

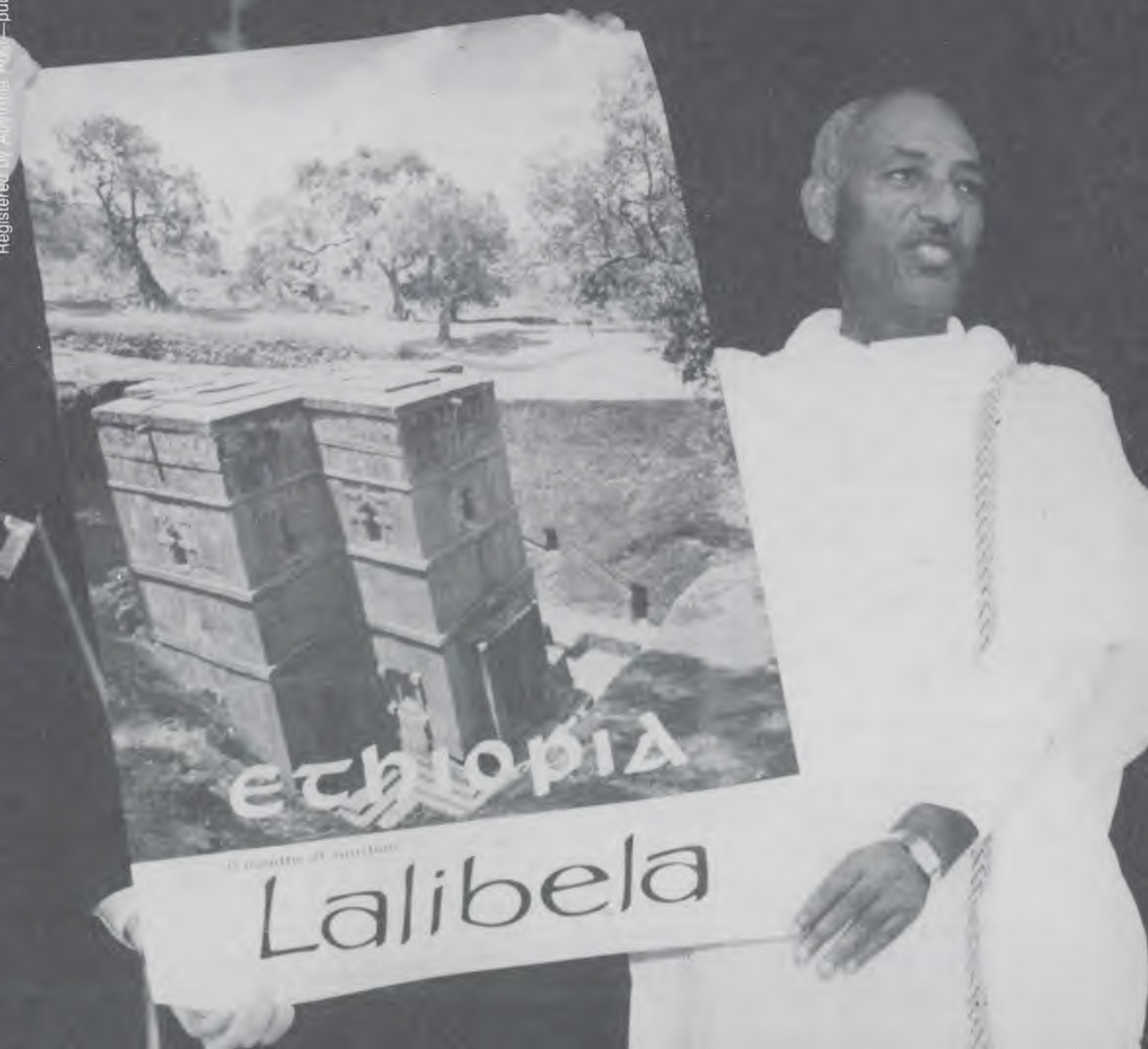
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Avondale Homecoming
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EDITORIAL



The Last Nail

On October 4, 1986, my first editorial appeared in the RECORD. I titled it "Writing One's Own Obituary." In it I said that to a great degree each of us is daily creating the grist for the obituary that will one day be written about us.

This editorial, October 26, 1991, will be the last in my capacity as editor. A few days before you read this I will have boarded a plane bound for the United States, where I'll take up pastoral duties in the Florida Conference.

**I believe we need
to become thinkers
and not mere reflectors
of the thoughts of
others.**

I suppose it's inevitable that I should take this opportunity to reflect on what has and hasn't happened during the more than five years that I've been editor. And even then, what I'm saying is only my perception of it. You're actually in a better position to judge.

I assumed my role as editor shortly after the South Pacific Division had gone through an upheaval that had torn apart churches, families and many human hearts. Large numbers were suffering intense pain. Tensions ran high. Suspicion was the order of the day.

It was my firm conviction that we needed to talk, barring as few as possible from the dialogue. The fact that participants in the discussion might disagree with me wasn't important. The fact that they were believers in Jesus as Saviour and Lord was what counted. The fact that some might be slightly offbeat wasn't as important to me as their need to be part of our spiritual family.

I firmly believe in getting issues, grievances and questions out into the open. I believe that only in this way can we acknowledge and adequately deal with them. I believe in candour and frankness.

I also believe that the average per-

son in the pew has great powers of discernment than some haven't credited them with. I believe that people shouldn't be mollicoddled or packed in cotton wool. I believe we need to become thinkers and not mere reflectors of the thoughts of others.

The first few months I served as editor were quite a revelation. To some I was a wolf in sheep's clothing, perhaps an infiltrator from a competitor organisation, a plant to spy out the Adventist system and sow seeds of discontent.

Some of the letters I received were appalling. Often they began by calling into question my relationship to God, to the church and to just about everything else that's good and wholesome.

But rarely do I receive letters like that these days—not even from the people who used to write them. They still write, but in a much more civil and subdued manner. They may still disagree, but they do it with Christian grace.

Part of the change no doubt is the passage of time. Time is a great healer of wounds. However, I would like to think that the RECORD's policy of openness has also contributed. I believe it has helped people realise that good people can have differing views. In fact, good people can even be dead wrong. But being wrong isn't the same as being evil.

In my first editorial I wrote, "What I really want people to say after I have vacated this office . . . is that, through reading the RECORD, each reader has caught a clearer vision of God's love. That the truths of the Bible shine brighter. That living the Christian life is more attractive. That loving others comes more naturally. That Jesus' coming is more longed for. That the gospel is more beautiful."

To the degree that these objectives have become realities, I have succeeded. To the degree that they haven't been realised, the new editor, whoever he or she might be, has a ready-made challenge.

Thanks to each of you for your friendship, prayers and support.

James Coffin.

LETTERS

Approval

I can't find the words to adequately express my approval of Angus McPhee's letter "My Decision" (September 14). This letter is my only way to stand up and be counted.

Douglas B. Thompson.

Soviet Letter

Toward the end of 1989 my husband, our children and I visited the Soviet Union for nine weeks. We made many friends. Recently we received a letter from a friend who lives in Moscow. She wrote the letter only days before the latest revolution. Here is a translation of part of her letter.

"At this time in our city we have many blessings. After the Mark Finley (an American evangelist) meetings, 450 people were baptised. This is a new church. At the end of August, another 150 people wanted to be baptised. This has never occurred here before.

"About 1,000 people are attending the worship services, and there are many children. At the moment we haven't a church for this new congregation, we're renting a concert hall. This is inconvenient, but an American millionaire wants to buy a church building for us. We have so many needs in our new church and we have limited resources. But the people earnestly love the Lord and this is a great blessing."

Peter and Nerida Koolik, Qld.

