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Learning English at Oakleigh An article which appeared in the Standard Times, Victoria

TWINS Kathleen and Sherryn Distajo may have a little trouble understanding their teacher's instructions, but not for much longer.

The twins (6) are among about fifty students of Oakleigh's Seventh-day Adventist School who will benefit from a \$3,000 Federal Government grant.

The grant announced recently by Henty MP (Labor) Mrs Joan Child, was made under the government's English as a Second Language program.

School principal Mr David Gibbons said the school would be matching the amount of money being spent by the government at his school.

Mr Gibbons said that about a third of the grant would be spent on equipment and resources and that the rest would go towards employing a part-time migrant English teacher four days a week.

"Then there will also be some assigned homework for them to do.'

The school has about eighty children at primary level, up to sixty per cent of whom are from migrant backgrounds. There are also about twenty-five students in Years 7 and 8.

Originally the school was in Hughesdale, but has been at its current site, in Wilgilson Court, for about ten years.





Above: Practising their English with some of the equipment already owned by the school are twins Kathleen and Sherryn (6). With them is principal Mr David Gibbons.

Left: Principal Gibbons and the full group of students at Oakleigh who are involved in the English as a Second Language program. Photos: courtesy Standard Times.

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For your advertisement to appear, your payment must be enclosed with a recommendation from local pastor or Conference officer. Guest Editorial . . .

Change and Challenge Everywhere



A VIENNA dentist, Erick Felbermayr, at thirty-five years of age was one of the world's premier parachutists and skydivers. At that time he jumped from a plane at 5,500 metres. without a parachute, and rode on air currents on a pair of skis.

Hannes Keller, when under forty years of age, held the world record for the deepest underwater descent. This Swiss deep-sea diver dived 300 metres below the surface of the Pacific Ocean.

The conqueror of Everest, Sir Edmund Hillary, scaled the treacherous frozen walls of Mount Herschel, 3,566 metres, deep in Antarctic waste.

These three courageous conquerors of land, sea and air are but three in a long list of people who have reached out into space, probed down in the depths, or scaled the heights.

What prompts men and women to thus do and dare? Why do people want to visit the moon and Mars? Why are so many taking calculated risks in environments so unfamiliar to mankind? The answer to these questions can no doubt be stated in five words-the inherent desire to conquer.

How is it with you and me? Do we have an inherent desire to conquer for Jesus Christ? Let us note a verse of Scripture that has inspired others to conquer for Christ in the midst of changing and challenging times.

"Now Joshua was old and stricken in years; and the Lord said unto him, Thou art old and stricken in years, and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed." Joshua 13:1.

These earnest words were spoken to Joshua some forty-six years after Israel had left Egypt. They had driven some of their enemies out of some parts of the Promised Land, but they had settled down to enjoy the fruits of their victory. Their failure to carry out God's plan to conquer all the land contributed to their apostasy and rejection as the chosen people of God.

Today, the remnant church on the borders of the heavenly Canaan also faces changes and challenges. Some of the changes are for good and some deter progress, but we must press on regardless of the conditions. Let us note two "Canaans" that the Lord has challenged us to conquer.

The Canaan of Church Extension

In this generation, God has challenged a people who have "the faith of Jesus," 'keep the commandments of God," and who have the Spirit of Prophecy in their midst, to world conquest. Despite the changing conditions within the world and the church, our challenge and commission is clear-"Go ye into all the world.

Although next year marks a century since we began our task in this part of the world, our work is far from finished. Although God has blessed our labour around the world, to the place where we are working in more countries and in more languages than any other Protestant church, there's still, both here and abroad,

"there work to be completed, for remaineth yet very much land to be possessed.3

Many churches continue to be strengthened by Bible-based Christ-centred preaching, and some churches experience revival. However, as a church family, we have a long way to go before it can be said that we are "of one accord," and that we possess the dynamic power of the Holy Spirit. In the area of the spiritual strength of our homes, churches and schools . . . "there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."

The Canaan of Christian Experience

God's challenging words to Joshua can also be applied to the Christian's personal warfare against sin and self. The conflicts must be waged against hereditary and cultivated tendencies towards evil, until our hearts have been fully possessed by the Lord Jesus Christ.

In Joshua's day, Jerusalem, Gezer and Bethshean were examples of the "very much" that was still unconquered. Here is a parable of life. There are too many of our people, including our precious young people, going to "temporal temples" or "pleasure palaces" of the world; too many people looking back to "Sodom" and "Egypt," rather than keeping their eyes fixed on Jesus. Just as in the days of Joshua, God wanted His people to be victorious, so He has revealed in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy how we can overcome.

Our Secret of Victory

The remnant church, in this last era of earth's history, faces the challenge of conquering the world for the kingdom of heaven. To do this we must let the King of heaven reign in our hearts every day. On Calvary's hill, Christ won the inheritance for the human race. Individually, we need to claim this inheritance.

The promise to Joshua is our promise, too, "Them will I drive out before the children of the remnant." Joshua 13:6. Today's "children of the remnant" will finish the commission. The gospel will be preached, the world will be warned, Christ will come, and a people will be ready for the coming of the Lord and they will be translated or resurrected. Yes truth will triumph over tradition; good

will triumph over evil; God will triumph over gold; the Son of man will triumph over the sins of men.

To "possess the land," we must let Christ possess the "territory" of our own hearts. In order to have victory in our conquests for the Lord we need to surrender to Him each day. This secret of victorious Christian living is beautifully summarised in Steps to Christ, page 70. "Consecrate yourself to God in the morning; make this your very first work. Let your prayer be, 'Take me, O Lord, as wholly Thine. I lay all my plans at Thy feet. Use me today in Thy service. Abide with me, and let all my work be wrought in Thee." "

Desmond B. Hills, President, North New Zealand Conference.





This stony site for the new church has been levelled by hand tools. Photos: J. Talka



Members have transported heaps of gravel to the site in anticipation of fly 'n' build help.

Planning for a Church at Bellona

MECK SASAI, District Director, Bellona Island, Solomon Islands

THE PURPOSE of this short article is to let readers know how we are proceeding with plans for our church building.

So far our church building fund has over \$3,000 total cash in hand. We have collected more than \$1,000 from our church members and other local people, and the rest, over \$2,000, was donated to us from overseas.

Our hard-working people have finished levelling and clearing the site. Now they have begun to carry, on their backs, heaps of sand and gravel to the church building site. Very soon materials will be purchased and freighted from Honiara to Bellona.

We have been told there is a fly 'n' build team coming to help us in August or September. So we are trying our best to be well prepared for the group's arrival.

Obviously the amount of cash in hand is small, compared with the type of permanent church we need to build. However, when the team arrives we will work together on the church and finish to whatever stage we can afford from our present total cash.

I will not mention names, but I would like to thank all who have generously donated to our small project. Just remember it is a real blessing to both parties-the giver and the receiver. Above all the gift is to God's glory, for He is behind the whole idea.

In conclusion, I would repeat a statement made by the Signs editor in the September 1983 issue: "Whatever investment the church in Australia and New Zealand has made in Christian missions in the South Pacific has been a sound investment!"

Where Was God?

THELMA BRUNNER

IT WAS NECESSARY for me to take a message to my husband who was about three kilometres away on the tractor.

I decided to take the old bike which was in retirement, rather than take the utility-if I could get it to go.

On delivering the message and returning across worked ground for some distance to the bike, I was unable to start that old rattletrap. If it could have known that I never did think much of engines, I could have understood why it just refused to go. Oh, how close it came to giving that final burst of energy!

I prayed! I pleaded! Then kicked the starter again. But it would not. "Dear God, just help me to get this thing going." But it would not.

Again and again, until my leg was tired. But it would not. Only start and stop.

As it is a slight downhill grade, I decided to push it for 400 metres, while praying and

talking to God; hoping that the Holy Spirit would help me in some way to do the right thing each time I stopped and tried to start it.

I finally gave it up, and as the tractor came around again, I walked over and said that I would leave the old bike there and take the other one, which was nearly 800 metres further on.

I went back to that bike, made sure everything was turned off and started walking and talking to God; well, rather telling Him off in no uncertain tones. I was very angry, cross and frustrated at being delayed so long, and just plain mad with Him for not taking any notice of me. I told Him He had let me down just when I needed Him most. I told Him He had given me promises and had failed to keep them. Why had He not answered my prayers this time, when there seemed no earthly reason why He shouldn't?

I tried to think of any unconfessed sins . . . I

tried to think of something that I had not done. I tried to think if I had displeased Him in any

The walking did me good, and gave me time to cool off and see reason.

Finally I told Him that I thought He must have had some good reason, even if it was only to teach me more patience and give me time to

Oh, how deeply ashamed I felt when my husband told me that when he got that bike going, and was sailing along, a part had broken, and it was only his experience in riding which prevented an accident! What if I had been on it?

I crawled back to God in humble apology, and thanked Him over and over again for being there all the time, for His loving care of me, even when I didn't deserve it.

I asked Him to forgive me for ever doubting His promises, and to forgive my unbelief. " 'Help Thou my unbelief,' and praise and honour to Thy holy name.'

Do you sometimes doubt God? Don't! He loves you just as much as He loves me.

Thelma Brunner writes from "Redlands," her home at Eumungerie, NSW.

YOUTH FEATURE . . .

THE PRIEST IN THE STORY

BRUCE MANNERS

THE SCENE: It is the year AD 28. Simeon, a Jewish priest, has finished his term of service at the temple for that year, and is making his way back to Jericho.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

His love endures for ever.

Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord,

or fully declare His praise? La, la, lah, la; La, da dah, da.

They just don't write songs like that any more, with such power and majesty; it's a good song to walk to, too. It was something to hear the Levite choir singing during the past week—it seems to be a favourite of theirs.

Actually the whole week at the temple was a success. Everything went smoothly, each sacrifice on time, and many sin offerings. The candles were kept alight and the incense burning. Even the high priest congratulated me on the smooth running of the temple.

What did he say? Oh yes, "Simeon, I

Bruce Manners is our pastor in Canberra.

am always happy when it is your turn at the temple. You always do such good work."

That is high praise from our high priest.

And, being able to sit in Moses' seat in the main synagogue on Sabbath and teach the people—what a privilege! Why, some of the leading scholars were there, and what an interest I created with my exposition connecting Daniel and Ezekiel's writings!

Oh Simeon, you have made an impact—what a story to tell the family! It will be good to be back in Jericho tonight.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,

Give thanks to the . . . What's this? Someone on the edge of the

road?

Why he's naked! How disgusting! It looks like he's been beaten up, too. He's got blood all over him. Look at that, where he has been dragged across the road and pushed among the boulders. It's shocking!

This is a perfect place for an ambush. He must have come around this corner on his

way to Jericho and they pounced—what hope did he have? Absolutely none!

Careful now, Simeon, just don't get too close. If you get some blood on you, you will be unclean. Keep close to the cliff as you pass. Doesn't he look horrible—ugh, he even moved a little.

That's better—safe now; perhaps I should walk a little faster, in case those butchers come back.

Isn't that just terrible? I had heard stories of the Jerusalem-Jericho road being dangerous, but this is the first time my own eyes have seen such a thing. I wonder why the Romans don't do something about it? We pay them enough taxes, and yet they can't even keep the roads safe.

It really is terrible. It is another sign of the times we live in—no wonder more and more people are saying the Messiah must come soon or else it will be too late. Some are even suggesting that He is here already in that fellow from Nazareth.

Illustration of Our Times

What an illustration of our times! I must share it with the faithful in the synagogue next Sabbath. I could talk about the time of Jacob's trouble and tie it in with our nation's trouble. This incident will give force to my words.

I must petition God more fervently that He will send the Messiah to set up His kingdom. What a dreadful thing to happen in Israel, to one of the Israelite people. The God of my people cannot let this continue.

Yet, even this tragedy must be balanced with the magnificent promises we have in the Torah. What a hope we have—a blessed hope! Soon there will be no more suffering, no more pain for the people of God. The Messiah will come in power to save.

No wonder we can sing. Hallelujah, Hallelujah,

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures for ever.

Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord,

or fully declare His praise?

Blessed are they who . . . la lah la-ah la. How does that go? Blessed are they, oh, I remember.

"Blessed are they who maintain justice, who constantly do what is right." Psalm 106:1-3, NIV.

Yes, that's it-beautiful words.

I NEED YOU . . .

in this lonely hour when I am but a solitary figure against the world. I need You . . . when all around me people are tuned to different frequencies and godless shows. I need You . . . when everyone else seems to be giving You away. I need You . . . Lord, now.

-Ruth Rawson.

Ruth Rawson is a teacher in our Albury Adventist School, New South Wales.





Lilydale Academy Band members pace it out down Swanston Street, Melbourne, during the 1984 Moomba Parade

Lilydale Academy Goes to Moomba

DEBBIE HILTON and DAVID AINSWORTH, Year 12 Students and Members of the Lilydale Academy Band, Victoria

FOR THE FIRST TIME the Lilydale Academy Concert Band marched in the Melbourne Moomba Parade. Moomba is an annual event, and its parade is world-renowned for festive floats, marching bands, and people, people everywhere.

Monday morning dawned to a perfect day; the sky was a brilliant blue and the temperature promised to be tolerable all day. The weather made the day all the more enjoyable as we assembled in our uniforms of cream, gold and royal blue. To add to a rather handsome group of musicians were three brand-new Ludwig side-drums; a fortunate purchase arranged by Mr Penfold, our percussion teacher.

As entrant number 76, we trailed the Hare Krishna float. No conversions were made during the procession by either group!

The band was given five weeks to memorise "Sempre Fidelis," our march music. Also, we practised long and hard to learn how to march in formation. Marching together in step was more difficult than many of us realised. Sunday and Thursday afternoons were given to many march rehearsals around the Academy circuit and the oval. We even had police permission to march up and down Edinburgh Road to get the feel of street marching. And, as the occasional cars drove slowly past, we never failed to be amused by the unusual expressions on the faces of those

Then came the big day; Moomba Parade, March 21. We had a perfect day, and we had rehearsed faithfully to ensure that our marching and music was as "professional" as possible. Forty-nine members strong, we marched the three and a half kilometres of Swanston Street to the sound of a Sousa march, interspersed with cadences from our drum corps. It was a tiring march, and many had sore feet and blisters that even turned to blood. Just the same, it was a lot of fun, and worth all the hours of preparation.

On behalf of the band members, we would like to thank all those who worked so hard for the Moomba march. Mr Penfold (percussion), Mr Rychter (woodwind), Mr Woodward (musical director), and Mr Bartlett (principal, who was our drum major).

While we know Maths and English are important, we have a funny feeling that the Moomba march of 1984 will be remembered by all of us, along with the many other good experiences of Lilydale Academy.

Logan Smith and Rebecca McKenzie plot the school's progress on a map of Western Australia.

Photo: courtesy of Northam Advertiser.

SCHOOL RUNS FOR FUN

G. W. DRINKALL, Communication Director, Western Australian Conference

SO RAN THE TITLE of a short article in the Northam Advertiser, local paper of Western Australia's Avon Valley.

The Avon Valley Seventh-day Adventist School was reported as "one of the town's smallest," but "probably one of its fittest." The reason? Teacher Mike Dye and his sixteen students are "running" around the south-western half of the State—a distance of 2,000 kilometres without leaving Northam.

Physical education should be fun and, with this project, the children are finding it to be just that. Each day, weather permitting, the children run a prescribed distance from the school and back. The distances covered by each participant are added, and the final distance plotted on a map in the classroom.

Good Progress

Progress has been good—the second day of term saw them thirty-seven kilometres along the way; by early March they were in the southern suburbs of Perth, and by March 22 had reached Busselton. "Kilometre pegs" for the rest of the term were Manjimup (April 7), through the timber to Walpole (April 21), then out and along the coast to Albany by term end (May 11).

In order to "run" back to Northam via Esperance and Kalgoorlie by the end of the school year, the teacher and his pupils will need to cover almost half a kilometre each

Avon Valley is not just jogging along, it is off and running!



SPC CALLING!

A Report to the Church by the General Manager, DAVID D. WOOLLEY





The Signs Board at its most recent meeting. Present were (from left): B. Schrader, manager, Warburton SHF; W. W. Fletcher, assistant manager, Signs; L. Lloyd, accountant, Signs; Pastor G. E. Garne, Signs editor; N. E. Boist, Publishing director, TTUC; J. Sherriff, ABC manager, Victoria; R. Dale, HHES manager; D. D. Woolley, general manager, Signs; B. Peach, business manager WHCC; Pastor Walter Scragg, Australasian Division president; J. Paterson, factory superintendent, Signs; Pastor C. D. Judd, president, TAUC; Pastor W. Pitt, Publishing director, TAUC; Pastor W. T. Andrews, treasurer, Australasian Division; Pastor K. Low, president, Victoria; D. Oaklands, ABC manager, NNSW.

Board members absent were: From the Division; Pastors R. W. Taylor (secretary), J. T. Knopper (Publishing director), H. C. Barritt (Lay Activities director), R. Kranz (Communication director). Pastor A. Tolhurst, president, TTUC; Pastor R. E. Cobbin, president, CPUM; Pastor D. E. G. Mitchell, president, PNGUM; Pastor R. Moe, president, WPUM, and R. Nixon, book manager, Signs.

Photos: H. Anderson

THE PRINTING INDUSTRY, including paper, paper products and publishing, is Australia's fifth largest industrial group, based on employment. With an annual turnover (1981-82) of more than \$6,000,000,000, it employs 103,866 persons who work in 2,957 businesses.

Recent investigations have revealed that declared imports of printed matter and printed products into Australia are running at over \$350,000,000 per year—or almost 7 per cent of the total turnover of the printing industry

As in every other field, the computer is revolutionising the printing industry. A computer offering 10 billion binary switching units in 1945, utilising valves, would have required an area approximately ten kilometres square; in 1955 a computer with the same output, using transistors, could have been housed in the Sydney Opera House; in 1975, using extra large-scale integration, it could have fitted into a medium-sized television set, and today, with ultra large-scale integration on the microprocessor, it requires an area as small as the human brain.

Since January 1982, hourly labour costs have increased by an average of over 30 per cent, workers' compensation costs have increased by an average of from 70 per cent to 100 per cent, electricity costs have increased by an average of from 30 per cent to 35 per cent, even if you are using the same amount. There seems to be no end to the increases in costs.

A total of 206,942 books passed through the sewing machine during the year 1983, but over 50 per cent of those passed through the machine in the last 41/2 to 5 months of 1983. A total of 2.9 million articles were stitched on the gang-stitcher during 1983 and, when you consider that some jobs now don't go through the gang-stitcher, such as Appeal magazines, the senior teachers' helps, and others, this represents a lot of work having passed through the bindery during the past twelve months.

