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Pastor general flies to Alaska to conduct Holy Day services

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A day of "great spiritual rejuvenation" was the way one member described Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's Holy Day visit here April 30.

The pastor general conducted services on the last day of Unleavened Bread for about 470 brethren meeting in the Egan Convention Center here. Brethren attended from the Anchorage, Fairbanks, Palmer and Soldotna, Alaska, congregations.

"The church visit turned out to be a heartwarming experience, as we were receiving with open arms and treated as long-lost cousins," said Mr. Tkach in a May 5 interview with *The Worldwide News*.

Mr. Tkach flew from Southern California aboard the Church's Gulfstream III jet April 29, landing at the Anchorage International Airport at 2:15 p.m., Alaska Daylight Time (ADT).

Aboard the G-III with the pastor general were Ralph Helge, legal counsel for the Worldwide Church of God, and his wife, Ingrid, and the Helges' son, Eric; Dean May, director of the Fleet and Transportation Department; Ellen Escat, Mr.

Tkach's administrative assistant; Joan Maher, executive secretary; and Debra Roemer, an Ambassador College freshman and daughter of Earl Roemer, pastor of the four Alaskan churches, and his wife, Carol.

Serving on Mr. Tkach's G-III crew were captain Ken Hopke, co-captain Lawrence Dietrich, steward Jay Brothers and stewardess Felicia Brothers. Mr. Dietrich also serves as a local elder in the Long Beach, Calif., P.M. church.

After the traveling group checked into the Hotel Captain Cook, Mr. Tkach and others visited Portage Glacier about 50 miles (80 kilometers) from Anchorage.

Holy Day services

After Mr. Tkach conducted the offertory at morning services April 30, Glen Woodworth of the Anchorage church performed a piano piece for special music.

"The Alaskan brethren have traditionally been very generous," Mr. Tkach said. "Once again they dug deep and lived up to their generous reputation as cheerful givers, convinced of what the apostle Paul said in Acts 20:35, 'It is more blessed to

give than to receive.'"

"The message about the Holy Day offering will stick in my mind, hopefully forever," said Charles Franke, a member from Soldotna.

After Mr. Tkach's inspiring offertory and the special music, Mr. Helge delivered the morning sermon, explaining the inner workings and unity of the government of God.

After a buffet lunch, brethren gathered to hear a sermonette by Mr. May and the main sermon by Mr. Tkach. Before the pastor general's sermon Mrs. Helge sang "Praise the Lord, His Glories Show," composed by Powell Weaver.

The pastor general's sermon was titled "The Rearview Mirror Syndrome." "I talked about a very common problem which plagued ancient Israel and is symbolic of a spiritual illness today," Mr. Tkach said.

He encouraged brethren to use the Spring Holy Days as "a springboard toward greater spiritual growth for the entire year."

Ordination service

During the service Samuel But- (See ALASKA, page 8)



SPRING CONCERT — John D. Schroeder conducts a performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* in the Ambassador Auditorium Saturday evening, April 26. [Photo by Barry Stahl]

Choir, orchestra present tribute to Mr. Armstrong

By Kerri Miles

PASADENA — The Ambassador College Concert Choir and Orchestra performed Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy's oratorio *Elijah* in the Ambassador Auditorium April 26 and 27.

John D. Schroeder, director of the Pasadena Ambassador College Choral, the Pasadena Church Choir, the Ambassador Chamber Orchestra and the Ambassador Men's Chorus, conducted the performances. Allen Andrews served as operations manager.

The choir included the college chorales from Pasadena and Big Sandy and the Pasadena Church Choir. Ambassador Chamber Orchestra members and area professional musicians made up the orchestra.

"The *Elijah* was Mr. [Herbert W.] Armstrong's favorite oratorio, and Mr. [Raymond] McNair [deputy chancellor of Pasadena Ambassador College] felt it was long overdue," Mr. Schroeder said. "I wasn't that excited about it at first, but now I am overwhelmingly excited about it."

"One minister commented to me that the message of the oratorio was very powerful and appropriate for the Days of Unleavened Bread." "Elijah is the ancient prophet that most characterizes the work we're doing now," Mr. Schroeder also said the oratorio suggests to members that as Elijah's work was finished by Elisha, this work must be completed by the men Mr. Armstrong trained.

"The work also emphasizes turning the hearts of the children at the end time. Many of the outstanding works of Elijah are addressed in this oratorio. . . .

"It is truly great music that fills the gap between us and the potential we are seeking. It is not intended to be entertainment, but as a vehicle to convey spiritual truths. Nothing reaches so high as this genre of music. It is for the elevation of the human spirit."

Roger Bryant, chairman of the Music Department and director of the choral at Big Sandy Ambassador College, added that the performances were "a very fitting tribute to Mr. Armstrong. Our purpose was to provide spiritual edification, and I think we fulfilled that purpose."

"The second performance was (See TRIBUTE, page 8)

PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear Brethren,

I hope each of you had an inspiring and meaningful festival during these recent Days of Unleavened Bread. The lesson of departing from the bondage of sin as depicted by these days is one that we must keep ever before us.

God has opened our minds to the understanding of His Word — a far greater miracle than the parting of the Red Sea! Yet how easy it seems to be for some to want to look back as Israel did, foolishly believing that former bondage to sin was better than the trials we now endure as God's elect. Yes, the slaves were taken out of Egypt, but,

sadly, the Egypt was not in most cases taken out of the slaves.

The Israelites were a product of their environment. When they left Egypt, they had not expected problems. They had not expected the Egyptians to pursue them. After all, they had been thrust out, given gold, silver, jewels and other valuables. They had gone out with a high hand and in great rejoicing! The last thing they expected was a pursuing army.

After the destruction of the Egyptian army, the Israelites did not expect hunger. "Would to God we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt . . . for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger," they complained (Exodus 16:3). They did not expect thirst. They did not expect hardship or suffering.

When all these came, they blamed Moses and God, and wanted to return to the "comfort" and "safety" of Egyptian slavery. They complained. They murmured. They never learned to go to God for help in the humble and contrite heart that He loves to hear (Isaiah 57:15).

God says He was grieved with that generation. "They do always err in their heart; and they have not known my ways . . . Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God" (Hebrews 3:10, 12).

The Israelites simply did not

believe God! They put Him to the test again and again. They did not believe His promises. They didn't trust Him for deliverance. They didn't recognize Him as their Protector, Provider, Savior and Ruler.

We have been delivered, by God's own calling, from the bondage of today's "Egypt." We've been called out of what God calls "this present evil world." Not that we are no longer in the world, but we are no longer to be a part of its ways apart from God.

Our special calling has its own set of hardships, trials and persecutions. In John 15:18-20 Jesus Christ told His apostles, "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also."

Ahead of us are trials, tests and hardships. Every indication is that they will increase as we draw closer to the time of the Great Tribulation. The apostle Paul explained, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (II Timothy 3:12).

But this is not a time for fear, worry and doubt. It is a time for all positive Christians to be looking to Christ with our eyes fixed on the goal — moving forward toward the Kingdom of God! It is time to be putting distance between "Egypt" and us!

A timeless lesson is recorded

for us in three short words in Luke 17:32. There Jesus admonishes, "Remember Lot's wife." Lot's wife looked back. Her interests and thoughts — her heart — were back in Sodom. She wasn't convinced she was going the right direction.

As converted Christians, God's own elect, I hope each of us is convinced. The direction God is leading us — out of "Egypt," out of the ways of this world, out of the bondage of sin — IS THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

How great is our desire for God's will to be done in our lives? God's will is naturally alien to our nature (Romans 8:7). By nature we do not think as God does (Isaiah 55:8; Proverbs 14:12). But now that God has called us, opened our minds to His truth, let's BELIEVE Him. Jesus asked in Luke 18:8, ". . . when the Son of Man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"

Brethren, there is one place where Christ must find faith. That will be in the hearts and minds of His brethren — the Church of God. Among those who believe Him, those who trust Him, those who faithfully strive to do His will, putting His will ahead of their own.

Let us turn over completely the reins of our lives to God, to walk with confidence where and how He leads us. Remember, God without man is still God. But man without God is nothing!

God is blessing His Work. It is up to us to go forward — to strive ever more diligently to obey God in spirit and in truth, in deep appreciation and gratitude for Christ's sacrifice that delivers us from the enslavement to sin. Let us never look back!

With deep love,
Joseph W. Tkach

INSIDE

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NATO alliance: raid on Libya widens rift

PASADENA — The ramifications of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's decision to launch an air strike on Libya continue to reverberate.

The affair showed again how few friends the United States has left. Israel, of course, supported the raid. The British government did too. But public opinion polls revealed that nearly seven out of 10 Britons felt Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher erred in allowing U.S. bombers to take off from British bases.

Initial official reactions from Canada and Japan — America's chief trading partners — were also halfhearted.

The so-called nonaligned movement, meeting in New Delhi, India, condemned it as a "dastardly, blatant and unprovoked act of aggression."

NATO strains

Another impact of the April 14 raid is the scar tissue left on the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) alliance. Major powers on the Continent either refused or indicated they should not be asked to grant permission for U.S. bombers to overfly their airspace.

When U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger showed on television how the F-111s had to detour around France and the Iberian peninsula, adding 2,400 miles (3,840 kilometers) of round-trip nighttime flying, the American public was incensed, particularly at France.

Owen Harries, editor of *The National Interest*, a U.S. political journal, called the circuitous route "the line of shame" — a take-off on Moammar Kadafi's "line of death" across the Gulf of Sidra.

"The etching of this line on the mind of the American people is likely to be the most enduring and important consequence of the Libyan episode," said Mr. Harries.

H. Ross Perot, a Texas billionaire who once engineered a private escape operation for his employees from an Iranian prison, also was irate at the French refusal. "Twice in this century we rescued the French nation," he said. "As far as I'm concerned, as long as I'm around, if our country ever considers spilling one drop of American blood for the French, I'll do everything I can to stop it."

William Safire, the *New York Times* conservative columnist, defended French actions. The French, Mr. Safire maintained, may have refused to help because they felt the U.S. action would amount to little more than a pinprick.

He reported April 19: "Maybe there is more to the French decision than we know. At a private dinner party in New York . . . the French chief delegate to the United Nations, Claude de Kemouria . . . speaking among friends and off the record . . . indicated that the best way to stop Col. Khadafy was not by bit-by-bit escalation, and that had the United States decided to hit hard and decisively with its military

might, you would have found us on your side. . . .

"We did pull our punch. Our bombs were limited to 'terrorist-related' targets, not to the oil docks that would cripple Khadafy's ability to pay weapons bills or speed his overthrow."

Perhaps the raid's effectiveness lies somewhere in between a pinprick and a crippling blow. After the raid, Western allies seemed em-

boldened to enact stiffer economic and political measures against Libya.

Nevertheless the Libyan raid opened a new fissure in the alliance binding America and Europe, as Christopher Layne analyzed in the April 23 *Los Angeles Times*: "It is understandable that Washington feels let down by Europe, but its disappointment also is the product of misconceptions of what NATO is — or should be — about. Although U.S. policy-makers assume otherwise, American and European interests are not identical."

Europe's aversion to the U.S. action, Mr. Layne wrote, "is rooted in considerations of history and inter-

historical and colonial ties, Western Europe believes that its understanding of the forces driving terrorism is more sophisticated than Washington's.

"The Europeans see terrorism as a consequence of the unresolved Palestinian and Arab-Israeli problems . . . Because of geography, Western Europe is critically dependent on Middle Eastern oil, and has important economic ties to the region.

"Thus Europe prefers to protect

its political, economic and security interests by cutting its own deals with Libya, the Palestine Liberation Organization and other Middle Eastern forces."

Disintegrating alliance?

