



The Worldwide News

OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

VOL. XV, NO. 1

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JAN. 12, 1987

PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear brethren,
 "You're not getting it!"
 How often it seemed Mr. Herbert Armstrong used to repeat that statement. Some were perplexed by it, a few outright offended. Why did he make it? What did he mean? What was he referring to?

Was Mr. Armstrong merely talking about an academic, or "head knowledge" of God's plan?

The answer lies beyond just simple *knowing*. He wanted to see *living* knowledge. He wanted

to see the precious knowledge God has given put into practice! The kind of knowledge he was referring to is knowledge that should *dominate* our thinking, taking precedence over worldly knowledge. It is the kind that fills our conversations and motivates us to live a life filled with righteous character.

Not seeing these fruits as evident among all God's people as they should be, Mr. Armstrong concluded, "You're not getting it!"

Brethren, *are* we "getting it"? Are our personal lives becom-

ing more and more a reflection of the character of God or a reflection of the character of the society around us? Are we truly *growing*, or are we stagnating? Are we *putting to use* the marvelous gift God has given us?

Notice II Timothy 1:6-7. Here the apostle Paul admonishes Timothy, "Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

God's gift to us, His Holy Spirit, is a tool that we must put to use. We need to *stir it up!* God has called us not merely to knowledge of His plan, but to a *way of life*. To knowledge that must be *acted upon*. We are told to grow, to overcome, to *repent*,

Pastor General Visits Caribbean Churches

PASADENA — Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach left Pasadena Jan. 2 for an 11-day visit to the French- and English-speaking Caribbean. Mr. Tkach was to meet with about 2,200 brethren in Jamaica, Trinidad, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Martinique and Barbados.

Mr. Tkach was accompanied by evangelist Dibar Apartian, regional director for French-speaking areas. Mr. Tkach and his party were met in Jamaica by Stan Bass, regional director of the English-speaking Caribbean.

that is, to change.

God tells us He has called us "out of the world" (John 15:19). He warns us to "come out of her, my people" (Revelation 18:4). As "ambassadors for Christ," we represent God's own government, His laws, His way, His values. But a faithful ambassador is more than just a representative — he is also a *reflection*.

Jesus lived a perfect human life on earth as an example for us to follow. Yet how often do we find ourselves emulating the very *imperfect* ways of life promoted by the world around us? How easy is it to let *this world* shape our thoughts, ideas and actions.

But true Christians will strive to be molded by *God*, through His Spirit. They will hunger and thirst for righteousness. They will submit to God's Word as having authority over their lives. And this submission to God will manifest itself in what the apostle Paul called "newness of life" (Romans 6:4).

"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin" (Romans 6:6). We have to see to it that our "old man" becomes just that — old.

Our old habits, our old attitudes, our old prejudices, our old views — need to *stay* old. They need to stay *dead*, just like the "old man" which "died" at baptism. The *new* man, with *new* habits, attitudes and ways — patterned after God's perfect law and Christ's perfect example — must *live* and *grow*.

Brethren, let's realize that serving God is truly a *wonderful* and *joyful* experience! It produces happiness. It creates marvelous peace of mind and freedom from the crushing fear and anxiety produced by sin. It is not a burden, as the devil has deceived the world into believing.

Yes, the gate is strait and the

(See PERSONAL, page 8)

MPC director surveys 1986: record response for telecast

By Jeff E. Zhorne
 PASADENA — "It's been a very busy year for us in Mail Processing. We had to be on top of everything to efficiently do the job," said evangelist Richard Rice, director of the Church's Mail Processing Center (MPC) here.

Surveying growth in 1986, Mr. Rice added: "God has surely blessed His work during this transitional year. We see amazing unity at all levels, especially in the way the departments cooperate."

Three primary records were broken: (1) number of Wide Area Telephone Service (WATS) calls received in one year — 1,996,494, (2) number of calls taken by volunteers on the in-home WATS program in one weekend (Nov. 8 and 9) — 8,996, and (3) pieces of mail sent out in the United States —

96,432,668.

"We have just completed another record-breaking year for telecast response," he said. "The weekend TV response record in 1985 was 26,020 calls, which we received the weekend of Dec. 1, 1985. During 1986, 26 telecasts exceeded this total."

The program "A Tribute to Herbert W. Armstrong," which aired Jan. 25 and 26, received a record 100,219 calls.

In 1986 the Church's Technical Operations & Engineering Department, in conjunction with Telecommunications, developed the Supervised WATS In-Home Forwarding Technology (SWIFT), said Mr. Rice, technology that quickly replaced manual forwarding of calls by MPC staff members to operators taking calls in their homes.

The SWIFT innovation "is the first of its kind and is being patented," said the MPC director. "AT&T [American Telephone & Telegraph] experts had told us such a program 'couldn't be done.'"

Mr. Rice explained that the computerized SWIFT system simultaneously forwards calls to in-home operators, asks them to begin taking calls, sends them calls for as long as necessary and records the number of calls taken.

Also in 1986 WATS calls were answered outside of Pasadena and Big Sandy during the Feast of Tabernacles. Brethren in Dayton, Ohio, St. Petersburg, Fla., and Vail, Colo., took almost 6,700 calls.

Citing other increases, Mr. Rice said: "In 1986 the Mail Processing Center received more than 6.3 million letters and cards, which was the second year for this milestone [six million] to be reached. On the average, 24,000 letters and cards came in during each working day."

Also for the second time, more than two million names were added to the Church's address file.

Mr. Rice also listed growth in the number of baptized members, prospective members and co-workers.

"The number of people requesting a visit from one of God's ministers or to attend Sabbath services reached a record high of 17,454 in 1986," said Mr. Rice.

The outlook for 1987? "We are seeing a tremendous upsurge in phone calls. The programs are having a powerful impact, and that no doubt will continue throughout this year," Mr. Rice said.

"In other areas, Mr. [Joseph W.] Tkach wants to hold ceilings and maintain continuity... so the sower doesn't outdistance the reaper."

Guerrillas threaten some Colombian brethren

Evangelist tours Latin America

By Kerri Miles
 PASADENA — Evangelist Leon Walker, regional director for the Church in Spanish-speaking areas, and his wife, Reba, arrived Nov. 30 in Bogota, Colombia, their first stop on a trip to South and Central America.

The trip took the Walkers to Caracas and Barquisimeto, Venezuela; San Jose, Costa Rica; and San Juan, Puerto Rico. They returned to Pasadena Dec. 21.

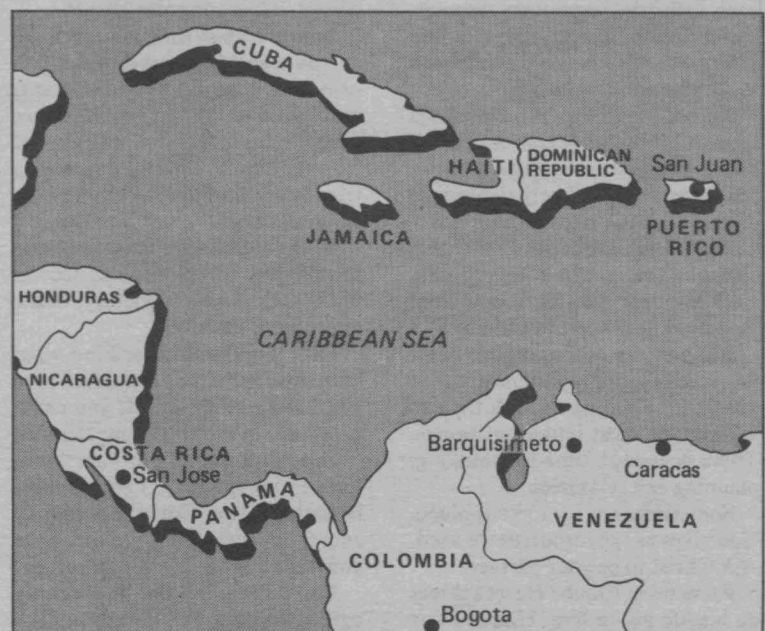
"In Colombia, not that it's a problem in Bogota, terrorism is increasing dramatically," Mr. Walker said. "Some members live in areas controlled by guerrillas, and some have had their lives threatened. The guerrillas insist on collaboration."