Not Mine, But God's

It was with deep sadness that I read the letter "Mine, All Mine" (August 31). My daughter had a similar experience. Because of sorrow and discouragement she had wandered from the church and God.

In answer to my prayers and the touch of the Holy Spirit she decided one Sabbath to go to the church in the town where she lived. She was told that she couldn't sit in the seat she'd chosen. She got up, walked out and has never returned.

Please join me in prayer for my daughter.

Name Supplied.

Frustrated

Re "Why Do They Do It?" (September 14, 1991): I'm appalled at

the cruel and almost always unfounded criticism hurled at, or whispered about, the "organisation" and pastors by people who profess Christianity.

I'm a pastor's daughter who has recently "returned to church" after a few years of living life without God. Like the author, I'm *frustrated* at the people who seem so keen on helping the devil in his work.

But I've made a commitment that, rather than try to answer the attacks (why bother when they won't listen?), I'm going to go all out to promote, push and publicise all the great things our pastors are doing.

I love my church. I believe God put our leaders in charge and is working in our midst. Let's find the good in things and not waste our breath whingeing about those who most certainly can't make God's work fail. God is still in control.

(Miss) Jennifer Watson, NZ.

Perforated Section

I was saddened by the suggestion in the letter "Members Only" (September 21), that articles such as those on child abuse (August 17) should be placed in a perforated section.

I'm proud of the church's stand and have shown the article to many non-Adventists who have been very impressed. I've felt that my daughters and I have been placed in the perforated or "untouchable" section because:

1. I had the misfortune of my marriage breaking up when my daughters were very young and I haven't remarried.

2. We have suffered lasting effects of the child sexual abuse that caused the marriage breakup.

These effects could have been far less if we'd had the support of the church family. Instead, I received support from government bodies and the Salvation Army.

As Adventists we have doctrinal truth, but are very good at screening out people who are hurting or who don't fit the category of well-adjusted, middle-class family of mum, dad and 2.5 children.

Along with the writer of "Thirty Years Late" (Letters, September 21), I hope and pray that our church will take up its responsibility and provide the healing and support that families and individuals in similar situations need.

Please re-read the articles on child abuse and provide support wherever you can.

Name Supplied.

Views expressed in Letters to the Editor do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Letters should not exceed 250 words and should be mailed to RECORD Editor, Signs Publishing Company, Warburton Victoria 3799. Writers must include their name, address and telephone number. Letters received more than three weeks after the date of the issue carrying the article to which they respond will normally not be printed. All letters will be edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's original meaning will not be changed. Not all letters received will be published.



Parents, Adolescents and Religion: Part II

by Brad Strahan

Is there a relationship between the way young adults remember their parents and their current perceptions of God?

An earlier article (April 13, 1991) reported the results of a study conducted at Avondale College in September 1990. This article reports on a follow-up study conducted in March 1991.

The first study found no relationship between the overall religious commitment of parents and the religious commitment of their children. However, it found a significant connection between the quality of the parent-child bond and the religious commitment and motivation of the children.

The parent-child relationship has significant implications for the God-person relationship.

In particular, it found that students who remembered their fathers as being too "controlling" were less likely to report internal religious motivation. They were more likely to be motivated by the external rewards of religious involvement.

The study also found that students who remembered their parents as being warm, caring and affectionate were better adjusted socially and emotionally. Young adults of Adventist parents who remembered their parents as being affectionate and not overly controlling were much more likely to report high levels of religious commitment and internal motivation in their spiritual experience.

It seems that, in Adventist families, parents' commitment to their religious faith isn't as powerful in shaping a

child's faith as is the quality of the relationship they have with their child. It's also apparent that the home environment is a powerful predictor of mature faith in Adventist young people.

These trends have become quite clear from other studies conducted by Roger Dudley, Alan Sonter, and the recent Valuegenesis studies in the United States.

Research shows that in religious families the adolescent's feelings about God are similar to their feelings about their parents. This might indicate that early relationships in families lay a foundation through which later relationships are interpreted. Presumably we learn about our own values in our early relationships and these expectations stay with us unless challenged by experience.

The Biblical description of God's continuing interaction with people is enriched in so many ways by images borrowed from family relationships. Our prayers often start with the words, "Our Father which art in heaven." Jesus spoke of the necessity for Christian faith to be "as a child's." Much of the language used to describe our relationship with God is very much like the language of

parent/child relationships.

It's perhaps natural, then, that in some ways we understand our heavenly Father in terms of our relationship with our earthly parents.

To explore this connection further, students taking the Christian Home and Family course at Avondale College distributed survey forms to randomly selected fellow students. The survey measured perceptions of God, psychological health, and the quality of the parent-child bond.

More than 70 per cent of the forms were returned and written into a computer file for analysis. Students taking the subject then wrote their semester paper on the results of the survey.

Again the results of the study were intriguing and held some important implications for Adventist families.

The significant correlations

Figure 1: Parenting Bonding Model



between the quality of the parent-child bond and perceptions of God were more complex than first expected.

The students assessed the quality of the parent-child bond by using a measure called the Parental Bonding Instrument, which a Sydney research team developed for analysing Australian populations. It assesses the parent-child bond in terms of the degree of warmth and affection in the relationship (Care), and the degree to which children are either allowed a sense of independence or are protected (Protection).

Figure 1 presents a model describing the parent-child bond, and indicates the optimal areas for parenting and religious development. While other aspects of parenting are important, this model focuses only on the quality of the parent-child bond.

Students who reported their parents as being low on care and high on protectiveness ("affectionless control") were most likely to see God as being harsh and punishing, most likely to openly reject Christianity, and least likely to find in God a source of personal strength.

These students were most likely to feel that God would punish them for doing something wrong, and least likely to believe that God loved and cared for them. This was clearly the most destructive type of parenting.

Those who saw their parents as cold and distant, but allowing them a reasonable amount of independence ("neglectful parenting"), were most likely to see God as being remote. These students were most likely to feel that God was angry with them, or was ignoring their prayers.

They were also more likely to feel that God was out of their reach, and least likely to feel that their prayers were answered. And they felt that sometimes God cared for people and other times He ignored them.

Similar trends were also evident in the "affectionate constraint" area of the grid—the combination of high care and high protection. This type of parenting wasn't as destructive to the psychological health of students as the previous styles. But it was associated with negative perceptions of God and poor psychological and emotional health. Generally this style of parenting damaged sons more than daughters.

In contrast to the above styles, students who saw their parents as being high on care and low on protectiveness ("optimal parenting") reported much more positive views of God. God was seen as available and caring to these students. These students were much more likely to feel close to God and that God was directly involved in their lives.

The issue of over-protectiveness is particularly important for us as Adventist parents.

They also felt that they could rely on God when they felt down, and that God listened to them. This optimal type of parenting was also associated with healthy psychological and social adjustment.

As a general trend, student perceptions of God were most closely associated with the parent of opposite sex. The mother-son bond had definite implications for a son's perceptions of God, while the father-daughter bond had parallels with the daughter's views of God.

Considering that the majority of Avondale students are from Adventist homes, the results have some significant implications for Adventist families.

1. Again it's evident that the quality of the parent-child bond is more powerful for predicting a positive faith experience than the religiosity per se of parents. Being committed to our religious faith doesn't guarantee that our children will share our convictions.

2. The parent-child relationship has significant implications for the God-person relationship. As can be seen in Figure 1, an optimal style of parenting (in terms of psychological health and emotional development), is also associated with a positive perception of God among Adventist young people.

3. It seems that our understanding of God is greatly enhanced when we have demonstrated to us a model of God's love. A style of parenting that isn't overly restrictive and controlling, but rather encourages independence and personal achievement, is particularly important for positive mental and religious health.

