

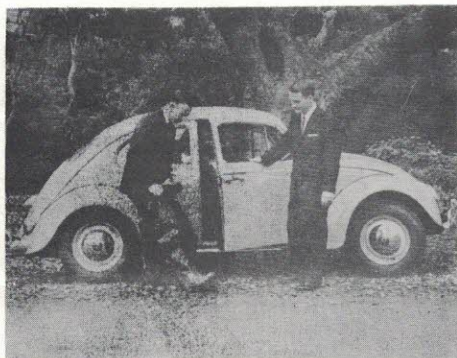
CHURCH of GOD

News

AUSTRALIAN EDITION

VOLUME 2 No.1

JANUARY 1962



REJOICE in Church Growth

Brethren, you should be encouraged to learn that God is adding an increase to His Church here in Australia. The first of a much-needed series of visiting-baptizing tours was recently completed by Mr. Clarence Huse and Mr. Dexter Faulkner. These men traveled the coastal route to Brisbane spending the majority of their 12-day tour in and around the Brisbane, Queensland area. Several of those presently attending the bi-weekly Brisbane Bible studies were contacted and some wished to be baptized. Of these, 4 were baptized while an additional 5 from the surrounding area were also baptized and should now be attending the studies regularly. Six other persons from local and outlying areas were also baptized and should now be attending the studies regularly. Six other persons from local and outlying areas were invited, thus bringing the attendance to nearly 45 adults
(Continued on page 2.)

Now in session! 1962

Ministerial Conference

For the second time in less than three weeks, a queue was gathered at Sydney's Kingsford-Smith Airport intently watching a huge, roaring Boeing 707 as it streaked skyward, Los Angeles bound. The crowd was made up of members of the Sydney Church on hand at the airport to see Mr. Tony Hammer off on a 15-hour flight to America. This same scene was enacted just a few weeks earlier when Mr. Gerald Waterhouse made a five-minute dash to board another U.S. bound Pan-American Jet. Thanks to modern high speed travel and the International Date Line both arrived in Los Angeles fifteen minutes before they started!

Mr. Waterhouse, Director of the Pacific South-Eastern part of the world, and Mr. Hammer, Pastor of the Church in Melbourne, are now at the Ambassador College campus in Pasadena convening with most of the ministers of the world-wide Church of God, in the most important series of conferences on earth today! In the absence of Mr. Waterhouse, Mr. C. Wayne Cole has assumed the very heavy responsibilities of the Directorship of the Australian Work.

The annual ministerial conference is to be in session for approximately ten days, beginning 9 January. Those

present include God's ministers from all parts of the world, including Great Britain and the entirety of the United States. On the agenda will be some of the most serious and vital considerations in the history of the Work. The effect of the decisions rendered will be long reaching and felt world-wide. Many will directly concern Australia. Mr. Waterhouse has taken with him a briefcase bulging with material pertinent to the present and future planning of every phase of the work in this part of the world. Equally important decisions will govern long range planning for America, Canada, Great Britain, Europe, Africa, the Philippines and



Mr. Waterhouse Los Angeles Bound



CHURCH of GOD

News

AUSTRALIAN EDITION

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Surprise Sermonette

On the Sabbath of 16 December 1961 the Sydney congregation was pleasantly surprised to hear a sermonette delivered by its own Mr. Don Abraham.

Mr. Abraham and his wife have been listeners to The World Tomorrow broadcast since 1956. They had regularly corresponded with the London office before God's Work expanded to Australia late in 1959. As well as being the first Australian on the sermonette list, Mr. Abraham was the first Australian to be employed in the office of God's Work. It is inspiring how God has brought Mr. Abraham to the place where he can now also serve in this new experience. Yes, God's Work is full of surprises! What's next?

conference ...

(Continued from page 1.)

Latin America.

These decisions are vitally important to every member of God's Church and demand a foremost position in the prayer time of every individual. Although not personally present, you can play an equally important part by continued daily prayer for the over-all success of these conferences as long as they are in session -- as well as the safe return of all those participating.

tour ...

