



Contact

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD IN THE PHILIPPINES AND NORTHEAST ASIA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MANILA SCHEDULES

SABBATH SERVICES -- every weekly Sabbath 1:00 p.m., GSP Auditorium, Padre Faura, Manila

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VOL. II, NO. 11

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

November 1974

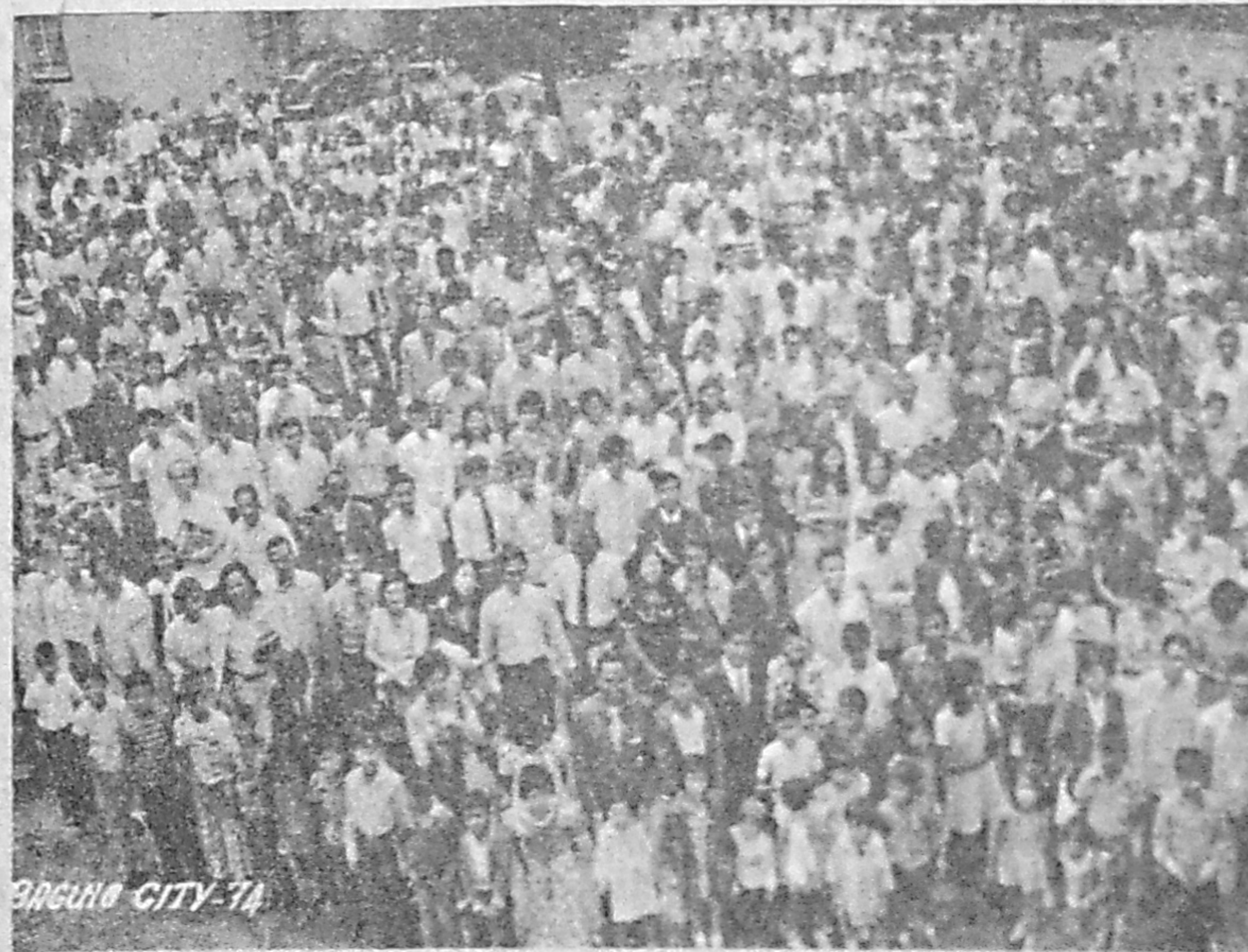
1974 FEAST OF TABERNACLES - BEST EVER!

Don Carlos Feast - an Overwhelming Success

By Rodolfo Bongat

More than 700 people from various places of the Philippine islands came to keep the best feast ever at the Don Carlos raw and unsophisticated feast site.

In spite of the prevailing rugged and bad road conditions in Mindanao, enthusiastic and happy brethren from across mountains, plains and seas began to show up one after another as early as September 29. The following morning some brethren registered just outside the church hall registration area. Preparing for the coming Sabbath evening, some volunteered to clean the church hall, paint the church windows while others stayed home to prepare themselves for the coming Get Together and first night service. At ten o'clock the next morning, the second service was held. Speaking in the English-Visayan blend dialect Mr. Encardio Benitez, ordained elder in the area, hammered vital points into the minds of the congregation. He continually did so energetically and even
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A portion of the huge crowd which gathered to keep the 1974 Feast of Tabernacles at Teachers' Camp, Baguio City.

College Students and Teachers Meet in Baguio City

by Cecilio J. Villegas Jr.

Seventy-two college students and teachers who kept the Feast of Tabernacles in Baguio City this year attended an orientation meeting held on October 6 at the Benitez Hall, Teachers' Camp. The meeting, which was sponsored by the team in-charge with the project of organizing the lectures of Mr. Colin Adair in colleges and universities throughout the country, had for each top agenda the reorganization

of the procedures in implementing the team's activity.

With the new procedures all interested college students and teachers may now join the team in initiating the lectures of Mr. Adair in their respective schools.

The orientation meeting had for its speakers members of the team. The meeting is part of the team's current project, named "Project University." It aims to give brethren
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MANILA -- The recently-concluded Feast of Tabernacles kept by 2,062 members of God's Church in three feast sites -- Tagum, Davao del Norte; Don Carlos, Bukidnon; and Teacher's Camp, Baguio City -- will go down in history as the "best ever yet." Much as we "hate" that oft-quoted phrase, it seems that the Feast was just that -- the best! At least that is true as far as the Philippines is concerned. Initial reports though seem to show -- as should be expected -- that the same was the case in all Feast sites around the world.

This year's Feast which was observed from October 1 to October 8 was greeted with relative calm on the world scene and for the first time ever Baguio was not visited by any single typhoon unlike the previous ones (1972 and 1973 especially) which saw drastic upheavals in the political scene either locally or internationally and typhoons lashing out at the Baguio Feast Site.

One noted that last year's feast completed a full seven years of keeping the Feast in Baguio. So after "seven times" had passed over us we were finally given a break from the battering typhoons. Mr. Arthur W. Docken, visiting festival minister, commented that we were blessed with a
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33,000 Ft. Over Europe:

Greetings again, brethren! We're homeward bound after a very fine vacation and a great Feast of Tabernacles in Minehead, England. In about 20 minutes we will be landing in Istanbul, Turkey, the second stop from London on this PANAM jet clipper to Hong Kong. It's a longer trip to Manila than it was from Manila as we are stopping at more places en route. After Istanbul we stop at Beirut, then Teheran, New Delhi, Bangkok and finally Hong Kong. This makes six stops altogether before Hong Kong counting Frankfurt which we left two hours ago. We had quite a rush to catch the plane. Even though we were at the airport one hour before departure time the lines of people checking in were so crowded it took me 35 minutes to get to the desk. Then we were overweight in baggage and were charged a ridiculous sum of money. In all our traveling this is only the second time we have been charged -- and the first time on PANAM. We were very angry at this but it has taught us not to be overweight in future. On top of that we weren't able to get seats together for the first stage of the flight. My wife was sitting beside a gentleman and asked him if he was getting off in Frankfurt. He said he was going on to Istanbul but very kindly exchanged seats with me, so my wife, Andrew and I could sit together. During the conversation before we changed, my wife "unloaded" her feelings to the man, at being charged excess baggage and it turned out the man worked for PANAM! He expressed sympathy but said that the airline could collapse economically in just one month unless the U.S. government helped it, and that they were trying to

Personal from

get hold of all the cash they could to have as many assets as possible. Here was yet another sign of America's deteriorating condition and a sign of the times.

Andrew seems to have a slight fever on this trip and is presently sleeping alongside me. He is not his usual alert, energetic self. We are hoping he wakes up feeling a lot better. So -- our trip home didn't start on too bright a note.

In last month's personal I ended up mentioning we were going to Bangor to rest for a while. Many of you in the Manila Church will have seen the postcard we sent. The weather was fairly good though cold, and we were able to take many walks along the sea coast with invigorating breezes carrying the salty tang of seaweed to our nostrils. We came up to Belfast for the Sabbath services plus Trumpets and Atonement, and finally stayed up for the remainder of our three weeks there. I was able to speak on the weekly Sabbath on the subject of the Philippine Work. On Trumpets I spoke on the problem of pride, and on Atonement how we can be perfect.

We left Belfast on September 27 and flew to Glasgow for the week-end. We left behind the bombs and the bullets and a sad family. Actually, although there were incidents while we were in N. Ireland, it was not noticeable. We heard of events only through the news media. The worst terrorist acts were the assassination of a judge and a magistrate by the IRA, quite close to where we live. One was a

Protestant the other a Catholic. You may have read about it on the Manila newspapers. Then on the night before we left we were returning home from taking our families out to dinner, when we were diverted from our route by the police. We learned afterwards that a R.C. priest and a man with him had just been shot. Fortunately, in this case; they were not fatally injured.

