



## CHURCH of GOD

## News

## AROUND THE WORLD!!

by Albert J. Portune

GREETINGS, again, brethren, from God's headquarters in Pasadena, California!

The growing enthusiasm and rapid development of the local church newspapers in the last six months is a heart-warming evidence of the UNITY and GROWTH in God's Church.

A few short months ago only a few of the churches were beginning their "fledgling" first editions. Some were mimeographed, some printed, some were large, some small; each had a different name and masthead.

Now, almost every church area has its edition of THE CHURCH OF GOD NEWS. All editions are now printed, are of standard size and all carry the same standardized and unified name and masthead—THE CHURCH OF GOD NEWS!

This is real progress!

Heartening comments from members around the world show how much these local editions of the Church News are appreciated. God's Church is being drawn much closer in love and the bond of Christian fellowship from the interesting articles and features appearing in these church papers.

Once again we would like to share with ALL you brethren in God's Church some of the interesting and heart-warming articles appearing in the church papers around the world.

Australian First Edition

Just a few days ago we received the first copies of the Australian first edition. This well-edited church paper replaces a former monthly newsletter that was distributed among the brethren.

Here is an article appearing on the front page entitled "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 biweekly 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 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.

"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.)

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

"As previously indicated, other tours are desperately needed. In the five areas of northern Queensland, southwestern 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."

At Headquarters

Setting the pace for the world-wide editions of THE CHURCH OF GOD NEWS is the Pasadena, Headquarters edition. Copies of the Pasadena edition are mailed out to all the church-area editors—giving them the vital Headquarters news. Many articles from the Headquarters edition are reprinted in the local church papers. This helps to bind God's Church closer together in the sharing of all the interesting and important developments at the nerve center of God's work.

Here is an amazing report on the growth of God's work from an article entitled "RECORDS TOPPLE AS YEAR ENDS."

"The year 1961 closed another record year! More mail was received—more money banked and, most important,