(Continued from page 1.)

and from 15 to 20 children.

Certainly, regular weekly Sabbath services will be needed in Brisbane in the very near future. What is holding back the starting of a Church? -- the lack of MANPOWER -- there aren't enough ministers to go around. The harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are too few. Notice in Matthew 9:38 how this situation can be remedied: "PRAY ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

Due to the factors of time, distance and road conditions, Mr. Huse flew to Rockhampton for meetings there. After returning to Brisbane some 24 hours later, he and Mr. Faulkner started their return trip to Sydney. They cut inland, looping through Goondiwindi, Narrabri, and Tamworth picking up the coastal route again at Newcastle. Their tour covered 2200 miles, plus approximately 1200 air-miles of the round trip to and from Rockhampton.

Of the 40 persons who met the tour, 16 were baptized. This made an exact 40 percent which at first glance seemed a bit lower than the usual 50 percent we would expect on these tours. (Over the past years it has been a general average that 1 out of every 2 persons counseled for baptism is ready. The 50 percent need more time to study, to prove, and to act upon God's Word.) However, after considering that 8 out of the 40 had not requested baptism but merely accompanied the individual who had, we find that the normal trend of 50 percent (16 out of 32) held true. It's not that we want to baptize only 50 percent -- we'd be thrilled to hear that every last one met by the tour had truly repented and was baptized. Usually by the time a second tour can be scheduled for their area the majority of those not baptized the first time will then be ready. In addition to the baptismal requests, 11 other visits were made to members and interested listeners to The WORLD TOMORROW program.

Rain -- muddy and washed-out roads hampered the tour's progress, but God always saw to it that the men reached an area after the heavy wind and raid storms had passed, and after the water level covering the causeways in the roads dropped below 15 inches, allowing their car to get through. Water for the baptizing also was always provided in the form of creeks, shallow rivers, and even a shark-proof, ocean bathing area. We

(Continued on page 6)



SPOKESMEN

IN

ACTION!

by DEXTER FAULKNER

Promptly at 7:30 p.m. every Saturday night, members of the Sydney Spokesman Club gather around the huge conference table in the Board Room of the Australian Institute of Builders in Sydney, Australia.

These men of the Church of God and members of this speech club have met for the wonderful opportunity of building character, personality, confidence in self as they submit to God's rule, also to develop poise and become competent, fluent speakers. What greater purpose could man have today?

As the Work of God expands around this world, Spokesman Clubs are becoming more numerous in different parts of the world. Our Sydney Club is now one of many and all are governed according to standards adopted by the Executive Committee at Headquarters in Pasadena, California.

The description of a typical even-
(Continued on page 6.)

Dropped in to

Say...Howdy!

Mrs. Elizabeth Creech and her son Louis from near Snow Hill in far-away North Carolina, U.S.A., were welcome guests of the North Sydney office and Bible study 6 December 1961. They had sailed from the east coast of the United States one month earlier. After their one-day sojourn in Sydney, they flew to New Zealand for an extended visit with another of Mrs. Creech's sons.

Mrs. Creech became a member of God's Church last summer when met by a southern U.S. baptizing tour. The refreshing, scintillating presence of Louis and Mrs. Creech at the office and Bible study was a novel, memorable, and warm experience. For the very first time some had the opportunity to hear pure, live, unadulterated "southern accent" -- which proved to be rather entertaining to some, but quite nostalgic to others. It was certainly a source of real encouragement to be visited by a member of God's Church from afar. It is hoped that their return to North Carolina can be via Sydney and Ambassador College in Pasadena.

A recent analysis states: "If you reached your 70th birthday, this may startle you; if you are not yet 70, perhaps these figures will encourage you to make some changes.

"Statistics show the average person of 70 has spent: 3 years in education; 8 years in amusement; 6 years in eating; 11 years in working; 24 years in sleeping; 5½ years in washing and dressing; 6 years in walking; 3 years in conversation; 3 years in reading, and 6 months in worshipping in God."