As from January 1 of this year the loan on our building has been paid in full, and there is no loan outstanding as at current date.

Our total literature evangelists sales for 1983 are 9.55 per cent ahead of 1982. During 1983 the literature evangelist workforce in this Division broke through, for the first time, the \$2,000,000 retail sales barrier. It took us ninety years to reach the first million dollar literature evangelist sales-from 1885 to 1975. Then it took only eight years to reach the second million dollars-from 1975 to 1983. The total literature evangelist retail sales for this Division were \$2,089,227

Our Adventist Book Centres show an increase of \$136,000 over budget for the past six months. Overall, for 1983, our ABCs are showing a 10.5 per cent increase over the 1982 sales figures.

Below are listed the sales for our literature evangelists and Adventist Book Centres over the past four decades:

You will notice that the ABC sales have risen \$1 million in the past decade, and our literature evangelist sales have increased by well over \$¾ million.

The sales report for October 1922, some sixty-one years ago, showed our entire delivery for Australasia to be £2,420.12.2, or \$4,841.22 in today's currency. Compare that with the delivery this October, of \$168,504.06, and we can see just how far the Publishing ministry has progressed in the past sixty years. We have multiplied our delivery figure some thirty-five times. It would appear that our large message books of the day, Daniel and Revelation and The Great Controversy, were retailing at approximately £1.5.0 or \$2.50, as compared with The Desire of Ages and Today, Tomorrow and You at \$37.35 and \$39.95, respectively, today.

	1943	1953	1963	1973	1983
LE Sales (\$)	79,216	185,792	268,116	299,065	1,142,107
ABC Sales (\$)	15,518	89,620	188,664	361,493	1,358,476

Newest acquisition in the pressroom is this Japanese Komori four-colour press. It was purchased, preowned, at the attractive price of \$70,000. Using a smaller paper size and printing 8,000 copies an hour, it is ideal for covers and brochures.



Thus the price has multiplied some sixteen times, or less than half the delivery value increase. This would indicate that our literature program is 100 per cent more effective and efficient than in the "good old days.

At the end of the literature evangelist year. which is the end of November 1983, four conferences had exceeded their aim. Those conferences were:

North Queensland	117%
Greater Sydney	107%
Victoria	104%
Western Australia	102%

North New Zealand was close behind with 99 per cent of their aim.

North New Zealand led the baptismal count, with sixteen, followed by North Queensland with eleven.

The most improved conferences were Greater Sydney with a 44.3 per cent increase over 1982; Victoria with 31.7 per cent, followed by Western Australia with 31.4 per cent and Tasmania with 30.2 per cent.

Pat Calarco, of Greater Sydney, established a new sales achievement record of \$51,515.50. Bill Thorsen of Victoria had a 73.5 per cent increase in sales, with Paul Van Waveren of North Queensland 52.9 per cent, and Pearl Matunga of North New Zealand 40.5 per cent increase. Klaus Lietz, just recently transferred to Victoria, was second in the Division with sales of \$43,755, followed by Ian Crisp of Greater Sydney with \$35,367.

We have retained fourth position in the world for turnover at our publishing house in

Naturally, we would expect our two American sisters to be ahead of us, with Pacific Press in number one position and Review and Herald in number two. Our publishing house in Brazil is number three, and the Signs Publishing Company is in fourth position. We are followed by the German Publishing House at Hamburg.

For the first time ever, our publishing house sales in the year 1983 broke through the \$4,000,000 barrier. In 1980 our total sales were 3.1 million dollars, and it has only taken us three years to break the next million dollars.

We look forward to perhaps running a full-scale Direct Mail Marketing Department of this publishing house.

During the six months under review we have completed several book projects for the mission field. We have produced Tongan Church Hymnals, Samoan Church Hymnals, 20,000 Samoan Steps to Christ; we are now in the process of putting together 20,000 Samoan The Marked Bible; we have produced Steps to Christ in Polish for the Polish brethren, right now we have just finished printing Bible lessons for the Yugoslav congregations, and Tonga is at the moment putting on a word processing system two of Sister White's books which they hope will be printed here, plus Bible lessons for Tahiti.

Missionaries to Pitcairn

ARTHUR J. BATH, Communication Director, CPUM



DURING THE PAST several years the minister on Pitcairn Island has come from the United States of America; but now one of Australia's sons, with his wife and three small children, is caring for the needs of the church on our lonely eastern outpost of the Australasian Division.

Pastor Malcolm Bull and his wife Glenysie and their three little children, Selinah (5), Joeline (3) and Andrew (1), left on the Act 6 from Auckland Harbour on Wednesday, March 7, bound for Pitcairn Island.

The next book to come off our presses for the literature evangelists will be entitled Everything a Growing Child Should Know. Germany, Sweden and Singapore may be interested. This book, which comes off the press before June 30 this year, will have international appeal, and promises to be a real winner right from the start.

Our apprentices who have been doing their various courses of study at the Melbourne School of Printing all successfully completed their exams last year, and all obtained a high enough standard to award them proficiency payments. All of them have shown excellent conduct and have been good ambassadors for our publishing house.

It is our prayer that the work we do here at the publishing house and the books that are sold from door to door, will hasten Christ's return.

Malcolm Bull, with his wife Glenysie and their three children, prepares to leave on the Act 6 for Pitcairn. Photo: Kevin G. Rappell

Pastor Bull, who has served as a minister in the North New Zealand Conference for twelve years, comes from Sydney, Australia, where he was brought up in an Adventist home. He is a third-generation Adventist, and this is his first mission experience.

On the same boat that took the Bulls to Pitcairn, Pastor and Mrs Thurman Petty and their son Joel left for America, after two years on the island.

Because of the isolation of Pitcairn Island and the impossibility of union or Division visitation through inadequate shipping, the Bulls will virtually be isolated for two years. They will, however, be extremely busy. Glenysie Bull, who is a trained nurse, will care for the physical needs of the islanders, while her husband Malcolm will care for their spiritual needs. Many prayers will be offered on their behalf. May God richly bless their ministry to the Pitcairners.

WHAT EVERY ADVENTIST SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE MEDIA

III—The Name of the Media Game

RUSSELL M. KRANZ, Communication Director, Australasian Division

THE NAME of the media game is profits and power. The profits are made through advertising.

Apart from the ABC, a government-owned corporation (and some community radio stations), Australia's mass media is a commercial venture under the control of four big business groups who sell space or time to other businesses to sell their commodities or services.

No advertising, then no commercial television, no newspapers and no commercial radio, It's just as plain as that.

Early in the history of the press it became obvious that the only successful way to generate revenue was through advertising. Publishing and printing costs were too high to recoup in newspaper sales. No newspaper in the world sells for anywhere near the price of its production.

Generally speaking, the press depends upon circulation for success. The more papers you can sell to more people, the wider your sphere of influence and your base of power. But unless the price is right, large circulation figures are difficult to attain. Through advertising the press became a marketplace for the display and sale of goods. Advertising revenue subsidised production costs, thus reducing the purchase price of newspapers per unit, without decreasing newspaper size. At the same time, circulation rose as sales were stimulated by cheaper papers and advertising.

But notice how a free enterprise economy works in the media. Enlarged markets (through greater circulation) enabled press barons to charge higher prices for advertising space. So it wasn't long until profits began to soar for the mass circulation dailies.

Advertising rates are always linked to circulation figures. It might not cost much to advertise in a small country weekly, but you'll pay a fortune for a display ad in the Sun or the Sydney Morning Herald.

So advertising became the tail that wags the media hound.

Exactly the same process applies to radio and TV. But now it is time that is being sold in sixty-second, thirty-second, and ten-second slots. Clients pay to have their message shown to the public. The more messages shown per hour to the most viewers, the greater are the profits earned by the television station owners.

Here is where ratings come into the picture. Ratings work in the television industry in much the same way as circulation figures affect

advertising charges in the press.

According to one estimate, the average Australian colour television set in a recent year, was tuned to commercial television for thirty-two hours ten minutes per week, and 9.7 million people spent an average of nineteen hours six minutes per week viewing commer-

cial channels. With such a huge audience of potential customers, the television companies want to know how their programs rate. In the commercial television world, programs and television personalities live and die by ratings. But the point of the exercise is not the quality of a program or the skill of performers; the size of the audience is what counts.

"The ratings indicate how many thousand people of a certain age and sex form a particular timeslot. Advertisers pay various rates for spots according to these estimates. The common measuring stick is known as the cost per thousand. This is basically the cost divided by the total audience, expressed in thousands. If it costs \$100,000 to reach 200,000 people, the cost per thousand is 50 cents. With low-cost, high-volume lines, like soap, eigarettes and groceries, it is the mass market which is the primary interest to advertisers. They're not going to put their money into classical music if 'Carson's Law' or 'Dallas' will sell more beer or detergents. Advertisers want maximum exposure for their products and advertising charges are directly geared to ratings." Peak viewing times, between 7 and 11 p.m., can cost \$3,000 for a sixty-second ad. In the US, advertisers paid \$300,000 for thirty-second ads in the last episode of "Mash.

The Australian commercial television scene is obsessed with ratings. Ratings even seem to affect ABC programming. They certainly play an important part in the presentation of the 6.30 p.m. news on the big metropolitan channels, when there is a run-up to peak viewing times and in the mid-evening news magazine programs like those of Terry and Mike Willesee.