We had a nice stay with Mr. & Mrs. Mark Ellis, now pastor of our old area, Glasgow, and spoke to the Glasgow church Sabbath of September 28 -- again on the Philippine Work. That same evening Dr. Meredith conducted the sixth of the follow-up Bible lectures and we stayed for that. The attendance was about 38 including a few members. The Glasgow and Edinburgh follow-up attendances have been disappointing. It's hard to get through to us stubborn Ephraimites!

Next day, Sunday, we drove in our rented car south, heading for Minehead and the Feast. It was a beautiful day and a beautiful drive. There is a motorway all the way from Glasgow to about 20 miles from Minehead, mostly three lanes each way. It meant we could make good time. We covered about 350 miles, with a couple of stop-offs. Birmingham, England, was the place we stayed the night. Next day, Monday, we continued our journey and reached Minehead around 2:00 p.m. We were housed in a self-contained apartment; we had to buy groceries to make our breakfast each day (lunch and dinner were provided in

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- CONTACT -

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It is published monthly by Ambassador College Agency and the Worldwide Church of God at Manila, Phils. for the membership of the Church and also for others who sincerely want to get in contact with the Church.

While it is being sent out free, donations are much welcome.

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Personal from... cont'd

the minister's dining room). While I looked for coins for the electricity meter, my wife cleaned up the chalet, watched and "supervised" by Andrew. It was again a beautiful day and a good start to the Feast.

It was exciting seeing old friends again, including a former Bricket Wood classmate who is now stationed in Canada. Like us he and his family were vacationing in England. Many of the Scottish brethren particularly remembered the Manubays who kept the Feast in Minehead two years ago. Of course, we gave everyone the greetings of the Filipino brethren. Many came up to me after various services inquiring about you all. It was very gratifying to see their concern. Mr. Gagel, a Dutchman, now working at College, especially asked to be remembered to Mr. P. Ortiguero and family. He apparently kept the Feast in Manila back in 1965. And of course the Reyes family send their love. They are settling in fine and getting to like England.

We had 3,550 attending at Minehead, including the Dutch brethren. I was privileged to have the opportunity to give both a sermonette and a sermon. In the sermonette, given Tuesday afternoon, I spoke on the two aspects of the Philippine Work which have attracted the brethren's attention worldwide: the campaign and follow-ups, and the University lectures. Afterwards, many commented to me about the Work and asked other questions. The following Sunday I gave the sermon on

love and unity among the brethren, and how strife is the tool Satan uses to divide and conquer us. I had many comments afterwards on the real need for the sermon.

The brethren in England are very excited about the British campaigns. Mr. Plache gave a fine sermon on it and the need to reach Ephraim in these troublous times. Mr. Hunting gave very inspired sermons on the laws of God and our part in the Work. The first Holy Day saw an offering of £19,853.00 (multiply by 15.40 to get peso equivalent), an amazing 92% increase over the first Holy Day last year (with only about 200 more people there). But the biggest surprise of all came on the Last Great Day when a tremendous offering of £34,500 was received not too far short of 100% over the first day! The brethren in Britain really are concerned about doing the Work and of course with the closing of the College there is a great need for finances. It may be that sometime in the near future Britain (like all the International areas) will have to "go it alone."

The weather during the Feast was windy, cold, but dry most of the time. Only Sunday was very wet. We had an excellent talent show with some really professional acts, including a guitar group with a very fine girl singer. They rendered "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" very professionally and movingly. The special music by the various church choirs was also excellent. My mother had the opportunity of a solo number from Handel's Messiah "Rejoice Greatly" which she rendered very well. There was also a group called the Ambassador Singers who sang superbly. I asked them for a cassette recording of their

numbers, many of which were written by Mr. Rustin our pianist at the Feast. The October Contact arrived just in time on the Last Great Day! I must say I am pleased with the new look. Congratulations staff! The articles were also very fine and a few will be sent to the World-wide News.

The day we left was another beautiful day, and quite warm. We drove up to Radlett, near Bricket Wood, in about 3½ hours. We stayed with Mr. & Mrs. Paul Suckling, minister in charge of the Channel Islands Church and director of the College's buildings and grounds. We had a couple of days visiting the College and Press before the Sabbath service of October 12th. It was rather sad walking around the grounds which are deserted of students. Perhaps sometime in the future the dormitories will once again be filled with life and laughter.

After the service yesterday we went on to friends for dinner and then headed for London airport and the hotel we were going to stay in overnight. We were somewhat apprehensive because British Airways service personnel were on strike and many European flights were cancelled. We were booked on a flight to Frankfurt where we were to join the PANAM flight. After checking into the hotel I went to the Air Terminal and checked with PANAM to see if we could join the flight in London instead of Frankfurt. We were fortunate in being able to change, but as I said at the beginning, not so fortunate in our baggage weight! Due to some kind of airline regulation we were originally not supposed to join PANAM in London, seeing we were headed for Hong Kong. I think that because Hong Kong is

a British Colony, passengers must travel from London on British Airways only. Hence our having originally to go to Frankfurt seeing we didn't want to fly British. However, I think there was a misunderstanding. We were not, of course, terminating in Hong Kong, but merely stopping overnight before proceeding to Manila. So -- it all worked out well.

We have been sitting on the ground now in Istanbul for 40 minutes and are just about to take off. Andrew is sitting up playing and being admired greatly by three airhostesses sitting opposite. It's now 8:15 p.m. Turkey time (6:16 p.m. London time). We have been travelling 6½ hours already and still have a long, long way to go. Next stop -- Beirut.

I'm continuing this between Delhi and Bangkok. We have left Beirut and Teheran behind. We are flying at 37,000 ft. now, which is over 7 miles straight up. It is a clear day and on the horizon the massive Himalayas look like solid clouds. One of those peaks I'm looking at is Mount Everest. Although it's clear, my watch is still on London time at 5:00 a.m. October 14. We have been travelling now 17 hours. It's about 8:00 a.m. Delhi time. I've just eaten breakfast and Andrew has had his first meal this trip. He is still coughing quite a bit but his fever has gone. Earlier I took him to the toilet and anointed him -- the very first time there has been a need. He stood there with eyes closed and as I laid hands on him I could feel him burning up. Our prayer was answered almost immediately. I can remember coming back to the seat and shortly afterwards feeling his head. He was cool and normal! We were thankful (Please turn to page 4)

'74 Feast - Best Ever ...cont'd

"perfect or near perfect weather" this year.

The registration reports revealed a record-breaking attendance in all feast sites. Tagum had 197, Don Carlos 748 and Baguio for the first time broke the 1000-mark by registering 1,117. Also the morning service of the Last Great Day broke the Feast attendance record with a total of 1,057.

The well-planned preparations in the matter of organization initiated by Mr. Pike Mirto paid off with a smooth-running feast. From Mindanao, Mr. Encardio Benitez, festival elder in Don Carlos, also reported the tremendous improvement in their festival organization.

From the time the chartered buses left for Baguio up to the time they brought back the brethren to Manila, the organization functioned like a well-oiled machine.

The Socials which included the basketball tournaments, children's games, social dances, and family nights, etc. were all participated in enthusiastically.

The shows -- Filipiniana and choral concert -- both won the acclamation of the audience as the best shows ever, prompting Mr. Docken to comment on it as a "real, wonderful show."

There were also problems -- even lots of them -- as should be expected. For instance, it was noted that there was quite an increase in illnesses this year. There were also problems regarding the behavior of the young people which has already been handled and placed under control at this time of writing.