* * * * *

All of us should remember that LIGHT travels faster, and farther, than SOUND.

* * * * *

Job (chapter 38)

JOB AND I

Where were you when Morning Stars
Together sang with joy?
Where were you when I flung Earth
To dangle like a toy?
Were you around to measure
Did you stretch out a line
Do you know who shut up the sea
And caused the sun to shine?
Can you command the morning
Or know from whence came night
Or have the understanding
Of whither comes the light?
Can you bring forth the seasons
To send the parched earth rain?
Can you send frost from heaven?
Answer if you have the brain.
Can you send forth the lightning
And tell it where to strike?
Can you divide the watercourse
Or stop it as a dike?
Can you send rain on wilderness
To cause a waste to bloom
Or loose the bands of Orion
And to send it into doom?
Can you send forth a whirlwind
And cause the earth to quake
And move the hills and mountains
And all that's in their wake?
All this belongs to Elohim
Like Job, my garments rent
I sit in dust and ashes
Abhor myself. . . repent.

by Thelma Evelyn Jones

Editor's Note:

Mrs. Jones is a member of the Church of God residing in Washington State, U.S.A.



with CHARLES HEFNER

One of the most effective, but not the cheapest methods of spreading the Good News of the Kingdom is radio. However, due to the late night broadcasts of "The WORLD TOMORROW" in His time, and as He sees best!

Let us be very thankful that the gospel is going out in Australia. And remember it is right to ask God in prayer to open better times when He is ready. Perhaps if all the stations now carrying "The WORLD TOMORROW" broadcast in Australia suddenly opened to us 7:00 p.m. we would not be prepared to handle the increase in response.

Another interesting point to remember -- the North Sydney office is headquarters for the whole South West Pacific-South East Asian area. We regularly receive mail from such places as Malaya, North Borneo, Taiwan (Formosa), Papua -- also New Guinea, New Zealand, Cook Island, Fiji, Nive Island, Tonga, Philippines, Burma, Solomon Islands, Samoa, and many others.

Many in the above areas do not hear a broadcast but have become acquainted through The READER'S DIGEST. Although, more of these probably could hear a broadcast, if they realized the great distances radio reaches over water.

Recently, we have heard that New Zealand proposes to allow private stations. Although there is much dissension in the N. Z. parliament over this matter, and a labour government has threatened to throw out the idea according to an article in The Sydney Daily Mirror, Nov. 8, 1961, we hope that this will result in "The WORLD TOMORROW" being on more private radio stations in New Zealand at a later date.

At present, there are only two private stations in New Zealand. "The WORLD TOMORROW" has been on the 90-watt 2XM in Gisborne since May, with now three half-hour broadcasts a week. We can pray that the other station in Dunedin might yet come into use by God's Work.

And now another "MIRACLE DOOR!" The U.K. edition of Ambassador College Portfolio recently reported that commercial station GBLN will soon begin broadcasting "The WORLD TOMORROW" every night

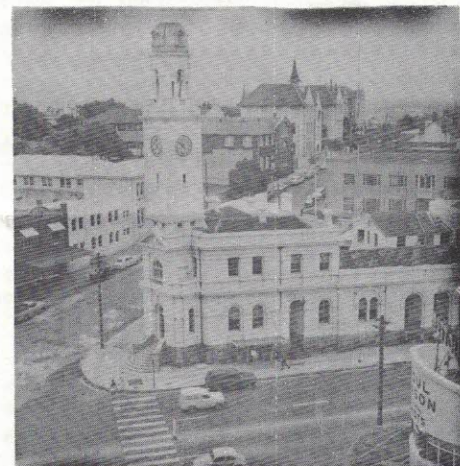
from three miles seaward the estuary of the Thames River.

For the first time people in the London area and surrounding southern England will hear the broadcast every night at 8:05 p.m.