Competition is exceptionally keen in the scramble to capture evening mass markets. When the big four media moguls are involved, their radio stations, newspapers and magazines may be called into the fray to concertedly push a particular television program.

On March 8 (1984), Murdoch's Australian reported that Murdoch's Sydney Channel 10 won its second successive television ratings the previous week. The chief cause for this success was the documentary drama, "The Disappearance of Azaria Chamberlain," "Cyanide," and "007."

Now anyone watching Ten's handling of the Chamberlain case over the past nine months would immediately suspect an orchestrated build-up to achieve maximum rating points for the showing of the Azaria film. Much of the professed interest in the Chamberlains—the wide publicity given to competing theories, the emphasis on mystery, conflict, aborigines, possible cover-up—could all be interpreted as a ratings ploy.

To get most of the people watching most of the time, to deliver the maximum number of customers to the advertisers, every psychological trick is exploited to the full. The audience-winning rat race keeps the viewer breathlessly glued to the television screen, lest he/she should miss the next exciting sequence and, of course, before it is shown you can be sure there'll be a commercial break.

Study the technique for yourself. See how emotions are played upon, curiosity is aroused and whetted, only to set you up for the next ad.

The relationship between advertising, television ratings and television programming is exceptionally complex, but the whole scene must be understood as a vast mass-marketing enterprise in which viewers are regarded merely as consumers.

Statistics show that television's popularity as an advertising medium steadily improves. Television advertising attracts an average of \$17.4 million per each capital city channel per year. Television now accounts for over 31 per cent of all advertising, and represents a yearly expenditure of around \$400 million.

What is of interest is the way that advertising through ratings lowers television standards.

Australia's three commercial television networks are constantly under pressure to screen as many programs as cheaply as possible to the largest possible audience; so it stands to reason that quality must suffer in a bid to reach the lowest common multiple. The prime function of commercial television, remember, is to fill in maximum time to sell maximum advertising space to gain maximum profits.

Since popularity ratings are so important in measuring public taste, program formulas are drearily repeated where ratings indicate that a certain program is popular. So we experience a spate of similar soapies, public dramas, tonight shows and football replays. Critics have complained that Australian commercial television "is intellectually trivial," "sadly reflects a lack of ideas," "rarely stimulates thought," and at times is just moronic. "Programs slavishly imitate and repeat a few crudely presented forms of entertainment." "We are often offered an American dream world in large doses with constant repeats and Australian shows derived from popular imports. There is aridity of content, a lack of variety, and little innovation."

According to media expert, Trevor Barr, "Much of the blame attributed to television standards may really be a comment on society itself," Norman Gunston wasn't clowning when he claimed that poor ratings for his "in depth interviews" could be blamed on "the cretinous morons who watch the telly."

Cultural democracy or vulgar public taste has never been the Christian's gauge in determining proper conduct. What went on in the Roman arena, the mock battles, gladiatorial shows, ritual orgies, offended the consciences of those who followed what was called The Way. For the disciples, the broad road on which almost everyone travelled led downwards to death. "But the gate that leads to life is small and the road is narrow, and those who find it are few." Matthew 7:13, 14, NEB.

How God rates eternal life is all that counts. Popularity stakes in the world's media circus are really of little concern to those who have found the pearl of great price.

Phurch Justory

The Vision Bold, by Warren Johns and Richard Utt. Richly illustrated, this full-color pictorial history of the SDA health message is combined with an analysis of its philosophy. \$A29.15 \$NZ41.40

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Show Me Thy Ways, by Floyd O. Rittenhouse. You will be challenged to more exemplary living and amazed at the never-failing patience and grace of God as you begin each day with the 1984 senior devotional book. \$A10.15

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Home at Last! by Walton J.
Brown. The author uses his own words and those of inspired writers to tell the story of what awaits us from the time of trouble until that glorious moment when we shall be home at last.

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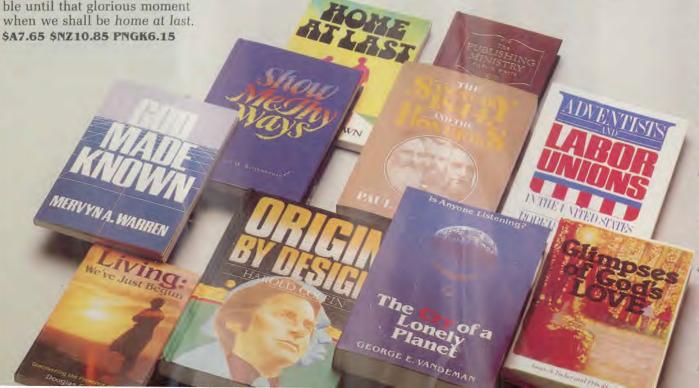
The Publishing Ministry, by Ellen G. White. This new compilation contains admonition regarding areas of vital concern, such as the establishment, operation, and management of publishing houses. \$A12.35 \$NZ17.55

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A vivid application of what the
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Town Hall Singers, from Chapel
Records. This group represents
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Hall Meeting, of Dallas, Texas.
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Spirit of Praise, from Chapel Records. This album by the Heritage Singers includes "Praise Him," "At the Mention of His Name," "Wonderful, Wonderful One." Record or cassette, \$A11.95



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It's Your World Vegetarian Cookbook, compiled by Fern Calkins. The ultimate in cookbooks for those who want to know scientific details of the many facets of vegetarian cookery. More than 500 recipes utilize natural foods and analogs, and were perfected to require minimum amounts of fat, sugar, and dairy products. \$A15.45 \$NZ21.95

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\$A1.50 \$NZ2.15 PNGK1.20

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Protecting Your Pearls, by William Jarvis. A short guide to good oral hygiene. \$A1.50 \$NZ2.15

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ald A. Habenicht, M.D., and Helen Metz Rhodes. This practical guidebook to home healthcare includes simple remedies to prevent or reduce the effects of common illnesses. \$A9.25 \$NZ13.15 PNGK7.40

How to Avoid Burnout, by Timothy Ponder. Burnout threatens many in today's fast-paced urban society. This book give twenty ways to cope with stress, and enjoy a full and happy life.

\$A9.25 \$NZ13.15 PNGK7.40







Baptisms such as this one are the continuing fruitage of the work in the Western Solomons.

Photos: D. Tasker.



More and more the mission plane takes over and multiplies the work once done by mission boats. The recently registered airstrip at Kukudu links it more closely to the outside world.

Western Solomons Progress

DAVID R. TASKER, President, Western Solomon Islands Mission

HERE in the Western Solomon Islands Mission, we have seen tremendous progress, and experienced tremendous frustrations, but through it all, we have seen God's sure leading.

Just a few of the highlights of the past year. We completed district meetings in every district, and gained firsthand some of the joys and sorrows of village life. We have thirteen districts, and ran meetings in twenty different places, each lasting three to four days (including travelling time). In the Marovo Lagoon we met Pana, a very early missionary, who later translated the Bible into the Marovo language, largely by himself. The translation was considered acceptable enough for the Bible Society to publish, which is really something, considering religious prejudice at the time. We also visited Gatokae, the island at our eastern extremity, whose 1,000 inhabitants claim to be Seventh-day Adventists.

Batuna, once headquarters for our work in the Solomons, and now the site of a vocational school and sawmill, was another venue for district meetings, where we were impressed with the youth, who had formed themselves into singing groups for witnessing.

Then later last year, we went to our remotest districts in the west. Choiseul, the largest island in our mission, is certainly a forgotten land. Its virgin bush and rough coastlines make it a very beautiful place. Because of the remoteness, our work has progressed very slowly in the past, but a new door of opportunity is opening to us. Many villages are asking our people to visit them, which is something unheard of. At some of our district meetings there, people would walk for up to five hours both ways, to attend the evening meetings. Some of these people had never seen movie pictures before, and pleaded with us to show more. Pastor Fagal was never so much appreciated. I think, too, of one SDA family who paddled seventeen hours to reach their venue. It was in Choiseul that I came to appreciate the sacrifice that parents are making for their children. It is not uncommon

for practically an entire year's earnings to go towards school fees.

We also inspected the airstrip site that has been waiting for the past twelve years for us to develop and utilise. It is close to our remotest clinic, and as I saw the many permanent results of childhood diseases, it became more imperative than ever that we get that airstrip operational. There is some chance that the government is going to help us with the cost of transporting our bulldozer, and twenty drums of fuel, to get the work done. So keep praying.

Further north, we also inspected the site of our newest clinic. The landowners pleaded with us to build a clinic, so we have gone ahead in faith. Already many doors have opened, that have convinced us of making the right decision. The most difficult task of staffing it was one of the first things to fall into place. We have also encouraged the folk there to clear the land ready for an airstrip. This clinic would be two full days' travel away by boat, but only about forty-five minutes by air.

Vella Lavella was next on our journey, and again we were thrilled by the musical outreach of the youth. On one tour they made, they were given money for fuel at each place they visited, enabling them to go right around the island. This is another area that in the past has been very difficult. It is here too, that it has been reported that Japanese soldiers are still hiding up in the hills, waiting for the war to finish. Isn't it tragic! It was at Vella Lavella that we retrieved the old single-cylinder engine from Captain G. F. Jones's boat, the Advent Herald. This was the first mission boat to work out here. We plan to use this old engine for a display in our proposed seventy-year anniversary celebrations later this year.