Mr. Layne, a NATO expert, said, "Because geopolitical circumstances change, alliances never last forever. They form in response to a mutually perceived threat to security; when the threat dissipates, alliances disintegrate."

"It is unreasonable for America," Mr. Layne continued, "to object to this policy of independence, but if that is the course that Europe chooses, it must develop strategic power commensurate with the scope of its political and economic interests . . . As it becomes clear that Western Europe has no reciprocal obligations to the United States, America's willingness to maintain its commitment to defend the Europeans is bound to diminish."

NATO is about to begin its 37th year, a remarkable feat of longevity as far as alliances go. Alliances are normally founded upon a narrow range of interests. Eventually, history shows, these interests diverge.

Europe is increasingly going its own way apart from the United States. As Mr. Layne stresses, it will eventually have to develop a military third force to back up its policy.

WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg



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European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



Political differences

set us free. Mr. Parnell's article is the truth, and the truth, found in God's plan, brings relief and the understanding of why little children are permitted to suffer at the hand of this Satan-influenced age."

Spiritual conditioning

We should be encouraged when we read this kind of letter, understanding the attitude in which it was written. We need to understand that many times God conditions our spiritual growth with trials of varying stages. We build our faith and strength with each trial.

We must keep in mind that all God's plans and actions here and now are preparation for what He has in store for us in the Kingdom. God is preparing us for the life and service yet to come. Nobody yet knows all that is in store for us after Christ returns to establish the Kingdom; but this we do know: Life today is a school in which God is preparing us for our future ministry for eternity. This explains why we have trials. They are some of God's tools and textbooks in the school of our spiritual training.

One thing to be thankful for is that trials do not last forever; they are "for a season" and "if need be" God will not permit us to suffer one minute too long (1 Peter 1:6). The important thing is that we learn the lesson He wants to teach us. It's the refining process that brings us closer to God's perfection.

Just as the assayer tests the gold with fire to see if it is pure gold or counterfeit, so the trials of life test us to prove our sincerity. A person who has not been tested cannot be trusted! God wants us tried and proven — now!

The patriarch Job went through many painful trials, all of which God allowed; and yet he understood somewhat of this truth about the refiner's fire. "But he knoweth the way that I take; when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (Job 23:10). And he did!

How about you? . . . "that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:7; Revised Authorized Version).

BOREHAMWOOD, England — Next year Americans will celebrate the 200th anniversary of their federal constitution. Four years later will mark the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights — the first 10 amendments to that constitution.

Many Americans view this fundamental document with great respect — and even a certain amount of awe. They feel their personal rights were seen to by the framers of the American Constitution. Somehow this basic law of the land surrounds the country with a sort of aura of protection.

Governmental structures

Britain, a much older nation, has no such written constitution. Moreover it has no written bill of rights. To be sure Britons have rights, but they are not spelled out in the American manner. Britain has had no compulsion to commit fundamental rights to pen and paper.

The American concept of separation of powers is another vital difference. Power is divided into the executive, legislative and judicial branches. The American system relies on checks and balances. If the U.S. Congress should pass flawed legislation, the Supreme Court may declare it unconstitutional. That particular law then becomes null and void.

By contrast, the British Parliament is where the buck stops. If the House of Commons passes a law, the English legal system has no power whatsoever to challenge that legislation. Parliament is the final arbiter. Only the House itself can change that law.

The lower house, the House of Commons, dominates the British Parliament. The upper house, the House of Lords, mainly exercises powers of delay. The Lords can stall legislation up to 13 months.

The two houses of the American Congress, the Senate and the House of Representatives, are roughly

equal in power. Potential legislation cannot become law unless both chambers approve it.

The British House of Commons (650 members) is somewhat akin to the American House of Representatives in the sense that members represent different constituencies throughout the whole country. One essential difference lies in residence requirements. Members of the American House must reside in the areas they represent.

No such residence qualification exists in Britain. A citizen of the

(See POLITICAL, page 3)



Just one more thing

By Dexter H. Faulkner

Suffer to greatness

"Bisogna soffrire per essere grandi." That was the favorite expression of the late great tenor Enrico Caruso. The words mean, "To be great, it is necessary to suffer."

After many years of difficulty, Caruso achieved worldwide fame; but the man communicated more than beautiful music through his voice. One writer observed, "His is a voice that loves you, but not only a voice, a sympathetic man."

Trials and tribulation do that for a person who accepts life's difficulties in the proper attitude and spirit.

More precious than gold

I remember a *World Tomorrow* broadcast Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong did back in the late '50s on trials. In that program he asked: "Now, which would you take? A trial of faith that is going to bear you down for a little while in meeting some of these tests and unpleasant things that may come? If someone gave you the choice between a problem like that, or having a lot of gold given to you? . . . let's say the equivalent of . . . about \$200,000, what would you take? — the \$200,000 or the fiery trial that's coming to try you, the trial of faith? . . . most of you would take the gold. But, there's something much more precious than that . . . 'the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth. . . .' (1 Peter 1:7).

"I knew a man that had a lot of gold, but when he died he couldn't take it with him. He hasn't got it now. He did have it for a little while and he didn't know how to use it and it didn't make him happy while he had it.

"Now, I know another man that's had all kinds of trials, and it was much more precious than the gold."

Herman L. Hoeh, editor of *The Plain Truth*, gave me a letter from a member that illustrates Mr. Armstrong's point. We all can learn from this letter.

"I have read and reread Mr. Patrick Parnell's article 'Where Is God When Little Children Suffer?' [*Plain Truth*, November-December, 1985]. I felt every word that was written. My wife and I have had an eventful and challenging year as members of God's Church. Our little son is now over a year old. When he was 4 months old he became seriously ill with spinal meningitis. He was not expected to live through the night. Yet, miraculously, God quickly healed him with no apparent defects or impairments. Proof that God loves His little children.

"Still, four months later our 3-year-old little son died from a severe head injury. I was right there watching him play when the accident occurred. Then, a week later my wife and I sat and held his brain dead body as the heart monitor registered his final heartbeat.

"It was an emotional time. Yet, we found that God's Spirit and the knowledge of His promise to resurrect him carried us through this difficult time.

"We have learned that all Mr. Parnell wrote in his article is correct. We have learned that God is fair, that He is righteous, just, and merciful.

"Our son was healed at the moment of his death through God's promise to resurrect him. True, our hope is deferred for a time. God did not heal him immediately. He only gave His word that He would, and the time has given us a chance to enjoy our son who is still alive, to build character, and help others who suffer the trials of this age.

"God promises that His truth will

Winners from Arkansas, Louisiana

U.S. teens capture essay honors

PASADENA — Patricia Lantz, 17, of Jonesboro, Ark., placed first in the senior division of the Youth Opportunities United (YOU) national essay contest. Minette Burks, 15, of Shreveport, La., placed first in the junior division for the third consecutive year. The topic this year was, "The most valuable lesson I have ever been taught."

More than 500 entries were received, according to Kermit Nelson, YOU coordinator in Church Administration. "I thought the writers put a lot of thought into the essays. Some very good ideas were expressed about lessons they've learned within the family, and how they've learned to appreciate their parents," he said.

Patricia wrote: "The Church doesn't run people's lives. Instead, people are given the choice of whether to keep the commanded laws or not. They are not made to observe these. The opportunity is given and each individual must make his own decision. We live by God's laws in order to please Him, and it comes from our hearts. I then decided that I would live by these laws to please God; I finally had a purpose instead of merely accepting things. I came to the conclusion that

this was no longer just my parents' religion, but my religion as well."

Minette wrote about learning to appreciate a strict junior high school teacher and neglecting to thank him before he died.

Lesley Fraser, 18, of Olympia, Wash., placed second in the senior division, and Todd Swanson, 16, of Reno, Nev., was third. Second place in the junior division went to Pamela Lynn Willie, 14, of Folsom, La., and third place went to Kim McCorkle, 13, of Chillicothe, Ohio.

Imperial Schools faculty members narrowed the 500 entries to about 20 in each division. Members of the editorial staffs of the Church's publications determined the winners.

"The editorial staff felt the essays improved over last year," said Dexter Faulkner, editor of the Church's publications. "Essays with appropriate topics may be considered for future publication in *Youth 86*."

Plaques were awarded to winners, according to Dr. Nelson. "We're already planning for next year's contest," he said.

Honorable mentions in the senior division went to Gary Appling, 17, Tacoma, Wash.; Tara Bernardo, 17,

Naperville, Ill.; Travis James, 16, Carrollton, Tex.; Rhonda Lou Ann Jewell, 17, Dawson Springs, Ky.; Angelina Lillengreen, 16, Brookfield, Wis.; John Livingston, 18,

Warwick, R.I.; Janalee Ormiston, 17, Elma, Wash.; Gina Parrick, 16, Quincy, Ill.; Matthew Roenspies, 18, Naperville, Ill.; Mark Sanders, 17, Tacoma, Wash.; and Lori Self, 19, Kaufman, Tex.

Honorable mentions in the junior division went to David Bonn, 13, Eastern Creek, Australia; Christy Brandon, 15, Oakville, Wash.; Eric Jason Brown, 13, Cleveland, Ohio; Sharyl Clauson, 15, Cape

Girardeau, Mo.; Jessica Gordon, 14, Nashua, N.H.; Christine Krushinski, 15, Dickson City, Pa.; Conway Kuo, 13, Cherry Hill, N.J.; Michael Shane Kurts, 15, Laurel, Miss.; Austin Looper, 13, Allen, Tex.; Ethan May, 14, Downers Grove, Ill.; Kimberly McConnell, 15, Fallon, Nev.; Nathaniel Paul Seltzer, 14, Richfield, Minn.; and Melanie Townsend, 15, Laurel, Miss.

YOU essays: Canadian winners

By Michael A. Guidolin
VANCOUVER, B.C. — Shelley Smith, 18, of Atikokan, Ont., placed first in the senior division of the Canadian Youth Opportunities United (YOU) essay contest. Heather Bye, 15, of Burlington,

Ont., was first in the junior division. Teens from all Canadian YOU districts participated in the contest, according to Colin Adair, regional director for the Church in Canada. The topic was "The most valuable lesson I have ever been taught."

Barry Smith, 16, of Atikokan, Ont., placed second in the senior division, and Ramona Lukiuk, 16, of Burnaby, B.C., was third.

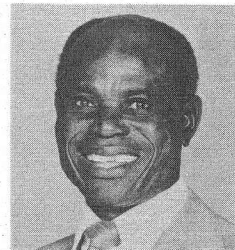
In the junior division, second place went to Collette Ferron, 13, of Victoria, B.C.; and Elizabeth Melville, 14, of Lethbridge, Alta., was third.

Michael A. Guidolin is an employee of the Vancouver, B.C., Office.

Minister in Africa dies after bout with cancer

By Lateef Edalere
LAGOS, Nigeria — Elijah Chukwudi, 62, a local elder who served as associate pastor of the Lagos, Benin City and Owerri, Nigeria, churches, died Sunday morning, April 13, in his home after a long bout with cancer.

three more children. Mr. Chukwudi was baptized in 1972 by evangelist Harold Jackson.



ELIJAH CHUKWUDI

He was ordained a deacon in 1978 and a local elder in 1980.

Mr. Chukwudi is survived by his wife, Florence, and their three children, Bernice, 14, Iheanyi, 12, and Chukwuemeka, 9.

Lateef Edalere pastors the Lagos, Benin City and Owerri, Nigeria, churches.

Mr. Chukwudi was born in 1923 to Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Ete. From his teens Mr. Chukwudi believed in God and that someday he would take God as his literal father. He changed his surname from Ete to Chukwudi, which, in his native language, means "there is God."