The results of this study don't indicate that children can't decide for themselves about such issues. But they do indicate a trend where young people have a healthier approach to life if they have parents who are caring but not overprotective.

Young Adventists who experience this type of parenting are more likely to grow up with a greater capacity for a trusting faith in a loving God.

It's more difficult (though not impossible) to imagine a God who can love unconditionally if one has never experienced a non-demanding love in real life. Ellen White reminds us that if we want our children to see and know God's love they must see His love at work in the way we relate to them (*The Adventist Home*, page 309).

The issue of overprotectiveness is particularly important for us as Adventist parents. It can be described as not allowing our children to make any discoveries for themselves.

This places us as Adventists—parents and children—in a particularly difficult bind. We are enthusiastic about having our children adopt our values and beliefs, and we want them to make those decisions for themselves. But we want to protect them from the temptations of secular society.

If our children don't adopt our beliefs or see the world the way we do, there's the not-so-subtle message that we've failed as parents or that they've failed as humans. To our young people the underlying message often sounds like, "Choose your own values and beliefs, but make sure they're the same as mine." What a bind! Neither parents nor children can win in that vicious cycle.

This study implies that parents who are seen as committed to their religious experience, but who also show care and warmth and promote independence, are most likely to have happy, well-adjusted, children. These children are most likely to have discovered for themselves the love of God. [E]

Pastor Brad Strahan lectures in the department of Theology at Avondale College, Cooranbong, New South Wales.

References

1. Gordon Parker, *Parental Overprotection: A risk factor in psychosocial development*, 1983, Sydney, Harcourt Brace Jovanich.

To a Far Country With Love

By Richard Bishop

He had nothing in his pockets, but he had hope and faith in his heart.

Fredrick and Thomas were more than happy when they reached Valparaiso Port, Chile. They had just taken a long trip by ship from San Francisco to share the gospel with this "neglected continent."

They took with them \$2.50, which belonged to Fredrick, and large cases of books.

It was December 8, 1894. The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists had sent Fredrick W. Bishop (pictured) and Thomas H. Davis to South America to labour in Chile as self-supporting missionaries. They took with them \$2.50, which belonged to Fredrick, and large cases of books.

They didn't have any books in the Spanish language. And Fredrick, who was born in England, and his American partner, couldn't speak a word of Spanish.

Fredrick started to sell his English books in Valparaiso, and Thomas went south to another city. When Fredrick knocked on the door of a house the servant would open the door and ask his business. Fredrick could only say *senora* (the lady), and make signs for the servant to call her. He tried the same procedure several times, but the servants couldn't understand his signs. They would either close the door or stand looking at him in bewilderment. So he sold nothing the first day.

He felt like a stranger in a far land. He had nothing in his pockets, but he had hope and faith in his heart. On the second day a sailor showed him

the *cerro Ingles* (the English hill), a section largely inhabited by English people. There he had encouraging success.

By this time he was convinced that if he were to continue his work in Chile, he would have to learn the language of the people. So when Thomas Davis returned they both began to study together, using the Bible as a textbook. One would read aloud a verse in English, then the other would read the same verse in Spanish.

One day they walked along the Alameda, the main boulevard in Santiago, studying Spanish aloud. A young man stopped suddenly as they passed. After looking at them for a few moments he approached them. He discovered how little they understood of Spanish, but he managed to convey that he wished to know where they lived and what their work was.

In answer they took him to their lodgings, and there pointed out to him in their Spanish Bible some texts on the Second Coming of Jesus, the signs of the time, the law of God and the Sabbath.

The young man was a Swiss cabinetmaker, named Victor Thomann. Some time before he'd had a dream in which these two men repeated the 103rd psalm. And this was the very psalm they were reading aloud when he met them on the Alameda. He felt impressed that they had some mes-

sage for him of great importance.

He received as a message from God the texts they showed him. Without hesitation he obeyed the new truths they revealed. At about the same time, others came in contact with the Adventist message through the Christian influence of these two young colporteurs.

Today, just over 100 years later, there are more than 65,000 Adventists in Chile. That's an average of one Adventist for every 203 inhabitants.

Living in Australia, I know how it feels to be a stranger in a strange land, with a different language, and ties with old friends and dear relatives cut. But it doesn't really matter, because we can learn a new language, make new friends and feel at home.

In a way we're all strangers. This earth isn't our final and eternal land. We're not yet citizens of Jesus' Heavenly Kingdom. Like these two pioneer missionaries to Chile, God can use us in a land far away or right in our own neighbourhood. He will be with us. He will prepare the way for us. Remember, God is just as powerful today as he was yesterday.

Jesus will come very soon. He's preparing the way to establish His will in our lives and to establish His Kingdom. Are you ready? God can use you today. **R**



Richard Bishop, pastor of the Spanish church in Perth, is the grandson of Fredrick W. Bishop, the Adventist pioneer to Chile.

FAREWELL

Goodbye Jim

"He will be greatly missed."

RECORD editor James Coffin and his family returned last Wednesday (October 23) to the United States, where he will take up a pastoral appointment in the Florida Conference.

Pastor Coffin's parents live in Missouri and his parents-in-law, Pastor Ernie and Mrs. Roda Steed, have retired in Florida. Family considerations have led him to take permanent return to his homeland, albeit with "mixed feelings," he says.

During his time as editor, Pastor Coffin had his critics. Some objected to his open editorial style. He operated on the policy that it's healthy and productive for the church to openly discuss issues, problems and challenges.

Under Pastor Coffin's editorship, church members with a variety of opinions were given a hearing in the RECORD. However, he strictly refused to allow the RECORD to be a forum for any criticisms of the church's 27 fundamental beliefs.

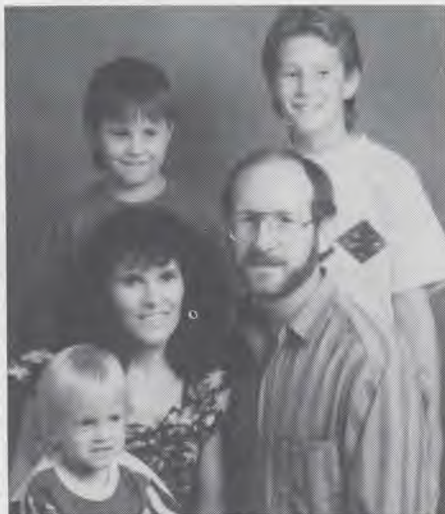
Pastor Coffin leaves this division with his wife, Leonie, and their sons, Jamie (13), Jared (9) and Joshua (4).

In the days leading up to his departure, Pastor Coffin's office was flooded with faxes and letters expressing thanks for his ministry and sadness at his leaving. The division executive committee recently requested that official thanks be conveyed to Pastor Coffin, in the RECORD, for his work as editor.

The following quotes, requested by the RECORD associate editors, reflect the widespread appreciation for Pastor Coffin's contribution to this division.

Splendid Work

"I have followed closely the changes in the RECORD, *Signs*, and *Good Health!* since Jim began work at Signs. He has done splendid work. He and his small team have injected freshness and creativity into all three magazines, making them outstanding



publications. I can only imagine the long hours, emotional energy, and struggles that must have been involved. I hope the leaders and members of the South Pacific Division appreciate what has been accomplished during the past five years."—*William Johnsson, editor of the Adventist Review.*

A Salve for Wounds

"He seemed to be the right editor at the right time. His style brought a sense of openness and tolerance that I think was a salve for wounds that many felt at that time. His ability to share his weaknesses as well as his strengths left him vulnerable to criticism, but also endeared him to readers. He will be greatly missed."—*Ann Campbell, president of the Adventist Women's Association.*

Absolutely Fair

"Naturally, some people were more pleased than others with Jim's editorial philosophy. What distinguished Jim was the fact that he treated them all the same way, absolutely fairly."—*Eric Magnusson, senior lecturer, University of New South Wales.*

Sense of Humour

"It is with regret that we bid farewell

to James Coffin. Despite pressures from above, below and sideways, he was ever unhurried, accessible and pleasant. He could even disagree nicely with other opinions, and he never lost his sense of humour."—*Winston Kent, surgeon, Melbourne, Victoria.*

Lively and Progressive

"I was extremely sorry when Pastor Coffin advised me recently of his decision to return to America. He leaves behind a church paper that is lively, progressive, informative and widely read."—*Bryan Ball, division president.*

Skills and Devotion

"Jim's fairness and openness have encouraged church members with differing perspectives to feel welcome and at home in the community of faith.

