



# The Worldwide News

OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

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JAN. 4, 1988

## Mr. Tkach Visits Australia

PASADENA—Australia, New Zealand, Thailand and Sri Lanka are destinations for Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach on his latest international trip Dec. 21 to Jan. 10.

In Australia Mr. Tkach spoke to brethren in Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Launceston and Brisbane, and toured the Summer Educational Program (SEP) site at Lake Moogerah.

Jan. 3 and 4 he and his traveling party were scheduled to visit the SEP camp on Motutapu Island in New Zealand, and then fly to Chiang Mai, Thailand.

The pastor general was to continue on to a farm in northern Thailand where brethren live; to Bangkok, Thailand, for a tour of the royal palace; and to Sri Lanka for a helicopter flight to the Waterfield Institute in Nuwara Eliya, where Ambassador College students and graduates teach English and vocational courses, and a tour of the Church's office in Colombo.

Mr. Tkach and his traveling group are scheduled to return to Pasadena Jan. 10.

## Church becomes new owner of Office Facilities Building

PASADENA—The Office Facilities Building cleared escrow Dec. 30, reported evangelist Leroy Neff, Church treasurer. The next day the Church became owner of the structure, which houses the Mail Processing Center and telephone response area and the Editorial, Spanish, Radio Production and Academic Publications departments.

"We were trying to push the deal through before the end of 1987,"

said Mr. Neff.

The building was purchased from Ohfar Associates for slightly more than \$6 million.

"This means that in only one year's time, individual and group donations from brethren around the world totaled about half the final purchase price," said Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach.

Mr. Tkach passed along a "hearty thank-you" to brethren who contributed, "and to each of those who participated in or helped coordinate or organize one of the many fund-raising activities, as well as to each of the ministers for their part in making this project such a great success!"

"And others, though they may not have been able to contribute directly to the Office Facilities Building fund, continued their regular faithful support."

The pastor general continued, "It is of great encouragement to me, personally, and I'm sure to all of us at headquarters to realize the kind of faithful commitment that our brethren in the Body of Christ have for the great calling and Work God has drafted each of us to be participants in."

Funds were provided by mem-

bers' contributions, which almost reached the \$3 million mark, and the Church's reserve balances, "which we have been able to strengthen this year," said the pastor general.

He added that donations received after Jan. 1, 1988, marked specifically for the Office Facilities Building will go into reserves as replacement for the funds spent.

"The general building fund is still a very important aspect of the Work," Mr. Tkach wrote.

According to Mr. Neff, all future contributions should be marked for the general building fund.

Said the pastor general: "This fund is used specifically for payments on financed properties and buildings not yet paid off, the Auditorium being the major example. It is scheduled to be paid off in mid-1989, and we also hope to have the other three or four outstanding properties paid off by then as well."

The general building fund will also be used for building repair and improvements, and any new building purchases or projects the work may need to undertake, such as a television facility, said Mr. Tkach.

## Now four sites in Southwest

# California sites add to '88 Feast

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA—Palm Springs and Redding, Calif., will be two new U.S. sites for the 1988 Feast of Tabernacles, according to Joseph Tkach Jr., assistant director of Church Administration in the United States and a member of the Festival coordinating team.

"I'm excited about these sites, which were approved by the pastor general," said Mark McCulley, Festival administration manager. He and evangelist Leroy Neff, Church treasurer, are the other members of the team.

There are now four sites in the Southwest: Pasadena, Palm Springs, Redding and Tucson, Ariz.

### Palm Springs

Palm Springs, a desert oasis about 100 miles east of Pasadena, "is a world class resort with fine hotels, suites and condominiums where between 4,500 and 5,000

Feastgoers will attend," Mr. McCulley told *The Worldwide News*.

Although housing rates are high in the winter, they are "moderate in summer and fall. We have been extended some very favorable rates by the properties we'll be dealing with," he added.

A new convention center in Palm Springs offers beauty and flexibility. Hallways and a courtyard connect the convention center to the Wyndham Hotel, "a fine first-class resort property featuring rooms and suites, as well as several good restaurants," according to Mr. McCulley. At least four other hotels are within walking distance.

"The city is excited about the Feast being conducted there," Mr. McCulley said. "They have heard of the Church's reputation in other cities and are eager to host the Worldwide Church of God."

"The convention bureau director used to work in Birmingham [Ala.], where the local churches would rent halls from him. He was excited that we were coming there."

Within an hour's drive of Palm Springs are Mt. San Jacinto Wilderness State Park, San Bernardino National Forest, Joshua Tree National Monument, the Salton Sea (235 feet below sea level) and Indian reservations.

Other attractions include museums, horseback riding, hiking, an aerial tramway linking the foothills with Mt. San Jacinto, a desert botanical garden and zoo, a water park and numerous golf courses, swimming pools and tennis courts. "That's not to mention plenty of sunshine," Mr. McCulley added.

### Redding

In northern California, at the north end of the Sacramento Valley, lies the city of Redding.