Mr. Chukwudi joined the West African Frontier Brigade and served in India and Burma during World War II. He was not called to the battlefield and did not kill another human being.

After the war he joined a religious society where he served as a minister. When God began to open his mind to spiritual understanding, Mr. Chukwudi decided to leave the society. In accordance with the tenets of the society, he had to forfeit all of his possessions when he left — including his wife and children. But he left and did not look back. He later remarried and had

Church releases names of U.S. traveling speakers

PASADENA — Church Administration released the following list of traveling speakers during the Spring Holy Day season:

Passover

David Albert, Cambridge, Ohio, and Wheeling, W.Va.; Gregory Albrecht, Charleston, W.Va.; evangelist Richard Ames, Cincinnati, Ohio, North and South; Gary Antion, Missoula, Mont.; evangelist Dean Blackwell, Asheville, N.C.; Douglas Horchak, Flint and Lansing, Mich.; David Hulme, Fairfield and Santa Rosa, Calif.; evangelist Harold Jackson, Albany, N.Y.; evangelist Ronald Kelly, Gadsden, Ala.; evangelist Leslie McCullough, Eugene, Ore.; evangelist Roderick Meredith, Greensboro, N.C.; evangelist Richard Rice, Bluefield, W.Va.; and Donald Ward, Twin Falls, Idaho.

First Holy Day

Dr. Albert, Cambridge and Wheeling; Mr. Albrecht, Parkersburg, Charleston and Logan, W.Va.; Mr. Ames, Cincinnati North and South; Mr. Antion, Missoula and Kalispell, Mont.; Mr. Blackwell, Asheville, N.C., and Greenville, S.C.; Mr. Horchak, Flint and Lansing; Mr. Hulme, Fairfield and Santa Rosa; Mr. Jackson, Springfield, Mass.; and Albany; Mr. Kelly, Gadsden; Mr. McCullough, Eugene, Bend, Coos Bay and Roseburg, Ore.; Dr. Meredith, Greensboro; Mr. Rice, Bluefield and Lewisburg, W.Va.; and Dr. Ward, Twin Falls and Blackfoot, Idaho.

Sabbath, April 26

Dr. Albert, Canton, Ohio; Mr. Albrecht, Laurel and Meridian, Miss.; Mr. Ames, Cincinnati East and West; Mr. Antion, Butte, Helena and Great Falls, Mont.; Mr. Blackwell, Chattanooga, Tenn., and Murphy, N.C.; Mr. Horchak, Detroit, Mich.; East; Mr. Jackson, Bangor and Portland, Maine; Mr. Kelly, Anniston, Ala., and Rome, Ga.; Mr. McCullough, Albany and Salem, Ore.; Dr. Meredith, Charlotte, N.C.; Mr. Rice, Beckley and Summersville, W.Va.; and Dr.

Ward, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Last Holy Day

Michael Feazell, Fort Wayne, Ind.; evangelist Herman L. Hoeh, Denver, Colo., A.M. and P.M.; Mr. Jackson, Atlanta East and West, Athens and Buford, Ga.; evangelist Ellis La Ravia, Sioux Falls, Yankton and Watertown, S.D.; Mr. McCullough, Casper, Wyo. (morning service), Billings, Mont., and Buffalo, Wyo. (afternoon service); evangelist Raymond McNair, Omaha and Lincoln, Neb.; Dr. Meredith, Meeker and Grand Junction, Colo.; evangelist Leroy Neff, Grand Island and North Platte, Neb.; Mr. Rice, Champaign and Springfield, Ill.; Larry Salyer, Dayton, Ohio, A.M. and P.M.; and Dr. Ward, Trenton and Vineland, N.J.

Report from

the Treasurer's Office

Leroy Neff

PASADENA — The first Holy Day offering figures have just been given to me. The results are certainly encouraging, with an 11 percent increase over the same offering last year.

The average contribution from each person increased 6 percent, while attendance increased 4.2 percent. This amount is 4 percent above the projected income budget for the year. We hope that the remaining offerings will at least equal, if not exceed this first one.

The income comparisons for April have been affected by Holy Day offerings and tithe-of-the-tithe contributions because of the earlier feast days last year (according to the Roman calendar). Actual income in April decreased 3.5 percent in comparison with last year's income. For the year, income is up 5.2 percent.

However, if we modify these figures to offset these differences, the month would show an increase of about 11.1 percent, and the year 11.6 percent. These figures are a more realistic measure of the financial progress.

Because of the small budget increases this year, our bank balances improved somewhat over last year's record. This always makes the treasurer's job more enjoyable!

On another subject, the Arthur Andersen auditors are finishing their work in May. This year, as before, in auditing terms, their "opinion" is "unqualified." We are pleased with the results of these audits. The fund balance, or some might consider it, the net worth of the combined institutions, showed a healthy increase for the year of 1985.

Your support in contributions, in Christian conduct and in personal urgent prayer will bring continued improvement in the financial condition of the Church. Thank you for your part.

Political

(Continued from page 2)

southernmost tip of the United Kingdom may represent a constituency in the northernmost area of Scotland, even if he has never lived there.

American candidates run for office. British candidates stand for Parliament. Nuances of language spill over into practical differences. British elections are comparatively low-key affairs. Such British sedateness is unknown to the rough and tumble of American politics.

By and large the British do not like independent candidates. To them an independent is someone you cannot depend upon. But independents have a role in the American political system.

Britain has no warmup or primary elections. The electoral process is swift by American standards. When a new prime minister is elected, the preceding prime minister leaves by the back door of No. 10 Downing Street while the new one enters by the front. The exaggeration is but slight. It's a matter of a few days. Not 2½ months as with the American presidency.

Gospel and human governments

These comparisons are not intended to denigrate either the British or American systems. Each in its own way has served its country. The main concern should be how these differences affect the Gospel of the Kingdom of God.

The great commission started in America for a reason. Written American liberties enabled the preaching of the Gospel to begin in the United States. The Bill of

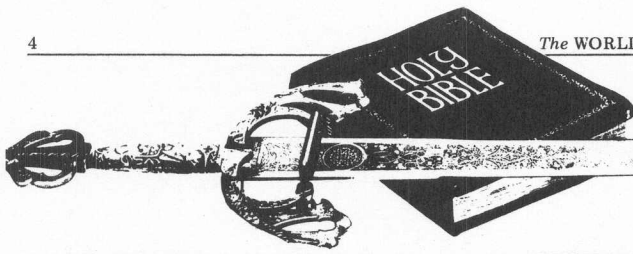
Rights guarantees that *The World Tomorrow* can be freely proclaimed on television.

Up to now — though this may change soon with cable television — no door has opened for *The World Tomorrow* on television in the British Isles. Radio has had scant success. The British Government stopped the ship stations in the '60s. Parliament passed a law. Rarely, if ever, could that happen in the United States of America. The system protects the Gospel.

The first amendment of the American Bill of Rights says, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..." And although there are practical restrictions on the English Parliament, they are not spelled out in the same manner. Theoretically Parliament could prohibit the existence of any given denomination. Practically it would be impossible in the present climate. The danger is to isolated groups. There have been certain precedents in the past.

Christians should have a basic grasp of how contemporary governments operate. This leads to more effective prayer. Remember Paul's admonition to pray "that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ..." (Colossians 4:3, Revised Authorized Version). He also asked the brethren to pray "that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith" (II Thessalonians 3:2, RAV).

Tie these two scriptures together. Pray for government leaders that the Gospel may go to all nations. Especially pray for those countries that have not yet been significantly reached.



IRON SHARPENS IRON

Drawing strength from trials: how the ill, infirm serve God

By K. Neil Earle

Paul suffered persistent physical ailments (II Corinthians 12:7). He tells us "infirmity of the flesh" dogged him on his first preaching tour in Galatia (Galatians 4:13).

K. Neil Earle, pastor of the Toronto, Ont., East and West churches, is a regular contributor to The Good News.

Paul on three occasions sought relief in periods of fervent prayer, and fasting, too, no doubt, to have his "thorn in the flesh" removed (II Corinthians 12:8). Many commentators have had no trouble understanding why Luke, a trained physician (Colossians 4:14), was in almost constant attendance upon Paul. The strain of repeated beatings and imprisonments on Paul's health must have been enormous at times (II Corinthians 11:24-26, Galatians 6:17).

Christ's answer to Paul's petitions for healing is preserved for us. It is comforting to know that God often has a purpose for allowing debilitating sickness to be prolonged among His people. Christ's answer to Paul's petitions sheds light on a not-too-often understood teaching: that the sick can serve God!

Here is Paul's testimony as to why God delayed and postponed the healing Paul so desperately sought: "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities . . . for when I am weak, then am I strong" (II Corinthians 12:9-10).

"When I am weak, then I am strong."

Paul accomplished legendary feats of faith and power in God's service. His is a vivid case history that just because you are sick doesn't mean you are displeasing God.

Building faith

When he was weak, he was strong spiritually.

Adam and Eve, in the utopia of the Garden of Eden, could have had every natural and spiritual need provided for. But they failed to resist Satan's clever stratagems.

But Jesus Christ, His physical cravings hammered into instant obedience after 40 days of fasting, possessed abundant reserves of spiritual energy. Though in a physically weakened condition, in a physical wilderness, Jesus Christ passed every spiritual test (Matthew 4:1-11). So can we (I Peter 2:21). Satan never even got to first base

with Jesus Christ. Jesus countered the devil's wily gambits with clear scriptural truth.

One of those scriptures is from Deuteronomy 8. This chapter helps focus more clearly the spiritual refreshing that often takes place in the face of hard physical testing. Any sick person vicariously experiences some of the severe wilderness conditions God imposed upon physical Israel. The sense of limitations and the sheer frustrations engendered by weakness and discomfort are all paralleled by periods of sickness.

One friend, when asked about the most difficult lesson he learned from a long bout with sickness, confided, "How quickly you are neglected!" That is, unfortunately, all too common even in the Body of Christ (Acts 6:1, II Timothy 4:10, 16). And this shakes us up, till we are eager to turn to the unshakable One — our God (Hebrews 12:27).

By now we should be seeing that the great God, whose ways are high above ours, has a purpose in sickness. The sick serve God. How?

Purposes of illness

First, chronically ill people, waiting for healing, are a living reminder that the Millennium isn't here yet. Not by a long shot!

Every minister has in his congregation a list of shut-ins and hospitalized or housebound members of his congregation who may never be able to attend a regular service.

Why should God call such people? Because they are a living witness to all who visit them that the Kingdom of God desperately needs to be established on this earth.

A visit to a brother or sister bound for years by a painful physical condition helps you pray more fervently, "Thy Kingdom come!"

Have you visited a sick brother recently? You should (Matthew 25:36).

Second, the genuinely sick allow the whole congregation to participate in a ministry — the service of praying for those who are ill (James 5:15-16). David, a man after God's own heart, said he fasted for the sick (Psalm 35:13). Do we?

What an opportunity for us to minister in secret. And God whose eyes in secret will reward us openly (Matthew 6:6, 17-18).

Third, the ill give us more insight into the deep things of God (I Corinthians 2:10). Only by determined searching do we uncover some of the most meaningful insights into God's mind.

Why would God call a woman near the end of her life dying painfully of bone cancer? Why would He plunge her into the Body of Christ at

such a late stage? With barely enough strength to undergo the baptism ceremony, she may never be able to sit through services, let alone actively participate in the Church's work. What is God doing?

Ah, God is still at work even though the answer may not be obvious. How shallow of us to expect that the great unfathomable mind of God could be so easily deciphered (Romans 11:33).

In visiting such people God impresses His ministers with scriptures like Christ's parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16). Some were called early in life, some at the end. God will have all types in His Family. No class of problems or tragedies will ever feel excluded or misunderstood.

