



CHURCH of GOD

News

AUSTRALASIAN EDITION

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MINISTERS CHANGE POSTS

Important ministerial changes have recently taken effect in God's Church. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond C. Cole and family have transferred from the United States Pacific Northwest to New York, where Mr. Cole is now pastoring the New York and Philadelphia churches and superintending the Northeast area, while Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Smith and family have moved from New York to Portland, where Mr. Smith is superintending the Northwest area--birthplace of the

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FEAST OF TABERNACLES -- 1963

"And they found written in the law which the Eternal had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month. And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day was a solemn assembly, according unto the manner. And there was very great gladness" (Neh. 8:14, 18, 17).

LADIES NIGHT AT HOTEL ASTRA

The wives and lady friends of the Sydney Spokesman Club members were guests of the club during a recent ladies night, held on the evening of 14 September in the "Ocean Room" on the fifth floor of the Hotel Astra, overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

The meeting was called to order by the Club President, Mr. Trevor Higgins, who soon introduced the Table-topics Chairman, Mr. Georg Karlov.

A brief break followed the topics session, after which the Club re-assembled under the chairmanship of Mr. John Lyons who, as Toastmaster, guided it

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The account given by Nehemiah of the spontaneity and willingness with which those who were engaged on the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem observed the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day, and of the abundant JOY and HAPPINESS they experienced as a result of their obedience, is a good illustration of the attitude and joy manifest when 570 of God's people gathered at Blackheath this year to observe precisely the SAME festival in obedience to the SAME God!!

A breakdown of those attending the feast shows that there were 301 people present from New South Wales, 120 from Victoria, 119 from Queensland, 18 from Western Australia, 7 from South Australia, 4 from New Zealand and 1 from the Philippines!!

Following is a report on the various
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VISITOR FROM PHILIPPINES

Mr. Guy Ames, acting Director of the Philippines Work, has just completed a jam-packed 18-day visit to Australia. Mr. Ames celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles with Australian, American and New Zealand brethren and, in the days following, visited the Jenolan Caves and other points of interest. In addition, he visited in many homes of old acquaintances and found time for extra-curricular activities, parties, etc.

After eight days in Blackheath, two
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BRISBANE CHURCH OBSERVES HOLY DAYS

ANOTHER MILESTONE!... The Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement, recently held in Brisbane, were the FIRST of God's Festivals ever to be observed in Queensland! For Trumpets, ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO persons from "all over" southeast Queensland gathered to rejoice and fellowship in all day services at the Kedron Masonic Temple, four miles from Brisbane's G.P.O.

The Feast was most enjoyable and a number expressed spiritual rejuvenation in meeting together and hearing sermons about God's plan and the wholesome conditions which soon will be brought about at Christ's second coming.

ONE HUNDREDSIX observed the Day of Atonement at the ultra modern Petrie Terrace Masonic Temple. This was a surprisingly high attendance in view of the fact that many were en route to Sydney.

These Festivals were beyond any doubt two of the finest "first time" festivals held in God's Church.

VISITOR — Continued from Page 1
Sabbath services and one Bible Study in Sydney, Mr. Ames is back at his post in Manila to continue serving God there. Following 3½ years in Ambassador College, Mr. Ames' service in the Philippines began 11 February, 1963. His visit here was mutually profitable and enlightening. We hope he can be with us again in the near future.

HOSIES HOTEL VENUE FOR LADIES NIGHT

The Melbourne Spokesman Club, had as its venue Hosies Hotel for its third ladies' night, held on the evening of 7 September.

The formal welcoming of the guests by the Club President, Mr. David Neil, was followed by a brisk business session, during which a preview of the Melbourne Club's forthcoming Podium Cloth was given. The Topicsmaster for the evening, Mr. Stanley Chivers, then guided the Club through the Topics Session, with Mr. Neil's comment being adjudged the best for the evening.

Mr. Esko Murto, as Toastmaster, had control of the second half of the programme, introducing each of the five speakers and their evaluators.

The award for the Most Effective Speaker for the evening was given to Mr. Ken Thomson, while the Most Improved Speaker's award went to Mr. Alan Morrison. The Most Helpful Evaluation was given by Mr. Gordon Ames.

In his overall evaluation, Mr. William Winner stressed the need for each member to strive for the overall goal by developing abounding love, utter sincerity, and deep-seated enthusiasm. Many, realizing this, thanked the Almighty God for the rich and wonderful blessing it is to be a Spokesman.

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Philadelphia era of God's Church--as well as pastoring the Portland and Boise Churches.

Mr. Cole--an evangelist of many years faithful service in the Church of God--will, with his wife and family, be missed by all those who have learned to love and respect them so much, while the same could be said of Mr. and Mrs. Smith on behalf of those whom Mr. Smith has faithfully shepherded in the Northeast area, as a pastor in the Church of God.