Ranonga and Simbo were the last places to visit. Here we saw the results of a nasty earthquake that had ruined a near completed concrete-block church with a seating capacity of 1,000 people. With such a mammoth undertaking over many years ruined, the locals

naturally feel very discouraged. Unfortunately, most of the damage was caused because of a lack of knowledge in building procedures.

No doubt you have heard that the airstrip here at Kukudu is now registered, and the first commercial flights have been and gone.

Also at the high school, we have seen great progress in the building program. This has been funded largely by grants from the Australian Government. We have \$80,000 left to spend, with which to build extensions to the boys' dormitory, and as many extras as we can, such as a staffroom, library, further classrooms, etc. The last classroom block (two rooms, with storage for both) cost \$20,000 to build. This was done by a fly 'n' build team from Western Australia, led by John Vollrath. A similar-sized science block, that we built ourselves, cost \$40,000 to erect. Moral of the story: we need at least two fly 'n' build teams this year. If you are interested, or know of anybody who would be, let me know, so we can start putting in motion the various wheels at the Division. They would arrange visas, insurance, etc.

Probably the last item of interest concerning events of recent months is our marine program. Our committee has requested study into the replacement of our mission boats with a new boat that can be a more efficient worker for us. The kind of boat that we are looking at would be a patrol-type boat, used by police and other authorities and fishermen, etc. I went to Australia at the year-end, specifically to look at some of the boats that manufacturers had written to me about. One boat (a thirty-footer) travels comfortably at three times the speed of our present boats, and consumes a third of the fuel over the same distance. But it is early days yet, and there is still a lot of study to go into this project. We would probably sell our present boat (the Varivato) for between \$40,000, and \$50,000, and a new one would cost anywhere between that and \$110,000, depending upon the quality. So we need to be sure of God's will before we make any big decision quickly.

We look forward to what 1984 has yet to offer. We can think back and see the way God has led and blessed us. Thank you for your support in the past year. Your prayers and encouragement have been much appreciated.

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

NEWS BRIEFS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Hymnal Committee Reports

AT A RECENT MEETING of the Hymnal Committee, significant progress was made toward our goal of having finished hymnals off the press in time to use them at the General Conference Session at New Orleans in June of 1985. Already we are well into the engraving process, starting with hymns retained from the present hymnal. As I do the work of preparing these hymns for the engraver, I find myself saying over and over, "Our people will be glad we have kept this one." After studying the response to the survey sent to the eighty-nine people who make up the Advisory Committee, we reconsidered a number of hymns that had been deleted at previous meetings, and voted to retain four of them. Other suggestions from this survey were put to good use in solving problems relating to harmony, translations, theology, and the arrangement of the book.

The final report of the Worship Aids subcommittee was accepted, and this material (including the Responsive Readings) is now being set in type at the Review and Herald plant at Hagerstown, Maryland. The subcommittee on Organisation spent many long hours going over every word of every hymn, deciding under which topic it should be found in the Topical Index. Their first goal is to make the hymns you want to use easy to find. Then the two subcommittees on Tunes and Texts presented a joint report. We read and sang and voted some ninety more new ones, bringing the total hymns voted to about 605. The final selections will be made at the next meeting to be held from July 2 to 5, 1984.

An invitation has been received from The Hymn Society of America to make a presentation at their National Convocation to be held from July 22 to 24, 1984, at Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Chicago, Illinois. Dr Harold Lickey, professor of Sacred Music, Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and Andrews University, and chairman of our subcommittee on Texts, and Dr Melvin West, professor of Music at Union College, and chairman of our subcommittee on Tunes, will work together in this presentation. The Hymn Society brings together the greatest church musicians and hymnologists of this country, and it will be a rare privilege for these men to stand before their convention to acquaint them with our heritage of distinctive beliefs and the hymns that express them.

Also, Thomas Smith, Executive Director of the Hymn Society of America, has agreed to be the guest conductor of a Hymn Festival as a part of the Biennial Convention of the Seventh-day Adventist Church Musicians' Guild, to be held this year at Southern College, Collegedale, Tennessee, from July 6 to 10, 1984. The theme is "Dimensions in Church Music and Worship," and many of the hymns selected for the new hymnal will be used for study, singing, and especially the closing Hymn Festival conducted by Thomas Smith. This convention is open to both lay and professional musicians, clergy, and anyone who is keenly interested in church music and worship.

—Wayne Hooper, Executive Secretary, Church Hymnal Committee.

ADRA IT IS

AFTER TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS' existence in the United States, less than ten in Australia, SAWS now has a new name. It is called ADRA, which is short for Adventist Development and Relief Agency.

We like the new name, because it describes the two primary functions of this branch of our church organisation, namely:

DEVELOPMENT—which is aid to Third World developing countries, and RELIEF—which is aid in the wake of famines and disasters.

The new name originated in the United States, and has been officially adopted worldwide. We hope you will like it and soon get used to ADRA. As someone remarked, "The 'sores' have disappeared." But disasters have not, so please remember to give generously to the ADRA DISASTER AND FAMINE RELIEF OFFERING ON SABBATH, JUNE 9, 1984. Remember, it is tax deductible.

Luxembourg Response

According to figures recently received, the first four programs broadcast by the British Union over Radio Luxembourg have attracted almost one million listeners—80 per cent of whom are under thirty years of age. The officials at Radio Luxembourg have congratulated the church on producing the most "with-it" and "listenable" religious program which the station has transmitted.

Interestingly, the following brief comment regarding the "Who Cares?" radio ministry appeared in the London Evening Standard.

"One commercial radio station has already gone bust and many others are in financial difficulties, so perhaps they could find solace in a Radio Luxembourg tradition.

"Conveniently combining morality with profit, they offer fifteen minutes of air time to religious organisations for a reasonable \$1,300.

"The Watford-based Seventh-day Adventist church has just taken advantage of the offer. And Continental listeners to the station already have the benefit of three nightly broadcasts from a German missionary organisation.

"But before Bible thumpers, mind benders and bizarre sects try to book the frequency, Fab 208 say they only accept religious organisations with established broadcasting experience."

-Northern Light.

Eire Evangelism

At Galway and Shannon on the west of Eire, fifty to eighty people, mostly Catholics, are studying regularly and worshipping on Sabbaths. At Londonderry the pastor has over 100 interests from colporteur leads and house-to-house work.

-Northern Light.

Adventist Radio in Denmark

The Danish local radio stations, broadcasting under Adventist supervision and responsibility, are now airing from six to twelve hours a week. As other organisations have access to the stations too, much emphasis is placed on information and news of interest to the local population.

Musical programs, health-related topics and Biblical messages are seen as a way of approaching the public. Walder Hartmann, in the latest issue of *Adventynyt*, the Danish church paper, is asking for the help of church members in building up a record library of good music at Vejlefjord College, the studio of which will function as a central production studio for certain programs.

A student missionary from Andrews University, Andrea King, is helping them on the basis of her studies in communication and experience in broadcasting.

-Northern Light.





Above left: Pathfinder leader Stephen Fehlberg touches the light of Pathfindering to the torches of Kellyville young people, as Youth director Trafford Fischer looks on from behind. Above right: The Kellyville Pathfinders, with lighted torches, stand in the tree-lined Bush Chapel with leaders and fellow church members.

Kellyville Family at Crosslands

DAISY ARDLEY, Communication Secretary, Kellyville Church, Greater Sydney

DURING March of 1984, the Kellyville church congregation joined in a weekend of family fellowship at beautiful Crosslands Youth Camp.

Kellyville church members had a very helpful series of meetings on the Christian family-how to draw closer to God and to each

The highlight of the Sabbath was the Pathfinder investiture, held in the most appropriate of places, the Bush Chapel, with the stream passing by and the trees crowding

Trafford Fischer, Youth director, and Allan Bates, our district director (and also a Kellyville member), were present to conduct an initiation of new members and investiture, in conjunction with our valued Pathfinder director, Stephen Fehlberg.

In an impressive ceremony, seven new members were initiated into our club. The director said: "We hereby declare that these new members are accepted into the fellowship of the Kellyville Pathfinder Club. You are being given a flare which you may light from the 'Spirit of Pathfindering' flare. Your light is now added to our club, and we charge you in the presence of these Pathfinders to let your light shine before others in the spirit of Pathfindering, and be a strength to our club and a faithful and loval member.

Eight Pathfinders were given new badges, denoting much time and effort on their part, but also much prayerful devotion by their leaders. The Pathfinders told, in interviews, of their experiences in fulfilling the requirements-the youngest spoke of their first campouts, the older ones of their candle-making, health cookery and rocketry experiences. As church members, we should be aware of and grateful for the sacrifices some of our members make for our young folk-helping them to become the leaders of tomorrow

Then the flares were lighted, a dedicatory prayer was offered, and a marching column of flickering flares wound away through the trees.

Our weekend was a happy occasion, with fun and laughter mingled with solemn worship in the great outdoors.

Praise the Lord for The Spanish Singers

SANDRA GOLDSTONE, Communication Secretary, Papatoetoe Church, NNZ

HAVE YOU HEARD of The Spanish Singers? Well, many of us at the Papatoetoe church hadn't. But now that we've heard and met this dedicated group of young people, we will never forget them!

Excitement was rising as Papatoetoe church members brought food and laid tables for the welcoming tea. The Singers, who had arrived the previous Tuesday night (February 28), were going to have their first tea and fellowship with Papatoetoe.