The communicating of our mission and message in a current and relevant style has been his goal. He has achieved it with an apparent ease that hides the professional skills and devotion needed. And in selecting and developing a team of capable associates Jim has opened the way for continuing excellence in our magazines."—*Walter Scragg, who was division president when Pastor Coffin was called to the RECORD.*


Closer to God

"Jim brought insight and clarity to issues facing the church. He has made us think. But always with the aim of bringing us closer to God. His ministry to young people, both written and spoken, is something we will sorely miss."—*Geoffrey Madigan, principal of Avondale College.*

Balanced Presentations

"I have deeply appreciated the incisive articles and editorials he has prepared. I've greatly appreciated his balanced presentations and his willingness to deal with controversial issues with pastoral concern."—*Ross Goldstone, pastor of the Avondale Memorial Church.*

A Real Friend

"We are going to miss a real friend, a very gifted worker and one of the best editors in the denomination."—*David Woolley, general manager, Signs Publishing Company.* 

This article was prepared and published despite, not because of, Jim's efforts.—Gary Krause.

Commemorative

The Adventist Media Centre has produced a video titled "100 Year Recall" for use during commemorations of Ellen White's Australian years. Computer technology as used by Jeff Watson on the "Beyond 2000" TV program introduces reflections on the effect of Ellen White's visions and ministry in Australasia. "The approach is novel, alternating from 'what was' to 'what is' under the blessing of God," says South Pacific Division ministerial secretary Pastor John Gate. "It has been geared to catch the attention of young people and will, I believe, prove an excellent feature to be included in local church commemorations of the E. G. White Australian years." The video, which runs for about 17 minutes, is available from Adventist Book Centres in each conference for around \$A17.

Bulgarian Congress

For the first time in 57 years young Seventh-day Adventists met together on August 31 in the Opera House of the central city of Starzagora. Nearly 700 attended and the event, which featured a number of choirs and musicians, received national and regional publicity on media outlets. Participants enthusiastically approved a proposition to hold a similar congress in 1992. Adventists in Bulgaria number 4,000, many under 30 years of age. But they have only seven church buildings. Church members in the British Columbia Conference in Canada recently donated \$63,700 to fund three churches in Bulgaria—plus provide

some literature for distribution. General Conference and North American Division staff are contributing toward another church building in Bulgaria.

PNG Baptisms

The Madang Mission church ministries director Richard Rikis reports that 46 people have now been baptised at Waput, Papua New Guinea, after Bible studies conducted by Pacific Adventist College students following the mission conducted there by Pastor Harold Harker earlier this year. A further 19 were baptised in Madang, with many more still preparing to take the rite.

Sad Demise

Strong drink and the influence of big brewery sponsors is being blamed for the demise of Welsh rugby, according to a report in the New Zealand *White Ribbon Digest*. A boozy lifestyle and too much emphasis on post-match celebrations is taking an inevitable toll according to Baptist clergy in Wales. Delegates to a Baptist Union of Wales conference unanimously passed a

motion condemning the drink trade's domination of their country's national game. The Rev Dr Dafydd Davies, of Cardiff, claimed a drastic change of drinking habits might prove more effective than a change of coach.

Drinking Age

Throughout the whole of the USA, the legal age for drinking alcohol is now 21 years. This follows an experiment—described as "disastrous"—lowering the legal drinking age to 18.

NZ Publicity

For the week following the visit of General Conference president Robert Folkenberg to Auckland during September, Radio Rhema, a network of Christian radio stations in NZ, broadcast positive news stories six times each day. According to North NZ Conference communication director Larry Laredo, the stories highlighted the growth of the Adventist Church world wide.

Signs Complaint

Lesley Clark, who looks after a *Signs* rack for Wantirna church

(Melbourne), was the first to report what has become a regular complaint about the new *Signs of the Times*. "We have 100 *Signs* for our rack in the Vermont South shopping centre. It used to take about a month for them to go," she says. "But the new *Signs* is gone in half that time." The Wantirna church board voted to increase its order to 200.

Sudanese Famine

To fight the effects of famine, Adventist Development and Relief Agency has begun emergency feeding and health projects in Khartoum, capital of Sudan, according to Jerry Lewis, ADRA's director in Sudan. Nearly 2 million people have moved to crowded shantytowns surrounding Khartoum to escape famine and war, but they've found few jobs and little food. The result has been widespread malnutrition, especially among pregnant women, nursing mothers and young children. Now the US Agency for International Development has asked ADRA to store and oversee distribution of food donated by the US government. "The needs are overwhelming," says ADRA health consultant William Dysinger. "ADRA aims to vaccinate children, improve sanitation and train health workers to educate mothers on nutrition, hygiene and simple remedies. The people in the camps are happy we're helping. It gives them the sense the world cares and they haven't been forgotten."

Youth Outreach

There are still some vacancies for the Outreach Training Youth Congress that will be held December 10 to 15, at Collaroy, New



Bangkok Hospital Opens Health Resort

The Bangkok Adventist Hospital has opened a health retreat at Mauk Lek (pictured), about three-and-a-half-hours drive from Bangkok. Designed to help people adopt a healthier lifestyle, the resort features physiotherapy, dietitians, medical doctors and nurses, as well as a vegetarian diet and an exercise program.

South Wales. Cost (including accommodation, meals and workshops) is \$170. A wide variety of workshops will include puppet ministry, person-to-person witnessing, and radio, drama and video evangelism. Contact conference Youth directors for application forms.

Albanian Relief

Albania has the fastest growing population in the whole of Europe with births numbering 80,000 per year—another reason why the aid being despatched by Adventist Development and Relief Agency is so desperately needed. ADRA recently delivered six truckloads of supplies that included a medical shipment from ADRA/South Pacific. ADRA director in Europe John Arthur recently visited a maternity hospital in Albania where there was no supply of milk—and three babies were sharing one incubator! At a children's hospital with 200 patients, doctors struggled with life and death decisions because only one respirator-ventilator is available for the critically ill. In the country's second largest city, Shkoder, a hospital for mentally-handicapped children is without medicines, soap or hot water. The children—some as young as three—are kept on cold stone floors for up to 12 hours a day, without toys or books and with very little food. "Steps are being taken to establish an Albanian branch of ADRA to ensure that relief supplies reach those in most need," says an ADRA spokesman. "In addition, we need to monitor that building proposals are implemented in the most cost-effective manner, utilising the skills of both Albanian nationals and volunteers from overseas."

Photo: Ian Crisp



LEs Find Darwin a Winner

Four literature evangelists, led by Northern Australian Conference publishing director Ian Crisp, spent 10 days in September canvassing in Darwin. They came home with almost \$20,000 in sales and orders. This included an order for \$1,139 from the public school in Batchelor, 100 km south of Darwin. "The Lord really blessed Kerry Watson, Allan Patterson (both from Mackay), Dale Pickering (Cairns) and Axel Buthman (Townsville) says Mr Crisp. "In addition we distributed many 'message' books and had prayer in the homes of 25 people. The team appreciated the support of church members in Darwin who assisted with transport, meals and lodgings."