The membership profited most of all from the spiri-

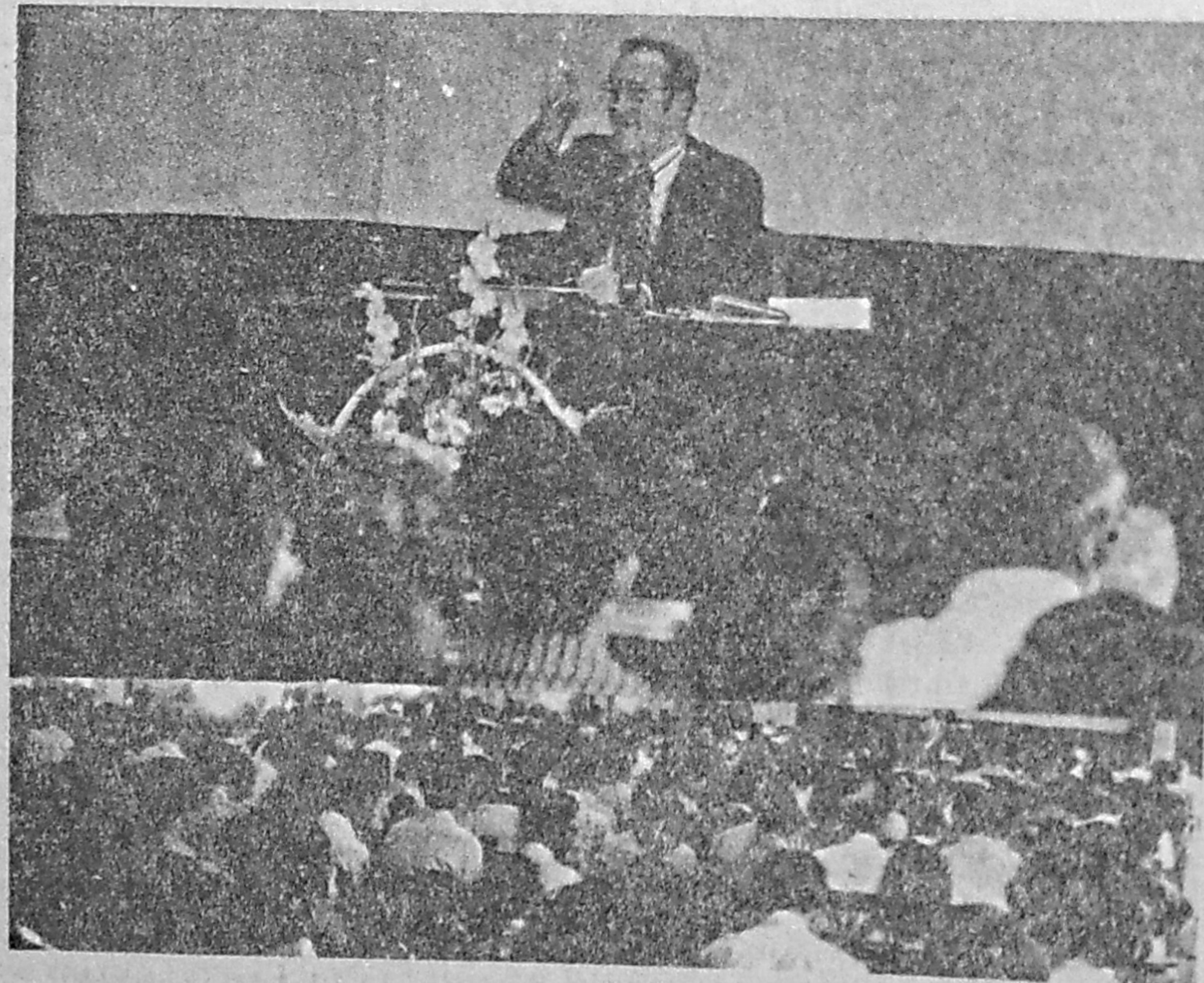
tual aspect of the Feast -- the much-needed messages encouraging the brethren to keep the Feast in a higher place, with a deeper meaning; warning them to keep on guard against the arch-Adversary; and most of all stirring them up to greater zeal and fervency in fulfilling their parts in God's Work.

As a result, the Holy Day offerings in Baguio registered the highest increase -- a 25.60% on the Last Great Day and a smashing, record-breaking 39.52% during the first Holy Day. □

Personal from ...cont'd

for God's speedy intervention. (The pilot has just told us that Mt. Everest is coming up on the left of the aircraft so I'm straining to catch a glimpse.)

Well, I never did see Mt. Everest and here we are back in Manila. We've been home two days and An-



Mr. Arthur Docken stresses a point in the Bible Study held in one of the days of the Feast of Tabernacles. The BS was attended by a very large number of scattered as well as Manila brethren.

(Photo by Cicero Binuya, Jr.)

BELIEVE IT • NOT

ACCOUNTING -- or rather COUNTING during the OLD TESTAMENT TIMES was very difficult. In fact the people had a real hard time counting their horses. Because to count the number of horses in a herd they first counted the hoofs

then of course, divided it by 4 -- and PRESTO!

They got the number of horses.

Isa. 5:28 (KJV) reads: "... their horses hoofs shall be counted..."



miss you all.

Going back for a moment, we made it to Hong Kong just about on schedule after a total of 23 hours on the plane. I believe this is the longest time yet. Andrew enjoyed it once he was feeling better and was glued to the window each time we landed and took-off. We stopped in a hotel in Hong Kong on PANAM's expense because of no connection to Manila that evening. After shopping a little next day we boarded Cathay Pacific flight 903 for Manila and after the short hop of 1½ hours, landed in Manila at 5:50 p.m. October 15. Jerry Ortiguero and Nick Antonio (who works for PAL) assisted us in speeding through Customs and we were out of the building and warmly greeted by the Office staff and other members who had come to welcome us home. I had better stop, now, or this issue of CONTACT will be taken up solely by my personal! I hear you all had a great Feast. Now we can continue ahead with the Work and together do the job God has called us to in this part of the world! □

MANILA NEWS

An Impressive Concert Indeed

By Suzette Magallanes

October 6, Sunday. It was raining when I went to the Choral Concert this evening - my first time to attend one. As I entered Benitez Hall, usherettes in their attractive gowns greeted me with their smiles and gave me the program for the concert. The usher was nice enough to give me a very good seat with a good view of the stage. I sat down and read the program.

As the stage was being set and the audience comfortably seated waiting for the concert to begin, the lights went out. A couple of men quickly put up candles all over the stage. The show must go on no matter what. Every body was high-spirited including the audience. And just as the concert was about to start, the lights went on again. A round of applause followed. The Philippine National Anthem was sung. Then Mr. Filamer Santos, project manager of the concert, welcomed the audience to an evening of music and the concert began.

The Choir - Part I - Classical

The men in their suits and the ladies in their flowing gowns - all elegant and eye-catching, captivated the audience with their performance - their rendition of Strauss' "Tales from the Vienna Woods," "A Thousand and One Nights" and other classical favorites like

(Please turn to page 6)



(Photo by Cicero Binuya, Jr.)

"One more son" is Frank Pedegiorio's plea as he belts out a hilarious song that added spice to the recent Choral Concert in Baguio City.

Feast of Tabernacles Church Bazaar

by Eriz Dizon

Baguio City. "If we reduce the prices some more, there will be no more prices left" - was the statement which caught the audience's attention and interest in the morning service that day. Just after the morning service we began preparing and displaying the items for sale in the bazaar at the Roosevelt Hall in Teachers' Camp, Baguio City - classifying the men's apparel from the ladies' and children's. But even before the clock struck 2:00 PM, the people having heard

the announcements and having seen the advertisement posters, started flocking in front of Roosevelt Hall. Most of them were brethren from the provinces and they started selecting and haggling for the items on the counters with our salesladies.

The only thing that will come into your mind if you had seen the Church Bazaar in action is buy, buy, buy and rush, rush, rush. And why not? If you combine the number of people, the money they had and the very, very low cost of the items on

(Please turn to page 6)

Family Night '74

by Lili Acosta

Baguio City, Oct. 1, Tuesday - "... a member from a foreign country...!" summoned the emcee.

In that spur-of-the-moment a foreign visitor

was presented by the participants in the "Treasure Hunting", contest held at the Benitez Hall, Baguio City during the Feast of Tabernacles.

Family Night was an affair designed to bring enjoyment to each and every member of the families attending the Feast of Tabernacles. These activities also provided wholesome entertainment in the form of parlor and table games to all those attending - children, teen-

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YACS Serve as Porters and Guides

by Ely Mellomida

The Young Ambassador Clubs A & B combined muscles in bearing luggage during the arrival and departure of people attending the Feast of Tabernacles in Baguio City.

The luggage porter service which was launched by both clubs induced an alleviating atmosphere to the brethren specially to the elderly people and women.

The idea was first casually suggested by Mr. Pike Mirto before the feast to the leaders of the YACS. Mr. Ed Macaraeg, the director in charge of both clubs, approved the completed plan and the designation of Mr. Abdon Buena to man the project. The project manager immediately recruited brawny and vigorous young people in addition to the YAC members.

Church members who could "hardly" lift their luggage willingly offered to lend their muscles. The enthusiastic young men happily served the brethren in spite of the tiresome and enervating whole night travel.

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SPORTS

1974 Basketball Season Ended

By Oscar Gonzales and Johnny Logrono

A series of basketball games held last Oct. 2 and 6 in Baguio City during the Feast of Tabernacles ended the 1974 Basketball season sponsored by the local church.

Two main thrillers were staged on Oct. 2 at the Teachers' Camp open hard court. The "Greens" grappled against the "Golds" for the runner-up title (the "Whites" grips the lead) followed by an exhibition game between the cool "Blues" and the whisking Iloilo team. The persistent hard-driving "Greens" marred out the glitters of the "Golds" in an edging 46-41 score. While the "Blues" easily chopped down the Iloilo team with a gaping 43-32 margin. These games were preceded by the entertaining women's teams with the Violets routing the Pacifics with a smashing 6-4 score!

On October 6, three matches entertained the feast observers who were very much blessed with extra fine weather the whole afternoon. The cellar-oriented Maroons ripped the Orange team, 55-28 in an unfinished match, while the Whites trounced the selections, and the Iloilo team slashed back the "Blues" who were miserably undermanned.

The Maroons capitalized on its taller players who



The sweet smell of victory is very much apparent in the faces of the Green team members and especially their cheerers. Photo was taken after the team's win over the Golds in Baguio City.

dominated the rebounds and followed an improved and spirited offensive pattern. With the absence of Andrew Tang of the Orange, M. Quiray, a six-footer center of the Maroons was unopposed in the rebounds to pluck the ball easily. Quiray and Agsalud combined for 20 points, while Atty. Quitoriano chalked-in 10 points to nip the stretching margin.

In the White-Selection exhibition game, the White team banking on a better organization, which carried it to the 1974 championship, trounced the Selections, 55-39. The Selections was composed of chosen players from among the rest of the teams. The White team put up a tight defense and demonstrated sharp fastbreaks against the tattered defense of its opponent. The big guns, Baylisis and Yadao, sank in 26 points while the selection powerhouse was controlled to a low output.