As Christ suffered so He could be a more effective High Priest (Hebrews 5:1-2), so some of God's people suffer now to be able to identify with the despair that the ill in this world wear like a heavy cloak. What

strenuous but important calling! Few can handle it.

Fourth, the seriously ill inspire the Church.

Sad to say, God's ministers have met malingers — those who try to use sickness as a tool for manipulating their mates or the ministry of Jesus Christ. Playing the part of a weakling is a perverse ploy of those who want to dodge responsibility, correction or maturity. Fortunately, those cases are rare.

There is a way to discern these from the sick who are serving God: Those suffering in God's service usually inspire their comforters. Their faithfulness and determination often send visitors away heartened.

Precious members of Christ's Body who are blind like Isaac (Genesis 27:1), injured like Jacob (Genesis 32:21-32), dying on their sickbed like Elisha (II Kings 13:14) or cut off in their prime like Stephen or James (Acts 7:59, 12:2) often handle their trials with much more patience and understanding than on-lookers who ask, "Why does God allow this?"

Read Acts 7:59 to 8:1-2. It seems Stephen wasn't half as upset about his death as his friends were. "The righteous hath hope in his death,"

God promises in Proverbs 14:32.

Those who bear sickness faithfully draw closer to God. Visiting reveals exquisitely chiseled edges to their character that only suffering can produce. Those who suffer in Christ's service are learning to view physical debilitations from God's perspective: Patience produces its perfecting work in their character, leaving behind lovingly etched imprints from the Master Craftsman. We go to cheer them up and they inspire us.

Fifth, the sick serve God as testimonies that many times the loving God heals suddenly, unexpectedly. Thousands have experienced sudden, dramatic healings after years of illness — years when a concerned, loving Body of Christ rallied around them in a persistent siege of God's throne for healing (Luke 13:11-13).

The longer the fight, the sweeter the victory. Sickness forces God's people to their knees, triggering an outpouring of prayer and affection that only adversity can stimulate. Not all Christians can handle this calling.

The Scriptures are clear. In an age when sickness is prophesied to escalate alarmingly (Deuteronomy 28:27-29), we should remember that the sick can serve God!

Loyalty to God's Church

Are you backing God's choice?

By Roderick C. Meredith

As one of the pioneer students, and then one of the early theology teachers at Ambassador College, I have seen dozens come and go in the work of God. The one constant, humanly speaking, was Herbert W. Armstrong. God kept him alive and leading this work well into his 94th year — a magnificent, extremely productive life.

Evangelist Roderick C. Meredith is a professor at Pasadena Ambassador College.

But now that he is gone, it is good to ask the question he so often asked rhetorically: "Why are we here — why are we in the Worldwide Church of God?"

For those who are truly converted, it is certainly not because of Mr. Armstrong's voice or personality. Though outstanding in those areas, he was obviously in a declining state of health and energy for several years before his death. The fact is that if we are in the Church for the right reason, we are here because of the truth — the message — Mr. Armstrong preached and that God's Church believes and continues to preach to the world.

How does the Bible describe this message? "Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God" (Mark 1:14). Even to the end of the apostle Paul's life, he was preaching the message of the Kingdom of God (Acts 28:31). Let us remind ourselves that the word *kingdom* includes government. Our work and labor, our prayers, our tithes and offerings these past years have all been to prepare for and to preach the government of God!

For, as true Christians, we are now in training for positions in the government of God. God tells us: "Do ye not know that the saints

shall judge the world? . . . Know ye not that we shall judge angels?" (I Corinthians 6:2-3).

Jesus the Revelator reveals through the apostle John that those who overcome will be set over the nations on this earth to guide them to salvation (Revelation 2:26-27). So we in God's Church now are to learn and practice lessons of government — learn obedience, teamwork, unity and cooperation within the Body of Christ.

We know, by the overwhelming fruits, that God used Mr. Armstrong to raise up this era of His Church. God guided him to dig out and correlate scores of important truths and restore them in the Church. God used Mr. Armstrong to teach us the vital lesson of government, of unity within the Church — the lack of which virtually destroyed the effectiveness of some earlier periods of the Church.

We have seen clearly this truth: "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Ephesians 4:4-5). Clearly, the true Body of Christ is not divided into competing groups of men, each going his own way. So let us now focus on two key points about God's government in the Church.

(1) The true Church must practice the government of God.

We are now in training to be kings and priests in the world tomorrow. So we must practice now the way of God's government and respond with obedience and loyalty to the government that our Head, Jesus Christ, has put in His Church.

Finally, before his death, Mr. Armstrong — after much prayer — chose Joseph W. Tkach to succeed him as pastor general of the Worldwide Church of God. Mr. Tkach was chosen directly through God's government in His Church. Jesus Christ — the living, active Head of

the Church — has promised to guide and inspire him in this very important office. Along with the entire Advisory Council of Elders and several other leaders in God's Church, I was a witness to Mr. Armstrong's decision.

(2) "By their fruits ye shall know them," said Jesus Christ (Matthew 7:20).

In Deuteronomy 34:9, we read the story of how Joshua was given by Yahweh — the God of Israel, the One who became Jesus Christ — the spiritual leadership of Israel in place of Moses, who was about to die.

The ritualistic priesthood duties of sacrifices and washings had been given to the sons of Aaron, but the civil office of leadership over Israel was directly of God's choice. The spiritually minded leaders such as Joshua, Samuel, David, Elijah, Peter and Paul were always chosen directly by God on the basis of the spiritual fruits of their lives.

In our day, God has guided His apostle, Mr. Armstrong, in choosing Mr. Tkach as the pastor general to carry on the direction of the work of God's Church.

God is blessing the stewardship of Mr. Tkach in leading His Church. The number of new Church members and prospective members is up. The number of new co-workers registered a record increase during the first three months in 1986. The financial income for God's work is up even above the budget for 1986. The response to the *World Tomorrow* telecast has been tremendous, indicating even greater growth ahead for the entire work in coming months.

The work of God's Church continues full steam ahead under the human leadership of Pastor General Tkach. Let us all rejoice in this — and give full loyalty and support to Christ's government, which He is overseeing in His Church today!

Milestones in Church's work

- May or June, 1927** — Herbert W. Armstrong is baptized.
- May 6, 1974** — The Ambassador Auditorium is dedicated.
- May 18, 1978** — Mr. Armstrong announces his decision to return to regular broadcasting on *The World Tomorrow*.
- May 22, 1982** — Mr. Armstrong meets Britain's Prince Charles after a concert by pianist Vladimir Horowitz at the Royal Opera House in London.
- May 17, 1984** — Mr. Armstrong accompanies the Little Ambassadors of Shanghai (China) to a performance at the White House, where he meets Nancy Reagan.
- May 29, 1985** — Mr. Armstrong videotapes a segment with the Young Ambassadors for the 1986 Festival film.

Building faith

Are you willing to pay the price?

By Frederick Kellers

God is blessing His Church and work with growth! Reports from around the world indicate that members of God's Church, overall, are encouraged and inspired by all the good things that are occurring. Yet, at the same time, some brethren are feeling sadness and discouragement. The problem manifests itself most plainly in the area of sickness.

It's not wrong to feel grief for other brethren because of suffering and death caused by illness. The Bible talks about being in heaviness through manifold trials and tribulations. And when one member suffers, all suffer.

Frederick Kellers pastors the Little Rock and Searcy, Ark., churches.

But some few — and that, members of God's Church! — have the feeling that God is not healing any more.

Do we have faith?

Sometimes we don't hear all that much about those who have been healed, but instead of those who have not yet been healed. The fact is, of course, that a lot of healings occur that we don't hear about. Often when I anoint people, I tell them, "If God doesn't heal you, let me know, and I'll start praying about it regularly." Most of the time I never hear from them again.

There were three healings in Little Rock, Ark., in one week. One woman had lumps growing in her breast, and the next week after anointing, they were totally gone. One Sabbath, a man who had been in pain for weeks was anointed and God healed him right away.

A little girl had a big lump in the

side of her neck for five months. The parents wanted to rely on God to heal her. The doctors said, "That child will be sick all winter long." The next week after anointing, the lump was gone.

Some people say, "I just don't have faith." There's the problem! So why do we often blame God? The faith we have as Christians is a gift of God, that's true. So if we don't have faith, is it God's fault?

If so, then how could Jesus Christ chastise people and call them "you of little faith"? Jesus wondered if He would find faith when He returned to earth. God says that without faith, it is impossible to please Him.

The point is, when people say they don't have the capacity for faith, they're wrong. God has given every one of us the capacity for faith. He gave us, if we have been truly called and chosen, the Holy Spirit, and the fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance (Galatians 5:22-23).

The Bible also says, "Quench not the Spirit" (1 Thessalonians 5:19). Some of us are in danger of doing that! It's up to us to decide whether to make faith grow or to kill it. Faith is available from God — if we'll stir it up.

The faith to accept 'No'

The most important kind of faith is the faith to accept "No" for an answer. Because God does say "No," even when we do have the faith, sometimes.

One of the greatest examples of Jesus' own faith was when He prayed, "Let this cup pass from me," and God said, "No."

David fasted for seven days that his child would be healed. And God

said, "No." Moses prayed to God to be allowed to go into the promised land. And God said, "No."

Sometimes it takes more faith to accept a "No" answer than it would to actually see God perform some tremendous miracle. But we can have this important type of faith.

Building confidence in God

A lot of us come up to a trial in our lives, and we try to work up faith suddenly. We cannot work up faith. But we can all have true faith if we're willing to pay the price. Most aren't willing.

Did Jesus tell us how to have faith? Yes, He did. If we just do what we're asked to do, we're unprofitable servants (Luke 17:10). Now what has that got to do with making faith grow?

Suppose you win a trip to Hawaii. Now you've got a problem at your place of employment, because you've already taken off all your vacation time. Your boss might let you go, but how much confidence do you have in going to him to ask for the time off? A lot of it depends on you.

Suppose every Thursday you take off about 15 minutes early to take care of some personal errand, and you know your boss knows it, too. Or you show up late every day and you spend a lot of time sitting around talking when you just haven't really done your job. How much confidence would you have in asking for time off?

The question here is not one of earning faith. You can't do that. But if you are at work on time every day, stay till work hours end and you have been a faithful employee, you can have confidence.

But what if you came in early a lot and stayed overtime when needed? Suppose you have worked hard —

above and beyond the call of duty — and your boss knows it. That doesn't qualify you for a trip to Hawaii, but it might give you a little more confidence in asking for time off.

The hardest thing for faith to overcome is a guilty conscience.

Mr. Armstrong's example

An example of the late Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong's that has always been inspiring to me was an occasion of fasting. He said in his autobiography, page 370, hardcover:

"I had prayed for Mrs. Armstrong's healing. But she had not been healed. I had prayed again. And again! But there had been no improvement, and time was running out. We were becoming desperate . . . I had learned that God does heal."

Mr. Armstrong's problem wasn't a lack of faith. It was, as he explained it, a false god.

"We had experienced almost incredible miracles," Mr. Armstrong recalled. "My wife had been healed before. But why not now? . . .

"There was no more time to lose. I had to find the answer. I knew of only one way. Fasting and prayer! It was the last-ditch resort . . .

"I decided to continue in this order — one hour in Scripture study, one in contemplation, and one in prayer. I did not once ask God to heal my wife . . . I had been doing that for weeks, without result. I was fasting and praying, not for the purpose of bringing pressure on God to force Him to obey my will and give what was asked — but to find out what was wrong with me! . . .

Fasting and praying is to change us, to draw us close to God and fill us with His Spirit, not to impress God.

"I realized we did not need to nag at God. NEVER fast as a means of inducing God to answer!"