Nevertheless, we rejoice in the sure knowledge that the same Jesus Christ will continue to add spiritual growth and stature to all who will receive it, as He continues to work through His human instruments wherever they serve Him.

FESTIVAL — Continued from Page 1
aspects of the festival for those of you who had insufficient second tithe or other obstacles making it impossible to attend this year.

Sermons —
During 19 sermons and 16 sermonettes, messages of hope, exhortation and inspiration were powerfully con-

veyed to an eager audience. These messages enabled us to hear more of God's righteousness and learn more of His great glory and holiness.

At the beginning of the Festival we heard Mr. Cole say, "On the behalf of Jesus Christ and the Father I say welcome to this Feast of Tabernacles." From that moment, encouraging and inspiring subjects were to include: Becoming different... Trials, and understanding their good purpose... The Philippines and our being concerned and interested in God's Work around the world... Why we assemble to observe the Feast of Tabernacles... God's government in action at the feast... Basic doctrines of Hebrews 6 enable us to answer what the basic doctrines and beliefs are in God's Church... If we are truly in the body, in Christ, in the Rock --we shall be in the physical rock (Petra) of safety soon... Successful and happy husbands and wives... Child training... Some lukewarm, placid, indifferent, lax and lazy Christians may soon be sent into outer space and down to the depths of the sea in "guinea pig" experiments... The great age of abundant living to come under the rule of Christ... Blessing of children... What happens to the unconverted who die -- Great White Throne Judgment -- all the dead resurrected.

Speakers elaborated on the subjects of CHANGE, doing, bearing fruit, and not just drifting and hoping "somehow" to be in God's Kingdom by care LESS and DECEITFUL living. It was pointed out that we are to live lives of CONTROL, careful PLANNING, ORGANIZATION, SYSTEM and ORDER -- having a GOAL and KNOWING the WAY to achieve it through determined effort and very real LABOUR in the short time left!

God Almighty provided that which was necessary for each in attendance to be so helped and encouraged by the messages and fellowship, that each should have been able to return home more determined than ever to labour at overcoming the carnal mind, and at being a more faithful servant of the Ever-living God.

Social Activities

"Around the world in less than two hours" was the theme of the first social event for the 1963 Feast of Tabernacles, when all present were taken by way of coloured slides to many areas of great interest to God's people. Colourful narration by Messers. C. W. Cole, T. Higgins, G. Hughes and D. Faulkner stimulated greater excitement in the "journey," during which the audience was inspired to see such places as the

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BITS 'n PIECES

News has come from Ireland that Mr. and Mrs. James Wells have been blessed with a new son! Their first child, Michael James Paul, was born 28 August, 1963, and weighed 7 lbs. 7 ozs. Mr. Wells is a preaching elder in the Church of God and pastors the Belfast Church. We "Aussies" say "Congratulations"! And may God continue to grant the Wells family every blessing.

● For the second time this year Mrs. Isabel Von Hartitzsch of New Zealand has crossed the Tasman Sea to observe God's Festivals with His people. Although she is now in her eighties, obedience to God was more important than age. Thank you, Mrs. Von Hartitzsch, for your inspiring example, and we hope to see you again next year!

● Everyone at the Feast of Tabernacles was most happy to hear Mr. Cole read the six telegrams which were received. One each was sent from Mr. Ted Armstrong in America, Mr. Raymond McNair in England, Mr. Gerald Waterhouse in South Africa, the Tony Hammers in the States, Mr. Karunatilleke in Ceylon, and the students from "Little Australia" at the College in England. Mr. Cole in turn sent from Blackheath telegrams to the various areas observing the Feast of Tabernacles around the world!

● Mr. and Mrs. Seales from Albert, New Zealand happily announce the birth of their second child--another little "Kiwi"! Named Gregory, their second son tipped the scales at 7 lbs. 4 ozs. at birth on June 28, 1963. His big brother, Douglas, is 19. Mrs. Seales has been a member of God's Church since April, 1962. We wish every happiness to the newly-enlarged Seales family!

● Warren Stapleton made his entrance into the world on August 10, weighing just under 8½ lbs.! Congratulations, Mr. and Mrs. Stapleton, on your third son.

● It was a very great blessing for Mrs. Daisy Dover of Lismore, New South Wales, to be able to attend God's festival this year. Mrs. Dover also set a fine example in striving to be present, overcoming obstacles which would have stopped many. Greetings to you, Mrs. Dover!

● Six hundred persons meeting at a festival in Blackheath rates as big news! A reporter from the A.B.C.'s Channel 2 phoned at Blackheath to ask if the Church would like to have the information released as a news item. For obvious reasons, the offer was declined.