Operating from a 70 ton ship, this station will start with 1000 watts, later to 5,000 watts, then use 50,000 watts -- covering the whole British Isles. The frequency is 306 metres.

Mr. Dexter Faulkner recently mentioned in Sydney, that many people visited on a recent baptismal tour were not listening to the broadcast regularly. Without hearing the daily broadcast, many were not ready for baptism. We are fast coming to a period of "a famine of hearing the words of the Lord" (Amos 8:11). We too can fail to qualify for the Kingdom of God by failing to drink in the message of "The WORLD TOMORROW."

STOP PRESS: The latest word from Headquarters -- "The WORLD TOMORROW now uses 20,000,000 watts of power every week!"



Dispatching Post Office for The PLAIN TRUTH



Mr. Don Abraham and family

(-?-)

Kiddies Korner

Strange heading for a column? No, not really. You see, this column actually has no name as yet. The editorial staff has diligently exercised its extensive literary and creative abilities in formulating the composition of this column -- but deciding upon a name was simply too taxing. Therefore, we are calling upon you readers for assistance. This is quite appropriate inasmuch as the subject of this column is YOU -- furthermore, You, will have to supply all the material going into it. In order to stimulate this needed help, we have decided to run a "Name the Column" contest. As a reward for faithful diligence, the winner will be awarded a very special prize, with an appropriate "booby-prize" going to the runner-up.

All you have to do is submit what you think would be the most appropriate title. Enclose with each entry an item suitable for use. What we want is personal news about you -- what you have been doing, where you have been recently and generally what has been going on in your part of the world as it affects you. Have you broken a leg recently? Have you moved? Has your family increased, or is it about to? Has someone drilled an oil well on your back lot? Have you recently experienced something to rejoice over that you would like to share with others? Or on the other hand, found yourself in some particularly humorous situation? These are just a few examples of the sort of material that will be welcome along with your suggestions as to how this Your column could be improved.

Here are a few sample bits of news briefs received in time for this issue.

Attendance records are steadily being broken. Melbourne is now averaging close to 50 each Sabbath -- this is double the number attending the first meeting! Sydney is averaging well over 110 every Sabbath, while attendance at the fortnightly Bible study held in Brisbane is presently around 50.

Over one of the recent "long week-ends" Mr. Harley Porter was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Brooks and family in Maclean.

Word comes to us that in the not too distant past, the Chidley household near Balgowlah was the scene of a lively get-together made up of 15 or 20 members from the North Shore, Page 4

Read Exodus 20 and choose one answer from the three given. Two of the questions have more than one answer. Example:

- How many commandments did God give us to obey?
(A) 5 (B) 7 (C) 10
- The first two commandments instruct us to have no other _____ before us of any likeness.
(A) gods (B) images (C) idols
- God tells us that He is a _____ God, and wants us to obey Him only!
(A) weak (B) jealous (C) sleeping
(A) weak (B) jealous (C) sleep-
- In the third commandment we are not to take God's name in _____ or profane His name in any way.
(A) vain (B) rain (C) gain

5. The fourth commandment tells us to remember the _____ and to keep it holy
(A) our toys (B) our food
(C) the Sabbath

6. The _____ day is the Sabbath of the Lord our God!
(A) other (B) seventh (C) third

7. In six days the Eternal made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day He rested and _____ it.
(A) forgot (B) blessed and hallowed
(C) worked and played on

8. As children of God we are to _____ our father and mother (which is the first commandment with promise - Eph. 6:2).

- (A) honour (B) dishonour
(C) forget

9. Thou shalt not murder! Thou shalt not commit adultery -- if we think evil and don't obey these commands we will not be able to enter into God's _____. (Read Gal. 5:18-21).

- (A) car (B) window (C) Kingdom

10. God disowns anyone who takes something that does not belong to him. The eighth commandment says "Thou shalt not _____."