"We are encouraging those brethren to move into safer areas. It is not an easy thing for them to do, but safety is a primary factor and they are doing what they can to get

moved," he said.

Mr. Walker ordained local elder Eduardo Hernandez, pastor of the Bogota church, to the rank of preaching elder Friday, Dec. 5. The ordination took place in a small, private ceremony in Mr. Hernandez' home.

The Walkers went to Caracas later that day, and spent the Sabbath in Barquisimeto. Mr. Walker spoke at combined services with brethren from Barquisimeto and Caracas. In a social following services, brethren presented dances, songs and other selections from their Feast show.



LATIN AMERICAN TRAVELS — Evangelist Leon Walker, regional director in Spanish-speaking areas, and his wife, Reba, visited the cities shown on this map Nov. 30 to Dec. 21. [Map by Ronald Grove]

Reginald Killingley left Pasadena before the Feast of Tabernacles to pastor the Barquisimeto church and the Caracas Bible study. He serves as "a resident full-time minister and conducts weekly services there for the first time," Mr. Walker said.

"Mr. Killingley is adjusting well. Members there appreciate his interest in their culture, and they have expressed great gratitude at being able to have the regular contact that they have been desirous of for so long."

There are 36 Church members in Venezuela.

In San Jose Mr. Walker raised pastor Mauricio Perez to the rank of preaching elder at Sabbath services Dec. 13. Mr. Walker gave the sermon in San Juan Dec. 20, and the Walkers returned to Pasadena the next day.

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U.S. political turmoil: three impact areas

PASADENA — The United States is once again in the throes of political turmoil. The Iran-*contra* affair will have a major — and prophetic — impact on three areas: (1) the power of the presidency, (2) the political struggle for power in Central America and (3) American-European relations.

On the first issue, there is no doubt that the U.S. presidency — the most critical elected office in the Western world — has been damaged.

Had the controversy been limited to the Iran arms sale alone, there is little doubt it could have passed relatively quickly. What turned an embarrassment to a scandal was the revelation that funds from the arms sales were funneled to the *contra* rebels fighting Nicaragua's Marxist regime. This is what angered liberal congressmen and their allies in the news media.

The President's critics have been waiting six years to scratch through his so-called Teflon coating. They now hope to take advantage of his discomfort and derail the entire agenda Mr. Reagan has fought for — a stronger America, a less burdensome bureaucracy, a return to individual initiative and an emphasis on traditional moral values.

Those who want bigger government, higher taxes, less defense, more rights for feminists and homosexuals are rejoicing that their causes, sidetracked by Mr. Reagan, have been given new life.

In trying to undo what the President has done, however, Mr. Reagan's ideological opponents necessarily damage the power and prestige of the presidency regardless of who occupies it.

"This game," said Patrick J. Buchanan, White House communications director, "is undermining the President's ability to govern ef-

fectively and damaging the security of the nation."

Paul Craig Roberts, a former Reagan administration official, added this warning: "A country that flays itself before a world audience will not be taken seriously in world affairs, regardless of the size of its gross national product or the number of its warheads. We can rationalize that we are giving governments of men a lesson in the rule of law, but the lesson will be lost in the spectacle. Most governments prefer to be stronger rather than weaker."

Marxist foothold assured

This leads to the second impact of the Iran-*contra* affair, that of hemispheric security. Grudging congressional support for the *contra* forces may well dry up.

Moreover, if recent history is a guide, the Soviets will convert the stalemate in Washington into geopolitical advantage. In the aftermath of Vietnam and Watergate, Moscow expanded into Angola, Ethiopia, Afghanistan and Nicaragua.

Today, millions of dollars worth of Soviet bloc arms are pouring into Nicaragua to solidify the Marxist foothold there and prepare it as a base for expansion in the Western Hemisphere.

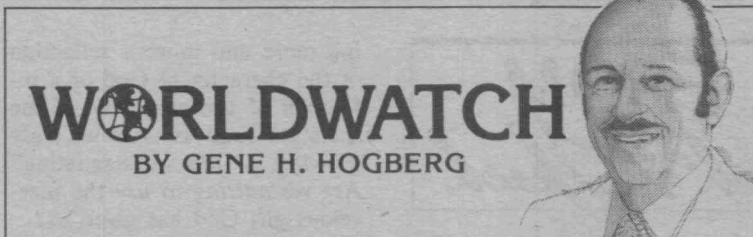
In a year-end telecast with former U.S. secretaries of state, Alexander Haig and Henry Kissinger stressed that Washington would normally care little of the type of government Nicaraguans would choose. It is the presence, they stressed, of Cubans, East Germans, Bulgarians and other East bloc personnel, all professing hostility toward the United States, that is the main concern.

Mr. Buchanan said in a Dec. 8 speech that "President Reagan drew the line in the dirt and told the communists they would not be permitted to establish a Soviet beachhead on

the mainland of the Americas.

"Make no mistake. That is what the furor in Washington is all about, not whether technicalities of the law were circumvented, but whether or not communism will be stopped be-

In negotiations with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, President Reagan — without consulting NATO allies — entertained deep cuts in the U.S. strategic arsenal coupled with removing shorter-range missiles



fore it has established a permanent base of operations in Central America."

The struggle in Central America will be fought primarily on Capitol Hill and over the airwaves. On the ground it will proceed fitfully, halfheartedly, until, as in Vietnam, the United States backs out, or risks international condemnation with a direct commitment of troops.

The United States, true to Bible prophecy, has lost the pride in its power (Leviticus 26:19).

Europe fears rudderless America

The last major impact of the Iran-*contra* affair is on Western Europe.

In the Nov. 28 *Christian Science Monitor*, Elizabeth Pond noted that "the West Europeans are deeply concerned that the Iran fiasco may destroy President Reagan's authority . . . This specter of disintegration is all the more distressing, since the quality Europeans have valued most in Reagan has been his phenomenal ability to restore American self-confidence."

For the Europeans, the scandal followed too close to another, far more disturbing event — the near miss at the superpower summit in Reykjavik, Iceland, in October.

stress get to him (I Kings 19).

What can you do?

Reread *Principles of Healthful Living*. Each principle becomes doubly important when you're under stress. Physical demands on your body can add stress if not satisfied.

Get rest, no matter how busy you are. You won't function as well without sleep and relaxation. Problems look larger when you're tired.

Try a relaxing change of pace. Successful activity can give you a feeling of youthful strength, even at an advanced age. Work wears you out only when it ends in failure.

Get physically active, if you are able. Physical activity is a tranquilizer. Not only will activity help your body, your mind will be refreshed.

Improve your diet. Don't skip meals. You burn up energy quicker when stressed, so you need to replace that by eating healthful foods: Go easy on caffeine, alcohol and processed, sugary or greasy foods.

Improve your time management so you won't be overburdened. Set priorities. You can't do everything, so focus on what is important. Allow time for close contact with God, time for your family, time for developing friendships and time to relax or develop a hobby.

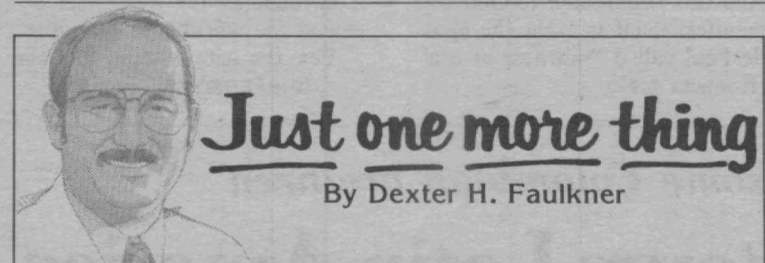
With God's help, change your way of thinking. Stress helps us accomplish; spurs us on to victory. Make stress work positively.