The ovens were turned off, hot savouries and other delectable dishes were brought out; and everything was ready to go, so grace was said. . . . That was the beginning of ten wonderful days of getting to know the individual members of the group.

The Spanish Singers were asked by Papatoetoe's Outreach and Youth Coordinating Committee to run a Christ-centred program, that would serve as an outreach to those in and round about the community. This program ran from March 4 to 9; each night their program consisted of messages through song. Various testimonies were given to show how God had intervened in their lives; how being a Christian was not restrictive or boring, but a real joy. It's an experience that grows continually through prayer and Bible study; and is never the same, because Jesus Christ is always there, sharing with you in the challenges and hassles.

After each program, people from the congregation were invited to join with Pastor John Denne and the Singers for a time of sharing and prayer in the back of the church. This was a beautiful time, and many people participated in this. It was evident to all that the Holy Spirit was there, working among us by the warmth and love which was felt as people shared and laid their problems at the feet of Jesus.

No, Papatoetoe will never forget the enthusiasm, the dedication, and the love this group of young people had for Christ. It has touched my heart, and I know many others have been touched also. They have brought a revival to our young people, a new fire is burning in their hearts—they are eager to share with others what a good Friend and Saviour Jesus Christ is to them.

Are you looking for a revival in your church? Why not ask The Spanish Singers to come and run an outreach program? Then you too will "taste and see that the Lord is good."

Retiring from Retirement

LAURENCE GILMORE, Assistant Communication Director, NNSW Conference

RETIREMENT. What to do? Is it realisation of just "doing one's own thing," with no pressures from anywhere and just resting about? For some-ves. Others feel motivated to work as volunteers.

After forty or more years in God's work, one has had many experiences in dealing with complex situations, understanding people, and all that goes with living. So much can be shared while the body forces are still active, the mind clear and an opportunity exists for further service. We who love the truth, the message and the work, long to see it forge ahead with purpose and speed. I believe there comes a time in early retirement to vacate the reclining chair, hang up the garden tools for a season, and get up and go somewhere.

"Would you like to be relief minister on Norfolk Island for about six weeks over the holiday season?" asked the caller from the Greater Sydney Conference office back in mid-December last year. What a thrill it would be to return to that beautiful isle after exactly five years' absence to the month! Minister Keith Jackson and wife Julie were going away on holidays, and it was imperative that there be a resident pastor on site during the busy holiday and tourist season. It was not difficult to respond to president Bob Parr's invitation.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church "walks tall" on Norfolk Island because of the beautiful Christian witness of its members over many decades. They are known as caring and helping people, with an example set by Grandma Sylvia Nobbs which is hard to beat. How exciting to



Clarry Young, Grandma Sylvia Nobbs and Patricia Young. The Youngs were born on Pitcalrn Island and are now living in Auckland, New Zealand. They visited Norfolk over the holiday period



Estelle Buffett, Gran Quintal and Aunt Nin Christian. Photos: L. A. Glimore

see her again-and Gran Quintal, Aunt Nin Christian, Estelle Buffett, Harry Nobbs and all the other dear people of the church! Their consistency of weekly Sabbath worship has not gone unnoticed by the public, who see the Adventists as a strong body of believers.

What to do besides a daily swim in picturesque Emily Bay? Or a quiet walk around the cliffs and soaring pines of Anson Bay? I paid official calls on all the leading personalities, from the Administrator down, and then we visited many times our faithful old members, besides many other "oldies" in the community. Elderly people love to be remembered with a caring visit which includes a Bible reading and a prayer. I cannot report any baptisms through this ministry, but I feel that much good was generated.

There was much more to do: the weekly sermon; prayer meeting study; a half-hour radio program each week: twice-weekly lecture on Pitcairn-Norfolk Island history in a public program; and work in the extensive church gardens. Not to mention meeting and talking with the many tourists who came to the church and South Pacific Display Centre.

There was time to wander around the historic Kingston Cemetery, which dates right back to 1788. In humility, I stood again and read those challenging epitaphs: "A faithful pastor of the Adventist Church," and "Waiting till the morning." They are there on the headstones of co-elders of the early infant church, Alfred Nobbs and Stephen Belden. Soul stirring!

Beware of the open hospitality of the island people. They are gems. They will kill you with liberal helpings of lemon pie, coconut pie, guava pie, kumeras, sweet tatie, pilhi and a line of other goodies guaranteed to ruin all waistlines and decimate all weight-reducing programs. Look out for Grandma Nobbs' special helping of desserts!

"Dars et. See youryle morla!" That's it. See all of you some more. We returned home with mixed feelings, for a part of our hearts lie on the "Gem of the Pacific," as Captain James Cook so aptly named it-similar feelings that we hold for Papua New Guinea. How challenging to preach again the old, everlasting gospel of redeeming grace and proclaim the three angels' messages in a judgment-hour setting! What a thrill, as a pastor, to minister the

Just two years ago, we were honoured by president Desmond Hills of the North New Zealand Conference by a request for us to minister at the Royal Oak church, Auckland, for four months. That was a delightful experience to see again people with whom I had studied in evangelistic missions in Auckland, Wellington, Hamilton and Hawera, and later down in Christchurch and Dunedin. It is my conviction that so long as the good Lord gives me breath and strength and the ability to preach and work for Him, then with His strength I shall do just that, wherever a call may come. Truly God has been so good to all of us!

BOOKS WORTH READING

CHURCH MEMBER, brother/sister, may I tell you about two books that have been specially written for you. Yes, you and I are members of the church that cares-so these books are for the "caring church" to share, and for us to, share now

I am excited about these two books. Have you ever said, or heard others ask, Why does God . . .? Why does God allow this? Is life worthless? Well, Australian-born editor of our Adventist Review magazine, William Johnsson, has written just the book for you to use, and it is called WHY DOESN'T ANYONE CARE?



There has been a lot written lately in newspapers and magazines on the role in the church of the writings of Ellen White. Roger Coon, who is the associate secretary of the White Estate, in Washington, DC, has written a most helpful book that provides up-to-date information on Ellen White. Actually it is just the book you need to strengthen your own confidence, and it is just the book you need too, to share with your new members or inquiring friends. Remember, the title of this book is A GIFT OF LIGHT.

Your Adventist Book Centre manager has a special price operating on bulk quantities of both of these books now. and during the 1,000 Days of Reaping program.



Ellen G. White in Demand at Avondale

W. A. TOWNEND

AVONDALE COLLEGE has a problem. This problem is of the kind that Adventist educators do like. But it is a problem, nevertheless.

You see, today's greater-than-everbefore emphasis at the college on the relevance and practical value of the writings of Ellen G. White has scores of our students spending hundreds of hours studying the Ellen G. White books. The college library cannot keep up with the student demand for these good writings.

Let me give you an inkling of the problem.

Fifty students in my Bible Survey class, for instance, have an assignment which calls for each student spending ten to twelve hours with Ellen G. White books on the task of searching for material on the Bible, under six different headings.

It is now a "house requirement" at Avondale College that students working for a theology degree and/or a diploma in education take the subject of "Prophetic Guidance." Two large classes, taught by Allan Lindsay and Robert McIver, meet three times a week. Then, after classes, the students have assignments calling for the using of a wide variety of Ellen G. White books. Then there is the large teaching staff at the college who often need to refer to many Ellen G. White books.

You can see the problem, I guess. *Books*. How can the library meet the growing day-by-day demand for them? Present extensive listings are inadequate.

Well, while talking with the librarian, Brian Townend, about this, he came up with an idea that should work in helping Avondale solve its present pressing problem.

"Why not tell RECORD readers about it?" suggested the librarian.

"Why not?" I responded.

So, here we are with a practical suggestion or two. . . .

Do you, reader, happen to have any spare copies of Ellen G. White books in good condition? Do you know of any person who has? People, like the aged, who no longer can read a lot, or retired ministers and teachers, might have copies to spare. Does your church library have copies surplus to its needs?

If you can help, would you please write to the Librarian, Avondale College, Cooranbong, NSW 2265, and tell him

what you have to offer. He will then recommend the best method of delivery.

It may be, of course, that you can personally deliver the books—if so, come to the librarian's office on the lower ground floor in the library. And, by the way, he, or one of his assistants, would gladly show you the way a tertiary college library functions; quite an eye-opener, really.

Loved as it is by a host of Adventists throughout our South Pacific territory,

Avondale College has the long and happy record of receiving truly grand support from our people, and prompt responses when special needs are revealed.

Forecast: Avondale is going to get a whole lot of Ellen G. White books from many different people—from people who will tell us, "Glad to help."

And we at Avondale College say another big hearty "Thank you," as we all rejoice in the present keen demand for Ellen G. White books in the college library.

WELFARE FUND PROJECT

MARY HOOPER, Dorcas Secretary, Bendigo Church, Victoria

IN THE CHURCH HALL, there was a lot of activity going on. There were Dorcas ladies in the kitchen, peeling vegetables, chopping, dicing, cutting up food. What was going on? Then there was a whisper, "Here they come!" We all walked out to the front of the church, and saw this long tourist bus, the "Ken Morgan Avondale Coach," turning into the driveway of our church. Like a caterpillar, it was so long it didn't seem to end!

Then out came the tourists. They had come from all parts of Australia, and on this warm, autumn Tuesday they had started from Echuca that morning, had been to see the famous Bendigo Potteries en route, and were having a special luncheon with us.