- (A) steal (B) give (C) love

11. If we bear false witness against our friends or anyone, we are _____. And we break the ninth commandment.

- (A) strong (B) lying (C) weak

12. If we lust or want something that is not ours or not good for us, we are _____, and break the tenth are _____, and break the tenth commandment.

- (A) good (B) bad (C) coveting

13. Where did God give Moses the ten commandments - Genesis 9:20.

- (A) Russia (B) Egypt (C) Mount Sinai

14. In Deuteronomy 6:6-7 God tells us we are to learn His commandments and to put them in our hearts. How are we to learn them?

- (A) studying day and night
(B) living the commandments
(C) working and playing God's way.

ANSWERS 12.(C) 13.(C) 14.(A,B,C)

- 1.(C) 2.(A,B,C) 3.(B) 4.(A) 5.(C) 6.(B) 7.(B) 8.(A) 9.(C) 10.(A) 11.(B)

and such far away places as Blacktown and Canley Vale.

Members of the office staff took advantage of a "locked-up" M. L. C. building to hold a picnic at Paramatta Park. Thanks to the delightful Sydney summer weather which we have been consistently experiencing over the past several months, they had to retreat at about mid-day to the shelter of the Lulham home in Blacktown.

Mrs. Edna Mann who was living at Katoomba during the Feast of Taber-

nacles, has just moved to West Ryde and is now attending the Sydney congregation.

SEE! It isn't so difficult to dash off a sentence or two -- some bit of human interest news concerning either your brethren or yourself. Most useful are items that are newsy in a cheerful, encouraging, or even humorous way. To be avoided are gloomy, preachy, or overly sentimental items. Anything from a few sentences to a few paragraphs will do. . . .

(Continued on page 6.)



Events during the past two weeks have spotlighted the development of tension in South-East Asia, an area of vital importance to the welfare and defence of Australia and New Zealand.

Beginning with the Indian invasion of the three Portuguese enclaves of Goa, Daman and Diu, trouble has continued to mount, with Indonesia now threatening to use force to "liberate" Dutch-controlled West New Guinea.

India's successful invasion of Goa followed assurances from the President of Russia, Mr. Brezhnev.

One of the most significant features of the whole affair is the total and absolute failure of the U.N. to condemn or even criticize India's act of aggression, despite rather belated and feeble attempts by Britain and the U.S. to raise the issue in the Security Council.

As the British Foreign Secretary, Lord Home, said, "By failing to act when India invaded Goa, the Security Council has for the first time condoned the use of force in violation of the U.N. Charter."

When the U.N. approves such actions it could well be, as the U.S. Ambassador to the U.N., Mr. Adlai Stevenson said, "the beginning of the end."

One observer commented, it appears the U.N. has one law for the wealthy, and another for the poor, as it seems to be bent on robbing the rich and handing the spoils over to the poorer nations.

Meanwhile, India's swift and successful operation against Goa has raised Indonesian President Soekarno's hopes of a similar success in West New Guinea. He has set out to follow India's example by waging a war of nerves against Holland, hoping to force the Dutch to back down from their stand on the territory, thus enabling him to virtually steal it by "peaceful" means.

Here, he appears to be succeeding, for the latest reports from the Hague indicate the Dutch government has taken an "about face" on one of the most important issues involved, the question of autonomy for the New Guinea natives.

Previously, Holland had insisted the Natives be given the right of self-determination, and should be allowed to choose for themselves what affila-

(Continued on page 6.)



Plain Truth Posting Time

To the casual eye scanning the room, everything looked normal. Each person in the office was busily engaged in his normal duties. Yet, a keen-eyed observer would have sensed an air of expectancy . . . but expecting what? Wait! The door opens, a head appears, a voice speaks just two words -- "P.T."

The room suddenly becomes charged with a new air of urgency as everyone leaps into action!

IMMEDIATELY, all other work ceases! Desks and tables are cleared for action. Plain Truth cartons, direct from Wilke & Company in Melbourne, are wheeled in and stacked neatly in the space left clear for them.