In a rematch between the Blues and the Iloilo teams, the underdog Iloilo team squeaked an additional four points in the last two minutes of the final half of the game to

First Round Scheduled Improved Ball-games Seen

Manila -- The first round of the 1975 basketball season is scheduled to start November 16 ending up on Feb. 22, 1975. The initial games between the Blues and the Whites and the Golds vs. the Greens will be played after the usual opening ceremony at the Insular Life basketball court, Ayala Avenue, Makati.

shut down its opponent. The Iloilo team won, 59-55 avenging its previous loss to the Blues. The Blues crippled with the absence of Bien Macaraeg, Fil Santos, Max Enage and Eloy Sayan, did not use any substitute throughout the game and inevitably fatigued in the third quarter left its defenses wide open to smooth under-the-board shots by Rhoderik

Based on an interview last week, improved ball-games are evidently seen. Each team was asked to evaluate their own previous performance and each was able to point out its own strengths and weaknesses and voiced actions to capitalize or improve them.

The rough spot of most of the teams is teamwork which they said they will be working on this time. Following closely are practice and training which perhaps are hard to improve because each team member's individual schedules are not so easy to synchronize.

A few account diligence and discipline as factors for winning while others thought height is the greatest asset of their team.

Some comments regarding last season's games were quite revealing. Hopefully, of course, something is going to be done about them. One said: "Lack of enthusiasm is evident among players and some officials." "Referees should get together for more guidelines in officiating. There were too many protests because of unclear policies and regulations." Another said: "Players lack the spirit of competition." And one player from the Whites, the team which got the championship title commented: "I think the tournament isn't over yet. We are not yet recognized and awarded!!" (JL)

Alipoon and Edward Cambil. Joe Pioquinto, consistently converting most of his outside shootings into twinnings, struck 50 points but the Iloilo team succeeded in surging ahead in the neck-to-neck contest.

The over-all standing of the teams were as follows: Champion - Whites; Runner-up - Greens; 3rd-Golds; 4th - Blues; 5th-Maroons; 6th - Oranges. □

Students, Teachers Meet ...cont'd

who are college students and teachers opportunity to help in this year's lecture-campaign, which is aimed at colleges and universities in key cities in the Philippines.

Johnny Logroño, a member of the team, started the meeting at 1:00 P.M. with a brief introductory talk welcoming the participants. A show of hands revealed that the meeting was well represented. Participants came from different regions in the country, where they are either studying or teaching. Represented were schools and colleges in Northern Luzon, Southern Luzon (particularly Batangas), the Bicol region, the Visayas, and Greater Manila.

The participants were then briefed on the past activities of the Ambassador College Youth Corps (the former official name of the team), as well as the past lectures conducted by Mr. Adair. This writer, also a member of the team, spoke on the past year's lecture-campaign - from the time a church member studying in the University of San Carlos (Cebu City) persistently, and successfully, asked Mr. Adair to speak on the subject of Dating and Marriage before their Sociology class of some 80 people - to the latest lecture conducted in the Central Luzon Polytechnic College in Cabanatuan City which was attended by 1,500 students, faculty members, and college employees.

To date, Mr. Adair has already conducted eleven lectures, not including the Bible lectures held at the U.E. Auditorium. Ten of these lectures were held in colleges and uni-

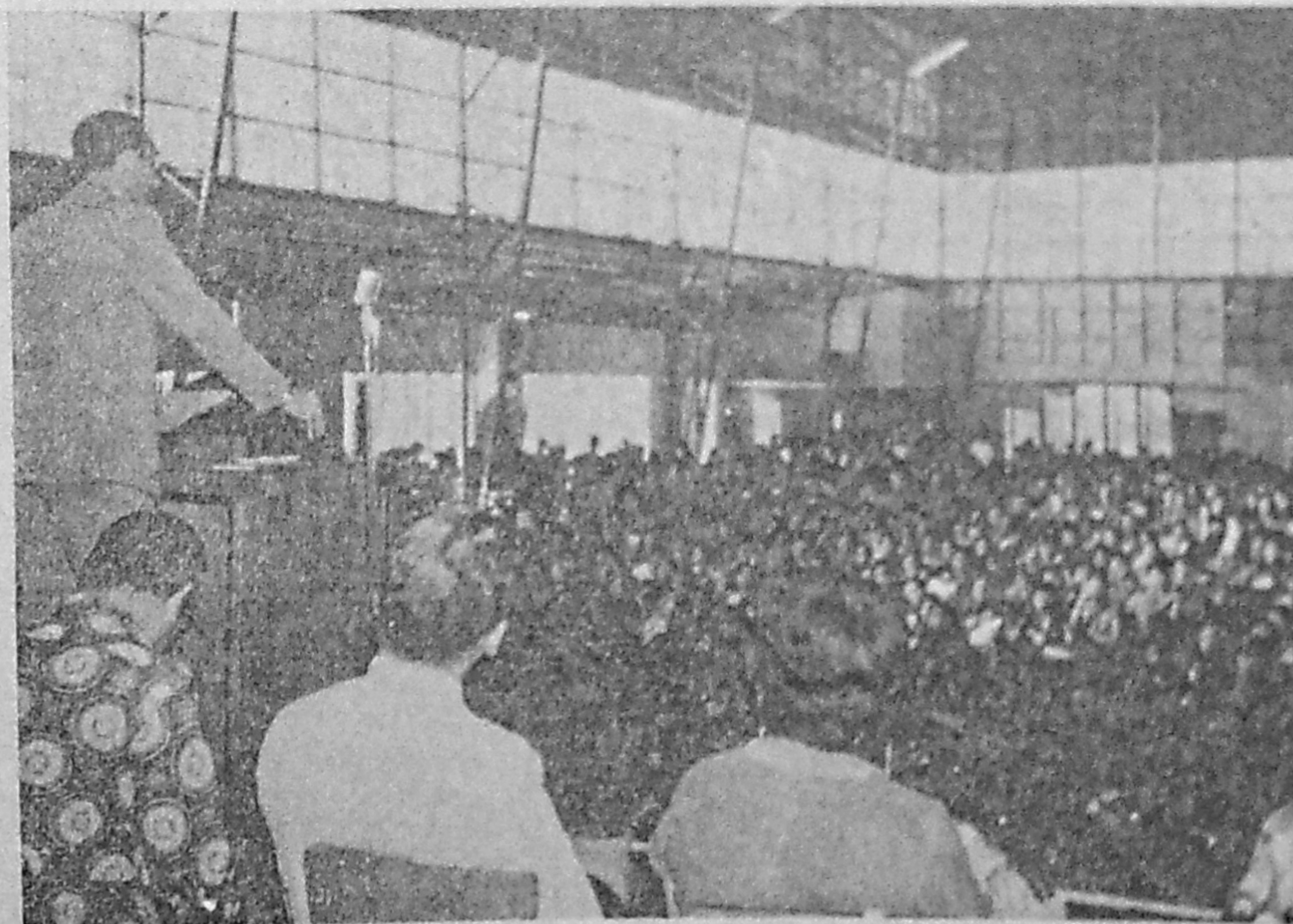
versities in Manila, Bicol, Central Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao - with one speaking engagement before some 320 Rizal school heads in Taytay, Rizal. (Most of these lectures were reported in the CONTACT.)

Mr. Pacifico Mirto delivered a most inspiring 45-minute talk on the importance of the project and duties of the participants. He repeatedly emphasized that involvement in the project would mean cooperation with "Headquarters" at Manila in carrying out whatever task would be involved.

The actual mechanics of the work involved in the project was then explained by Rey Taniajura, the overall head of the team and Project Coordinator. Rey Taniajura pointed out that the participants who would be chosen to help in the project would act as the representatives of the

team in their respective schools. They will report to "HQ" opportunities for a lecture to be held in their school, as for example when a resource speaker is needed in one of their school's convocations. (Mr. Adair's lectures, however, are limited to topics dealing with Moral Values, Dating, Sex, Marriage, Child Rearing and Family Relations.) As chosen members they can actually initiate openings for a lecture in their respective schools. This particular task, Taniajura strongly and clearly emphasized, must be done with close coordination with Headquarters and the team in particular. This is to avoid any untimely commitment of Mr. Adair's time, as well as to avoid the proverbial "casting of pearls to swine." It was pointed out that any move on a member's part along this line must FIRST be reported to HQ.

A question and answer forum, eagerly participated in by the delegates followed, capping the orientation meeting. □



One of the more successful lectures of Mr. Adair was held in Zamboanga City in December, 1973. Photo above shows a section of the more than a thousand students who heard Mr. Adair talk on Dating and Marriage.

NOTICE:

Would you like to get in CONTACT with the Office (ACA) or the Church?

Then address all correspondence to:

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Manila 2801



Film Night

By Willie Jacinto

At 7:30 PM on October 4, 1974, about one thousand Sabbath-keepers saw visions by night at the Benitez Hall, Teachers' Camp, Baguio City from a projector which put to motion the films "The Man and His Work" and "The Real Jesus".

Before the film started Mr. Pike Mirto gave a brief background of "The Man and His Work" which, he said was shown on TV in Manila prior to Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong's personal appearance campaign at the Araneta Coliseum. He also pointed out that the film was also seen by other world leaders and dignitaries.

"The Man and His Work" gave the audience in a nutshell what Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong is doing. It presented Mr. Armstrong's meeting with different world leaders and brief histories of Ambassador College, The World Tomorrow on radio and TV and The Plain Truth. The film also focused on the different global problems confronting mankind today. Mr. Armstrong reiterated that there is a cause for these problems.