The tables were set with small vases of flowers dotted along the tables, and blue serviettes made into fans and matching blue menus. Our Dorcas leader had prepared these as a souvenir gift. Inside of this was printed the luncheon and tea menu, while the cover featured a photograph of Bendigo church. Large jugs of iced fruit drinks were on the tables.

Luncheon, a hot meal, was well appreciated, and then the tourists headed off to the "talking tram," the cathedral, Chinese Joss House, the mohair farm and other historical places.

The welfare ladies hurriedly cleaned up, then started to prepare the smorgasbord tea of lovely savouries, five different salads, fresh fruit salad and health cakes.

Our church pastor and his family were invited to dinner too—they gave our guests a grand tour of Bendigo church, school and the Allawara Retirement Homes, which are all in one complex. As we waved the tourists farewell, we prayed for travelling mercies. It was such a happy day for all concerned.

My Favourite Recipe

Baked Bean Roast

Any vegetables on hand: carrots, capsicum, onion, choko, zucchini, cabbage, peas, beans, etc.

1 packet of chicken-style seasoning

440 g can of baked beans

1 egg

Salt to taste

I Weet-Bix (crushed)

½ cup grated cheese

Fry the chopped vegetables in 1 tablespoon oil and 2 tablespoons water, till brown. While this is being cooked, pour 1 cup boiling water over seasoning in mixing bowl, and allow to stand. Then add vegetables and baked beans and stir with crushed Weet-Bix and cheese. Dot with butter. Cook in moderate oven for 30 minutes.

—J. M. Leacy, Queensland.



Division Name Change

I agree with Brother O. R. Robinson's protest (RECORD, March 24) against the name of our Division being changed without the members being consulted. In addition to the reasons given for his opinion, I believe the name "South Pacific" is too vague. It gives no idea of the territories encompassed in the term. What about "Australasia-South Pacific" Division?

XYZ, Cooranbong, New South Wales.

I agree with the letter objecting to changing the name of our Division to South Pacific Division.

E. Everett, Wauchope, New South Wales.

I was delighted to read the letter by O. R. Robinson, in the RECORD, March 24. I, too, wish to protest against the proposed change of name of this Division.

Mrs Rosendahl-Lock, Cooranbong, New South Wales.

I fully endorse the views expressed by O. R. Robinson in his letter of March 24. The proposed name change misrepresents the area covered by this Division.

Patricia Scott, Aitkenvale, North Queensland.

I endorse the protest of O. R. Robinson as regards the changing of the name of the Australasian Division. Numerical strength of the islands is not the criterion.

David S. Mason, Cabramatta, New South Wales.

The Divisional structure of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is designed to facilitate the administration of the church at the local level, and so the labels used are really arbitrary. However, to aid local identity, broadly geographical designations are used. The term Australasian Division has served well, but conditions do change and our Division is no longer an Australian/New Zealand Division in terms of members. Two-thirds of our members have no identification with our current name, which also has undertones of the colonial era-this itself is not acceptable to any newly independent nation, whether in the Pacific or elsewhere. The term South Pacific is not only more accurate in describing this Division in the late twentieth century, but also more acceptable. It is being used increasingly by the business world.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is no longer an English-speaking church of European racial origin. In this we should rejoice and see name changes as indicative of the gospel going into all the world.

Harwood Lockton, Lecturer in Geography, Avondale College.

In reply to the letter of O. R. Robinson, Victoria, re name change of our Division, there are three points I would like to comment on.

1. He says: "The power base of the SDA church in this area is overwhelmingly located within the two homeland unions in Australia and New Zealand and not in the Pacific Mission territory." I am left wondering just what this power base is? From Scripture I have understood that the motivating power of the church is God, in particular, Christ as its head. I

Only a Little Lunch

"It was only a little lunch," said the wide-eyed little lad.
"It was just some bread and fish, but you should have seen what we had!

"That Man Jesus somehow made my lunch into such a feast. Everyone was full right up to the brim, There were twelve baskets over, at least!

"Mummy, you should have seen them there, there were 5,000 big, strong men and oodles of kids, just like me, lots of mums and other women.

"All who had been close like me, and watched as He blessed the food, said, 'This Man must be the Son of God, No one else could be so good.'

" 'No one else could speak the words of life, as this Man spoke today. Who else could feed our souls and then supply us with food this way?"

"Mummy, Jesus is the Son of God, I know it with all my heart. I might be only a little boy, but this day I am going to start

"To spread the good news of Jesus to my playmates and my friends. I want everyone to know before this bad world ends."

And his Mummy looked down with loving eyes into her small son's face; and she said, "My son, I believe in Him too; let us be saved by His grace."



That afternoon she joined her son as they went out into the field and witnessed to everyone they met. The Lord knows who they will yield.

One day they will meet in heaven above and share the joys they have known as they meet with others, their neighbours and friends

seeing fruit from the seeds they have sown.

Little girl, little boy, Jesus needs you too.
He wants to call you His own.
Go witness for Him today to your friends;
share with others His heavenly home.
—Ruth Rawson.

Ruth Rawson is a church school teacher at our Adventist school in Albury, New South Wales.

had also thought the church took pride in being a family, calling members brother and sister. Does the "power base" concept fit into any of these thoughts? Are some more equal than others?

2. The geographical area of TAUC which is not regarded by O. R. Robinson as being in the South Pacific, left me wondering if we were located in the East Indian area, or the North Antarctic, or you lot over there in the West Tasman, which left us in New Zealand where?

3. Is it really relevant where the movement began in this area? I wonder how the church in the United States feels about the "mission field" they started in Australia and New Zealand, and how much dedication and personal sacrifice it cost them to bring about the happy state in this "mission field" today?

Surely we should be rejoicing that there are so many dear souls coming to the Lord in the islands and acknowledge that fact with our new name, instead of being so parochial in our outlook. Let us also praise the Lord and be thankful that the Holy Spirit is with us in this area. If we keep extending our geography, we may yet reach out far enough, to the Lord's kingdom.

G. Fuimaono, Auckland, New Zealand,

All letters have been shortened because of limitations of space. Thanks for writing. Correspondence on this question is now closed. Editor.

Thanks for Magazines

A number of church members are sending their copies of RECORD and Signs of the Times to our national workers in the mission field once they have finished reading them. Our national workers certainly appreciate receiving them.

Some people who send them do not put a return address on the wrapper or envelope; perhaps they wish to remain anonymous. However it does make it impossible for the worker to write and thank the kind person who is sending the magazines; and also it makes it impossible for the worker to notify the sender that they have changed address and are now living elsewhere. Some sets of magazines are now getting sent to two or three places before they finally get to the right place. We would like these valuable magazines to reach the person as soon as possible, and I am sure this is the wish of the person sending them.

Kevin Amos, President, Sepik Mission, PNGUM.

Weddings

CHAPMAN—STONHAM. The Bickley Seventh-day Adventist church, Western Australia, was the venue chosen by Brian Chapman and Jennifer Stonham to exchange their wedding vows. Brian, son of Mr and Mrs Merv Chapman, and Jennifer, daughter of Mrs Elsie Stonham, will set up their home in Perth, where they will continue their careers of accountancy and nursing. Perth turned on a beautiful autumn day for the young couple, who were joined by a large gathering of family and friends. We wish them much of God's blessing.

D, G, Stacey.

KING—UDEN. On Sunday, March 11, 1984, Norman King and Debbie Uden were united in marriage in the historic Cave Memorial church, near Timaru, New Zealand. Norman is the son of Mr and Mrs Norman King of Palmerston North, and Debbie is the daughter of Mr and Mrs Bryan Uden of Timaru. A large number of friends and relatives attended the wedding ceremony and the delightful reception which followed. The young couple will make their home in Palmerston North. Their families and friends join in wishing for them the blessing of God and many years of married happiness.

Gordon Balharrie.

SALFINGER—PINKOWSKI. Monday, December 26, 1983, was a happy time for Rod and Krissy as they united in marriage in the tastefully decorated chapel at Kenloch, Olinda, Victoria. It was obvious the day brought enjoyment to the assembled family and many guests, and joy to the committed young couple. After the ceremony, which was conducted both in English and Polish, the reception was held in the Kenloch Restaurant, surrounded by beautiful gardens. We wish Krissy and Rod the continued blessing of the Lord as they establish their new home together. R. Varzonek.

SCHIMPF—JOHANSSON. Jorge Schimpf and Sharyn Johansson were joined by a large gathering of family and friends to exchange their wedding vows at the Busselton church, Western Australia. Jorge, son of Mr and Mrs H. Schimpf, and Sharyn, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Johansson, will live in Armadale, where they will work in the family business. We wish God's blessing upon this new Christian home.

D. G. Stacey.

TOMLINSON—JAMIESON. On Sunday, April 8, 1984, a large gathering of family and friends joined Ian and Kerry at the Prospect church, South Australia, as they exchanged yows and were united in marriage. Ian's parents, John and Lurline, travelled the many miles from Christchurch, New Zealand, with their family, for the occasion. Kerry's parents are Peter and Mary Jamieson of Adelaide. God will surely bless this happy couple as they establish their home in Sydney, New South Wales.

G. I. L. Roberts.

WOLD—STANFIELD. Sunday, March 25, 1984, was chosen by Pam Stanfield and Russell Wold for their wedding in the beautifully decorated Brightwaters church, New South Wales. Russell is the eldest son of Audrey Wold of Dundas, and Pam is the youngest daughter of Tom and Athene Stanfield of Bonnells Bay. A large number of relatives and special friends gathered to wish them God's blessing as they unite their lives in Jesus.