Certain ones are assigned to open the cartons and soon, stacks and stacks of Plain Truths appear. However, they quickly disappear -- into envelopes which have previously been printed with the name and address of every person who has requested The PLAIN TRUTH.

As the envelopes, ready for mailing begin to pile up, they are counted, sorted and packed, then whisked off to the post office. Soon, nearly 22,000 people, both inside and outside Australia, are eagerly devouring the PLAIN, simple, straight-forward TRUTH on the real meaning of world events, the purpose of life, the right way to live and many many other vital truths that affect our daily lives.

SEVEN -- PRAYERLESS -- DAYS -- MAKE
ONE -- WEAK.

over heard

Small Boy: "Why don't you come to my church?"

Another Small Boy: "Cause I belong to another abomination."

MELBOURNE CONFIDENTIAL

A joyous person is a delight to be with. But when an entire body of people radiate such tremendous overwhelming joy as the Melbourne Church of God, it is more than a delight -- it is an inspiration

If there is any one predominant characteristic of the Church of God in Melbourne, it is the infectious gift of outward joy the members possess and shower forth. Warm hellos, strong shower forth. Warm hellos, strong handshakes, and sparkling eyes greet you immediately upon arrival. There is no holding back, scrutiny, or overt shyness but rather, faces eager to meet you and get acquainted. A visitor becomes instantly aware that here is a church that individually expresses in its welcome, a tremendous joy and unity that gives honor to God -- and at the same time reflects the love and concern of Mr. and Mrs. Hammer for the congregation.

We can all rejoice in and be exhorted personally by the example of growth shown by our Melbourne brethren. They are obviously by their very actions concerned about their new church, their minister, and also about each other. Certainly we all need the gift of love and joy if we are to do our part in making the body of Christ a better light and a body of unity.

A Day at Bobbin Head

"Smack" there it goes! another homer! Exuberant cries echoed from the group of men in the softball diamond. From across the lawn resounded the "oofs and Pows" of a vigorous volley-ball game. The Sydney Spokesman Club sponsored picnic was in full swing at sun-drenched Bobbin Head Park!

A round of "American" softball began the day's events and although it was new, the dinkum Aussies soon became keen fans. The action and noise soon attracted the curious stares of many bystanders, especially after the surprise flying dive (if not altogether orthodox sliding assault on first base) by Ron Lyons. Excitement came early in the game when the ball played-up by parting with its cover upon meeting the vicious swing of George Karlov's bat.

From the opposite end of the field came laughs and titters from the little people as Mr. Lightbody and Mr. Van der Wende sent the children on a speedy merry-go-round ride. The children bobbed for apples, took a train ride through a dark tunnel, and enjoyed a

(Continued on page 6.)

Indonesia

(Continued from page 5.)

tion they should have, if any, with Indonesia.

However, according to reports, the Dutch say they are now willing to enter negotiations with Indonesia without any previous conditions.

If these talks take place, and there is no reason at the moment to believe they won't, then Australia can expect to see Indonesia move into New Guinea in the very near future.

On the other hand, if the negotiations should fail, there is no reason to believe that Indonesia won't use force, she will undoubtedly succeed with the backing of most, if not all, the African and Asian members of the U.N.

Portuguese Timor, too, will most likely fall under Indonesian control either before, or shortly after Dutch New Guinea, thus leaving Indonesia free to concentrate her attention on either Australian administered East New Guinea and Papua, or the British Borneo territories of Sarawak, Brunei and British North Borneo. (If they have not already joined the much-publicised Malasia Federation.)

Conditions then are fast coming to pass where Australia will find itself in the un-comprising position of having a pro-Communist nation controlling her first line of defence, gazing with its huge cattle-breeding areas and almost untapped natural resources.

I wonder who they'll want to "liberate" then? Australians should remember, too, that one of Indonesia's top leaders openly collaborated with the Japanese during their occupation of Indonesia in World War II, which must cause much concern among our leaders.