"I read of Elijah's prayer in presence of all the priests of Baal, when God answered and the fire came down from heaven. I timed that

prayer. It was very short — only about 20 seconds. But the awe-inspiring answer came crashing from heaven instantly! Elijah did not need to talk God into it by a long prayer, or by repeated prayers. But I knew that Elijah at that moment was close to God — that he had previously been spending hours in long prayers . . .

"Gradually the truth began to pierce through the fog in my mind. Gradually, as this process of fasting and prayer continued all day, and into the afternoon of Sunday — as I became more and more hungry — but closer and closer to God, the realization came that I had been keeping my mind more and more fully on this clay project."

Use spiritual tools

Sometimes we need to do something dramatic in our lives. Taking a whole day to fast and pray, even though there are chores that need to be done, shows that we consider it more important to work on spiritual problems. As God's people we have the tools: fasting and prayer. We just need to use them.

Sometimes God doesn't answer when we pray for others because we have sins that we're not giving up. The problem may be with us, not with the person going through the trial.

When we fast we draw closer to God. We are nourishing a tree of faith. But we must maintain that tree.

People do die in faith. But often people die because we aren't exercising enough faith. Sometimes people go through trials and even die for others' sakes. Others grow and learn from those experiences.

Notice I John 3:18-20: "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. For if our heart condemn us [guilt], God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all (See PRICE, page 8)

Children's Corner

THE BEST GIFT

By Vivian Pettijohn

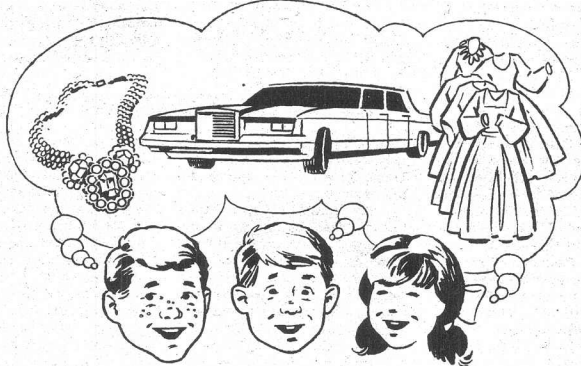
Larry King, the Glendale church pastor, closed his Bible. "To end today's message about true love," he said, "I want all of you children and young people to think about a question I'm about to ask. You've probably noticed recent newspaper ads trying to get you to buy certain gifts for your mothers for Mother's Day. Now, just suppose for a minute that we're able to give your mother anything she wanted, to show that you really love her. What gifts do you think she would most like to have from you? Think it over, and next Sabbath I'll suggest an answer to that question."

Later, as the Winfield family drove home from services, Rocky asked: "Mom, if I could give you anything you want, to show that I love you, what would you want? Uh, how about a diamond necklace?"

"Now!" 7½-year-old Jeff answered for her, "I think she would pick out a big, fancy car — a limousine! And I'd give it to you, Mommy, as a love gift."

"I think, Mommy," 6-year-old Kathy said, "that you would most like a closet full of pretty dresses. And I'd get them for you, to show I love you. Isn't that what you would choose?"

"Thank you, children," Mother answered, smiling, "for all your generous thoughts. But, I'm afraid you aren't even close. So, I'll give you a clue as to the gift I'd like most from



Artwork to color by Ken Tunell

each of you." She opened her Bible. "Here in John 14:15 Jesus said to His disciples, 'If you love Me, keep My commandments'" (Revised Authorized Version throughout).

"What are you getting at?" Rocky asked.

"Think about it this way," Dad commented. "It is easy to pretend to give generous gifts, for that doesn't take any effort, does it? But think about the clue your mother gave. Jesus said that if we love Him we'll obey Him. That takes effort, for sometimes it's hard to obey." Dad turned the car

onto LaCrescenta Street, then continued. "Proverbs 31 describes a lady like your mother. She is called a virtuous woman. And in verse 28, King Solomon tells how she should be treated. Rocky, would you read aloud that verse?"

Rocky opened his Bible and read, "Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her."

Dad continued: "Mr. King said that when we bless God it means we obey Him. In the same way, if you want to bless your mother — or call her blessed

— you do that by obeying her."

As soon as the car stopped in the Winfield driveway, Rocky jumped out, dropping his notebook on the ground. Without noticing, he raced to the front door.

"Rocky!" Mother called out the car window, "Come back and pick up your notebook!"

"Aw-w-w, Mom," Rocky began.

"Rocky, do you love me?" Mother asked.

"Oh! . . . Uh," Rocky said, hurrying back, "I already forgot."

"Kathy," Mother instructed, "please change your clothes right away. Then you can help me get supper on the table."

"Aw-w . . ." Kathy began, then remembered. "Uh, OK, Mommy."

"I guess that lately," Jeff admitted, "I haven't minded you and Daddy like I should, have I?"

"No, you haven't," Mother agreed. "You've all been slipping a little in that area."

"Mommy," Kathy said, hugging her arm as they walked to the house, "I'm going to obey you and Daddy better. That is what you really want, isn't it?"

"Yes, honey," Mother answered, smiling, "And I'm sure God the Father feels the same way — that of all the gifts we can receive, obedient children are the best gift!"

ACCENT ON THE LOCAL CHURCH



CAMP ACTIVITY — Children of the Johannesburg, South Africa, East church share a tractor ride in a farm setting at a church camp-out March 16. [Photo by Alan Roberts]

Brethren assemble for varied events

Two hundred seventy brethren attended the JACKSONVILLE, Fla., church's annual talent show March 23.

Master of ceremonies Herold Green, a deacon, took the audience for a ride on "The Entertainment Express II" with musical stops in Atlanta, Ga., New York, N.Y., Chicago, Ill., Nashville, Tenn., Beverly Hills, Calif., and Jacksonville.

Thirty selections, including skits, dances and vocal and instrumental numbers, were performed for senior citizens by Pre-YES (Youth Educational Services) children.

After the show a dinner of hot dogs with trimmings, slaw, chips, drinks and desserts was served. The meal, organized by Keith Cottrill, was served family-style

by Church youths.

More than 200 GLENDALE, Calif., brethren attended an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast fund raiser March 23. Donations went to defray costs of the church's sports programs.

Chefs were Ronald Laughland, pastor of the Glendale and Reseda, Calif., churches, Donald Contardi, Glendale assistant pastor, and Carlton Green. While they ate, brethren viewed a replay of YOU championship basketball playoffs and the *World Tomorrow* telecast on a large-screen television.

Mr. Laughland ended the basketball season by presenting best-effort awards to team member Todd Gunzelman and cheerleader Naomi Harrison. Michael Helseher presented gifts to adult leaders in appreciation of their service to and support of Glendale Church youths.

Twelve Church youths from the WISCONSIN DELLS, Wis., church traveled to Washington, D.C., March 24 to 31. The group visited the Capitol, the Senate building, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Lincoln Memorial, Smithsonian Institute and other places of interest.

Activities also included attending a live play, roller-skating, shopping and swimming.

After Sabbath services March 29 the group met with teens from the Washington church for a Bible study and pizza.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Dick of the

Wisconsin Dells church organized the trip and chaperoned the teens.

The JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, EAST church's annual camp-out took place March 14 to 17 at Buffelspoort, South Africa, about 100 kilometers (62.5 miles) from Johannesburg.

After conducting a baptism March 15, Ronald Stoddart, church pastor, conducted a Bible study on the history of God's Church. Later at afternoon Sabbath services Mr. Stoddart gave a sermon on meditation and its importance to Christian growth. A family folk dance took place Saturday evening.

Sunday children took tractor rides and played games. Other activities were walking, swimming and volleyball.

A WILMINGTON, Del., Feast slide show took place March 29. Slides were shown from China, Malaysia, England, Pasadena and Pentecost, B.C., to help brethren decide on which site to attend in 1986.

PHOENIX, Ariz., WEST Youth Educational Services (YES) children met at the ranch of deacon Ken Lilly March 30 for games and lunch.

The children participated in a three-legged race, egg carry and balloon toss. Lunch consisted of hamburgers and hot dogs.

Sharon Shiver, Mark Flynn, Patricia Gauden, Alan G. Roberts, Ron and Deidre Keib and Barry Fall.

Family weekends, seminar take place

A BETHLEHEM, Pa., family weekend took place March 15 and 16. Roy Holladay, pastor of the Bethlehem and Wilkes-Barre, Pa., churches, gave a sermon showing how children have access to God. Mr. Holladay also conducted a Bible study on romance.

After a potluck meal and Bible baseball, a Walt Disney movie was shown.

Sunday events continued at an area high school and included carnival games, a table tennis tournament, swimming, volleyball and basketball. Trophies were awarded for highest scores in the carnival games and table tennis tournament.

Participants from nine churches gathered in GRAFTON, Ohio, for a district weekend March 8 and 9 at Midview High and Middle schools.

After Sabbath services in the high school gymnasium Saturday afternoon, March 8, a Bible bowl took place. The Toledo, Ohio, team placed first, and Cleveland, Ohio, West placed second.

A family dance and children's games took place in the evening.

Basketball games began Saturday night and continued Sunday. Winners in each division were: men — Canton, Ohio, first; Columbus, Ohio, P.M., second; boys division I — Toledo, first; Columbus, second; boys division II — Canton, first; Cleveland West, second; girls — Columbus A.M., first; Akron, Ohio, second; junior YOU — Columbus, first; Akron, second.

The Cleveland East girls received a superior rating in the cheerleading exhibition.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., brethren were hosts for a district family weekend March 22 and 23. More than 700 brethren from four states attended Sabbath services.

John Cafourek, pastor of the Tupelo and Columbus, Miss., churches, conducted an afternoon Bible study, and a dance took place Saturday evening.

Sunday boys, girls and peewees played basketball. An awards cere-

mony took place after novelty basketball games.

"Building for Your Future" was the theme of a seminar weekend in YORCKTON, Sask., March 28 to 30. Evangelist Herman L. Hoeh, *Plain Truth* editor, was guest speaker.

About 300 Church youths and parents attended the event, which included seminars, a Bible bowl, a fun show, dance instruction and a dance.

Dennis Lawrence, pastor of the Dauphin, Man., and Yorkton churches and YOU regional coordinator, opened the seminars Sunday.

Dr. Hoeh spoke on the importance of temperance in all things; Maurice Yurkiw, pastor of the Saskatoon, Sask., church, on the fear of failure; Owen Murphy, pastor of the North Battleford and Lloydminster, and Bonnyville, Alta., churches, how to get and hold a good job; Douglas Johnston, pastor of the Regina, Sask., church, dress; and Kim Wenzel, associate pastor of the Lloydminster and Bonnyville churches, virginity. Dr. Hoeh and Mr. Johnson conducted a question-and-answer period.

Meals were self-catered by the Yorkton and Dauphin churches.

Michael and Gretchen Slick, Renee Williams, Many N. Gustafson and Dennis K. Lawrence.

Dinners, dance conducted

PORTLAND, Ore., WEST Church youths were hosts for a dinner March 23 for the 40-to-80 age group.

The youths planned and prepared the dinner for about 65 adults. The evening also included a baby-picture-guessing contest and a sing-along.

NORTHAMPTON, England, Church youths and their families organized a social for the Northampton church March 8 at Weston Favell Upper School.

Ken Wallace was master of ceremonies for the social. After a meal eight teams participated in a family Bible quiz, which was organized by Graham Mitchell, a Northampton local church elder.

Mr. Wallace and Dr. Mitchell then auctioned homemade cakes to raise money for a Summer Educational Program (SEP) fund. Other activities were musical entertainment by a band, family games, a photograph-guessing contest, a comedy play organized by Madeline King, two dances by Danella Bedford and a ribbon dance by Sharon and Tracey Harradine.