Donations for ADRA's endeavours in Albania should be sent to: Albanian Appeal, PO Box 129, Wahroonga, NSW 2076.

Appeal Success

The Bowral Adventist church has had outstanding success on this year's Adventist Appeal, according to Pastor Ray Eaton. The 70 members had an aim of \$3,500 and to date they have collected more than \$5,000! And all this without any current pastor. "But this is only half the story," says South Pacific Division Personal Ministries director Dr Alwyn Salom. "As a direct result of the Appeal, Bible studies are being conducted with three families, another family asked to view our video on Bible prophecy to use in their cell group; another family wanted to know more of what we believe and two other families pledged to support the Appeal on a permanent and regular basis throughout the year." Conferences which began their Appeal

early are encouraged by the returns with overall totals not seriously affected by the national economic conditions. "The money is still there," says Dr Salom. "But the key to reaching our aim is a full commitment by members to this 75th Anniversary appeal—and a determination to complete all the territory."

Records Needed

The committee arranging the Easter 1992 reunion at Avondale Primary and High Schools is seeking names of prominent ex-students. Readers who can supply information on such former pupils—or send photos, anecdotes from days at Avondale schools or other memorabilia—are asked to phone (049) 77 2071 or post to Avondale Schools Reunion, PO Box 61, Cooranbong, NSW 2265.

Bibles for Russia

Australian and New Zealand churches have so far contributed \$220,635.95 to the Bibles for Russia

appeal made on July 13. This is more than double the aim of 100,000 Bibles at \$1 each. "The final total for this offering will not be in for several months yet, but we praise the Lord for such a wonderful response," says South Pacific Division Ministerial Association secretary Pastor John Gate. "On behalf of the division officers, thank you for making this offering such a generous one."

Rotary Clinic

The Adventist Church in Jamaica has received a \$1 million dental clinic built by the Rotary Club of Kingston, Jamaica. The Rotarians built the clinic after the Adventist Church committed itself to provide dental services in the Penwood district of Kingston. The Rotarians are now raising funds to equip the clinic, according to East Jamaica Conference communication director Mansfield Edwards.

Victorian Singles

Adventist Singles Ministry in Victoria is organising a Rally Day in the East Prahran church on November 16 commencing at 9.30 am. The program will endeavour to assist members to cope with spiritual and social problems, especially for single parents, and to inform single church members of the support available. A light meal of soup and buns will be provided for those wishing to stay for an evening concert provided by the New Testament Singers.

Most Flashpoint items from outside the South Pacific Division are provided courtesy of the Adventist Review, and have been sent to the RECORD via facsimile transceiver for immediate release.

Spirit Outpoured in Rostov, Russia

Adventist evangelist James Zachary, and his wife, Jeane, recently returned to the USA after leading a Good News Crusade at the Sport Complex in Rostov, about 200 km northeast of Moscow. Around 3,500 persons, mostly atheists, nightly attended the campaign.

At it's conclusion, some 263 people were baptised in the Don River. More than 1,000 signed the decision card, and 100 home Bible classes were organised as followup. Pastor Zachary, whose father was born in the Ukraine, says he witnessed the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. He plans to return for more meetings and baptisms in November.

"I had the feeling that God was doing things that were not on my agenda," says Pastor Zachary, who was associated with a Quiet Hour crusade in Papua New Guinea in 1986. "One night, while a television crew was filming a news program, a woman ran backstage and thrusting a bouquet of roses into my arms joyfully exclaimed, 'I've been an atheist all my life, but now I believe that Jesus is the Son of God.'"

On the second night of the series God did something that made an impact on the entire campaign, according to Pastor Zachary. A pilot, who was sitting in the audience, heard a prayer for rain read from the request box.

This pastor is very foolish, he thought to himself. He prays for rain. When it does not rain, he and his God will be discredited. Later than night he checked his barometer. Rain was impossible. Again he shook his head as he thought of the foreign pastor and his prayer.

But during the night heavy rain fell. By morning some of the lower streets were flooded. *There is a God who heard and answered that prayer, he decided. I must attend every meeting of the series.*

The following day his supervisor handed him flight assignments that would take him out of the city for the next two weeks. His earnest pleading availed only a firm, "Nyet. Nyet!"

Then a new thought came to the

pilot. *I will pray to God to have my schedule changed. But I am a great sinner, God will never listen to me. For the first time in his life this atheist prayed.*

The next morning he noticed a card in his mail box. It was notification that he must report for jury service for the next two weeks. He took the card to his supervisor. "This matter is out of my hands. You will have to stay in Rostov." The pilot knew it was a miracle. God had listened to an atheist's prayer!

"The success of the Rostov crusade was due to the Holy Spirit using the testimonies of local people who had their prayers answered," says Pastor Zachary. "By sending the rain, God put His reputation on the line. Prayer requests increased. The evangelistic team prayed earnestly that no one would be disappointed."

Another evidence of divine intervention came when a mother brought her child to the platform for a dedication service for children. "My daughter was in the hospital when you prayed for her," she told Pastor Zachary. "But, look, she is here with us today."

On the final day, an excited woman ran up the aisle, her face beaming with joy. "This has been the most wonderful day of my life," she testified. "I spent last night searching for my missing son. I checked with relatives, visited the hospitals and could not find his body at the morgue. I did not know what had happened."

"Then the pastors prayed for me. I had already lost two children in death, but after I left the auditorium I told the devil that even if he took all my children, I would still be faithful to Jesus."

When the woman returned home, she picked up the telephone and began dialling the number of another relative. As she did so she felt her son's arms embracing her. God had answered her prayer.

"Praise God, we were both baptised this afternoon in the Don River," she continued. "To my surprise, I saw my worst enemy in the line of candidates for baptism. I invited this woman home to share our evening meal. We are now friends. I have a whole new life because of Jesus."

Attendances at the meetings surprised everyone, according to Pastor Zachary. When conference president Pastor Ivan Parachuk rented the largest hall in the city, the manager told him he was wasting his money. "The people of Rostov are not interested in becoming believers. I will visit your meeting in the second week and the hall will be empty," he prophesied.

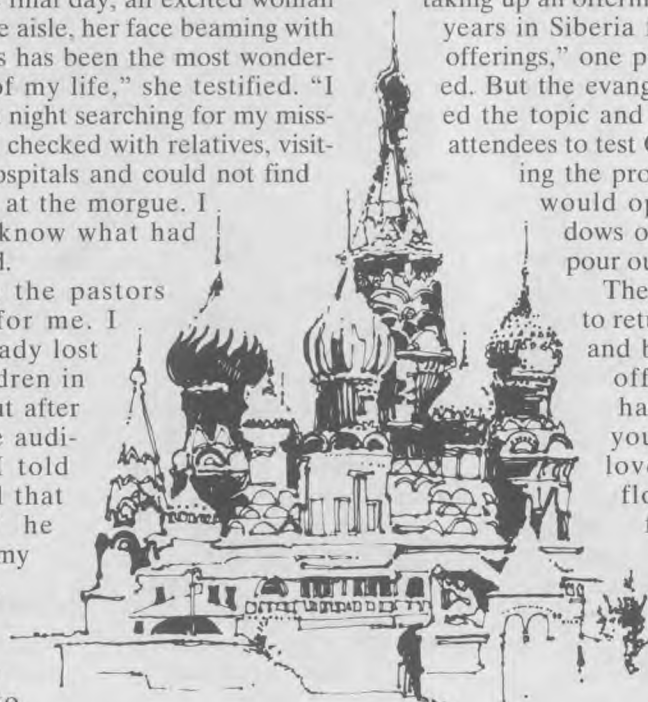
As the hall filled to capacity night after night, he confessed he could not understand it. "We cannot fill this hall with rock singing groups, but you fill it for three weeks with Bible preaching."