Face your problems. Find what leaves you in a wrong attitude. Try to avoid those situations. If you can't, pray for help to change your attitude.

Deal with anger. Put your problems in perspective. Learn what's important. Don't squander mental energy on every detail of life. Save your reserves for things that matter.

Don't focus on the irrevocably ugly or painful. Put Philippians 4:8 into practice.

Dealing successfully with stress means we can be positive, active examples and lights to the world.



Living beyond stress

Remember the first time you drove a car? Pure panic! Now you shift gears, park and edge into traffic almost automatically.

I will never forget the first time I drove my father's '47 Buick Roadmaster. I was panic-stricken. My mind was clear, but my heart was in my throat, and fear almost prevented me from trying something I wanted to do since boyhood.

Now, years later, I can honestly say that I find driving relaxing — as long as I am not on the freeway.

So it is with life. We can't avoid change, and change produces pressure. The greater the change, the greater the stress.

No one is immune to pressure and stress. However, it's killing some people. Others, like watch springs wound too tightly, will break in time.

Stress is necessary

But we need stress. We need challenges. Triumphs come from dealing with what seems impossible. A life without challenge would bore us.

Stress can't be avoided. The foremost researcher in the area of stress, Hans Selye, defines it as "wear and tear on the body." Did you know that everything is stressful?

But problems arise when we're overstressed. We can only take so much wear and tear. Yet some handle stress by adding stress. Cigarettes, caffeine, excess alcohol, certain drugs, add harm to an already stressful life-style. Also, stress can lead people to have it out with others.

It's how we react to stress that largely determines its effects. By controlling our actions and reactions, we can minimize the effects of even the most serious stresses.

It's no secret that stress can cause illness. Even conservative sources recognize a long list of illnesses that can be psychosomatic — hay fever, ulcers, edema, migraine headaches, impotence, fatigue, upset stomach, mental breakdowns and many more.

Stress can be a factor in heart disease, arthritis, respiratory diseases, hypertension, cancer, diabetes and allergies. Also, severe stress can make you accident prone.

According to experts, emotional stimuli are the most common stressors. Stress caused by negative emotion is much more likely to produce disease than the stress of exertion.

The worst aspect of emotional stress is that it can paralyze you. Each new demand is like a mountain. You become afraid of challenges.

But you can overcome this overwhelmed feeling and put stress to good use. There is enough time to achieve the most important things. There is enough time for thinking, planning and relaxation.

Sometimes we try to go it alone. God gives us the resources we need. Ask Christ to be your partner.

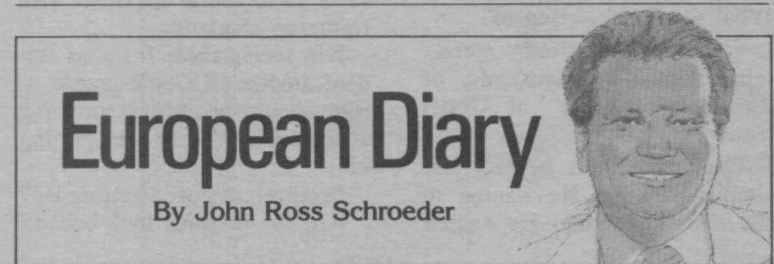
Remember Elijah? He let a threat on his life get to him. He ran away and even wanted to die. God took care of him physically and then assured him that He was in charge and that Elijah should not have let this

and Great Britain into an unprecedented agreement to coordinate their arms control policies. Reykjavik will accelerate the European drive for self-reliance — ultimately leading to a military third force, in between the superpowers.

In the Dec. 16 *Wall Street Journal* an article ran with a dramatic headline: "U.S. Muddle Stirs European Unity and Independence."

In the article, author Melvin Krause wrote: "The lessons of Reykjavik and the Iran-*contra* affair for U.S.-European relations are clear. So long as the Europeans feel secure about U.S. defense support, they are apt to fight among themselves, be drawn to antinuclear fantasies and ignore their conventional defense. On the other hand, the less sure the Europeans are of the U.S., the more they cooperate with one another and the more militant they become in their own defense."

Thus, in several areas, the political turmoil in Washington is instrumental in fulfilling Bible prophecy.



Examining the fallout of the Iran-*contra* affair

BOREHAMWOOD, England — In the wake of the Iran-*contra* scandal, British news stories reflect a growing lack of confidence in U.S. ability to lead the world.

Various headlines tell the tale. "Allies Question U.S. Ability to Lead" — "A Presidency Paralyzed" — "The End of the Line" — "Puppet in the White House" — "A Deepening Stain on the Reagan Record" — *ad infinitum*.

Frankly some in the European media gloated at the President's irragate discomfort. But, to be fair, some journalists are more concerned about the danger to the Western world.

Said a Nov. 30 *Sunday Times* lead editorial: "It is not the United States which will suffer most from a diminished Mr. Reagan but the Western Alliance as a whole . . . for the rest of us [Western Europe], the world has suddenly become a more dangerous, less hopeful place."

Paul Johnson, in the Dec. 8 *Daily Mail*, remembered the aftermath of Watergate. "For large parts of the world, the results were appalling. With the American President paralyzed, the Soviets and their creatures became hyperactive." Mr. Johnson described the unfortunate events in South Vietnam, Cambodia, Angola and Afghanistan.

Mr. Johnson wrote, "My fear is the Democrats who control Congress will go all out to destroy Reagan and his administration without thought of the consequences for American foreign policy or the interests of all of us [in Western Europe]."

Difficult to please

Governing the world's mightiest nation is not an easy task. Allies in particular are difficult to please.

Wrote Jonathan Fenby in the Dec. 10 *Independent* (a relatively new newspaper somewhat in the mode of *The Daily Telegraph*): "The dynamics of America's relations with its allies are complex, Europeans chafe when they have to deal with an imperial president in the White House. But they become equally unhappy when the U.S. presidency grows weak and inward looking."

The Tablet's Dec. 6 editorial was somewhat sympathetic with the American plight. It said: "Govern-

ing . . . is a tough business. It is easy for the outsider to criticize, not so easy for those who have to make decisions and bear the consequences. So let us not be too demanding, too harsh in our judgments."

Government is what it's all about. Without condoning alleged illegal activities, these sorts of difficulties are built into the American system. The separation of powers principle means divided government. The President wants to do something he feels is necessary to national security. Congress ties his hands. It is but human for some to seek extralegal means of executing policy.

In this sense the British parliamentary system seems somewhat superior. When the governing party has a substantial majority, executive and legislative powers are one.

The dilemma of government

John Adams, second President, wrote to his successor, Thomas Jefferson, July 9, 1813: "While all other sciences are advanced, that of government is at a stand [still]; little better understood; little better practiced now, than three or four thousand years ago.

"What is the reason? I say, parties and factions will not suffer, or permit improvements to be made. As soon as one man hints at an improvement, his rival opposes it" (quoted by Norman Cousins, *In God We Trust*, page 231). This is the essence of what is called adversarial politics.

Barbara Tuchman wrote a book about the folly of governments called *The March of Folly*. She wrote: "Mankind, it seems, makes a poorer performance of government than of almost any other human activity. In this sphere, wisdom, which may be defined as the exercise of judgment acting on experience, common sense and available information, is less operative and more frustrated than it should be" (page 2).

Mr. Cousins, in the Dec. 1-7 *Christian Science Monitor*, bemoaned "the inadequacy of the institution of national government itself." To him "the obvious solution lies in creating supranational institutions constituting a form of world federal government."

Mr. Cousins is far closer than most theologians to the essence of the Gospel.

Pasadena host to classes of '76 and '72

AC graduates meet for reunions

PASADENA — The Ambassador College classes of 1976 and 1972 conducted their 10- and 15-year reunions here Dec. 26 to 28, and Dec. 13 and 14.

1976 reunion

To kickoff their reunion, 1976 Big Sandy graduates met Dec. 26 in the home of Michael Hale, 1976 senior class president, and his wife, Janet, while Pasadena alumni met

in the home of Bradley and Rhonda McDowell. Mrs. McDowell is a 1976 Pasadena graduate.

