed in July 1962 to Leederville, WA. Twenty-one years later it came back—"No such address," wrote some efficient postal employee!

BIG news at AMC remains the 650,000 full-page Bible course ads in the *Reader's Digest*—PLUS the 810,000 additional cards sent to the churches, PLUS full-colour ads in the special one-million *Signs* run. Surely two and a half million leads will lead to big things. Initial response to the *Digest* ad was 200 in a day.

EVANGELISM in Bowral, south NSW, is getting the Don Fehlberg touch. It has been written he gets so close to his topic that "you can smell the tomb-dust on his clothes"—that's some tale! After seven presentations evangelist Don enthusiastically reported 111 attending—seventy-one non-Adventists.

BAPTISMS for South NSW Conference in 1982 totalled 112. A good result which will surely be bettered again in 1983.

BAYSWATER Hall, Victoria, will soon echo to the whirl of six computer-operated Carousel projectors and the capable presentations of Pastor Tony Campbell. The three-week campaign begins late April.

PACIFIC Adventist College is fast becoming a fact. Advance staff, volunteers, farm and building workers now number about fifty. Mid-week prayer meetings and Sabbath services are held in the recently completed girls' chapel. This month the group have officially organised as a separate church company (a suggested company name has been Koiari Park church).

BUILDERS at PAC have recently begun work on the Theology class block, the first group of married students units, and the primary school.

A **CALL** has gone from the Sydney Adventist Hospital all the way to Zambia, Africa, for Paul and Dawn Giblett to return so that he can serve as director of housekeeping services.

BOLD new plans are coming out of the Division Temperance Department. New director Wynstan Dowling recently revealed a few of them: a temperance segment in the MA Theology Course at Avondale; updating of the format to the ever-successful 5-Day Plan; and increased church sponsorship for a new-look *Alert* (see the May/June issue). Wynstan also wants greater church involvement in the breathalyser issue, alcohol awareness programs and anti-smoking advertising.

BILL Johnsson, editor of the *Adventist Review* and an Australian, has been invited to be this year's guest speaker at Avondale College Homecoming (September 2 to 4).

A **LITTLE** overseas news might be appropriate: Church leaders in Washington report that the General Conference headquarters building may soon be sold—if so, the money will enable the construction of new headquarters on a twelve-hectare site sixteen kilometres north of Washington, DC.

PACIFIC Press is feeling the crunch nowadays—what with an \$8,000,000 debt and a gloomy world economy. A three-person commission has been appointed to sort out the tangle.

LEs are known for singing God's praises. Brother Leota Afa, an LE, band leader and choir director, will put that singing into musical tune if enough other LEs will let him. The plan is to form a group of Sydney LEs who will visit area churches on a regular basis—"stirring things up a bit," via filmstrip, witness and, as I understand it, sweet singing. What better combo could there be for a ten-minute lay activities period?

STATISTICS can tell a lot about a situation. Take the hurricane which recently devastated Fiji—4,500 homes damaged, 4,731 destroyed, 478 classrooms destroyed. Government figures showed damage totalled \$38 million. Adventist figures: A total value of \$260,000 in aid given—300 bales of clothing, forty tents from the General Conference, \$5,000 cash from SAWS, \$5,000 cash from the Australasian Division.

PASTOR Ed Rosendahl recently spent a working holiday helping Oamaru church members, in south NZ, to build a large hall at the back of the church. The church is a feature of the area, being built of local stone—built, we might add, by Pastor Rosendahl just after the war.

DIVISION Communication director Pastor Russell Kranz recently returned from south NZ, where among other assignments he met with interests from Radio 4XD in Dunedin. Adventists have been broadcasting on this station, the oldest community services public radio station IN THE WORLD, since 1934.

ALSO at Dunedin, Pastor Kranz met with about ten Adventist students from the Otago University. A majority of them were Samoans and Fijians—all studying medicine and science subjects.

GROUNDWORK news! Pastor Peter Roennfeldt opens his Report in Newcastle on April 30, 1983. The management committee have plans to send personal invitations to as many as possible. If you have names and addresses of people in this area who might be interested write to Mrs. V. Norris, P. O. Box 66, Wallsend, N.S.W. 2287.

"FINALLY, BRETHERN . . .": No matter how bad your situation you can lose your temper and make it worse.