Pastor Zachary reports that the local pastors expressed concern about taking up an offering. "I spent six

years in Siberia for taking up offerings," one pastor protested. But the evangelist presented the topic and appealed for attendees to test God by claiming the promise that He would open the windows of heaven and pour out blessings.

They were asked to return their tithe and bring a thank offering. "You have shown us your wonderful love by gifts of flowers and food. Now we invite you to show your love and gratitude to God,"

Pastor Zachary



Russians Rush Bible Distribution

In late September deputies temporarily abandoned the opening session of the Russian parliament as they rushed to the building's foyer to obtain their own copy of the Bible from a team distributing 6,000 Bibles and New Testaments. The long queues remained intact despite word from the chairman of parliament to temporarily stop the distribution so that parliament could resume. One of the team, Father Alexander Borisov, said, "I am not surprised they are so eager. I knew it would be so because they are hungry for spiritual food. Today we have done something to satisfy the spiritual hunger of our deputies." The distribution is part of The Bible Society's commitment to provide more than 30 million Bibles and New Testaments to the people of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe by 1994.

challenged them.

The pastor who had suffered so much for taking up offerings declared, "The people will not come back tomorrow." Next evening they placed a small basket at the front of the stage in which people could place their gifts. "Long lines of people filled the aisles and the ushers brought eight additional baskets," says Pastor Zachary. "The pastor who had been in prison ran to the stage and embraced me with a Russian hug. 'Now I have seen a miracle. Praise the Lord!' he said."

The new Adventist church in Rostov that could barely house 300 believers now has 600 members, plus the interests. The church has rented the Sport Complex to continue Sabbath meetings and a pastor has been assigned to the congregation.

Forty-three pastors attended a school of evangelism taught by Pastor Zachary and Dr Warren Peters, medical director for Weimar Institute, during the campaign. The 2,700 members of the North Caucasian Conference have accepted the challenge of helping to care for the interests.

"As the crusade came to an end a semi trailer load of Bibles arrived at the complex," says Pastor Zachary. "This was another answer to prayer and brought encouragement to the Adventists. Now they have the tools to reach out to thousands more."

One evening a well-dressed woman came to visit the staff after the meeting. She explained that she was an atheist, trained in the most prestigious Moscow atheistic school. "I do not believe that there is a God," she explained. "But night after night I have felt a power moving upon my heart. I have never experienced so much love and hope in all my life."

"I've invited 22 of my atheist

friends to these meetings and we all received your gift Bibles. I am not a believer, but now I'm not sure that I'm an atheist either. We plan to study the Bible and compare it with our atheist teachings." Pastor Zachary promised to visit with the group when he returned in November.

One of the pastors shared an experience he had while visiting with the communist party official who had been Director of Religious Affairs for Rostov and district. This man had zealously endeavoured to stamp out faith in the city. He heard the news of the thousands attending the Bible lectures.

"We communists have lost. You have won," he told the pastor.

Mission Field Opportunities

The associate director of Adventist Development and Relief Agency in the Western Pacific Union Mission, Peter Howard, believes Adventists in the South Pacific Division now have unprecedented opportunities for volunteer service throughout the mission field.

"During times of recession it's possible to lose the missionary spirit," he says. "But difficult days demand we exercise faith. Also, during times of plenty, complacency often erodes faith. Acquired comforts dissuade members from mission service. But the world is now ready to receive what we have to give, so we must respond—sacrificially."

"Seldom, if ever, in the history of the remnant church have God's people been called upon to witness against a backdrop of events more sudden, more startling and more filled

with prophetic omens than those occurring in the world today," said General Conference president Robert Folkenberg recently.

As we hear the loud cry of *Opportunity* in the new world, we also hear from the organised financial resource base the cry of *Recession*. Which will be the victor? Mr Howard lists the following projects that need willing workers:

1. Fly'n'build, Kukudu High School, Western Solomons. To construct dining room and kitchen. Large project requiring adequate team. Mostly concrete block construction. Funded by ADRA Appeal. Foundations already completed.

2. Fly'n'build, Atoifi Hospital, Malaita. To construct extension to obstetrics ward. Funded by ADRA Appeal. Most trades required—need team of 10. Foundations will be completed by November.

3. Fly'n'build, Kwailabesi Layman's School, Malaita. To construct four married students units. This project has been planned for some time, but is now desperately needed.

4. Fly'n'build, Kauma High School, Kiribati. To construct new kitchen, funded by ADRA Appeal. Small team would suffice, but needed by early 1992.

5. Fly'n'build, Honiara. To complete the SDA Valley School buildings and construct staff housing. Accessible place to serve.

6. Fly'n'maintenance. Throughout the entire mission, institutions and headquarters need both funding and labour for maintenance. Volunteers are urgently needed to adopt an institution.

7. Cabinetmaker. A retired tradesman or volunteer who would like to manufacture kitchens for staff housing in Honiara and cupboards for Atoifi Hospital.

Further information is available from: Peter Howard, Projects and Development Coordinator, Western Pacific Union Mission, PO Box 930, Honiara, Solomon Islands. Phone: (677) 30 271. Fax (677) 30 653.

Youth Give Comics to Rugby Fans



Ross Burnett, David MacLaren and Michelle Redman gave Christian comics to Brisbane crowds.

At the third Rugby League test between Australia and New Zealand, students from QUSDAS (Queensland Universities Seventh-day Adventists Societies) distributed Christian comics to as many as possible of the 33,000 fans in attendance.

On the following Friday and Saturday nights more than a dozen students turned their attention to Brisbane's Queen St Mall, handing out comics and talking to drug addicts and homeless youth. This was an uplifting experience for the students involved, according to reporter David MacLaren. QUSDAS outreach programs continue to show that Christianity can be exciting and dynamic.

The Christian comics, originated and produced by Grenville Kent, are witnessing to people who might otherwise have never been touched by the Gospel, says Mr MacLaren, who is public relations officer for QUSDAS.

Pastors Survey Slavian Situation

Letters sent from Adventist officials in Yugoslavia during the last week of September provide graphic details of the situation in the strife-ridden country.

"Everything is being systematically destroyed—churches, historical statues, cultural memorials, schools and hospitals," states a letter from the West Yugoslavian Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Some 600 Seventh-day Adventists are among more than 100,000 people forced to flee their homes.

Refugees are being accommodated in church owned facilities such as the Youth Hostel in Delnice, the SDA Seminary Marusevec and resting houses in Dramalj and Krapinske Toplice.

"Six churches have been closed and the pastors have had to move out of the area. Our churches in Vinkovci, Gospic, Vukovar and Varazdin have

been bombed, as well as homes of members in these areas and Pakrac and Cetekovou," the letter reports.

The economy is in total collapse. "As a church we are entering a major economic crisis," say correspondents Ivan Haluzan (Mission and ADRA secretary) and Damir Posavac (communication and youth secretary). "We are worried as to how we can continue to support our pastors and their families, as well as the members who have been forced to flee. Autumn has arrived, the rains have started and winter is at the door."

Adventists in Germany have already sent some help to Yugoslavia, and more is expected from that source and also from Austria. As well, Yugoslavs now resident in Australia have sent help in various forms.

"I wish you could see what we view around us everyday," the church officials say. "Tearful eyes, worried looks and sad faces evidence the difficulties and suffering being experienced by people here at this time. But when we assure them that their church brothers and sisters will stand by them in their hardship, their faces brighten."

The evangelistic programs were flourishing, the church was growing, but now everything has come to a standstill, they report. Two Adventist families managed to leave the village of Cetekovoi only moments before extremists are reported to have massacred 26 farmers.