The next morning, graduates from both campuses met for an on-campus Bible study by Mark Kaplan, a former Big Sandy instructor and now assistant professor of Hebrew at the Pasadena college.

"Mr. Kaplan said it was interesting to note that the Feast of Dedication (Hanukkah) was starting that

same day," said Mr. Hale. "He admonished us to rededicate ourselves to the things we learned before graduating 10 years ago."

Alumni were invited to afternoon services in the Ambassador Auditorium, where Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach acknowledged the group and told the audience that the graduates had traveled from 11 states and Canada.

After services more than 100 people met in the student center club rooms for dinner.

Mr. Hale said that after dinner a number of letters were read from people who could not attend the reunion. The dinner concluded with comments from evangelists Richard Ames and Ronald Kelly.

Graduates gathered in the Science Hall to view a film made by the Big Sandy class of 1976, said Mr. Hale.

A slide show displayed photos from Big Sandy, Pasadena and Bricket Wood, England, where class members attended the last graduation in Bricket Wood before transferring to the Big Sandy and Pasadena campuses in 1974.

The slide show ended with music by Ross Jutsum, now director of Music Services in Pasadena, performing a song titled "Thank-you," which he composed and dedicated



CLASS OF 1972 — Members of the Ambassador College class of 1972 who graduated from the Pasadena, Big Sandy and Bricket Wood, England, campuses gather on the Pasadena campus Dec. 13. [Photo by Barry Stahl]

to Chancellor Herbert W. Armstrong in 1974 at the Bricket Wood graduation ball.

Good-byes were said the next day at the weekend's final event: a backyard brunch at the home of Mark and Toni McCulley. Mr. McCulley, a Big Sandy graduate, now works in the Church's Festival Department.

"Although we had gone to two different campuses . . . graduates

from both areas had so much in common because it was the same college," Mr. Hale said.

"The event drew us closer together, accenting the unity that Mr. David Hulme had spoken about in the sermon the day before," he added.

1972 reunion

About 70 people from eight (See REUNIONS, page 8)



CLASS OF 1976 — Left, Michael Hale, 1976 Big Sandy senior class president, and his wife, Janet, in the Pasadena student center, where 1976 graduates met Dec. 27. Right, potential class of 2007 graduate, Timothy Anderson, son of Chris Anderson and his wife, Jeannette (Van Pelt), a Big Sandy graduate, at the same event. [Photos by Thomas C. Hanson]

Danger in the barn

STORY FOR YOUNG READERS
By Shirley King Johnson

One afternoon when Jim and Major were visiting Grandfather, the neighbor boy, Harry, invited them to meet a cousin who had come to stay for a week. Harry and his cousin were waiting as Jim opened the front gate.

"Jim, this is my cousin Edwin."

"Hello," Edwin said. He stood a foot taller than Jim or Harry.

"Hi," Jim replied, extending his hand.

"What do youse guys do for entertainment around here?" Edwin asked.

"We fish in the creek," Harry replied, "or we ride Prince." He indicated the Clydesdale in the pasture.

Edwin sneered. "Only fishing I ever do is deep-sea. As for that old plug, I'd rather ride a motorcycle."

Discouraged, Harry asked, "Do you want to throw clods at the pigeons in our barn?"

"I suppose so. I can see I'm going to be bored all week," Edwin complained.

Harry said quickly, "I'll try to talk my dad into taking us into town to see a movie tonight. We've got to be quiet while he works on his taxes."

The boys and Major walked down the hill to the barn. Fresh hay had been pitched into the hayloft for Prince.

"Hey, I like the smell of that hay," Edwin said. "How do we get up there?"

"There's a ladder up to the loft," Harry pointed it out.

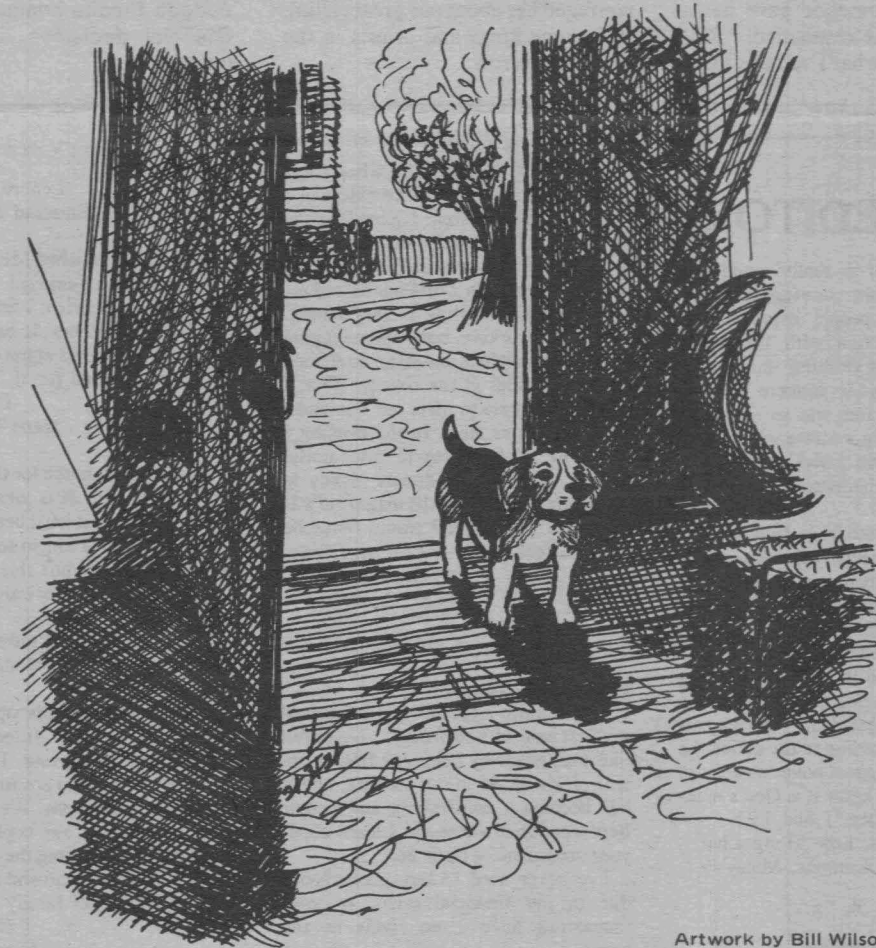
Major sat and watched the boys climb into the loft. Edwin loosened a huge mound of hay. It spilled into a pile on the floor. Giving a war cry, he leaped into the hay.

"Yea! That was fun!" he shouted. "You guys come on and jump down."

Harry stepped to the edge of the loft, sat down and dangled his feet.

"Come on, baby," Edwin urged. "Jump if you're not afraid."

Harry pushed himself off and landed on the hay with a whoop.



Artwork by Bill Wilson

They looked upward. "Your turn, Jimmy," Edwin called out.

"No, thanks," Jim climbed down.

"Bay-bee, bay-bee!" chanted Edwin.

Jim walked to the double doors. "So long, Harry. Good-bye, Edwin."

"Don't go," Harry pleaded.

"Aw, let the baby go," Edwin said.

"We can have more fun without him."

He pulled a cigarette lighter from a pocket. "Harry, climb up in the loft and jump down when I say to."

Ed flicked the lighter. A twist of hay flared into flame. He flung it on the floor. "Jump, Harry!" he shouted.

Dutifully, Harry leaped. A blanket of hay cascaded down, smothering the flames.

Edwin cheered. "You were great,

Harry! Really great."

"Let's do it again," Harry urged.

"Only this time let me light it."

"Don't," Jim pleaded. "You're asking for a terrible fire."

Edwin turned on Jim. "Is our little baby still here? Thought you went to your mommy a long time ago."

Jim motioned to Major and they left.

Let them set the barn on fire, or maybe the whole county. It would serve them right.

At the yard gate, Jim paused. Mr. Sterner was inside.