Gwen Rabs, who provided dance instruction for several weeks, was presented a plant in appreciation for her efforts.

The fourth annual LOS ANGELES, Calif., YOU formal dance took place March 23 at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott Hotel. About 500 teens and chaperons from 17 southern California churches danced to the music of the Los Angeles church band directed by Hardy Eason.

The teens danced, fellowshiped, watched entertainment and had portraits taken. Masters of ceremonies for the event were Aaron Douglas and Terri Waters. Youths from five church areas participated in the entertainment.

Jennifer and Jody Jones of Bakersfield, Calif., performed a country clogging dance; Tanya Wright, Pasadena Auditorium P.M., and Bonnie Shaw, Pasadena Imperial A.M., sang solos; Crystal Aust, San Diego, Calif., played a piano solo; and Armando and Gabby Rodriguez, Pasadena Spanish, demonstrated ethnic dancing.

Door prizes awarded were a printing calculator, a clock radio and an instamatic camera.

Carlton Smith, pastor of the Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo, Calif., churches, was happy that Church youths "could have the opportunity to meet so many other teenagers in a formal setting."

"It's great to see the young people of God's Church learn social graces...it's part of their overall education," said Ray Wright, director of Publishing Services in Pasadena.

Church youths from DENVER, Colo., EAST and WEST served 162 families and senior citizens a spaghetti dinner April 6.

Five Church youths then described their experiences attending the Summer Educational Program (SEP) and Winter Educational Program (WEP). James E. Reyer, Scott Allen and Tammy Smith, Peter Williams and Geoffrey S. Berg.

Areas sponsor activities

A DULUTH, Minn., social took place March 16. Brethren from the Grand Rapids, Minn., church also attended.

Andy Freeman, a Grand Rapids deacon, opened the program by presenting a one-man show on getting rid of northern Minnesota cabin fever.

After lunch brethren played Cribbage and other board and card games, while children participated in games and a hat contest and watched cartoons.

Ruth Cox won a baby-picture contest, and Mary Johnson won a contest to guess the number of beans in a jar. Helen Gordon won a cakewalk, and Robin Deraas won a door prize of a picnic cooler and home-baked pies.

The afternoon ended with pastor William Gordon and his wife, Helen, leading the local church elders, deacons, deaconesses and their mates on stage for a shaving contest (without blades). The winning team, Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, won a box of bandages.

The WISCONSIN DELLS, Wis., Graduate Club sponsored a vocal and instrumental concert by Diane Lasceski March 8 at the Wisconsin Dells Festival Administration Building.

Mrs. Lasceski, a member who at-

tends the Wisconsin Dells church, has sung professionally for eight years. About 70 people attended the concert, including some from other Wisconsin churches and members of the community. Hors d'oeuvres were served after the concert.

MALOLOS, Philippines, brethren participated in an activity day March 2 at the Bulacan College of Arts and Trades. Brethren from the San Fernando, Pampanga, Philippines, church were guests.

Activities began with men's basketball and women's volleyball games followed by a buffet lunch of unpolished rice, spaghetti, bison, fried chicken and native delicacies.

Afternoon activities continued with a Bible bowl for Youth Educational Services (YES) children and singles, and group games such as a tire-rolling relay, a table-tennis-ball race and balloon race.

COLUMBUS, Ga., brethren participated in a camp-out among longleaf pines March 22 and 23.

Saturday evening the group ate hot dogs, took hayrides and talked around camp fires. Sunday featured more food, games and watching the *World Tomorrow* telecast on portable televisions.

Marilyn Jaeger, John Torgerson, George Escara and J.M. Sprinkel.

Seniors share music, meals

Fourteen TIJUANA, Mexico, senior citizens attended the first meeting of the Golden Age group March 29 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ignacio Mendoza.

Fernando Barriga, pastor of the Tijuana and Mexicali, Mexico, churches, and his wife, Acelia, provided a record collection, which included folkloric music, romantic ballads, songs from the Mexican Revolution and poetry recordings.

Mr. Barriga and Esperanza Dujowich, a deaconess visiting from Mexico City, performed vocal numbers. They were accompanied by electric piano by Mrs. Dujowich's husband, Elias.

Snacks and drinks were served.

Members of the EDMONTON, Alta., Half-Century group were treated to a formal dinner Feb. 23.

The dinner, prepared by ministers' wives and deaconesses, was served by the ministers and deacons. After dinner children, teens and adults provided entertainment.

PEORIA, Ill., Church youths served the Silver Ambassadors a full-course dinner and provided entertainment March 9.

Entertainment included Bob Hunter, two piano solos; Jennifer Lohr, saxophone, accompanied by her sister, Rhonda, on piano; Jennifer Lohr, Michelle Salander, Connie Lawson and Heather Rickey, vocal quartet, accompanied by Rhonda Lohr, Synamin Lance, vocal solo; Tina Lair, Susan Hillebrand and Judy Lafferty, vocal trio; and the entire YOU singing "The Peoria YOU Service Song."

The afternoon continued at the Lake Museum Auditorium, where the Peoria Music Club performed vocal and piano solos. Coordinators of the events were Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Davison and David Davison.

SAN FRANCISCO and OAKLAND, Calif., Graduate Club members sponsored a brunch for their wives and senior citizens March 23. Ninety-one people, including 39 senior citizens, attended.

"Church Involvement and Service" was the theme of the meeting. The men provided transportation, set and decorated tables, prepared the meal and served their guests.

The menu consisted of eggs, sausages, croissants, sweet rolls and watermelon boats filled with fresh fruits.

Speech topics were the attitude necessary for service and how families, handicapped brethren, singles and senior citizens can serve and be involved in the Church.

Brian Orchard, church pastor, concluded by stressing that each member is vital and must serve the others.

Ignacio Mendoza, Gordon C. Graham, Michelle Salander and Gary B. MacPherson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHS

ARKWRIGHT, Thomas and Andra (Walker), of Minneapolis, Minn., boy, Martel Tamon, Sept. 16, 1985, 3.15 p.m., 7 pounds 10 ounces, now 3 boys, 2 girls.

BAUGHER, Daniel and Debra (Grimmel), of Huntsville, Ala., girl, Rachel Elisabeth Florence, March 18, 9:28 a.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

BERRIE, Bobby and Charlene (Chatham), of San Angelo, Tex., boy, Trenton Tell, March 31, 5:58 p.m., 9 pounds 12 ounces, now 4 boys, 3 girls.

BRIGHTWELL, Desmond and Louise (Coleman), of Napier, New Zealand, boy, Philip, Feb. 21, 11:20 a.m., 7 pounds 15 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

CARLEN, Dale and Bonnie (Zelenka), of Philadelphia, Pa., boy, Ian Mitchell, April 5, 2:04 a.m., 8 pounds 7 ounces, now 2 boys.

CARTWRIGHT, Sterlyn and Tina (Ragan), of San Antonio, Tex., boy, Dillon James, March 14, 12:13 a.m., 9 pounds 8 ounces, now 2 boys.

CAVE, Randy and Sandi (Williams), of Queenin, B.C., boy, Jordan Matthew, March 9, 6:47 p.m., 7 pounds 12 ounces, now 3 boys.

CEGELSKI, Steven and Margaret (Kloster), of San Luis Obispo, Calif., boy, Johannes Andrew, March 25, 3:32 a.m., 7 pounds 8 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

CHANDLER, Eric and Christine (Klasska), of Doodlakine, Australia, boy, David Joseph, April 2, 4:30 p.m., 8 pounds 5 1/2 ounces, first child.

COCHRANE, Timothy and Renee (Harris), of Greensboro, N.C., boy, Timothyus DaMarry, March 23, 7:12 p.m., 7 pounds 4 ounces, first child.

COOPER, Martin and Virginia (Davis), of Orlando, Fla., girl, Leah Ann, Jan. 15, 4:22 a.m., 9 pounds 3 ounces, now 1 boy, 3 girls.

CRIKIS, Peter and Toni (Macris), of Perth, Australia, girl, Tameryn Renee, March 6, 7:39 p.m., 8 pounds 6 ounces, now 1 boy.

CUPOLI, Daniel and Kathy (Lyall), of Cambridge, Ohio, girl, Andrea Rose, Jan. 12, 8:48 a.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

DAVIS, Patrick and Andrea (Reid), of Garden Grove, Calif., girl, Megan Nicole, Dec. 4, 1985, 12:05 p.m., 10 pounds 8 ounces, now 2 girls.

DAY, William and Gabriele (Hopf), of Ridgecrest, Calif., girl, Jennifer Louise, March 27, 12:33 a.m., 5 pounds 10 ounces, now 3 girls.

DEMPOSEY, Michael and Rhonda (Stephens), of Flathead, Mont., girl, Emily Jean, Feb. 9, 5:35 a.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, first child.

DIBEL, Marvin and Joan (Gurville), of North Battleford, Sask., girl, Jennifer Charlene, Jan. 21, 4:45 p.m., 9 pounds 2 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

EASLEY, Sam and Debra (Robb), of Oklahoma City, Okla., girl, Brittany Lynn, Dec. 31, 1985, 12:41 p.m., 7 pounds 3 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

ESCARA, George and Pamela (Diamante), of Malolos, Philippines, girl, Lorna Ruth, April 1, 6:30 a.m., 8 pounds, now 2 girls.

GIBSON, Grant and Sherryn (Welch), of Brisbane, Australia, boy, Daniel Matthew, April 2, 5:08 a.m., 8 pounds 13 1/2 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

GRAMZA, Ronald and Lora (Stetter), of Kenosha, Wis., boy, Aaron Lee, Feb. 28, 2:23 a.m., 9 pounds 8 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

GRANGER, Frank and Betty (Bennett), of Charlotte, N.C., boy, Benjamin David, Dec. 24, 1985, 1:36 a.m., 7 pounds 9 ounces, first child.

GROSJEAN, Gary and Ginger (Gervais), of Prince George, B.C., girl, Kassara Michelle-Jasmine, Jan. 13, 3:14 a.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

HART, Richard and Aletha (Moore), of Tampa, Fla., girl, Aurelia Christina, March 26, 5 pounds 2 ounces, now 2 girls.

HERRERA, Amos and Pauline (Mascarenes), of Questa, N.M., boy, Steven Philip, March 27, 7:30 a.m., 7 pounds 5 ounces, now 3 boys.

HICKS, Joel and Shelly, of Birmingham, Ala., girl, Lauren Elise, March 5, 8:47 p.m., 9 pounds 10 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

HUYINK, David and Michelle (Mehvey), of St. Paul, Minn., girl, Rebekah Rachel, March 26, 5:30 p.m., 7 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 4 girls.

KARAGIANNIDIS, John and Julie (White), of Melbourne, Australia, girl, Sophia Alexandra, March 13, 3:55 p.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

KLOCK, Lowell and Ruth (Swisher), of San Bernardino, Calif., girl, Jessica Dawn, March 21, 6:26 p.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 girls.

LANDRY, Jean-Paul and Maureen (Trant), of Meriden, Conn., boy, Benjamin John, April 3, 4:59 a.m., 8 pounds 1 ounce, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

LENDBERG, Steven and Cathy (Kehler), of Morden, Man., girl, Pamela Jane, March 31, 8:20 a.m., 8 pounds 6 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

LUTZ, Gary and Sherry (Kling), of Pittsburgh, Pa., boy, Alexander Clark, March 22, 4:23 p.m., 8 pounds 3 ounces, now 2 boys.

MARCUM, David and Shirley (Vegors), of Garden Grove, Calif., girl, Amya Lee, March 24, 9:12 a.m., 8 pounds 15 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

MARTIN, Brad and Debbie (Bloom), of Norfolk, Va., boy, Matthew Lee, Feb. 13, 5:28 p.m., 9 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 boys.