● Mrs. J. H. Van der Wende was welcomed to the Feast of Tabernacles after having been absent from local services

for the past five months, due to a severe heart condition. Welcome back, Mrs. Van der Wende!

● Another inspiring example of right zeal was shown by Mrs. Murto of the Melbourne Church, who attended the Feast in a wheel chair! Mrs. Murto has been ill for several months but improved sufficiently just before the Feast to enable her to attend with her husband and family.

● Saturday night the 12th of October at 8:30 p. m., Mrs. Colin Sutcliffe and two daughters left by train for Melbourne where they boarded the German ship "Blumenthal," and "weighed anchor" for England. There they will be reunited with Mr. Sutcliffe who departed some weeks previously to attend Ambassador College, Bricket Wood! Bon Voyage, Mrs. Sutcliffe and family!

● Advice was received on 19 October of the death of Mr. John Hoffman, member of God's Church who resided at Townsville. Mr. Hoffman, who was baptized during the March tour this year, awaits the fulfillment of I Corinthians 15:52, when "the dead shall be raised incorruptible," an event earnestly looked forward to by all God's people. Mr. Hoffman will be missed by all who knew him, and on behalf of the brethren, we extend our sympathy to Mrs. Hoffman.

SYDNEY CLUB—Continued from Page 1 through the five formal speeches and evaluations.

Mr. Ted Tupper was very deservedly awarded the Most Effective Speaker's Cup, while Mr. Kevin Lulham gained the cup for the Most Improved speaker. Mr. Edward Lightbody received the cup for giving the Most Helpful Evaluation.

Mr. Cole, as Overall Evaluator, gave his usual stirring and stimulating evaluation of the Club, leaving no doubt in the minds of the members that the Club presents a God-inspired opportunity and challenge for development of character and the whole personality.

All Club members were grateful to the ladies for attending the meeting, and for inspiring a very fine evening in every respect.

MELBOURNE BAPTISMS!

Continued growth in the Melbourne Church of God is revealed with the recent baptism of Mr. Phillip Shrimpton and Miss Carol Morrison. Mr. Shrimpton and Carol were both added to the Body of Jesus Christ on Sunday, 15 September, following their baptism by Mr. William Winner.

Mr. Shrimpton, a married man with two children, travels to the meetings

each week from Geelong. He is an architectural draughtsman and first attended a Sabbath meeting about a year ago. His first contact with the work came through the Reader's Digest advertisement for the booklet "Why Were You Born?"

Carol is the fourth member of the Morrison family to be baptised! Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Morrison, and her elder sister, Sandra, were baptised over a year ago. The Morrisons also have a younger daughter, Vivien.

Welcome into God's Church, Mr. Shrimpton and Carol!

FESTIVAL —Continued from Page 2

Ambassador Colleges, Rome, Petra, and Jerusalem, with various other beauty spots of this wide world.

Most of the social events centered around world travel. On Saturday night, after a full day receiving spiritual food, the congregation enjoyed the trip to darkest Africa via Walt Disney's "The African Lion." This was preceded by a travelogue on Europe and a featurette compiled by Mr. Childey, which included shots of the last Church picnic at Bobbin Head.

The annual "Fun show" also provided everyone with much enjoyment; entertainment being furnished by such lively acts as Boomerang throwing, a Shearer's camp fire scene, a Spanish "bullfight," and a Barber Shop quartet, together with numerous instrumental and vocal acts. The whole audience roared with laughter and heartily enjoyed the opportunity to share in a good balance of laughter, joy and song.

Hikes



On Friday afternoon two walks were taken--one to Govett's leap via the path off Hat Hill road and the other down the giant staircase along the Federal Pass and up the Scenic Railway at Katoomba. The first attracted twenty-three walkers, while the second was supported by nineteen of the younger and more agile

members of the walking fraternity.

On Tuesday a record number of sixty-one joined in a most exhilarating walk along the narrow neck plateau which separates the Jamieson and Kanimbla Valleys. On the following afternoon an enthusiastic fifteen walked from the Community Centre down to Centennial Glen, a very beautiful spot handy to the scene of our activities at Blackheath. As in the case of the other walks, the wonderful feeling of fellowship was felt by all taking part.

Sports

Two afternoons, Friday and Tuesday, were allocated for sporting activities. Many took advantage of the opportunity to indulge in some stimulating exercises.

Although several games of volley ball, croquet and horseshoe throwing were played, the main attraction was the "soft ball competition held between the three Churches of Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. The first game was between "arch rivals," Sydney and Melbourne. The youthful drive and zeal of the Melbourneites was no match for the "masterly control" of the Sydney siders. The second match with Brisbane resulted in undefeated victory for the Sydney team.