Swinging the gate open, he and Major went through, followed the walk to the back door and knocked.

Mr. Sterner opened it at last. "Yes? Oh, it's you, James. Be quick, will you, I'm very busy."

"Yes, sir. I just want to tell you . . ." He swallowed. It was hard to talk to someone who disapproved of your presence. "I've been down in the barn and Harry and Ed are down there. They have a cigarette lighter."

Mr. Sterner's brows went up. "Oh, they do? Not using it, I hope?"

"Yes, sir, they're using it."

"Smoking cigarettes down there?"

"They're setting the hay on fire," Jim said. "Edwin lights it and Harry jumps out of the loft to put it out."

Mr. Sterner headed for the barn at full speed.

Jim went on to Grandfather's. Harry and Edwin would call him tattletale and make life miserable for him. Jim's heart was heavy as he walked with Major down the road.

But there was a smell of cinnamon rolls in the kitchen as they arrived.

"Hello, honey, back so soon?" Grandmother asked, looking up from the table. "I thought we might try these to see if they're any good."

The telephone rang in the dining room. "I'll get it," called Grandfather.

"James," Grandfather said. "Telephone call for you."

"Me?"

"Yes. It's Mr. Sterner."

He went in and picked up the receiver. "Hello. This is Jim."

"Hello, my boy," boomed Mr. Sterner. "I want to thank you for telling me of the dangerous way Harry and Edwin were playing in the barn. They could have set it on fire."

"Yes, sir."

"I owe you a big thank you. I wish more of your good sense would rub off onto Harry. As for Edwin—I'm sending him home in the morning. Meanwhile, I've set them both to work in the garden. Good-bye and thanks again, Jim."

"You're welcome, Mr. Sterner. Good-bye." Jim hung up and saw that Major had followed him. He rubbed Major's ears. "I think Mr. Sterner likes us. I'm sure glad we got out of that barn when we did."

Major smiled.



IRON SHARPENS IRON

Nothing new to pray about? The answer is in your hands

By Philip Stevens

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach frequently mentions that those who grow spiritually are those who have their hearts in God's work. But how does a Church member prove that his or her heart is motivated in that all-important direction?

A major way is through heartfelt prayer for those who comprise the Body of Christ, through whom God's work is accomplished, and for the activities of the Church worldwide.

Philip Stevens is a regular contributor to The Good News.

Of course, there's nothing new about praying for the work. It always has been, and always will be, part of a Church member's responsibility.

In the first century, the apostle Paul felt it necessary to remind the church at Ephesus that it should be "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel" (Ephesians 6:18-19).

And again, this time to the church at Thessalonica, Paul exhorted, "Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may

have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you" (II Thessalonians 3:1).

Today, we are reminded in church announcements and co-worker letters to be concerned for such things as circulation of *The Plain Truth* and other publications, and for the *World Tomorrow* telecast.

But many of us, from time to time, experience troughs in our prayer life, when there just doesn't seem to be anything new to pray about concerning the work and our brethren. If that's happened to you, then read on, and perhaps you'll get some fresh ideas to incorporate into your conversations with God.

Answer close at hand

Actually, the area of help we want to consider in this article is staring you in the face right now. This and every issue of *The Worldwide News* is a most valuable source of material. Let's just consider the contents of a typical issue.

The front page generally offers news about activities within the work. Often there's a story about a trip taken by Mr. Tkach, and we can read about the contacts he has made, whether within or without the Church. Within those stories is a wealth of prayer ideas.

For example, we can thank God for the safety granted to the pastor general and his staff, for the facilities afforded by the G-III, for the

favor the Church has in the eyes of outside organizations.

Beyond that, these accounts can form the basis of prayers about future trips — for open doors to meet key officials around the world, for the all-important planning and scheduling carried on by Mr. Tkach's staff, for the pastor general's health and strength to undertake these journeys.



A "Personal" from Mr. Tkach is also a feature of page 1. Let's pray that God will inspire Mr. Tkach's words for this column, that they will exhort, encourage and, yes, even correct those of us privileged to read the letter.

Look now at page 2. Gene H. Hogberg, author of "Worldwatch," and John Ross Schroeder, the author of "European Diary," need our

prayers for guidance and inspiration as they collect information for the columns.

Then there's Dexter H. Faulkner's "Just One More Thing" column. Not only should we pray that we will really grasp his message, but that we can put the teachings into practice. That particular column should also remind us that Mr. Faulkner is the editor of all the Church's publications, and that he and the editorial team need God's guidance in putting together these essential components in the work.

By now, you're probably getting the idea. Other pages contain news of Ambassador College activities, Youth Opportunities United (YOU) functions and social occasions, which should inspire some relevant thoughts for our prayers. There are more things to pray about in some issues than you can get around to before the next issue comes out. Don't feel guilty, but don't ever think there is "nothing new to pray about."

Be specific

Toward the back of *The Worldwide News* are several pages that are rich in prayer material.

We are a prolific Church when it comes to "going forth and multiplying," and the "Births" column is an area for prayer.

Here are couples who have been blessed with offspring. Many have just had their first child. Now comes the awesome task of bringing that child up "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4), and no one can achieve that without God's help.

In that same section are wedding and death announcements. The same principles apply. Pray for the newlyweds and for the families of

the bereaved. Break your prayers up small. Mention the families by name and the areas in which they live, for that is well pleasing to God.

Ministers' needs

The Worldwide News contains articles about ministerial transfers and ordinations. Moving is an upheaval, but we can pray that accommodations will be found quickly and that the changes will be as easy as possible. (And certainly don't forget ministers' wives in such moves. Their role in the ministry is vital.)

Newly ordained ministers and deacons have tremendous responsibilities. Satan would certainly like to influence them before they can get established in their new jobs. Our prayers on their behalf, again broken down small and naming specific individuals and areas, can make a difference.

The "From Our Scattered Brethren" column offers information about God's people in far-flung areas of the world. Many of these brethren have little or no contact with other members other than at the Feast, or face other unusual trials. We can pray that God will protect, instruct and inspire these brothers and sisters, and send relief and solutions when difficulties threaten them.

Space limits expanding any further on this subject. But remember, *The Worldwide News* is more than just a newspaper to be casually read. It is a vital tool in our lives as Christians. It may not have the gloss and color of the magazines published by the Church, but that doesn't diminish its importance.

Are you having problems praying about the work and other brethren? The answer is in your hands.

Quite literally.

'Gaining depth' from cycling accident

Member surmounts paraplegia

By Colleen Dixon

PERTH, Australia — Sudden disaster presented Ron McGregor, 34, a member who attends the Canberra, Australia, church, with a formidable challenge: Can I rebuild my life?

Colleen Dixon is a member who attends the Perth, Australia, church. Ron McGregor, a member who attends the Canberra, Australia, church, was featured in the Feb. 13, 1978, WN, after a car struck him while he was bicycling around the coast of Australia, paralyzing Mr. McGregor from the waist down.

In 1977 Mr. McGregor was 24 years old and his future looked bright.

After completing his qualifications as an electrical engineer, Mr. McGregor and a friend, Peter Thomas, began a bicycle trip around Australia's coast.

Aug. 12, 1977, found Mr. McGregor and Mr. Thomas at Port Hedland, a coastal city in Western Australia, halfway through their journey that began in Melbourne.

As Mr. McGregor rode into the setting sun, a child darted across the street. Mr. McGregor avoided the child but looked back to make sure the child was safe. His bike wobbled slightly. Then he felt "a slight nudge in the back — no pain" —

then he went unconscious.

He had been hit by an automobile from behind. Ron awoke to find himself staring, in the darkness, at the kneecaps of ambulance attendants beginning to move him.

Vomiting, in pain and barely conscious, he endured hours of ambulance and airplane trips, before arriving at Royal Perth Hospital. There Kenneth Lewis, then pastor of the Perth church, anointed him.

Mr. McGregor spent the next 16 weeks in the rehabilitation annex, recovering from two broken vertebrae and a badly bruised spinal cord. Doctors implanted four six-inch stainless steel rods in his back to stabilize the area.