MCCULLY, Ian and Wendy (Bennett), of Rockhampton, Australia, boy, Philip Ian, Feb. 15, 3:20 p.m., 7 pounds 15 ounces, first child.

MUSTARD, George and Jenny (Young), of Durban, South Africa, girl, Collette Joanna, April 5, 12:25 p.m., 7 pounds 2 ounces, first child.

NITZBERG, Howard and Linda (Sargent), of Knoxville, Tenn., girl, Destinee Sage, Jan. 26, 3:30 p.m., 8 pounds 2 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

NULL, Scott and Sandra (Stuart), of Toledo, Ohio, boy, Scott Nehemiah, Feb. 24, 9:43 p.m., 9 pounds 4 ounces, first child.

PEOPLES, Michael and Susan (Mawhinney), of Grafton, Australia, boy, Cameron Mark, Feb. 28, 11:10 a.m., 9 pounds 9 ounces, now 2 boys.

RICKETTS, Lloyd and Rosemary (Burman), of Grafton, Australia, Charlette Rebecca, April 4, 9:30 a.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

ROMKE, Nathaniel and Lori (Bowles), of Reno, Nev., girl, Colleen Brittany, March 11, 1:03 a.m., 8 pounds 5 ounces, first child.

SCHRIETZINGER, Dave and Marilyn (Hardy), of Columbus, Ohio, girl, Carliee Michelle, March 4, 12:38 p.m., 8 pounds 14 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

SETTLES, Joseph and Vesta (Jackson), of Washington, D.C., boy, Joseph Brandon Jr., March 21, 11:31

a.m., 6 pounds 5 ounces, now 2 boys.

SEVIER, Bob and Kay (Hoopengartner), of Indianapolis, Ind., boy, Jason Corey, March 14, 12:56 a.m., 7 pounds 4 1/2 ounces, now 4 boys, 3 girls.

SHEPPARD, Ernest and Paula (Lavelle), of Ada, Okla., girl, Renee Rachelle, Jan. 5, 6:04 a.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 girls.

TORODE, Michael and Deborah (Rasor), of Pasadena, boy, Michael Thomas, March 21, 5:55 p.m., 9 pounds 12 ounces, first child.

VAN, Greg and Marsha (Peterson), of Green Bay, Wis., boy, David Matthew, March 21, 11 pounds, now 3 boys.

WALKER, Jay and Tina (Pawlak), of Wheeling, W. Va., boy, Alexander Fitzgerald, Feb. 19, 9:34 p.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

WARREN, H. Joshua and Cleo (Butler), of Mojave, Calif., boy, Joshua Isaac, Feb. 24, 10:24 a.m., 7 pounds 13 1/2 ounces, now 3 boys, 1 girl.

WEBSTER, David and Patricia (Thompson), of Cincinnati, Ohio, boy, David Patrick Marion, Jan. 25, 7:55 a.m., 8 pounds 15 ounces, now 3 boys.

WERDEN, Edward and Sharon (Wilkena), of Cincinnati, Ohio, boy, Jason Edward, March 1, 1 a.m., 8 pounds 6 ounces, first child.

WITT, John and Cynthia (Barrera), of Uvalde, Tex., girl, Brittany Nicole, Dec. 24, 1985, 12:12 p.m., 7 pounds, now 1 boy, 3 girls.

ENGAGEMENTS

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Berg of the Fargo, N.D., church, are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Kellie Jo to Lyle Avant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Avant, also of the Fargo church. A June 21 wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Broadway of Sacramento, Calif., are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Stefanie Ellen Wilson to Jason John Churchill, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Churchill of Sacramento. A July 13 wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Vaccaro are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Gina to Michael Perry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Perry, Michael and Gina attend the Youngstown, Ohio, church. A late August wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Harland Ramberg of the St. Paul, Minn., church, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Donna Marie to Kevin Vinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce R. Lamborn of Esparto, Calif. A June 8 wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Perugini of Sacramento, Calif., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Donna Marie to Kevin Vinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce R. Lamborn of Esparto, Calif. A June 8 wedding is planned.

WEDDINGS

MR. AND MRS. BILLY HAMMONDS JR.
Julie Ann Ferrell, daughter of Tom and Melba Ferrell, and Billy Wayne Hammonds Jr., son of Wayne Sr. and Shirley Hammonds, were united in marriage March 9 in Houston, Tex. The ceremony was performed by John Ogwyn, pastor of the Houston North church. Shirley Weaver, sister of the bride, was matron of honor and the groom's father was best man. The couple reside in Texas City, Tex.

MR. AND MRS. ANTHONY CAMPO
Sonya Koning, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Koning of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Anthony L. Campo, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Campo of Mount Clemens, Mich., were united in marriage March 2 in the Pasadena Ambassador College Academic Center. The ceremony was performed by David Albert, a pastor at Pasadena Ambassador College. Teresa Sinner, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Luke Przeslawski was best man. The couple reside in South Pasadena, Calif.

Patricia I. Priedt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Priedt of Philadelphia, Pa., and Daniel J. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Smith of Clousland, Ga., were united in marriage March 2 in Philadelphia. The ceremony was performed by Carlos Perkins, pastor of the Philadelphia church. Lisa Priedt was maid of honor, and Bob Baker was best man. The couple reside in Seane, Pa.

in marriage Feb. 23 in Saskatoon, Sask. The ceremony was performed by Maurice Yurkow, pastor of the Saskatoon church. The maid of honor was Adele Messier, and the best man was David Gerlinsky. The couple reside in Edmonton, Alta.

ANNIVERSARIES

My dear Lester: Thanks so much for a special and happy second anniversary. I cherish the moments we had together. Words alone cannot express how much I love and admire you. I am also thankful for our son, Travis, who also has added joy to my life. Keep up the good work! I love you always, Sarah.

Happy 17th anniversary May 4, Mom and Dad (Mr. and Mrs. Robert Knowles). With much love from your children, Kim and Steve.

Lynne: Happy 18th May 4. Thank you for your love and patience these last years. Looking forward to some of the best years of our life. Much love, Bob.

To my beloved Kern on May 28: I thank you for the three happiest years of my life. With love, your Martin.



MR. AND MRS. GORDON SCHMIDT
Gordon and Shirley Schmidt celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary March 26. Their daughter, Denise, their son, Timothy, and his wife, Mary, surprised them with a cake and potluck, which was shared by brethren of the Orlando, Fla., church. The Schmidts were married in the Pasadena Ambassador College Lower Gardens.



MR. AND MRS. CHARLES SCULLY
Charles and Brenda Scully of Ilton, England, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary March 23. David House, pastor of the Bristol, Channel Islands, Tiverton and Plymouth, England, churches, presented them with gifts and a cake from the Tiverton church at a dance the night before. The Scullys were married in High Wycombe, England.

Weddings Made of Gold

SALEM, Ore. — Cyrenus Lloyd and Zella Ferris celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary March 23 with an open house at Pringle Park Community Hall. Hosts for the occasion were the couple's children, Cecil and Elden, and seven grandchildren. Brethren from the Salem church, family members and friends attended.

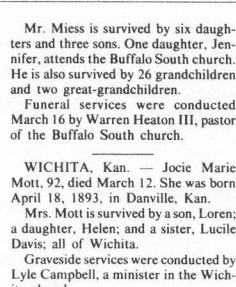
The Ferrises were married March 22, 1936, in Dallas, Tex. Mrs. Ferris first heard the late Herbert W. Armstrong on the radio in the 1940s. Mr. and Mrs. Ferris were baptized in 1980.



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM H. BOYD
Ella Mae Walker and William H. Boyd were united in marriage Jan. 18. The ceremony was performed by Rowen Tucker, pastor of the Memphis and Jackson, Tenn., churches. The couple reside in Memphis.



MR. AND MRS. JASON HART
Rocio Bean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bean of Hollywood, Fla., and Jason C. Hart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Hart, were united in marriage Nov. 17, 1985. The ceremony was performed by Alan Barr, pastor of the Miami, Fla., church. Anna Ernst, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Ella Hart, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple reside in Princeton, Fla.



MR. AND MRS. LENARD GERLINSKY
Esabelle Messier and Lenard Gerlinsky were united in marriage Feb. 23 in Saskatoon, Sask. The ceremony was performed by Maurice Yurkow, pastor of the Saskatoon church. The maid of honor was Adele Messier, and the best man was David Gerlinsky. The couple reside in Edmonton, Alta.

MR. AND MRS. EVERETT DREADED
Everett and Lorene Dreaden celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary April 4 at a surprise supper planned by their children. Dr. and Mrs. Dreaden were baptized in the fall of 1985. They grew up and live in the Crestview, Fla., area, although they spent 15 years in Big Sandy. The Dreadens have three children: Larry, Art, a Church member who attends the Fort Walton Beach, Fla., church, and Cindy Hammond, and four grandchildren. Dr. Dreaden is retired from chiropractic practice.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN NEWSON
Whangare, New Zealand, brethren surprised John and Joan Newson with a cake and flowers in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary. The Newsons were married March 4, 1961, and were baptized together in September, 1964. They have two daughters and one grandson.

Obituaries

PASADENA — Peggy Miller, 46, died April 14 after a long illness. She was born June 5, 1939, in Washington, Pa., and has been in a Church member since 1959. She graduated from Ambassador College in 1962.



PEGGY MILLER
Mrs. Miller is survived by her husband, Carroll, a local elder supervising the Personal Correspondence Department of God's work; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William McGill of Pasadena; and a sister and three nieces in Houston, Tex.

WICHITA, Kan. — Jocie Marie Mott, 92, died March 12. She was born April 18, 1893, in Danville, Kan. Mrs. Mott is survived by a son, LINDEN; a daughter, Helen; and a sister, Lucile Davis; all of Wichita.

Graveside services were conducted by Lyle Campbell, a minister in the Wichita church.

BIG SANDY — Zennie May Harris, 83, died March 4 at the Hawkins, Tex., Care Center nursing home. Mrs. Harris has been a Church member since 1965. Mrs. Harris was born in Hinsdale, Ky., Feb. 11, 1903. She moved to Big Sandy 20 years ago.

Mrs. Harris is survived by a nephew, Virgil Owen of Oklahoma City, Okla.; a niece, Azilee Wentholt of Lexington, Okla.; and other nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted by James Duke, associate pastor of the Big Sandy and Tyler, Tex., churches.

CENTER, Tex. — Ima Bush, 92, died Feb. 6 after an extended illness. She has been a Church member since 1975 and attended the Lufkin, Tex., church.

Mrs. Bush is survived by a son, Norwood; a daughter, Zella Patterson; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at the Bartle Funeral Home in Center by Robert Peoples, pastor of the Lufkin and Longview, Tex., churches.

BUFFALO, N.Y. — William Miess Sr., 71, died of pneumonia March 13. He attended the Buffalo churches since 1973.

KNAPPA, Ore. — John M. Minkoff, 84, died at home here March 8. Mr. Minkoff was born Sept. 20, 1901, in Tasbunar, Russia. He was baptized in July, 1962, and attended the Portland, Ore., West church.

Graveside services were conducted March 12 by Nelson Haas, pastor of the Portland West church.

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Ong Hok Hian, 86, died in a hospital here March 14 after suffering from double pneumonia.

An article about Mr. Ong was published in the Jan. 7, 1985, *Worldwide News*.

Mr. Ong was born in 1899 in Menado, Celebes, Indonesia.



ONG HOK HIAN
Mr. Ong came into contact with the Church while visiting his children in the United States. He was baptized in England in 1963. He was the first member baptized in the Dutch-speaking area.

The funeral took place March 19 in Rijswijk, Netherlands.