Yes, brethren, it's time to awake, as the creeping red tide of Communism rolls steadily nearer our shores. Remember, the Apostle Paul said we are not children of darkness that these things should come upon us as a thief in the night.

Jesus Christ said Watch, and pray always that you may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that come to pass upon the face of the earth. Are YOU watching and praying?

NOTICE

Please address all correspondence to:

The Editor
Church of God News
Box 345, P.O.
North Sydney

(Continued from page 4.)

So how about it all you Melbournites? What do you have to say Mr. and Mrs. Francis? And you Queenslanders, let's be hearing from you, this includes Mr. Kraft Klause up in Cairns too; not to mention all you Westeners, Mssrs. Clarke and Rozentals there in Perth, and you, Mr. and Mrs. Westley down there in Walpole. Let's be hearing from you - - - - -

spokesman

(Continued from page 2.)

ing of the Club in session is as follows: With the sound of the gavel, the President calls the meeting to order and opens the business. Under discussion for the evening might be a planned social activity for the Church or some point for the improvement of the Club activities. In this session members learn the system of efficient and smooth operation of a meeting -- learning to think of means for improvement.

Next the President introduces the Table-Topics Chairman who is prepared to present scintillating, short subjects or questions for extemporaneous comments by members of the Club. This session is designed to train men in being "well-read" on world news and a broad field of topics. This develops the ability to quickly collect thoughts and express the self in a conversational manner.

After this part of the evening we come to the formal speech program. Our President introduces the Toastmaster who radiates enthusiasm in introducing the five Speakers for the evening. These Speakers have prepared live, moving speeches following general speech outlines designed to develop one specific aspect of speech to develop one specific aspect of speech-making. Each speaker is evaluated by another member who in love and humility points out effective qualities and weaknesses of the speaker.

The last section of the evening is devoted to an over-all evaluation generally given by the Co-ordinator of the Club. His purpose is to point out over-all weaknesses of the Club as well as giving individual assistance and criticism to the members. This is one of the most important parts of the evening for here the Club receives its most over-all balance and instructions of how to better serve one another and most importantly how to become more profitable to Almighty God.

The meeting is adjourned with the firm determination of all present to return next week showing marked improvement.

tour

(Continued from page 2.)

can all rejoice in this good news, especially in the fact that the Brisbane Bible study received a considerable increase.

One of the things noticed by the tour was the fact that many were not listening to the broadcast, in some cases because of late broadcasting time. God will move and reveal to Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong in opening doors for better broadcasting time and even more radio stations as He knows best. We can do our part through prayers in behalf of God's Work.

As previously indicated, other tours are desperately needed. In the five areas of northern Queensland, south western New South Wales, Perth and environs of Western Australia, South Australia, and New Zealand there are over 80 persons desiring baptism and an additional 27 requests for a visit. Thirty percent of the baptismal requests and almost 50 percent of the visit requests are in the proximity of Perth in Western Australia. You people in the West can rejoice in this news.

Let us all rejoice in this growth, and realize more the responsibility set before each of us to pray for progress in the WORK the Creator God has called us to perform.

bobbin head

(Continued from page 5.)

glide from the slippery-dip.

Added events, notably a muscle-wrenching tug-of-war, sharpened the already ravenous appetites resulting in the utter decimation of the abundance of scrumptuous food waiting on the nearby tables.

A much slower pace was set in the afternoon as croquet, badminton and sightseeing claimed the well-stuffed majority who pampered red noses and tired underpinnings. Many joined a relaxing 1½ hour pleasure trip on the Hawkesbury River, viewing in part the remaining evidence of the recent flood while others visited a Koala Bear Sanctuary.

As a clock must finally wind down so came the picnic to a close late that afternoon as the evening shadows crept across the grassy lawn. There were tired yawns but also eager voices saying, "Let's do it again soon!"

BARS

A place where doors are always swinging
A few off-key they come out singing
Pass them by and never mind them
Lest you find yourself behind them.