The second film was Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong's testimony. (Please turn to page 11)

CC ON THE MOVE

Every year, weeks before the Feast of Tabernacles, an "Advance Party" is sent to the feast site. And before the caravan of buses bearing those attending the feast start crossing the bridge at the Teachers' Camp's entrance the essential job has been done.

The advance party, no doubt, had improved through the years--considering that each feast is far better than the previous one. Of course, there are other factors for a successful feast but the advance party sure helps. Who would want a dirty feast site? For the advance party takes care of it, and more. It could be said that this party takes care of the "odds and ends."

The advance party is made up of different "crews," each being given a specific assignment. One of the earliest crews to arrive at the feast site this year was the construction crew, lovingly called the "CC."

The crew, made up of about 15 members, arrived at the feast site in groups, the main bulk arriving on the afternoon of September 22. The others followed in the following days, and on the eve after the day of Atonement practically every member was accounted for. Those who came on the night after Atonement broke their fast with bottles of Seven-Up-family size.

The main job of the CC was to prepare the stage in Benitez Hall. This involved the designing, construction (thus, the name of the crew), and erection of the truss that supports

the curtain and the sound system within the stage. The crew also takes care of the making and setting up of props for the programs and socials during the feast. (The CC is also available to help in church activities at other times of the years.)

This year is the CC's 4th anniversary and, perhaps, to commemorate the occasion, its members erected the truss without the aid of a pulley. Availability of tools or none, the crew had to meet their schedule. And they did it! It was hard bringing the truss down after the feast how much harder it would have been in erecting it. The crew builds up, then tears down.

The Construction Crew came into existence in 1968. The need for a crew to take up the job mentioned earlier was filled up by a group of single men. Borne out of comradeship and trust built up through the years of companionship the group tackled their job splendidly. It was not only an accomplishment of what they did but more so on how they did it.

Aside from working together in the church they have the unique opportunity to be able to maintain close contact with each other in their daily lives. Practically each is a help to somebody's problem. There is give and take among the members. Sometimes, a physical blow would be necessary for the good of one. Yet, on such a receiving end one finds grateful appreciation.

Every year the CC encounters problems. The crew strives for better designs, more efficiency.

Each day has its own schedule, but things not on the schedule crop up. Such things were encountered this year: tools were late in arriving, there was no definite place for the crew to stay and consequently, some time was wasted. Yet, we saw the feast by. Illness was never scheduled, but it seems it lingered on one crew member throughout the feast. This was a repetition of what happened last year when one member was indisposed almost throughout the feast.

Every year changes visit the CC. This year saw

the entrance of a considerable number of new members. Great changes took place, it was something 'insurmountable' when the crew took in new interests. It seems that a new word has been added to the crew's vocabulary -- 'chick.' (Since marriage is definitely a self-imposed exile from the crew, which way CC?)

If you enjoyed the feast, some thanks is due to the advance crew which faithfully and dutifully did its job. This is also expected of its spiritual counterpart -- the real counterpart. (Lali Agayo)

The Early Crew

by Candido delos Reyes

Many desire to join the early crew, also known as the "Construction Crew". What makes it a privilege for one to be a member is the happiness one will experience, the sense of accomplishment and the feeling of giving service to the brethren.

The importance of the Construction Crew -- its work and the spiritual analogy of the Church as the "Early Crew" for the World Tomorrow is well explained by Mr. Robert C. Smith in the July-September 1973 issue of the Good News Magazine.

History

The performance of the Construction Crew improves through the years. Now work is accomplished in less time, effort, and expense. The pioneers (as often the case) found it difficult to build a truss -- using heavier materials, more manpower and time. However, this year, it took only six men to set up the stage in three days. Much of the improve-

ment is due to the engineering ingenuity of Mr. Alex Reyes in designing a pre-fab truss using less and lighter materials. The over all work is no always easy because of the added challenge in making props for the entertainment presentations.

The Crew

The hard work is made lighter by the jokes of Willy, Alex, Doddee, Bing Nick; the inspiring songs from taped music; the shared dating experiences and stories; and the food and drink all shared together. All these experiences and opportunities make the group more close happy.

The Work of the Crew

Immediately after the Feast of Tabernacles, the crew begins to make recommendations for the next Feast. Others try to have more background experience by seeing cultural shows. Weeks before the Feast, purchases of materials (Please turn to page 14)

family night ...cont'd

agers and adults.

Indoor games for the young tots were sack race, candle relay, etc.

Word Forming -- a witty game in which the definition of a certain word be given out and two groups of people each holding a letter taken from the mother words "FAMILY NIGHT," would compete in figuring out the term and then arranging themselves to form the right word.

The evening of games, contests and entertainment turned out to be an exhilarating one especially so for the kiddies and the younger set.

Entertainment was furnished by Fe Angeles, Palisoc brothers, Zette & Grace, and talent from Central Luzon.

Challenging table games followed afterwards. □

film night ...cont'd

lecast "The Real Jesus" where he emphasized the strange and funny ways people practice their religions. With the audience responding enthusiastically to his effective gestures, Mr. Armstrong brought home the point that the Jesus Christ of the Bible is very much different from the Jesus Christ most people know about.

Musical pieces from Handel's "Messiah" served as a fitting intermission music.

The films proved to be a delightful treat to rejoice more that Sabbath evening. That surely added more spiritual vigor especially to the scattered brethren. □

Where Were You When the Lights Went On?

By M. P. Dayao

How would you like to find yourself sitting inside Benitez Hall for at least two straight solid hours looking at the stage and perhaps at your date once in a while witnessing Filipiniana Show or Choral Concert? Would you really enjoy yourself with a murmuring stomach in the middle of the show?

With this need of "pamatid-uhaw" (snack break) the Young Ambassadors Club B took this good opportunity of running the canteen to refresh the audience so they could enjoy more the night extravaganzas. With zeal and initiative, Alex Espino, head of Business Affairs for the club, assisted by Amis Parane, Sgt.-at-Arms and also head of Refreshment, and Eriz Dizon in charge of the Games Committee, took charge of the purchase and storage of the refreshment items. The rest of the membership either aware or unaware of the project, eagerly availed themselves of the services of the canteen during the social and entertainment functions.

The traditional canteen went along almost like the past year. However, one good improvement was the presence of the permanent organization, the Young Ambassadors Club, which can readily extend its services whenever the occasion demands. Its existence has saved time and effort in recruiting available persons and having them organized to run the canteen.

Canteen service is one training ground for the youth of the church to learn how to manage a buy

and sell business and how to conduct themselves before the buyers which is normally comprised of people of all ages. One's mathematical ability, tact, patience, friendliness and courtesy are put to the test here. You do not just stand at the counter and sell food items. The additional aim, of providing comfort and convenience to your customers and to create an atmosphere of goodwill and friendship must be pursued with an alert and conscious effort. An excellent service does not end at the counter after you have received pay-

have you READ?

by George Hood

Last month we provided a partial list of booklets and reprint articles that will not be resupplied when the current stock runs out. The remainder of that list from headquarters follows:

REPRINT ARTICLES

10. Five Ways to Save Your Marriage
11. The Best Age for Marriage (This is a chapter in "The Missing Dimension in Sex.")
12. The Sacrificial System In Ancient Israel
13. Death Rides the High Road
14. The Unfinished Revolution: Communism
15. Truth About College Education (about this world's educational system)

ment. In fact it should merely begin right there and then. The counter is one, if not the, most sensitive area of a canteen. It is there where you win or lose a prospective customer. Why do you think storeowners would like to have attractive salesgirls at their counter?

That's why also you found some lovely "B" YAC salesgirls wreathed in smiles at your service at the counter of our canteen. Even though the Yacees do not believe in the old business expression that the buyer is always right, we do firmly adhere to the principle that we can only profit most when we serve best.

Yes, "Where were you when the lights went on?" Behind the yellow curtain ...at the YAC B's Canteen!

16. Are Christians Again to be Martyred?
17. Why Aren't Your Children More Healthy?
18. You Can Defeat Discouragement
19. Daniel Nine Proves Jesus Is The Christ
20. The 2300 Days (explains Dan. 8:14)
21. There is a Way of Escape (coming tribulation)
22. Bread -- The Broker Staff of Life
23. Handwriting of Ordinances (Col. 2:16)
24. An exciting Preview of Tomorrow's Cities
25. Why Does God Hide Himself?
26. Is Obedience to God Required for Salvation?
27. Evolution Gets the Horse Laugh!
28. Is Jesus Dead?
29. Christian Manhood
30. The Truth About New Year's
31. Should Women Preach?
32. Should We Use the Old Testament?
33. The Development of the Races

(Please turn to page 17)

PROVINCIAL NEWS

"Our Man in Mindanao" Makes his First Visit to us

by Bienvenido Macaraeg, Sr.

Quite indicative of the somewhat disrupted means of communication and transportation in Zamboanga del Sur was the total unawareness about the scheduled visit of Mr. Encardio Benitez, "Our Man in Mindanao" (see Mr. Colin Adair's Nov. 19, 1973 letter). Mr. Benitez, accompanied by his brother Eutiquio, suddenly appeared at our door last July 26, Friday, at about 9:30 a.m.

That morning, I had just finished shaving after a late breakfast alone -- after a two-hour work in the garden, when my wife announced that two men had just alighted from a tricycle and were heading towards the house.

She did not immediately recognize the visitors, until they were well up the stairs and had greeted her. Then my wife happily announced that it was Mr. Encardio Benitez!

Since the visitors were close friends and brethren at that, who had come at last for the first time, I did not take any more time to change attire before meeting them. I thought that was more practical and realistic. I rushed out to welcome the Benitez brothers -- who were both buxom, fit and warmly smiling.