Mr. McGregor was a complete paraplegic. The blow to this 24-year-old's health, career, social life and prospects for marriage would have proved too much for many. But not for Mr. McGregor.

While Perth brethren rallied around him, nurses at the annex were amazed at the number of cards he received: 366 in 16 weeks, not to mention visits.

As his broken body began to knit, his first reaction was disbelief. "For the first three weeks or so I believed it was only temporary, that I would get better," Mr. McGregor said. "But God hasn't chosen to heal me, and you don't get over a spinal injury the way you get over a cold."

Every four hours, when he was turned on his stomach, he read the

Bible. "I had to turn to God."

The hospital staff started Mr. McGregor on a regimen of workouts, learning to propel himself in a wheelchair and walking with crutches and calipers (leg braces).

"Also, now for the first time I could look down at my legs," Mr. McGregor continued. "In three weeks, they had gone from big cycling legs to skinny, atrophied legs. It was a tearful moment."

Soon he faced the reality of being a paraplegic.

He set goals — to get back into the work force and to become independent. "After that I started getting enthusiastic about the gym work," he said.

Learning to walk on his own, get in and out of a wheelchair and operate a manually adapted automobile accomplished the greater part of Mr. McGregor's independence.

"The hospital teaches all paraplegics how to walk, although most cannot do it," he said. "There was a big field outside the Quadriplegic Center . . . and I learned to walk on that field."

He solved his unemployment problem by forming a partnership with a consulting engineer. Jan. 7, 1987, he was hired as an engineer by the Department of Communications in Canberra.

"I think I've gained some depth from the accident," Mr. McGregor said. "Since God has allowed me to

stay a paraplegic — has not healed me — I have had to give in to the fact that I am no longer a muscular, macho type who is always fit and never gets sick."

He added, "I don't look down on weaker people like I used to."

"My goal now is to qualify to be a husband and a father. I used to rule out the idea of actually becoming

one entirely, but now I don't rule it out altogether. But I don't think I qualify yet."

Mr. McGregor said his approach "is just to think like an able-bodied person. I don't think about the handicap any more; it has become transparent to me. That way my problems don't become your problems."

HOW TO DOUBLE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS*

(WITHOUT GIVING ONE DIME MORE)

It's no gimmick; it's possible. You might be able to double your tithes and contributions and yet not give one more dime of your own money.

The answer is found in a tax benefit the Internal Revenue Service grants certain companies when they donate to a nonprofit educational or cultural organization. Because of this, many companies have set up what is generally called a "gift-matching program" for their employees. Under these programs employers match donations of their employees to nonprofit educational or cultural institutions.

The procedure is simple but highly beneficial to God's work. You need only ask your employer if he has such a gift-matching program. If he does, obtain a gift-matching form and mail it to us.

This form would merely request verification of your contributions. After we return the verification, your company would contribute a matching amount. It's just as simple as that, and yet you have in effect doubled your tithes and contributions.

If your company does have such a program, please be certain to write and inform us immediately. To aid in the processing of your letter, please write to: Ralph K. Helge, Legal Office, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91129.

Don't put it off. Contact your employer today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

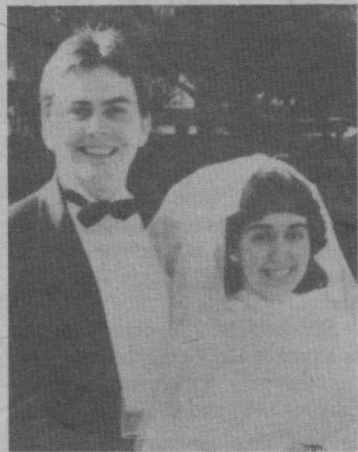
(Continued from page 6)

Rainer Tanner were united in marriage Nov. 2. The ceremony was performed by Thomas Lapacka, pastor of the Stuttgart, West Germany, and Basel and Zuerich, Switzerland, churches, in Bonndorf, West Germany. Sigrid Haenseler was matron of honor, and Joseph Felber was best man. The couple reside in Zuerich.



MR. AND MRS. LESLIE LOGOZAR

Wanda Jean Schulte, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Schulte of the Westlock, Alta., church, and Leslie David Logozar, also of the Westlock church, were united in marriage Aug. 31 in Radway, Alta. The ceremony was performed by Robert Millman, pastor of the Westlock and Athabasca, Alta., churches. Mary Anne Hayes, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Brian Logozar, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple reside in Legal, Alta.



MR. AND MRS. P. WHITTINGHAM

Patrick George Whittingham and Kerri Marie Salcedo were united in marriage Aug. 24. The ceremony was performed by Terry Mattson, pastor of the Garden Grove, Calif., church. Rebecca Salcedo was maid of honor, and David De Medici was best man. The couple reside in Fullerton, Calif.

Viola L. Schafer of Evansville, Ind., and Clarence E. Mulzer, also of Evansville, were united in marriage Sept. 28. The ceremony was performed by Fredrick Bailey, pastor of the Madisonville, Ky., and Evansville



MR. AND MRS. CLARENCE MULZER

churches. Karen Chamberlain, daughter of the bride, was matron of honor, and Zoro Mitchell was best man. The couple reside in Evansville.

ANNIVERSARIES



MR. AND MRS. RUDY SHAVES

Rudy and Blanche Shaves celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Dec. 22 with an open house at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Clifton and Marjorie Frizzell, in Long Beach, Calif. Brethren, relatives and friends attended. The Shaves live in Long Beach. They have three living children, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Weddings Made of Gold

ATLANTA, Ga. — Theron and Thelma Hubbard were honored by Atlanta West brethren Nov. 29 for their 50th wedding anniversary. Kenneth Martin, pastor of the Atlanta East and West churches, presented the couple

with a vase of red roses, and a reception took place after Sabbath services.

The Hubbards were married Nov. 28, 1936. They were baptized in 1964. They have three daughters, Martha Ann Ha-



MR. AND MRS. THERON HUBBARD

ley, Carole Reeves and Sandra Nichols; 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Harold and Frances Manthey celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 10. The St. Paul church honored them Nov. 22 after Sabbath services and a potluck with a cake and gifts.



MR. AND MRS. HAROLD MANTHEY

The Mantheys live near Roberts, Wis. They have four children and seven grandchildren. Mr. Manthey was baptized in 1970, and Mrs. Manthey in 1972.

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Vern and Norma Hill celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Jan. 2. Mr. Hill was baptized in 1970, and Mrs. Hill in 1971.

The Hills have two daughters, both Church members; 10 grandchildren,



MR. AND MRS. VERN HILL

two of whom are Church members; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Obituaries

FARGO, N.D. — H. Noel Miller, 60, died Sept. 2 of a heart attack. He has been a Church member since 1967.

Mr. Miller is survived by his wife, Ramona, and his son, Neal, both Church members.

PLYMOUTH, Ind. — Nina V. Baker, 91, died Oct. 22. She has been a Church member for 26 years.

Mrs. Baker is survived by her son, Andrew; 25 grandchildren; and 34 great-grandchildren.

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Mariann K. Hogue, 70, died Sept. 28. She has been a Church member since 1961.

Mrs. Hogue is survived by two brothers, Joseph and Charles Korpics.

A graveside service was conducted by Abner Washington, pastor of the Los Angeles church, and Robin Webber, an associate pastor of the Pasadena Auditorium P.M. church, at Mountain View Cemetery in Altadena, Calif.

GLENDALE, Calif. — Anna Schierling, 85, died Nov. 20 after a five-month confinement in the hospital. She has been a Church member since 1961.

Mrs. Schierling is survived by four sons and one daughter.

Graveside services were conducted Nov. 24 by Donald Contardi, assistant pastor of the Glendale and North Hollywood, Calif., churches.

ARCADIA, Calif. — Richard David Thornton, 65, died Nov. 11. He was baptized in 1965.