Since the beginning of the war in Croatia, ADRA has directly helped 5,000 citizens. In addition, more than 8,000 kg of tinned food has been shared among primary schools.

Donations for Yugoslavian relief can be sent through Adventist Development and Relief Agency, PO Box 129, Wahroonga, NSW 2076. Mention Account No. 5080.

Girl Makes Butcher's Day

Three-year-old Amanda (not her real name) sat on the swing and again called, "Mummy." Mother was inside attending to baby brother's needs and didn't respond.

From my vantage point on the steps, I sat quietly at first, deliberately ignoring Amanda until she finally took notice that I was interested enough to look directly at her.

"So what?" you may ask. There's nothing very dramatic about a little girl wanting a push on the swing. But to those associated with Sanctuary 7 it was an important opportunity to establish confidence.

Amanda was the innocent victim of a mentally and physically abusing father. Now, with her mother and brother, she had found refuge at a shelter for battered women.

Knowing a little of Amanda's past, I sent a silent prayer heavenward, pleading for guidance in making the right move. I knew she had no hope of ever giving herself a push off the ground. Presently I asked, "Would you like a push?"

No answer. Just a stony silence. After a long pause, I said, "I think you would like a push," and slowly ambled over and proceeded to gently push the swing.

"Are you holding on tight for a big one?" I inquired, noticing that her little hands were clenched around the rope so tightly that her knuckles showed white. Her face displayed a determined set as she looked straight

ahead and didn't answer.

I knew I needed to break the ice, so I moved to the front of the swing and proceeded to dodge the swinging girl as she came toward me. I could tell she was warming, and felt pleased with her response.

"Look out!" I jested, "I'll get your toe." I reached out as the young girl swung toward me. She couldn't resist and a beautiful smile spread over her face. Small toes curled under her foot and then Amanda swung her legs under the seat and away from my reaching hand.

Then I saw and heard a miracle. Amanda laughed in glee, thoroughly enjoying the game. I glowed at her pleasure. But before long I had to leave. Amanda and the other residents at the refuge home would be cared for by another couple of volunteer carers.

Possibly I will never see Amanda again. But her memory lingers with me. I remember the rebuke Jesus gave to His disciples in Luke 9:48. With a little child standing beside Him, He said, "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name, welcomes me."

That is why church members in northern New South Wales and southern Queensland finance and run a refuge for victims of domestic violence. For security the location is kept confidential. God's leading has been evident during the establishment and conduct of the home this past year.

This is Christianity in action. It is in touch with reality. And it's true—by helping someone else, we help ourselves. Even if it's only just getting a little girl to smile.

By Clive Butcher, who is chairman of the Sanctuary 7 Refuge board of management.

Avondale Celebrates '91 Homecoming

On August 30 and 31, Avondale College celebrated its eleventh homecoming program. Former students came from California, Ethiopia, and Australia and New Zealand.

Special guests included two students who graduated 75 years ago. Pastor Sydney Butler and Miss Leila Baird are the only surviving members of the class of 1916.

Other classes honoured this year were those of 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60, and 70 years ago. Nine alumni from these classes received plaques honouring their contributions to both the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the wider community. Citations were read for Dulce Currow (1921), William Zeunert (1931), Noel Clapham (1941), Flora Aris (1951), Truneh Selassie (1961), Graham Wright and Bruce Lo (1966), Fay Oliver (1971), and Joy Guy (1981).

Pr Truneh Selassie travelled furthest to the homecoming. He has lived in Ethiopia for the 30 years since graduating from Avondale with a BA in Education. In the church service he spoke of "the need to let God, not policy or organisational structure, lead in the promulgation of the gospel."

Borrowed from North American university and college traditions, homecoming is the next most prominent event after graduation. Mr and Mrs Ed Jasper, from Chico, California, had planned for the weekend for almost twelve months. Ed, who graduated in 1941, played the harmonica at the homecoming concert on Saturday evening.

The weekend was one of nostalgia, renewal of old acquaintances, laughter, and tears, according to Homecoming '91 chairperson Lyn Bartlett. Commenting on the importance of the weekend Dr Bartlett said, "Avondale College is dependant on the support of its constituency. Around Australia, and the world, some 8000 alumni are ambassadors for the philosophy and mission of the College. As we move closer to the year 2000, Avondale College will need more than ever its alumni and their financial and moral support."

SAH Marks 5,000th Heart Operation



Sydney Adventist Hospital's 5,000th open heart surgery patient Herbert Wilson of Newport, NSW, is checked by heart surgeon Dr Alan Gale and acting nursing unit manager Kathi Erickson.

The Sydney Adventist Hospital recently celebrated a milestone—the 5,000th procedure by their heart surgery team.

The operation, performed by surgeon Dr Alan Gale, anaesthetist Dr Peter Lindberg and perfusionist Dr Herbert Clifford, was a coronary artery graft on Mr Herbert Wilson, of Newport, New South Wales.

Dr Don Bennett performed the first open heart procedure at Sydney Adventist Hospital in 1979. Now between two and four open heart procedures are performed at the hospital every day. These operations are in addition to the routine cardiac catheterisations, angioplasties and angiograms.

"Since its inception Sydney Adventist Hospital's heart care program has become one of the most respected in Australia," says Director of Public Relations and Development Neroli Zaska. "Open heart surgery teams combine their expertise with an extensive system of cardiac support programs such as cardiac stress testing, echocardiography, cardiac catheterisation, coronary angioplasty, patient/family education and electro-physiology."

In addition, there are comprehensive cardiac rehabilitation and education programs for both patients and community out-patients. Sydney Adventist Hospital was the first private hospital in Australia to perform an implantable cardiac defibrillator procedure.

Photo: Andrew Hunt

NOTICEBOARD

Weddings

Fairall—Kent. Loren Fairall, son of Maurice and Kaye Fairall (Burbank, Brisbane, Qld), and Kylie Kent, daughter of Thomas and Joan Kent (Fernleigh, via Bangalow, NSW), were married on September 15 at the Chapel, Paradise Country, Nerang. Loren is a carpenter and Kylie is a teacher. They plan to set up their home in Brisbane. A. K. Gersbach.

Pietsch—Reeves. Rodney Pietsch, son of Arthur and Dawn Pietsch (Ringwood, Vic), and Rosalie Reeves, daughter of Ken and Jenny Reeves (Croydon), were married on September 15 at the Wantirna SDA church. Rodney is a graduate student and Rosalie is a primary school teacher. They plan to set up their home in Melbourne. D. G. Stacey.

Obituaries

"We do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. . . . For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. . . . Therefore encourage each other with these words." 1 Thessalonians 4:13, 16, 18, NIV. The Signs Publishing Company staff join the church family in expressing sincere sympathy to those who have lost the loved ones recorded below.

Brough, Agnes Ellen, born December 5, 1910, in Pukerake, Karitane, New Zealand; died suddenly on July 7 in Christchurch. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She is survived by her husband, Jack; daughters and sons-in-law, Adrienne and Burns Hubber and Beverley and Ray Faul; and grandchildren, Sheralee Bews, Jonathan Faul, Lynita Clark and Sarina Hubber. Stephen Bews.

Cowie, Miriam Joy Cowie, born February 10, 1927, at Bathurst, NSW; died September 17 in Canberra, ACT, and was buried in the Queanbeyan Cemetery. She was one of a family of five girls who grew up in the Cowra district. In 1953 she married Kenneth Cowie. They later moved to Canberra and were charter members of the Woden church. She is survived by her husband; children, Pauline, Phillip and Timothy; four grandchildren; and sisters, Eunice, Pauline, Esther and Lola. A. K. Gersbach.