Sensing our surprise they asked if we had received their letter. No, I replied. It was mailed to us July 3, they said.

Then I told them that the two mail trucks servicing Zamboanga del Sur

had been unable to get out of Zamboanga City for the last three weeks. Some said the trucks broke down. (On July 10, a jeep of the Bureau of Fisheries branch office at Ipil was ambushed and all its passengers of four civilians and three soldiers were killed.)

Earlier, last February, the Benitezes also were about to come to Kabasalan, but were stopped on their way because of uncertain safety (see "Report From the Field," April 1974 CONTACT). Had they come, we would have been uninformed beforehand like now.

The elder Benitez told us admiringly about our children in Manila and asked more about them. I showed some pictures and their latest letters to us.

Mr. Benitez noted that we here were beset with some disadvantages. Solicitously, he asked, "Are you going to stick here, Mr. Macaraeg? Aren't you considering moving to Manila or Bukidnon? There the brethren can help you when you become sick or whatever happens. Your talents could be put to better use in Bukidnon. Your books could be more easily published there, perhaps."

I told him that moving to Manila is almost impossible for us now and we are not considering it. Still, although I have lived here for more than thirty years, I am keeping the idea open for study.

I was also surprised to

know from Mr. Benitez that he had not received my letter to him 13 months before, describing my long illness and other circumstances. Nor my other letter previous to that.

Then Mr. Benitez said they had to leave because some people might be waiting for them at their lodging place. He invited us to the Bible Study to be held the next morning, Sabbath. Of course, we were very happy to go. (For nine years, since we left the Protestant Church, I have been holding a Bible Study at home during Sabbaths for my family. Now, for the first time, we were going to have one outside our home in Kabasalan.)

Besides my family, there was another family of prospective members at the B.S.

Before we dispersed that noon -- they for the baptism of two persons, and we to our home -- Mr. Benitez said they would visit us again that afternoon. I, too, had hoped they could visit us again.

When they had not come by four o'clock, I went to their lodging place. They were not there. I was not disappointed but was glad they were up and about meeting people. There are others who need their visit as much as we do and we had been visited already. At 5:30 I went to (Please turn to page 13)

Monitor Work Can be Fun

by Severo C. Caligan, Jr.

"Garner Ted Armstrong brings you the plain truth about today's world news and the prophecies of The World Tomorrow"

Then follows the opening statement from Mr. GTA or Mr. HWA, as the case may be.

Pen in hand and ears glued to the radio set, everything stands still at that moment as my concentration is centered on the first few words of the opening statement. Yes, that opening statement must be jotted down. Or else, my monitor report turns out incomplete. So glued am I to the radio set that perhaps not even a deafening, earsplitting thunderbolt of a lightning could manage to loosen my concentration. Unless the lightning bolt makes a direct hit (perish the thought!).

Doing monitor work can be demanding sometimes. But I only say "sometimes."

Occasional times find you so sleepy, with your eyes so heavy, that not even a cup (or two cups) of steaming black coffee (no matter what brand) could keep you from falling asleep. So, you have to slap yourself in the face (figuratively or literally -- that's up to you).

From the looks of it, you might conclude that monitor work is an exercise in persistence (to prove that as the spirit is willing, the flesh can also be strong -- and why not?). Or, this might be the classic example of the case where an irresistible force (in this case sleepiness) comes head to head with an immovable object (the "never-say-sleep" determination, at least for that thirty minutes of broadcast). We hope that the immovable object can resist the "irresistible" force. Just enough to keep you wide awake for the broadcast. Only for (Please turn to page 13)

"Our Man.." ...cont'd

their inn again. Still not there I went around hoping to find them. At 6:30, just in case I did not meet them anymore, I wrote a brief letter to Mr. Benitez and gave it to the innkeeper. As I lingered for a while at the road, they arrived. He said they visited with a certain P.T. subscriber whom he encouraged to keep on searching for the truth. This man and his wife followed me in withdrawing from the Protestant church in 1965. Three years before (in 1962), I had begun subscribing to the P.T., and before long I recommended it to him. In 1965 the "Sardis" people, seeing the good prospects in Kabasalan as a result of the P.T. magazine, organized a campaign. They held a few services at my home where members from neighboring towns came to attend. By then I had begun sending in my tithes and offerings to the A.C.A. in Manila. In one such service (which turned out to be their last) they announced an opportunity for interested persons to be baptized. They told us we would have to wait for a long time to be baptized by the Radio Church of God (former name of the Worldwide Church of God) and would have to observe many Feasts entailing much expense and absence from one's employment, etc. I refused to go along with them. This man, along with a few others, submitted for baptism. He is now an elder in their church.

Then Mr. Benitez invited me for some snacks where we had more conversation. The visit of "Our Man in Mindanao" and his

brother, although unexpected and short, proved to be a help to us in a concrete way. I think it was god-sent.

Five days after they left, I received their missing letter! □

Monitor Work Can be Fun ...cont'd

thirty minutes, that's all you ask.

Broadcast time for us here in Iloilo starts at 9:00 p.m. more or less. It's not always regular, by the way. For one thing, the broadcast on Sunday is nearly always late (perhaps the radio station needs a new clock). A telephone call I made to the management did not straighten out the discrepancy. So that up to now all my monitor reports always give the answer "yes" to the question -- "Any irregularities on this report?" (the irregularity being: "broadcast started late").

And would you believe it when I say that formerly the broadcast was late by thirty minutes? How come? The station at that time was broadcasting the World Tomorrow at the 9:30 p.m. slot. When the supposed schedule was (and still is) 9:00 p.m. Since we were coming in late, too late already, what more listening audience was there left? Only the members, no doubt. The rest could be snoring in their sleep already. Only after I pointed out to the station the irregularity did they begin playing the tape at 9:00 p.m.

And even 9:00 p.m., mind you, is already a late hour in the province. Why, that's already considered an "unholy" hour especially by the folks at the farm. For them, supper comes at sunset (even before that). And then it's dream sweet dream. To expect them to stay as "late" as 9:00 p.m. would prove disappointing. There are exceptions, of course. That's why being a monitor for a radio station in the province is partly a struggle to keep yourself awake until 9:30 p.m. (when the broadcast ends).

Yet -- monitor work is more of a delight. Unenviable though it may appear, the truth is that, in the long run, monitor work can be exciting. I want to be more specific, so here's a rundown of the "compensations" a monitor receives. No, I do not mean monetary compensations. There are things more important than money. A monitor stands to gain them.

First and foremost, it gives you an added opportunity of serving the Work. I know that all of us desire greatly to serve the Work in more ways than we are doing now (although we're all "fulltime in God's Work" already). So, we yearn for that additional chance to aid the Work, that increased help; that extra effort to serve.

Helping monitor the World Tomorrow broadcast presents such an opportunity. All program monitors are reminded at the start -- "Be sure to remember always that we are doing this to give the people a good quality service and save a great deal of money for the Work."

Give the people a good quality service? That's it! And think of the help you can give in saving a great deal of money for

the Work. For instance, you can report cases where the radio station failed to air the program. In that way you can inform the office of the omission. As a result, it could mean a saving for the Work because if the office was not informed of the omission, it will just go ahead and pay the radio bills just the same.

The next "compensation" is what might be described as a beneficial "fallout" -- or a helpful byproduct -- of being a monitor. Among the assignments given to a monitor are the tasks of jotting down the opening statement and listing the literature offered. You have to be alert also to any irregularities -- was the program late, ahead of time, or is the signal poor? Naturally, you are kept mentally nimble and watchful. In other words, you have to be extra attentive -- closely following every word spoken by Mr. GTA or Mr. HWA.

As a happy result, you get the message more thoroughly. And you retain nearly all the points mentioned. That is already a great "bonus" by itself. Imagine getting the entire message -- and be better informed in the process. And not only better informed but also spiritually uplifted, encouraged and cheered. What more compensation do you need?

There are more benefits in the list but I have already given more than enough to prove that monitor work is not all that hard or demanding. Why, it's not even "work." It's more like fun. Because after all -- monitor work can, in fact, be FUN.

"The great use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it."

-William James

Feature Story

MIRACLE AT SEA

by Tranquilino Jubay, Jr.

A fervent prayer alone may work an astounding miracle. An experience is a proof of this, at one time when we became the victims of what astronomers call, "nature gone wild."

It was summer when I came home for a vacation. It was my hobby, every vacation to go fishing. So, a few days after I arrived, I went to a friend who was a fisherman.

"Good morning, Jun," I greeted, as he worked his hook and line.

"Oh! you're here!" he exclaimed. "Is it your vacation, now?"

"Yes," I replied.

"Nice! So we will have to be back in fishing again!"

"Yes," I said. "It's good you said that."

We then asked our parents to permit us to go fishing. The permission was granted so we scheduled the next day.

The next day came and was a bright sunny morning. Jun's inboard motorboat was on shore. We tugged it hard toward the sea until it floated. Without wasting time we immediately set out, directing to the northern horizon of the Visayan sea.

At the open sea we were several miles away from shore. The water was very still, and we enjoyed fishing under the hot sun. But Jun seemed indifferent.

"It's very hot, Toto," he complained. "My skin is burning."

"Never mind, Jun," I argued. "The heat of the sun is nothing. Aren't you enjoying yourself? We have a big catch!"

"Well, just continue fishing," he muttered,

"and I will sleep. The sun irritates me. I feel weak. I just want to sleep...O, how I want to sleep."