Mr. Thornton is survived by his wife,

Hazel; three daughters, Sandra Nelson, Gwyn Lenhart and Bethany Dalton; a son, Clay Thornton; and nine grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Curtis May, an associate pastor of the Pasadena Imperial A.M. church.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Audie L. Wilson, 72, died while working in his backyard Nov. 2. He was baptized in January, 1965, and he was ordained a deacon in 1967.

Mr. Wilson is survived by his wife, Lillian, three sons, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in March.

Harold Rhodes, pastor of the Murphy, N.C., and Chattanooga churches, conducted funeral services at Lane Funeral Home in Ooltewah, Tenn., and a graveside service at Chattanooga Memorial Cemetery.

COLUMBUS, Miss. — Adolphe William Hardt, 66, died Nov. 25 after a 14-month battle with cancer. He was baptized in June, 1986.

Mr. Hardt is survived by his wife, Christina, a prospective member.

Graveside services were conducted in Columbus by John Cafourek, pastor of the Columbus and Tupelo, Miss., churches.

TAMPA, Fla. — Carey M. Murray, 49, died Nov. 28. He has been a Church member since 1974.

Mr. Murray is survived by his wife, Donna, also a Church member; three sons, Joseph Murray and Wayne and Richard Ebanks; and a daughter, Jackie Ebanks; all of whom attend the Tampa church. He is also survived by two other sons, three daughters, four grandchildren, his mother, three brothers and one sister. An aunt, Wilda Slaven, also attends the Tampa church.

Graveside services were conducted Dec. 2 by Roy Demarest, pastor of the Tampa church.

LOUISIANA, Mo. — Juanita Christal, 76, died Nov. 17 after a stroke. She has been a Church member since 1973.

Mrs. Christal is survived by two sons and four daughters. One daughter, Mrs. Cecil Cox, and a son, David Christal, are Church members. Mrs. Christal is also survived by one sister, 34 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Rand Millich, pastor of the Columbia, Mo., church. Burial was in Hannibal, Mo.

ACCENT ON THE LOCAL CHURCH

Brethren square off for dance socials

Brethren in the United States, Canada and England kicked up their heels and swung their partners as callers directed church square dances in November and December.

Chorale gives chili supper and concert

The St. Louis, Mo., chorale was host for a chili supper and bake sale Dec. 7 at the Kolping House in St. Louis.

After the meal the chorale presented a show titled, "Around the World," directed by Wilbur Malone. The show featured songs from 14 countries, some accompanied by dances, including a fire dance, a Russian ballet, an Israeli dance, an Irish jig, the tango, a hula dance, a Filipino dance and tap dance. The show also included a song by children of chorale members, a duet and a skit.

After the show children watched videos and played games, while adults danced and listened to the music of the St. Louis band, directed by Bob Mahoney. William K. Stough Sr.

More than 300 people squared off to the music of the Unity Grass Band and the professional calls of Don McWhirter at a Pasadena Imperial A.M. square dance Dec. 6 in the Imperial Schools gymnasium. Demonstrations of clogging and experienced square dancing took place.

Before a Chicago, Ill., North and Northwest square dance and games night Dec. 13 about 400 brethren ate a pizza dinner. Children watched a movie while Eugene Noel, pastor of the Milwaukee and West Bend, Wis., churches, called the dance.

Youngstown, Ohio, brethren ate a potluck meal Dec. 6 before they square danced to the music of the Midwest Rangers Band and the calls of Jim Guy and Paul Anchors. Mr. Noel, who formerly served in Youngstown, was a guest caller.

Castlegar and Creston, B.C., and Colville, Wash., brethren combined for a potluck, games evening and square dance Nov. 29. Lyle Simons, pastor of the three churches, reviewed square dance basics, and a square dance group and its caller gave a demonstration.

Cambridge, England, brethren were hosts for a square dance Dec. 6. Ipswich, Northampton, Maidstone and Dunstable, England, brethren were guests.

Steve Golden (Pasadena), San-

dra Swagerty (Chicago), Donna Trickett (Youngstown), Valerie Simons (Castlegar) and Philip Stevens (Cambridge).

Wild West comes to life in England

Brethren dressed as cowboys, cowgirls and Indians for the Croydon, England, Wild West church dance Nov. 22. One person came as a pony express (a rapid postal system in the U.S. West 1860-61) rider and another as a cavalry officer.

The hall was decorated as a Western town. Church youths made posters for the town, and John Meakin, pastor of the Brighton, Croydon and Maidstone, England, churches, dressed as the town's sheriff.

A Western bar was set up, and Church youths had a popcorn and soft drink bar. The evening also included a meal prepared and served by the women.

Len Maylin was master of ceremonies for the activity, and the Ambassador Band provided dance music. George and Sue McGowan.



BLUEGRASS BOYS — The Unity Grass Band, directed by Mark Kersh (second from left), provides music for an Imperial A.M. square dance Dec. 6. [Photo by Bradley McDowell]

Yard sale grosses \$4,400

Brethren unloaded three semi-trailers Dec. 7 in a vacant lot on Bay Pines Boulevard in St. Petersburg, Fla., for the church's annual fall yard sale. The sale grossed \$4,400.

Sale items were donated by brethren, friends and neighbors. "The owner of the lot was impressed with what we were doing and offered use of the land without a rental fee," said Joyce Howe, wife of Ronald Howe, church pastor.

She said sheets of plywood were mounted on sawhorses to make tables, which were arranged in a U-

shape. Items were grouped on the tables according to price. "We don't take the time to price everything. We try to minimize the labor and financial involvement of the brethren," Mrs. Howe said.

Mrs. Howe said the church has two yard sales each year. The aim is to sell to the public. "The area is very conducive to this type of fund raiser," she said.

The activity involved most of the congregation and was a social as well as a fund raiser. Lavene L. Vorel.

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS IN THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

UPDATE

PASADENA — The *World Tomorrow* telecast "Coping With Stress," aired Jan. 3 and 4, brought in 42,783 calls, according to evangelist **Richard Rice**, director of the Church's Mail Processing Center. The program was presented by **David Albert**.

This is the highest response for a nonprophetic program and the third highest response of any telecast.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA — The Church's member files show that more than 750 brethren have been Church members for 30 years or more, according to evangelist **Richard Rice**, director of the Mail Processing Center.

"Each one probably has touched hundreds, if not thousands of lives. They have been pillars in their local churches . . . serving God's work for more than three decades," Mr. Rice said.

Five members have been in God's Church for more than 50 years.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA — Evangelist

Personal

(Continued from page 1)

way is narrow. But the great God who possesses all power and wisdom in the universe makes available His incomparable aid to enter that gate and follow that way.

Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

God did not call us into the spectacular *light* of His truth only to let us thrash around and fend for ourselves. Our great High Priest, the resurrected and glorified Jesus Christ, is at the Father's right hand at this very moment for the express purpose that we can "come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). Let's realize that *God is for us!* He is there to *help*, not to condemn! *He is love, and He loves us!*

Brethren, let us live the life to which God has called us. Let us go to Him for the help we need in overcoming this old human flesh so that we can live in His glorious light. God says He will work in us *both to will and to do* of His good pleasure (Philippians 2:13).

What more could we ask? Let's submit wholeheartedly to our merciful Father so that He can provide us the help we need to become perfect as He is.

Are we getting it now?

"The fear [deep respect] of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments" (Psalm 111:10). If we do the will of God we will be "getting it!" Let's be about our Father's business!

With love, in Jesus' name,
Joseph W. Tkach

P.S. I have just returned from a splendid visit to the French- and English-speaking churches in the Caribbean. Details will appear in the next issue of *The Worldwide News*.

Herman L. Hoeh, editor of *The Plain Truth*, left Pasadena Dec. 1 to travel to Asia to visit Ambassador Foundation projects in Sri Lanka, Nepal and Thailand.

In Sri Lanka Dr. Hoeh addressed monks Dec. 5 who received certificates for the completion of an English course at Pirivena School in Mount Lavinia, where Ambassador students and graduates teach.

He also addressed the first graduating class of the Waterfield Institute in Nuwara Eliya, Sri Lanka, Dec. 8. Our institute offers a one-year program in English and office skills, taught by Ambassador students and graduates, he said.