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS IN THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

UPDATE

PASADENA — Telephone response to the *World Tomorrow* program, *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*, numbered 37,748 May 3 and 4, according to evangelist Richard Rice, director of the Church's Mail Processing Center (MPC).

The program, presented by David Hulme, director of Media Purchasing and Public Relations, was the third-highest response in the history of the *World Tomorrow* telecast. Mr. Rice said that the top three programs for 1986 telephone response have had prophetic themes.

One viewer commented: "I was spellbound! We always feel we can be better informed by watching the *World Tomorrow* program."

The *World Tomorrow* program, *Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Our Modern Plague*, drew 32,055 telephone calls April 19 and 20, ac-

ording to Mr. Rice.

The program, *The Secret of the Human Mind*, pulled 18,356 calls April 26 and 27. Both programs were presented by David Albert, a pastor-rank minister and professor at Pasadena Ambassador College.

"At least 1,000 additional calls would have been received if the major cable station, WTBS, had not preempted the program Sunday evening [April 20]," Mr. Rice said.

WTBS was scheduled to preempt *The World Tomorrow* again April 27, "but we received a call at 10:15 p.m. [Pacific Daylight Time], Sunday night, informing us that the telecast was being aired," Mr. Rice said. "An emergency call to the college brought a couple dozen students to help with this unexpected ring-through. Thirty-two operators answered 600 calls."

Mr. Rice said that the Pasadena campus telephone system and Wide

Area Telephone Service (WATS) lines malfunctioned four times on the Sabbath, April 26.

"We were unable to receive any WATS calls during those times," the evangelist said. Using a computer the department was "able to route all responses to the Big Sandy WATS operation where 75 operators were on hand. This helped us avoid losing hundreds of calls."

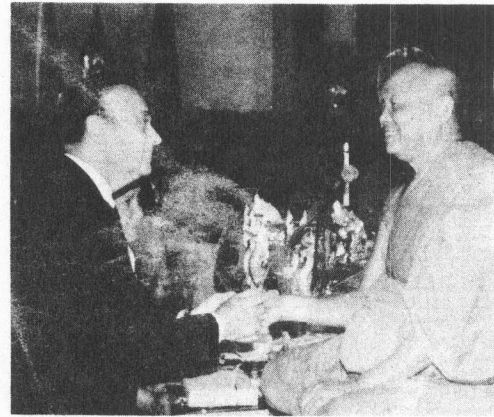
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BOREHAMWOOD, England — God's Church will conduct the Fall Festival in Kenmare, Ireland, according to the British Regional Office here.

Services will be conducted in the Riversdale House Hotel on the shores of Kenmare Bay. A wide variety of accommodations will be available, with prices beginning at about \$16 (11 pounds) for bed and breakfast. Self-catering is also available.

Kenmare offers excursions in the Dingle peninsula and Ireland's lake district around Killarney, about 20 miles (32 kilometers) away.

Other activities include golf, horseback riding, tennis, swimming, sea fishing for mackerel and bass, and river fishing for salmon



THAI PRESENTATION — Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach presents a ceremonial gift to Abbot PhraThepsopon of the Wat Thai (Thai Temple) in Los Angeles, Calif., April 26. The presentation was part of a ceremony commemorating the 100th-day anniversary of the death of Herbert W. Armstrong. [Photo by Raymond Epperson]

and brown trout.

Brethren interested in attending the Kenmare site should write to the

British Festival Office, Box 111, Borehamwood, Herts., WD6 1LU, England.

Tribute

(Continued from page 1)

significantly better than the first. I thought the chorus outdid itself, especially in the closing numbers," Mr. Bryant said.

Soloists were Delcina Stevenson, soprano; Alyce Rogers, mezzo-soprano; Mr. Bryant, tenor; and Gerald Bieritz, baritone.

Miss Stevenson has performed with the Los Angeles, Calif., Philharmonic and with the San Francisco, Calif., Detroit, Mich., and National symphonies. Miss Stevenson was a soloist in the Ambassador College performances of Handel's *Messiah* and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*.

Miss Rogers has been a guest artist with orchestras, including those of Boston, Mass., Portland, Ore., and St. Louis, Mo., and with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Mr. Bryant holds bachelor of music education and master of music degrees from Texas Christian University and has worked under conductors such as Kurt Adler, Robert Shaw, Louis Lane and Gerard Schwarz. He has also performed with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, the Bodensee Symphony in Bonndorf, West Germany, and the William Hall Chorale.

Mr. Bieritz, associate professor of music at Pasadena Ambassador College, holds a bachelor of music

education degree from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, and a master of arts degree in music from California State University in Long Beach, Calif. He has appeared in operas and recitals in Southern California.

Other featured singers were Church members Dean Koenek, Dan Taylor, Ingrid Helge, Celestine Olive, and students William Daniels, Robert Rodzaj, Lynn Burrows, Wendy Gubb and Marjorie Kerr.

Alaska

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ler, associate pastor of the Alaskan churches, was raised to preaching elder.

After introducing the ordination service, Mr. Tkach asked Mr. Roemer to lead the ordination ceremony. The pastor general, Mr. May, Mr. Dietrich and Alaskan ministers assisted.

Services ended at about 5 p.m.,

and Mr. Tkach met with brethren for about an hour. Several members said they appreciated the warmth and friendliness of Mr. Tkach.

"We know now that Mr. Tkach can fulfill his job with God's help, and so can we," said Glenn Tinker, a member from Soldotna. "We are fired up to march forward, eliminate the negative and follow our leader."

Mr. Tkach said that he saw a spirit of love and deep concern for the work of God within the brethren. He said that the warmth that was in the

brethren's hearts far surpassed the chill of the Alaskan air.

According to Mr. Roemer, Mr. Tkach conducted a ministerial meeting in the Summit Hall of the convention center for about 30 ministers and wives.

At 7 p.m., Mr. Tkach fellowshiped with Alaskan ministers and wives, the G-III crew and the group from Pasadena in his hotel suite. Members Leonhard Ruesch and Mark Linden "put a lot of hard work in preparing a delicious meal, which was much appreciated and enjoyed," Mr. Tkach said.

Thursday, May 1, Mr. Tkach, Mr. May and Mr. Butler made an 8 a.m. visit to two members in prison. They first visited Betty Anderson in the Cook Inlet Pretrial Facility and then her husband, Richard Anderson, in the Meadow Creek Correctional Facility.

Both are in excellent spirits and look to God for deliverance, Mr. Tkach said.

After touring the Anchorage area, Mr. Tkach and the group from Pasadena boarded the G-III at 2 p.m. for the return trip to the Burbank, Calif., airport. The G-III landed in California about 7:30 p.m., Pacific Daylight Time (PDT).

Before leaving Alaska, Mr. Tkach told the group that the visit was like a "mini-Feast of Tabernacles." He added that he hoped to return to Alaska.

AC student leaders announced

PASADENA — Chancellor Joseph W. Tkach announced student leadership positions, participants in international programs, summer ministerial trainees and students being hired full time April 15. These announcements followed his first Ambassador College forum address as chancellor.

Mr. Tkach reminded students that "the way of give is the way of the future. Take advantage of this opportunity — serve, give, get involved, be wholehearted as Jesus Christ set the example for us. Then and only then can God use all of you."

Pasadena student leaders: Roger Widmer, student body president; Jonathan McNair, student body

vice president; Kevin Armstrong, senior class president; Nigel Bearman, *Portfolio* editor; Lisa Derstine, overall Women's Club president; Michael Peterson, senior class vice president; Matthew Fenchel, junior class president; Thomas Piasceny, junior class vice president; Bruce Sexton, sophomore class president; Douglas Orban, sophomore class vice president.

Big Sandy student leaders: Cory Erickson, student body president; Jill Eastman, overall Women's Club president.

Students going to teach English in Thailand: Betsy Docken, William Grinnell, David Kranich, Tim Pebworth, April Waybright (an Ambassador College graduate). Two

men will teach at Golden Mount Temple and one at Satit Chula Demonstration School at Chulalongkorn University. The two women will teach at a private junior and senior high school on the grounds of the royal palace.

Students going to teach English in Sri Lanka: Robert Diehl, Donald Duchene, Keith Tomes, William and Kerry Flaman and Nina Lovelady (will be Nina Duchene after graduation). The students will teach at Parama Dhamma Chetya Pirivena in Mount Lavinia, a suburb of Colombo, and at the Waterfield Institute in Nuwara Eliya.

Students going to Jordan to teach at the Bunyat Center for Special Education and the Al Hussein School for the Physically Handicapped: Deanne Bochenki, Lynn Burns, Virell Campbell, Stan Daniel (a graduate), Wade Dueitt, Robert Gnage, William Green, Hope Frick, Judith Kulesza, Timothy Lindholm, Stephen Symonds.

Students going to the Tel Mozan archaeological project in Mozan, Syria: Marjorie Brown, Jeff Fozard, Edith Herrmann, David Love, Teresa Meisner, Allen Waggoner.

Full-time ministerial trainees: Michael Mitchell, Caribbean; Bharat Naker, Australia and India; Larry Roybal, Mexico; Sio Oui Shia, New Zealand; Eke Udeagha, Nigeria.

Students hired for full-time office work: Jennifer Atkinson, New Zealand; Donald Campbell, Student Services, Pasadena Ambassador College; Javier Flores, Mexico; Merry Knowlton, Church Administration; William Mason, South Africa; Sheryl Rowse, Australia; Sophi Victor, England.

Summer ministerial trainees: Kevin Armstrong, Canada; Nigel Bearman, England; Reese Edmondson, Canada; Carlos Lester, United States; Aldrin Mandimika, United States; Abraham Mathiu, United States.

Price

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things." Guilt kills faith.

If a tragedy comes up in your life, but you realize you haven't been praying and studying, and you only fast once a year, do you feel very confident before God? No, because you're not close to God.

But verse 21 shows us, "Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God." If you've been drawing closer to God and His Spirit has been filling you, then you'll have confidence and boldness.

Verse 22: "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments [what we've been told to do], and do those things that are pleasing in his sight [going above and beyond]."

There are lots of things we can do that God hasn't commanded, that will give us more confidence when we go to God. Serve. Give more than just the tithes and offerings that are commanded. If you've been more generous, fasting for others, seeking and drawing close to God, going all the way, you'll be more

confident when you must turn to God for healing.

If you set a time limit when you fast, say from sunset to sunset, that's fine if you're close to God at the end of that time. But if you're not close enough to God, maybe you should extend the time a little.

Do what you can. Don't quit. Don't be so willing to accept a "No." Sometimes you've got to accept "Nos" from God. But often God is willing to give a "Yes." We don't get the "Yes" because when God looks down and sees that we expect a "No." He'll usually answer our faith and say "No." God wants to see how much we really want whatever we're asking for, and the effort we ourselves are willing to put out.

Remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. In Hebrews 10:14, Paul says, "For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified." We need more faith and confidence in Christ's sacrifice. Verse 17 says, "And their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more."

Sometimes after praying, we know God has forgiven us, but we still carry around the guilt. That's

because we cut down our tree of faith with a chain saw, and it takes time and effort and God's help to get it growing again.

David hadn't been close to God when Nathan came to him about David's sin of adultery with Bathsheba. God struck the child with sickness, and David fasted seven days. God allowed the child to die. But David was not discouraged. He knew he had to go through that period of intense prayer and fasting to draw close to God again.

In verses 19-22, Paul writes, "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus . . . Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith . . ."

Yet healing is not the most important miracle. The most important miracle is God intervening to make sure His work is done. We need to ask God for more faith so that our prayers for the work may continue to be answered. The preaching of the Gospel and our preparation as teachers for the world tomorrow are most important right now. God can replace any one of us, but the miracle of this work must go on.

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