Eric White.

Till He Comes

BARKER. George Barker yielded up his life in a tragic car accident on March 21, 1984. George was born in England in 1901, but migrated early in his life to Albany, Western Australia, where he met and married his now deceased wife. Moving around the Southwest district, George finally settled in Waroona, where he had lived for the past twelve years. A service was held at the Waroona Cemetery, in which the writer pointed the loved ones to the great resurrection morning. P. Gaughan.

BENNETT. Dorothy Bennett was born in Somerset, England, almost eighty-five years ago. She fell asleep in Christ on March 17, 1984, in the Bairnsdale Hospital, Victoria. Her life was filled with trials and disappointments, but she never lost her faith in God, having studied her Sabbath school lesson the day before she passed away. A large number of her friends from Clifton Waters Village and the Geriatric Centre attended the service held in the church and also at the graveside. We shall miss her pleasant smile and sweet Christian spirit.

L. W. Ritchie.

BURGE. Cleaver James Thomas Burge, after several years of illness, passed quietly to rest on Monday. April 2, 1984, in the Busselton Hospital, Western Australia. The words of hymn number 313, "Even so, it is well with my soul," express Cleaver's confidence in Jesus as his Saviour. We extend our sincere love to his wife Madge, and the family, Margaret, Paul, Colin and Leslie, who were reminded of the blessed hope in Jesus as we laid our dear brother to rest in the Busselton Cemetery, where he awaits the resurrection call.

C. G. Allen.

CURTICE. Born in Whangarei, North New Zealand, Grace Barbara Curtice died on January 10, 1984, at the age of eighty-nine years. The service was conducted at the Waikumete Cemetery, Auckland, on January 12, where relatives, friends and neighbours were encouraged to put their trust in the Life-giver, Jesus. Left to mourn their loss, but not as those without hope, are Sister Curtices' husband James, and daughters Mrs Irene Sargent and Mrs Lorna Tonks.

R. L. Smetheram.

DUFFY. Brother Ron Duffy, a faithful servant of his God, and a man of vision, died at his home in Belconnen, Australian Capital Territory, on April 6, 1984, in his seventieth year, after a painful illness. He left to mourn his passing his wife Clare, son Norman, daughters Beverley Chester, Gladys Waters, Helen Kendall, and Glenda, and nine grandchildren. There is the pain of loneliness for his loved ones, but no abiding sorrow, for they shall surely meet him when the Lord calls him from the grave. The writer, assisted by Pastor K. Bullock, president of the South New South Wales Conference, laid our brother to rest in the Avondale Lawn Cemetery, Cooranbong, New South Wales, on April 10.

A. L. Hefren

HEWSON. On March 23, 1984, at Liseaux Private Hospital, Wentworth Falls, New South Wales, Mrs Jessie Hewson passed to rest in Jesus at the age of ninety-four years. She was a member for many years of the Adventist church at Auburn. Her father, Mr Fred Martin, was in the party that inspected Avondale property with Ellen G. White in the early years of the church. She leaves her husband, who is ninety-six years of age, and a patient at Liseaux, and a son William and wife Esther, of Hazelbrook. Also to mourn her loss are three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. One of her nieces is Matron Radley, of the Sydney Adventist Hospital, at Wahroonga.

N. H. J. Smith.

LAMBERT. On April 5, 1984, Alice Kathleen Ellen Lambert (nee Davis) passed to her rest at the age of eighty-four, at the Charles Harrison Nursing Home, Cooranbong, New South Wales. Sister Lambert accepted the Advent message under the ministry of Pastor Mervyn Whittaker in 1943, and became a member of the Auburn church. Her quiet, consistent and devoted life was appreciated by all who knew her. The wonderful hope of the resurrection was brought to relatives and friends gathered at the Avondale Lawn Cemetery to commit her into the Lord's keeping. To Helen (Mrs W. Simmons) of Cooranbong, Beryl (Mrs V. Christensen) of Goulburn, and Lionel of Sydney, and their six children, we extend our sincere sympathy.

UNICOMB. Jeffrey Raymond Unicomb passed to rest in Cowra, New South Wales, on Monday morning, April 2, 1984, while at work with his mates. He was only fifty-seven years. His gracious spirit will not only be missed by his dear wife Roma, son Greg, daughters Rhonda (Hart) and Helen (Bartlett), but by us, his friends of the Cowra church. We have lost a dear brother of the family. Thank God Jeff died in Jesus. The writer was assisted in the funeral by Pastors Frank Gorry and Morris Krieg.

K. R. Lawson.

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FLASHPOINT

LINCOLN STEED **Assistant Editor**



WRITE NOW RESULTS. Yes, the winners in this year's Writer's Award Competition have been selected! Watch next week's RECORD for the results. Judging the many fine entries was not only exciting reading, but exciting in the prospect of future articles we will surely be placing in a number of periodicals. Remember-next week!

BAND ON TOUR. The Lilydale Academy Band are off on a tour of Tassie over June/July. Their visit is being eagerly anticipated by many Taswegians, I am sure.

OUTREACH AT PAC. Students at Pacific Adventist College began their outreach program in earnest on March 25-they now have seven branch Sabbath schools, as well as a hospital visitation program.

CORRESPONDENCE RESULTS. During 1983 a total of 1,902 people were baptised in Australia and New Zealand, It is worth noting that 203, or 10.67 per cent of this number, had completed correspondence courses with Media Centre Bible Schools in Wahroonga and Auckland.

GOOD INTRODUCTION to two upcoming These Times radio broadcasts, featuring Pastor Russell Kranz, and originating from our Adventist Media Centre. June 10-"The Day After"; June 17-"Cities Deep Under the Earth."

CALLING ADVENTIST UNI STUDENTS. Pastor Trafford Fischer. Youth director for Greater Sydney, is also chaplain for uni students in this Division. In that capacity he is anxious that ALL new students contact their Youth Department for university details-or you can write to Trafford at 84 The Boulevarde. Strathfield, NSW 2135.

BIKE-ATHON BOYS. Three boys from the Galston church, Greater Sydney, organised their own bike-athon to raise money for the church hall building fund. They hoped to raise \$50. Riding their small BMX bikes fifty kilometres on a recent Sunday they ended up raising the remarkable total of \$800.

GROWTH GROUPS are a series of short courses (one night a week, 4 to 6 weeks) sponsored by the Greater Sydney Youth Department in 1984. Looking through the informative brochure I see upcoming seminars on "Church History," "Outreach Ministries," "Creative Bible Study" and "Self-Esteem, Communicating and Relating," to name a few of the offerings to come. Part of the great Youth line-up in Greater Sydney in

PROHIBITION ON PITCAIRN. Pastor Malcolm Bull, minister on Pitcairn Island, reports that island voting in a referendum on alcohol importation to the island turned down the idea. Not all the islanders are Adventists, and some had wanted to have import licenses.

PNG BAPTISMS. Total baptisms for the Papua New Guinea Union Mission came to 5,756 in 1983-evidence of real evangelistic fervour.

PNG TITHE HIGH-POINT. Tithe in PNG topped K1,000,000 during 1983-a record level, which still falls far short of the growing demands of carrying on the work there.

"FLYING DOCTOR" FEATURED. Film producer Alby Maengles, in PNG during May to film part of his second epic "World Safari Two," will feature the work of the "Flying Doctor," district director/pilot Pastor Ken Vogel. The film will be distributed world-wide.

AUCKLAND ADVENTIST HOSPITAL continues to give a medical lead to that great kiwi city. Recently the editor of their News and Views newsletter considered changing the title. After submissions which included Internal Rumblings, Pressure Point, Lighter Vein and Cuttings, he wisely stayed with the tried and tested title and format.

AVONDALE CAREERS—the two words go together of course. The college has just prepared a complete set of careers brochures which will be made available to Adventist high schools and you, if you write to them and request one, or a set.

POSITIONS VACANT. Avondale College still has fifteen places left for this year's Diploma of Applied Science (Nursing) course which commences on July 22. Sure to fill up soon, so hurry.

GROWING EXCITEMENT in planning circles as Avondale Homecoming Weekend comes inexorably closer. Dr Bill Johnsson, Adventist Review editor, will be special guest speaker for the August 31 to September 2 get-together.

CAMP HIGHLIGHT in South Australia over Easter was the trio ordination of Pastors (now) T. Mackie, I. McKean and B. Sretenovic. There's a big work to be done in that field, and the prayers of many will be with these men in their ministry.

FIELD SECRETARY APPOINTED. Dr Arthur Ferch, previously chairman of the Theology Department at Avondale College, has been appointed as field secretary of the Australasian Division. He will not assume full-time duties until January 1985, due to Avondale College commitments.

SPANISH EVANGELIST/PASTOR. Victor Schulz, from the Indiana Conference in the US, is to conduct an evangelistic campaign for Sydney's South American community.

A FEW CHANGES AND RESHUFFLES resulted from the Easter Session of the South Australian Conference, President Pastor C. V. Christian also has departmental responsibilities in Education, Stewardship, Ministerial and Religious Liberty. Youth/Communication leader Pastor G. Roberts now adds Christian Services for the Blind to his responsibilities-which extend only till the end of the year, when he leaves to begin MA studies. A deferred call is to be placed for his successor. Eric Johanson is now full-time ABC manager.

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"FINALLY, BRETHREN . . . ": Life is full of dangerous crossings, and conscience is the flagman.