So, Jun slept, and I continued fishing alone. There was silence. Moments later, a deadly chain of events took place; the sky above began to darken and the clouds appeared thick and black. I was terrified by what I saw. Nature has gone mad! Frightened, I turned to Jun who was still sleeping.

"Jun! Jun!" I shouted. "Wake up! wake up!"

Jun woke up and saw the dark clouds gathering around. He too was frightened and exclaimed: "What's this!"

"I don't know!" I cried. "The weather has turned bad! ... let's move! ... a typhoon is coming!"

We moved quickly and turned the engine on. But it failed. There was engine trouble. This made matters worse.

At this juncture the eastern wind began to blow violently, accompanied by heavy rain as the typhoon rose to its height. The sea turned wavy as each wave grew mountainous. Our boat danced wildly as water kept coming in. We were sinking. We frantically emptied the boat of water.

What a tragic fate we had, I began thinking. The world was dark and no island could be seen around. All we heard was the whizzing sound of the wind and the painful, loud beats of the rain on our body. Nothing could help us.

"What shall we do!" I shouted to my friend.

"I don't know!" he replied sharply. "Nature is running amuck!"

"Stupid!"

Hours later came the bitterest things in life. Hunger struck our stomach and coldness seemed fatal. Our food had been picked up by the wind and blown

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE STUDIES -- Nov. 13 & 27, (Wednesdays) 7:00 p.m., GSP Auditorium

MONTHLY MOVIE, Nov. 2, (Saturday night) 7:15 p.m., Ambascos Agency office

SPOKESMAN CLUB MEETINGS --
Club A -- 6:30 p.m. every Sunday, Ambascos Social Room.
Club B -- Nov. 5, 19

(Tuesday) at 6:45 pm, Ambascos Social Room.

AGAB BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
Opening Night, Nov. 16. Place and time to be announced in the Sabbath Service.

CHESS TOURNAMENT for Manila Church, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. (Ambascos Office (for those who signed up).

away. We could do nothing but cry. The wind fiercely grew stronger, and rain was like falling nails.

Suddenly, a great bolt of lightning flashed above and, blindingly, struck the mast of our boat. Then, came a deafening clap of thunder. It was the greatest shock I had ever experienced in my life.

Tragically, my frightened friend became unconscious apparently from the impact of what hit us. Terrified, I moved to help him. He seemed dead when I shook his body. But his heartbeat was still audible when I pressed my ear to his breast. "He is alive," I said to myself.

Now, continuously, the mountainous waves, the violent wind and rain lashed us with all their fury. The boat danced as waves pounded it mercilessly. I felt I would die at any moment. Then a thought flashed to my mind: I must pray!

And I prayed. I never prayed so fervently. Tears streamed down my face. Please God, I asked, let us live. While I was praying something astounding happened: the noisy weather shut up! The furious wind turned tranquil and the piercing rain fell no more. The thick, black clouds above turned white and thin like paper cotton. And the sea, which only

moments ago was in turmoil, was as peaceful as a great sparkling plain. The sun appeared again boldly. My prayers had been answered!

Then a faint voice came: "Toto, how are you?" It was Jun! He was alive! Thanks to God we both survived!

(Please turn to page 18)

Early Crew ...cont'd

rials are made, props are pre-fabricated and other things which can be done in Manila are carried by freight truck to Baguio. In spite of individual problems, the group is able to go to the Feast site about one week ahead. Upon arrival, and as soon as they are settled, work immediately begins. Work is distributed for some to do the purchasing and shopping for materials. Others start work on the truss, the props, curtains etc., while others go marketing for and preparing food. Time passes so quickly that they often find themselves working overtime. The work day ends with much fun and memories. During the Feast, their accomplishment is acknowledged and they look forward again to another feast and the blessings God gives for a job well done.

On Special Mission

What Makes DARE "Tick?"

By Rey Taniajura

Last month, I ended the account of my mission at DARE at the point when my interview with our friend, Jing, was interrupted by the announcement of Bob Garon that he was now about to brief us, visitors, on how DARE is run.

With Bob's briefing, we visitors at last became privy to the "secrets" of DARE.

I wrote last month that DARE is a rehabilitation house for drug addicts and alcoholics. "Therefore," Bob said, "DARE is run like a family." The head of the house is Bob himself (he calls himself a "dictator" in the house) and all the residents are brothers and sisters.

I failed to tell you earlier that DARE is also a "coed" institutions, meaning that boys and girls live there together. But the boys do not attempt "monkey-business" with the girls. Bob told us one of the measures he does to insure this is to make the girls wear the same outfit (pant suits or long pants and shirts or T-shirts) as the boys. No wearing of dress is a "law" in all DARE houses. Another measure is to see to it that the boys treat the girls as their sisters.

Now we can see one main characteristic of DARE - it is a maxi-family with a head and a very large brood of problem-children.

Everybody Must Work

To teach the residents the sense of responsibility everyone is kept busy. "You see, these people have never been made to

feel what is meant by responsibility because their parents 'babied' them," Bob said.

Everyday one of the residents is assigned as sentinel of the house, another is assigned as night watch, while another works as "log man." This log man notes down the names of residents who leave the house and the time of their departure and arrival.

They also have one acting as staff officer daily. Others are assigned to the kitchen crew, while others are members of task force whose duty is to track down residents who escape from any of the DARE houses. This task force actually is given a court's warrant of arrest!

Residents do not live an easy life at DARE. Everyday their schedule of activities consist of a morning exercise, house cleaning, seminars (or games), attending to personal needs, gardening, fixing the house, diary writing, and praying before going to bed.

All residents at DARE are required to have his own diary. This diary is read one by one at night time by a staff officer. "This way," Bob informed us, "we are able to track down potential escapees."

Discipline, and a very strict one, is another feature of DARE. For example, during meal time, the one assigned to serve the table is required to place the glasses in a straight line (I mean literally). If it is not straight then the one assigned is given a learning experience.

Learning Experience In DARE

The word "punishment" is never spoken in DARE. "That's negative," Bob said. A person who commits a mistake or who has disobeyed the rules of the house is given a learning experience.

For one resident, a learning experience may mean getting one's head shaven. This is often given to a resident who violated the rule against smoking or violence. The most extreme learning experience is to be confined at the basement of the V. Luna Hospital in Diliman, Quezon City.

Other learning experiences consist of one being made to carry within the house broken glass tied around his neck because he has not been very careful in washing glasses.

The one who forgot to mail a letter is also made to wear a hat around the house with an envelope attached to it for as long as Bob wants him to wear it. Others who have not been good or polite carry around their bodies stickers or placards stating the offense they have committed. These things I actually saw when I was inside DARE.

But, the real "meat" of the rehabilitation course the residents are made to go through is to change their attitude or approach in life.

"Many of these people," Bob said, "enter DARE with a negative attitude. But later on they begin to enjoy their experiences at DARE and in the end welcome them."

"The key," Bob further commented, "is to give the residents a direction - a way of life." And this way of life Bob is moulding in the residents through discipline and through work. The results of these techniques is really astounding. One has to see the

residents to appreciate them.

One other point Bob emphasized in his talk is to stress the positive and never the negative. "Never use punishment, that's negative, use instead learning experience."

In administering "punishment"... I mean, 'learning experience' do it at once. "Never repeat do this thing or do that thing - do it at once."

The way really is not easy but Bob makes them learn lessons with a smile!

Personally, I am amazed at the conduct of the residents themselves. No one would suspect that they were former drug addicts.

When Bob asked a few of them to speak before us, they immediately obeyed and spoke with confidence and enthusiasm. They were also taught to be polite and respectful of others. Actually, they were more polite and "alive" than some of us visitors.

Cardinal Rules Of The House

All DARE houses are governed by three cardinal rules, namely: no drugs, no violence and no breaking of the seal of the game.

The violation of the first two rules, I said earlier, requires a learning experience of one's head being shaven. The last rule is applied in their seminar sessions or games.

The seminars or games which is a part of their daily schedule is simply a heart-to-heart session (if I may call it) where everyone is encouraged to open up. The participants can talk of any topic under the sun but what has been talked about in these sessions cannot be repeated outside. Not even Bob could repeat them. The aim of the seminar is to
(Please turn to page 16)

DARE...cont'd.

encourage everyone to speak out what is in his mind thus helping him to learn how to be open. If anyone repeats outside what has been said in the seminar, chances are he is going to get his head shaved.

Lessons Learned

My mission at DARE was a profitable experience. I found out that addicts and delinquents may be reformed and there is a way to do it. Just as any individual can change bad habits these people too can change. What is really needed is a new direction or a new way of life and the disciplined effort to walk in that direction and way of life.

To add another dimension in this mission, this account could encourage us Christians in the fact that we too may be reformed and be made to walk in a new direction or a new way of life.

These former drug addicts, I am convinced, did not really want to become addicts (except for a few) but because of lack of discipline and ignorance of a right direction or way of life they were made slaves to drugs.

The blame could not be placed on these young people alone. The greater part of the blame should be borne by their parents. If the parents only taught them the basics in life which are discipline and the sense of responsibility (or work) then being addicted to drugs could have been avoided by these people.

Before I left DARE we visitors were invited to witness the graduation exercises a week later of a number of DARE residents who have found a way to

handle their lives. Some of those graduating were already employed in DARE - operated industries while others were busy pursuing their studies in college. The key I believe to the success of DARE is found in these two principles: Everyone in DARE is taught that they (drug addicts and alcoholics) can do something and therefore are useful to themselves and to others; and everyone is taught discipline or the will to walk in a new way of life.