After a stop in Bangkok, Thailand, Dr. Hoeh arrived in Nepal Dec. 11. "One of the advisers to her majesty, Gen. **Aditya Rana**, was very concerned with the state of

agriculture in Nepal, and Mr. [Joseph] Tkach felt that we should evaluate his proposals," Dr. Hoeh said.

After the Sabbath, Dec. 13, Dr. Hoeh spent three days traveling in Nepal from south to north to consider the proposals and assemble the information for Mr. Tkach.

Dr. Hoeh spent the Sabbath, Dec. 20, in Bangkok and returned to Pasadena Dec. 21.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA — Church Administration released the following ordinations.

Mauricio Perez, pastor of the San Jose, Costa Rica, church, was raised in rank to preaching elder on the Sabbath, Dec. 13.

Eduardo Hernandez, pastor of the Bogota, Colombia, church, was raised in rank to preaching elder Dec. 5.

Beauford Slaughter, a deacon in the Summersville, W.Va., church, and **Floyd Tanoue**, a deacon in the Honolulu, Hawaii, church, were ordained local church elders on the Sabbath, Dec. 13.

Reunions

(Continued from page 4)

states and three countries, representing graduates from all three campuses, attended the class of '72 reunion, according to Donna Patillo, a Big Sandy graduate and now executive secretary for evangelist Leroy Neff.

"For many, it was the first opportunity to meet the graduates from the other two campuses," said Mrs. Patillo. "It was also the first time since graduation that many had seen their fellow classmates."

Activities began Dec. 13 in the student center with a hospitality hour before afternoon services. Special recognition was given to the graduates by Mr. Tkach.

That evening a get-together took place in the lounge of the Grove Terrace dormitory.

A group photo was taken, and copies, along with a brochure, are to

be mailed to the graduates after the reunion.

To conclude the event, a potluck brunch for class members and families was conducted Sunday morning, Dec. 14, at the home of Jeanne Kloster, mother of Pasadena graduate Suzanne Pyle.

The idea for the event began more than a year ago, when Charlotte Whitting of Canberra, Australia, contacted Pasadena graduate Jan Weiner, student center receptionist, who with Pasadena graduates Gerald Seelig, Glenn Nice, Wayne Pyle and their wives made most of the arrangements.

Technically 1987 is the 15th year since graduation. "But it is 15 years from our senior year," said Mrs. Weiner. Mrs. Patillo added that the reunion was basically planned around those attending from Australia — since it's summertime there and they would be attending the Ministerial Refreshing Program.



FROM OUR SCATTERED BRETHREN

"That also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad." (John 11:52)

PASADENA — In Ghana, a country with raging inflation, Church members operate a self-supporting farm 30 minutes north of Accra that includes a fish farm and irrigation works.

After returning from a trip there in November, David Stirk, business manager in the British Regional Office for East and West Africa, reported that a dam has been completed and stocked with fish, including "a couple of mud fish to keep the population down."

Irrigation works from the dam create paddies where rice will be cultivated. Mr. Stirk said the project "will provide a great source of food and revenue for our members."

Mr. Stirk also said that use of a hand-guided tractor "transformed our approach to the use of land." Using the tractor, an operator completes in two minutes what took 30 minutes by hand.

"This machine is a great boon to our members and relieves them of a great deal of back-breaking work."

Last year the farm project produced enough food to feed brethren attending the 1986 Feast in Ako Sombo, Ghana, said Abner Washington, pastor of the Los Angeles,

Calif., church, who visited the Ghana farm project after the 1986 Feast in Malawi.

"Generally they put in their time on Sundays," Mr. Washington said. "Mr. [Josef] Forson [pastor and project director] works right there with them. The brethren appreciate that."

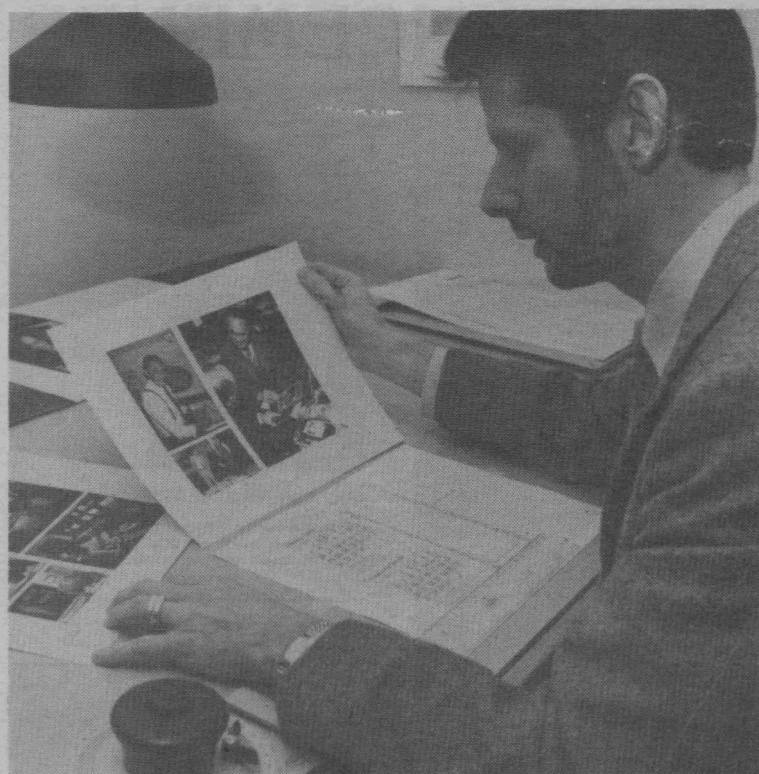
"I can attest to the fact that their produce is superior — the best pineapple I have ever eaten," he observed. Mr. Washington also served in Ghana from 1976 to 1978.

Curtis May, an associate pastor of the Pasadena Imperial A.M. church, who visited the farm after the Feast, was also impressed with the quality and variety of produce.

"They grow about 25 different varieties of fruits and vegetables, as well as avocado trees, chickens, goats — and character, because the brethren get out there, sweat and work very hard," Mr. May said.

He continued: "We found the brethren there very warm, very loving and very much behind the work. That was striking. Some of the brethren are poor, but they're spiritually rich."

"The Ghanaian economy is chaotic," Mr. May said. "Each



SACRED CALENDAR — Greg S. Smith, project director, views camera-ready artwork of *God's Sacred Calendar '87-'88*, Jan. 5. The calendar will be automatically sent to members. [Photo by Warren Watson]

Sacred calendar features Mr. Tkach's first year

PASADENA — *God's Sacred Calendar '87-'88*, with a theme of "A New Chapter," features Joseph W. Tkach's first year as pastor general of the Worldwide Church of God.

The new calendar, developed in Editorial Services with the aid of the Mail Processing Center (MPC), is the same size as a *Plain Truth* magazine and has a day timer, giving brethren room to write in appointments and other plans. The calendar begins with March 31.

Pictures accompanying each month have a different theme. Titles include "In His Footsteps," "The New Telecast," "Focus on

Youth" and "Best Feast Ever."

Explanations of what occurred on each date were written by evangelist Herman L. Hoeh, *Plain Truth* editor.

Stitched into the sacred calendar is a pocket Holy Day calendar and, new this year, pocket Roman calendars for 1987 and 1988 showing the Holy Days.

God's Sacred Calendar '87-'88 is scheduled to be printed at the Graphic Arts Center in Portland, Ore., at the end of January, according to Jim West, printing buyer for Publishing Services.

According to Mr. West, the calendar will be printed on a high-speed, web offset press that prints five colors on both sides of the paper simultaneously.

In addition to the four colors used in printing, yellow, magenta (red), cyan (blue) and black, the calendar will have a metallic gold border, according to Greg S. Smith, project director.

The calendar will be sent automatically to members, so members needn't request a copy, according to evangelist Richard Rice, director of the Mail Processing Center.

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