Sydneyites take heed! With a full year for practice ahead, both Melbourne and Brisbane have made it known that they are determined to "up seat" Sydney next Festival; therefore, it would seem that a concerted attempt can be expected by both teams to topple this year's champions! We also understand that Sydney is just as determined to withstand any such effort, so the next Feast of Tabernacles should witness some exciting soft ball. Hope to see you there!

Children's Games

On Friday and Tuesday afternoon the children's games were a welcome feature for some sixty-six children who assembled to enjoy a large variety of games for all ages. Even the tiny tots exercised their lungs and muscles, on the swings, and while climbing inside an erected torpedo. The eight year olds engaged in ball and team games which were keenly contested by all participants. Sack races raised great interest also among the onlookers, with some of the contenders coming into contact with "terra firma." Sprint races more than overjoyed both spectators and contenders alike.

When pack-up time came due, drinks were served which prepared the group for an orderly march back to the community centre, appetites having been sharpened and stimulated, ready for the evening meal.



Spokesman Club

Once again many of the brethren had the privilege of seeing the spokesmen in action. A combined meeting of the spokesman clubs, hosted this year by the Melbourne Club, was conducted on Monday afternoon.

Mr. David Neale (Melbourne) presided over the meeting. As there was no business to be discussed, he quickly introduced the table topics chairman for the afternoon, Mr. Clive Leske (Sydney), who guided the members through a lively and scintillating twenty minute topic session. Mr. Colin Batt of Melbourne was adjudged as having given the best topics comment.

The speaking section of the meeting was ably controlled by Mr. Stanley Chivers (Melbourne) who, as Toastmaster, introduced the six speakers to the audience: Mr. G. Thomson, Mr. G. Ingamells and Mr. C. Batt (Melbourne), and Mr. L. Kaagjarv, Mr. K. Lulham and Mr. E. Tupper (Sydney).

While the evaluation slips were being tallied, Mr. William Winner expounded to the members and guests the purposes of the Ambassador-Spokesman Clubs.

The cups for the "most effective" speaker and "runner up" were awarded to Mr. Ted Tupper and Mr. Colin Batt respectively, while the cup for the "most helpful" evaluation was awarded to Mr. Terrence Villiers.

In the overall evaluation, Mr. C. Wayne Cole commended the clubs on a successful meeting, and pointed out that while the members are not formally trained speakers, they are all working together to overcome rudimentary problems and to develop character and leadership ability as well as increase their speaking ability. Mr. Cole exhorted the members to learn to be effective, sincere, and to cultivate a desire to serve.

Blessing of Children

On the Last Great Day the annual ceremony of blessing the little children took

place. This custom, ordained by Jesus Christ, is one of the most inspiring events to be held during the Feast of Tabernacles. We find examples of this in Matt. 19:13; Mark 10:13 and Luke 18:15.

The Church of God following the example Jesus set has made it an annual custom to bless the little infants and young children on the Last Great Day at the Feast of Tabernacles. This is the time when most of the members from outlying areas are congregated together. This year FIFTY-SEVEN children, a tenth or tithe of the total attendance of FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY, were taken up into the arms of the ministers and those assisting them and blessed by their Creator through the laying on of hands of His servants.

Baptisms

"Undoubtedly this has been the largest group ever baptized at one time here in Australia; in fact, in the whole of the southern hemisphere!" This bold statement accurately describes the tremendous growth God has given to His Church in this part of the world.

One of the highlights of every Feast of Tabernacles is the addition of new brethren to the body of Christ by the baptism of the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 12:13). Especially was this true at this year's Festival as God's Church took a fantastic numerical increase of FORTY-EIGHT, over eight percent of the total attendance at Blackheath!

With additional ministerial duties this year -- sermon preparation, counselings, anointings etc., Messers. Cole and Winner turned the individual baptismal counselling over to Messers. Huse, Simpkins and Abraham. Then, prior to the actual baptismal service Mr. Winner spoke to the entire group, emphasising the seriousness and gravity of their individual decisions to "bury themselves with Christ in baptism."

A small caravan of buses and private cars transported the group to the Parklands Hotel where their large, outdoor swimming pool had been reserved as in previous years. Many of the brethren lined both sides of the pool in order to witness this unusually large baptismal service. Messers. Huse and Abraham each donned a pair of chest-high fishing waders to do the baptising, which they did from the two opposite corners of the pool's shallow end. The "laying on of hands" service was conducted later back at the Community Centre.

Echoing Mr. Cole's words which he spoke at the completion of the "laying on of hands" service, "WELCOME INTO GOD'S CHURCH, BRETHREN!"