Whether we are drug addicts or not these two rules could serve as a useful guideline which if applied could also help us live our lives a bit better. □

Listening to "The World Tomorrow"

by Florencio S. Sebastian

During one of our meetings sometime ago, we were given questionnaires to be filled out. It concerned the World Tomorrow broadcast. I considered it a very timely reminder. I used to listen to the program only when the radio was available at home; until I decided to try to remedy the situation.

Why, I remembered that 9-volt Sony Elitone transistor radio which we set aside some years ago in preference for a smaller one. After locating it, I fixed it together with an ac/dc converter intended for the transistor radio. From then on I listened to the program more comfortably and more regularly -- well, it is never too late to make up.

There were occasions when reception to the program varied. At times a weak station would overlap with our program. There was also the case when Mr.

Handling Life's Problems

Sometimes it just takes some "inspiration" for one to be able to compose a poem like the author of the poem below. It was

G.T.A. seemed to mumble or sounded bassy in his speech. One Sunday evening, our listening frequency was just blank. However, notwithstanding the cases mentioned above, reception was otherwise favorable.

I have observed that the broadcast messages were carefully planned. For example just before the Manila Campaign, the radio broadcasts dealt mostly with abbreviated portions of Mr. G.T.A.'s lectures in his evangelistic campaigns. Some subjects were about "Why Did God Let Tommy Die?" and "Why God Does Not Intervene in the Present World Affairs?" He also discussed about the Nazi atrocities during WW II, the incident about the dropping of the atomic bombs in Japan, then he deftly correlated these events with certain biblical passages such as Matthew 24, Zechariah 14 as well as with other scriptures.

Just recently, there was the series of broadcasts on the subject about UFOs where related topics were mentioned, such as angels, cherubims, the wheel within a wheel and also Ezekiel 1, 10. Exciting subjects I may say. The Bible passages were very relevant to the things being considered.

I find that listening to the World Tomorrow is indeed very beneficial for us. It helps to keep us constantly informed, thoughtfully reminded and consistently inspired. It is a very pleasant opportunity. □

during the height of some of his latest problems and trials in life that he was inspired to write this piece of poetry. - Ed.

by Norberto T. Jain

When I am shipwrecked or forlorn
With family problems or my own;
I sit on a chair by the corner
And read the Book of my Maker.

And the stories in the Sacred Book
Always give me a happy outlook;
With perennial problems not stopping
Job's patience is most encouraging.

Or sometimes I walk through the garden
And observe many things that happen
Like bees and butterflies flying,
From one flower to another sipping.

Or to the river I go fishing
With a hook and line I keep waiting;
And it's thrilling to haul a fish --
Just think of having a savory dish!

Nature is God's way of providing
Many beautiful things for seeing;
But I must not forget His minister
For he alone gives counsel much better.

I am able to do many more
But praying must come first -- for sure.
As we must face problems squarely
We ought to solve them God's way daily!

Don Carlos Feast ...cont'd

more powerfully during the duration of the whole feast. The total number of services and schedules in the area were patterned exactly after the number and schedule of services at the Baguio City feast site.

Seven in the evening, October 1, was the first social activity - the Family Night. Owing to the fact that equipment and facilities like indoor game sets, tables, and other things of the like were not readily available, the affair turned out to be more of a plain program of entertainment. The number of children present (I estimate) outnumbered the adults. Emceed by a visitor from the Manila Church, the affair turned out successful and enjoyable.

The following day the basketball final was scheduled followed by a Semi-Formal Dance during the night which began shortly before 9:00 because of very heavy rain. Likewise, the affair turned out swaying, scintillating when the emcee introduced the dance contests and games.

On October 4, we had a free afternoon and night. The much awaited Filipiniana Show was staged the following evening. Another brother from the Manila Church mustered enough courage to lead this night of Filipino folk songs and dances. Participated by outgoing and enthusiastic young ones and once young alike, a total of twenty-six numbers were presented during this very special night. At this point let me men-

tion that given no time at all to present a well-organized and successful program is not easy and relaxing. At Baguio City entertainment programs are prepared, rehearsed and rehearsed months before the actual presentation. But it was not so at Don Carlos. Some numbers were picked up and presented on the spot, while others had to be cancelled or dropped. Again the affair nevertheless was a success.

In the afternoon of Sunday, October 6, children's games and contests were played and prizes were given away to the winners. This was the children's hour which was followed in the evening by the scheduled Church Wedding Ceremony of yours truly and Miss Beverly Gapul, a native of the

Social Dance ...cont'd

through the evening. Alternating with the combo was the playing of taped music, which enabled the combo to rest. In addition, the combo had two female guest vocalists who complemented their male counterparts.

Instead of fee tickets at the entrance, paper stubs were drawn and winners declared. To one of the winners it was the first time she had ever won such a prize, and so a winning couple went a standing ovation. The evening was filled with joy, merriment, and surprises.

Such an evening of merriment had to draw to a close. As the combo gave off their last pieces people hesitantly moved toward the exits. The dance floor was still full when the combo played "The Last Waltz", its final number.

same feast site. Filled to capacity with some peeping through the church jalousie windows, the Wedding very successfully ended with dancing immediately after the ceremony and reception.

Over-all, the feast was a tremendous success. Mr. Encardio Benitez evaluated it as an overwhelming success - the best feast ever, as a matter of fact. This was in spite of the lack of the necessary facilities, longer time to thoroughly prepare (especially the social activities) and good weather condition (it rained there everyday during the whole feast). Also, this success is in spite of the economic condition in the area which affects most, if not all, of our brethren there. □

YACs Serve ...cont'd

The project also served as an excellent guide for those who were attending the feast for the first time in locating their specific cottages for accommodation.

All who needed this help may not have made use of the project but at least the young people tried their best to serve everyone. It was a successful endeavor by the YACs such that even during the departure from Baguio to Manila they still rendered a very fine service to the brethren.

It would have been quite a business, not only for the YACs, but also for those who with a willing heart voluntarily extended their help, if they had charged something for their services as there was plenty of luggage to carry. Mr. Mirto jokingly commented before the feast that it would not be wrong

for the porters to accept a little tip although they were organized to carry out this service FREE. □

Have You Read? ...cont'd

In discontinuing the above literature and those pieces listed in last month's CONTACT, the Church is not watering down its teachings. Moreover, it is not cutting back on "any of the critical, essential materials needed to back up the telecast, radio program," according to the Ministerial Bulletin. It said, furthermore, "we hope to maintain all the basic literature needed to help new people come along to baptism."

Two more points made in the Bulletin were that new booklets will be released from time to time "as the situation warrants," and that "social issues" will be covered "from God's viewpoint in the GN and PT magazines."

So, brethren, it would behoove you to write immediately for any of these publication which are of interest to you while they are yet available. □

Behind a Smile

By Suzette Magallanes

What's behind a smile?
It almost runs a mile;
Yet deep within, you'll
see
That troubles don't flee.

Behind is happiness
Tho' there's also sadness;
But knowing it can help,
Smiling uplifts the self.

It's never a mystery
But only an inquiry-
When someone smiles at you,
Do you quickly say adieu?

CHILDREN SWAMP GAMES

By Max Fabricante

A total of 119 children based on the actual soft-drinks bottles emptied swamped the games and contests sponsored for young boys and girls from 6 to 13 years old which was held Sunday, October 6, 1974.

As a result of this, only Tug-Of-War, Sack Race, Fruit Race, Heads Up, Ball Relay and Break The Pot (six games in all) were actually played out of the about 15 games planned for the three-hour period that afternoon. Thanks to the generous donations of some brethren - the budget for refreshments and prizes were adequately met and even afforded give-aways like pencils and balloons. Appreciation is also due to the parents of the children whose seeming good training was shown by the good behavior during the activities. The seven adult volunteers who were assigned to handle the activity were able to maintain order and discipline throughout. A simple but very effective way of avoiding confusion in

identifying members of the teams both from the viewpoint of the very young children in recognizing their group and for the adults especially in the

awarding of prizes was to give colored rubber band for each child to wear according to their team.

Possible factors for the unexpected increase were the increase in church membership, more children attending the feast this year, and also the good weather that prevailed. □

The Worldwide News IN CRISIS!

You may not be too aware of it, but the Philippine brethren are facing a famine of WN . . . unless many more of us subscribe or renew our subscription to it! Here's why.

Right now only about 160 out of the 350-odd WN subscribers here have renewed their subscriptions or are continuing to receive their copies of the paper. For our printer to publish the WN, at least 300 copies of each issue should be run. To keep the WN going here, therefore, the Church has subsidized the extra copies at some ₱250 per issue. That would run to an astounding ₱6,000 for a year's total of 24 issues! Our present budget just

cannot afford this!

So either more of us subscribe to the WN -- or we will have to cancel it altogether! What a tragic shame that would be! And what a poor reflection of our concern for what's going on in God's Work worldwide.

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Miracles

... cont'd

Back at home, Jun and I rejoiced with our parents. We were very happy.

The almost-unbelievable incident I experienced at sea is something I can never forget all my life. It proved to me the power of fervent prayer -- the power that can work miracles. □

How about it, brethren? Are you really concerned about God's Work worldwide? Are you willing to sacrifice a bit to have the WN to help you pray more effectively for God's Work? If so, please fill in the form below and send it to:

AMBASSADOR COLLEGE AGENCY
P.O. Box 2603
Manila, Philippines 2801

