

People emerging from Blythe Arena, at Squaw Valley, after services. Notice the striking design of this huge arena which won an architectural award.

Nearly 11,000 Attend Festival

(Continued from page 4)

Australia Observes the Feast

We just received this wonderful report from Mr. C. Wayne Cole for the 1961 Feast of Tabernacles in Blackheath, N. S. W., Australia:

"God's Feast of Tabernacles in Australia took a *big leap* ahead this year. Through many circumstances God revealed to Mr. Gerald Waterhouse, the director of the work of God in Australia, that the Feast should be held away from the hustle and bustle, the noise and confusion of Sydney, N. S. W., this year. Rather, God revealed that this Festival should be observed in the beautiful Blue Mountains in the Community Hall of the small semi-resort town of Blackheath about 70 miles inland from Sydney.

"The facilities opened wide their doors that we might have this wonderful Festival. A local catering service was

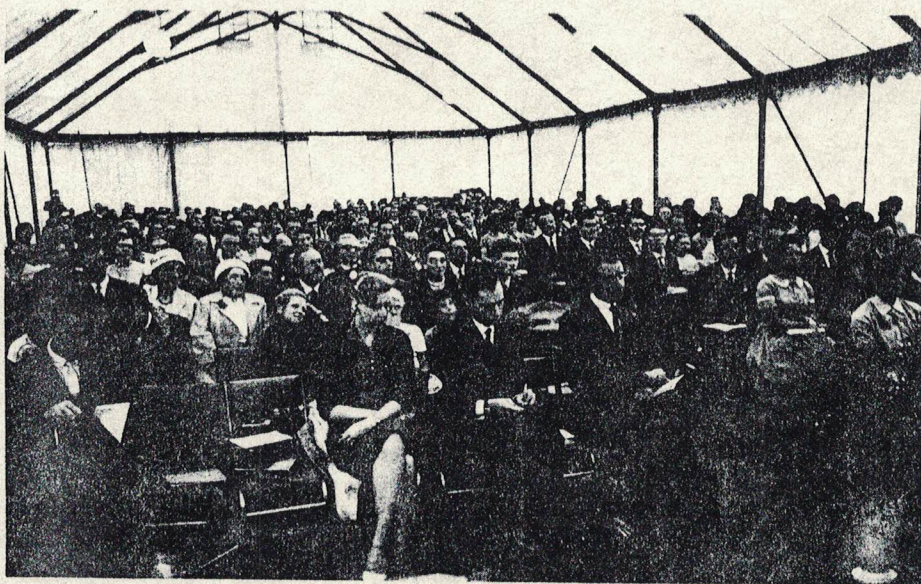
very cooperative in providing adequate meals. The motels and hotels of the area that we needed for accommodations opened to us and several managers spoke very favorably of the behaviour of our people. God blessed us with favor in the eyes of the manager of one of the leading hotels in the area. This manager was completely willing to exclude all other guests from his swimming pool at any time suiting our convenience that we might use the pool for baptisms...this service was done for us without charge...he would not even accept a token stipend.

"The weather for this entire Feast was very ideal. Right up until the time of the Festival the weather had been quite cool and rainy. However, as we began coming into the area on Sunday, the day prior to the Feast, we drove right into brilliant, warm sunshine. This sunshine continued throughout the en-

tire 8 days of the Feast and, amazingly, after sundown of the last Holy Day, a cool mist began to move into the area. Many local businessmen mentioned how unusual the weather was...even the ladies serving the tables for the catering service said, 'We wish you people would stay another week, we would like some more of this weather.' *God surely blesses His people!*

"Another very noticeable and frequent blessing was the *rapid healing* of so many that they might be able to enjoy the entire Feast. While we were at Blackheath to observe this Feast, a wave of stomach trouble, vomiting and dysentery passed throughout the area, it has continued in some areas since the Feast, but as this condition hit some of God's people they were raised up almost immediately that they might not be forced to miss the spiritual blessings of the sermons.

"The attendance for Australia took a 65% increase over last year's Feast of Tabernacles. Last year the attendance was 104 and this year we had 169 the



The Feast of Tabernacles in Europe—on our own Ambassador College grounds in England.

first Holy Day and 171 for the last Holy Day. Some of those attending both last year and this year came from distances near 3,000 miles, from the lower west side of the continent. Many came distances of from 600 to 1500 miles.

"Among the other blessings of this Festival, we had the blessing of baptizing a 'tithe' of our attendance. *Seventeen of the total 170 attending were baptized.*

"I have attended the Feast of Tabernacles in Belknap Springs, Oregon, several years ago, at Seigler Springs, California, and also for the past number of years in Gladewater, Texas. *I can truly say that the spirit, warmth and rejoicing at this Feast was the same spirit, the same over-all attitude and joy of any of those past Festivals I have attended.* Perhaps I should confess to the Australian brethren through this report that I

was expecting to find a more aloof and reserved type of people here in Australia. However, to my very pleasant delight I found the people here warm and friendly, such that I felt immediately at home among these brethren. God's Spirit surely is the same wherever you go and if that Spirit is in us the same general fruits are produced."

The rest of us in God's Church around the world can truly REJOICE in this report from Australia, and in the ever-deepening realization that wherever we are—among the real people of God there is "one *body*, one SPIRIT, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling" Eph. 4:4).

Brethren in the West Indies Keep the Feast of Tabernacles

Mr. Leo Joseph, our representative in the British West Indies, writes of the joyous observance of God's Feast of Tabernacles by many brethren there under his charge. He writes: "Now I am sending you a brief report of the Feast of Tabernacles in Saint Lucia, the West Indies. First let me speak to you a little about the power of God, and how He heard and answered our prayers. The day before the Feast of Tabernacles, some of the brethren and sisters came to help me decorate the booth. It was a very bright sunshiny day, the place was decorated very beautiful (more beauti-

An outstanding group picture of the brethren who attended the Feast in Australia.