Ferch, Arthur John, born September 7, 1940, at Hohensalza, West Prussia; died September 5 in a road accident on Savaii, Western Samoa. Arthur migrated to Australia in December, 1959, and graduated with a BA in Theology from Avondale College in 1965. In February of the following year, Arthur married Carole Lesley in Perth, WA. They spent a year in ministry in Germany and then four years in evangelism in Victoria before joining the Department of Theology at Avondale at the end of 1970. Later Arthur taught for a year at Pacific Union College, Angwin, California. In 1979 he graduated from Andrews University, USA, with a doctorate in Theology, and returned to Avondale College as lecturer in the Theology department. While serving as chairman of the department, he was called to be field secretary for the South Pacific Division, in which position he was serving at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife; sons, Richard and Andrew (all of Wairoa, NSW); parents, Arthur and Maria; brother, Eugen; sister, Balladka Vetter (all of Germany); and parents-in-law, Alexander and Phyllis Grave (East Gosford, NSW). Dr Bryan Ball, Pastor Ripine Rimoni, Dr Laurence Turner, Dr Alwyn Salom and Mr Puni Raea were associated with the writer in services at the Wairoa church and Avondale cemetery. T. H. Ludowici.

Gregerson, Allen Frank, born July 7, 1893, at St Kilda, Vic; died September 14 at "Mont Calm," Canterbury.

He served with the 21st Battalion in World War I, and for a number of years led the Anzac Parade as the most senior "digger" in Victoria. He married Lorna Wood on December 27, 1945. Allen was a successful business man who never really retired. Through his trust in God he found an inner strength, and this was demonstrated by his practical Christianity. He is survived by his wife; daughter, Jean O'Brien; and grandchildren, Kim, Julie Ann, Carl and Scott. Pastor Harold Roberts conducted the service, assisted by Wallace Conley and the writer. Michael Francis.

Herbert, Florence Vera ("Nan"), born September 14, 1900, at South Perth, WA; died September 6 at Fremantle Hospital. She married Frank Mawson on July 20, 1920. Following her husband's death, she married Russell Herbert on September 14, 1963. A handbill placed in "Nan's" letterbox led to her attending Pastor Austen Fletcher's mission in Perth in 1966. Following studies with Pastor Graeme Loftus, she was baptised by Pastor Cyrus Adams at the Gosnells church. She was a member of the Rockingham church at the time of her death. She is survived by her children, Patricia Harrison (Bickley), Jean Criddle (Wembley), William (Lamb Island, Brisbane, Qld), Peter (Katanning, WA) and Christopher (Pinjarra). A service was held at the Karrakatta Crematorium. Don Fehlberg.

Nugara, Stanley, born December 19, 1914, in Colombo, Sri Lanka, died September 2 and was buried in the Castlebrook Cemetery, NSW. The seventh child of Julian and Mina Nugara, Stanley married Juliet Mildred Cole on February 1, 1941. He worked as a police, prison and traffic officer and also served in the Sri Lankan Army during World War II, attaining the rank of lieutenant. An Adventist neighbour, Edna Ginger, invited them to attend evangelistic meetings in Colombo conducted by Pastor Fordyce Detamore. They subsequently joined the Adventist Church and Stanley became a literature evangelist and then a Publishing Department leader in the then Ceylon Union for 16 years. The family migrated to Australia, and became members of the Parramatta, Sydney, church. Earlier this year they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Stanley is survived by his wife; children, Stanley, Camille Thorn, Fredrick, Murray, Sandford, and Ripple Boyle; six grandchildren; and many relatives and friends. George A. Metcalfe.

Stacherski, Sherie Janine Elizabeth, born August 16, 1976, at Alice Springs, NT; died September 14 at Renmark, SA, as a result of a car accident. Sherie had a bright personality and was a popular student at the Renmark High School. A service held in the Renmark Uniting Church was attended by Sherie's fellow high school students in their uniforms. She is survived by her parents, Christopher and Christine; and sisters, Janine, Koroli and Leanne. Harold G. Jospehs.

Advertisements

Calling All Singles—unmarried, widowed, divorced or separated. An inspiring and helpful program is planned for November 16, at East Prahan church, Winstay Road, Prahan, beginning 9.30 am. Facilities for children and child care, ample parking. Evening concert by New Testament singers begins 7.30 pm.

Attention Ministers and Members: You are invited to a theological colloquium at Warburton Health Care Centre on Thursday and Friday, November 21, 22 with Dr Steven Thompson, new head of the Theology Department at Avondale College. Inquiries and bookings to Ed Parker, Warburton Health Care Centre and Hospital, Donna Buang Road, Warburton, Victoria 3799. Phone (059) 66 9010.

Retired Workers Fellowship of Victoria. General luncheon and meeting will be held at Nunawading Church Hall on November 6 commencing 11 am. Ladies are requested to bring suitable food for the table and gentlemen to supply drinks. Entrance fee as usual to

meet rental cost. Further details available from L. W. Jones, Secretary. Phone (03) 878 9605.

House for Sale. Double-storey, B/V and tile, Cooranbong area. Five bedrooms, two bathrooms, rumpus. Large block. Close college, 3-car accommodation. Suit large family or granny-flat situation. \$135,000. Phone (049) 77 2105.

For Sale. Large modern 4 B/R family home on 1 acre only 3 minutes drive to L. A. Academy. Property offers character, privacy and many luxury features, plus beautiful presentation and outlook. Attractive terms available. Phone A/H (03) 736 4050.

An Offer to Retirees. Married couples, sisters, brothers or close friends, to share accommodation. Elizabeth Lodge Hostel in Normanhurst, Sydney, has a well-appointed double unit available. For inquiries or inspection, telephone the manager on (02) 487 3044.

Position Available—Yarrhapinni Nature Centre Director. Avid interest in nature, children and youth essential. Suit retiree as position is voluntary. House provided. All applications should be addressed to Secretary, Yarrhapinni Management Committee, PO Box 7, Wallsend NSW 2287.

Medical Practitioner. The Auckland Adventist Hospital requires a qualified medical practitioner to care for the General Practice Clinic in Auckland, New Zealand. Applications and inquiries for further details should be addressed to Pastor R. A. Evans, Trans-Tasman Union Conference, PO Box 14, Gordon NSW 2072. Phone (02) 498 8822.

Volunteer Librarian Needed for Kauma Adventist High School, Kirabati, to organise the school library and to process the large number of books to be purchased over the next several months. Suitable dates would be negotiated. An allowance would be paid according to South Pacific Division policy. For inquiries and applications contact Dr Les Devine, Education Director, South Pacific Division, 148 Fox Valley Road, Wairoa, NSW 2076, or phone (02) 489 7122.

Adventure Christian Services to the Far East. Volunteers needed for a layman-sponsored Conversational English teaching program in China. (1:15 hours away from Hong Kong) Starting February 1992. For details ring Roddy Wong on (02) 680 3466 W/H, (02) 639 5243 A/H, or Fax (02) 680 4354.

Annual General Meeting—AAA of NSW. Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of Adventist Aviation Association of North New South Wales to be held in the Fellowship Hall of the Avondale Memorial church, Cooranbong, on Sunday, November 14, commencing with a basket tea at 6 pm. Following the tea the Annual Meeting will commence at 7 pm, and in accordance with the Constitution of AAA North New South Wales, various reports of the activities of the preceding 12 months will be presented along with the financial statement for the same period. The following officers of the Association are to be elected, viz: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, co-ordinator, plus an executive committee of five additional members. All members and friends are cordially invited to attend. K. A. Allen, Secretary.

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Real Estate. Ross Bramley of L. J. Hooker, Castle Hill, is happy to assist you with all your real estate requirements in the Castle Hill and Hills district, Sydney. Phone (02) 680 1888 or A/H (02) 484 4405.

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