Seventy-two miles north towers 14,162-foot Mt. Shasta, California's fourth highest peak. Redding is between Lassen National Forest and the Whiskeytown Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area.

Here some 2,500 Feastgoers will attend in 1988. Redding, with a population of about 42,000, replaces the Sacramento, Calif., site.

"Although we've enjoyed meeting in Sacramento for the fine convention center and many attractions, we thought it was time to leave the downtown environment for a while. We were happy to find a site in a less congested setting," said Mr. McCulley.

"Redding was very willing to have us and even moved some other groups to make space for us in the auditorium."

He added, "The city of Redding is a small community, but well laid out."

Hotels and many restaurants are within a five-minute drive of the Redding Civic Auditorium, which is in a parklike setting on the south bank of the Sacramento River.

"Hotels are offering attractive rates," he said, "although there are not many apartments or kitchenettes in the area. Some Feastgoers might wish to rent a houseboat on Lake Shasta instead of staying in town."

### Canadian sites

Evangelist Colin Adair, Canadian regional director, announced that Halifax, N.S., will replace Charlottetown, P.E.I., as a new Feast site for 1988.

Other sites administered by the Canadian Office will be Niagara Falls, N.Y., Penticton, B.C., Regina, Sask., Victoria, B.C., and Sherbrooke, Que. (French-speaking).

## PERSONAL FROM

*Joseph W. Tkach*

Dear brethren:

I am writing you from the "land down under," where we have been visiting with our brethren in Australia.

Plans include meeting with brethren in combined services in Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Launceston and Brisbane, as well as visiting the regional office at Burleigh Heads, and the Summer Educational Program site at Lake Moogerah.

From there, it is on to New Zealand to visit the Summer Educational Program in progress at Motutapu Island, then to Thailand, where I will also be visiting our brethren. Next to Sri Lanka to visit our student project at Waterfield Institute and our brethren there.

I want you to know how very much I appreciate your continued prayers for all of us on these trips.

We are flying in a chartered Boeing 727 as a trial in preparation to making a decision about selling the Church's Gulfstream III jet.

As I have often explained, we are continually looking for ways to make the various operations of the Work more streamlined and efficient. It appears that there may be a significant financial advantage to selling the G-III and buying a used, but well-maintained Boeing 727. The cost of such a used 727 is potentially about one-half the selling price of our G-III.

In addition, a 727 is considerably less expensive to maintain than a G-III, though its fuel con-

sumption is somewhat higher. The 727 has long been considered the workhorse of the airline industry, making up the majority of most airline fleets. Although it is a less prestigious aircraft than a G-III, the factors I have mentioned seem to indicate that it may be a more useful, and less expensive, tool for God's Work in the years ahead. Of course, much of the decision will rest on whether the appropriate plane comes available at the appropriate price, as well as the availability of a buyer for the G-III.

Please remember to pray about this decision. If God does see this as a wise move, and paves the way for it, we will want to use the additional funds it will provide in the most effective manner.

Meanwhile, all departments in Pasadena are finalizing their budget projections for 1988, while thinking in terms of the next five years. Your prayers are especially needed at this time of year, when we are considering the overall growth plans of God's

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OFFICE FACILITIES BUILDING

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# Thrust of treaty compromises U.S. security

PASADENA—In the last "Worldwatch" we explored the treaty signed in Washington, D.C., to remove intermediate-range nuclear-tipped missiles from Europe.

President Ronald Reagan and Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev signed the pact Dec. 8.

With the hoopla of Mr. Gorbachev's visit now history, it is becoming more evident that the real importance of the treaty is what it means in two most critical areas.

First, the pact is accelerating European defense cooperation—apart from the United States. And second, it is apparent that America's future security is being compromised in the momentum generated by the arms reduction process.

On the first point, Western Europe looks upon the INF treaty with mixed emotions. The West Germans are divided over the issue. The French project an almost unanimously negative view.

At the summit press headquarters, an information sheet was distributed containing remarks made Dec. 9 by French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond.

"The treaty signed in Washington yesterday," said the French cabinet official, "... is unquestionably without precedent, particularly with regard to verification."

But expressing concerns over what he called "denuclearizing the American presence on our continent," he added: "What has happened in Washington enhances the need for Europe to assert itself more in the area of security and defense... It is clear that France must continue with the necessary modernization of its nuclear weapons... The denuclearization of Western Europe is not on our agenda."

An article in the Dec. 21 Baltimore, Md., *Sun* drew attention to an agreement between Britain and France to proceed on studies toward joint development of an air-launched missile to replace their air forces' aging nuclear bombs.

This proposal, said the *Sun*, is "just the latest example of Europeans' increasing interest in improving their self-defense. Slowly but surely, defense measures are taking a distinctly European character."

## Window of vulnerability

The treaty is not an end in itself. It is the first in an expected chain of agreements that could cause the partial disarming of America.

President Reagan closed an impending window of vulnerability in America's defenses with his arms buildup in the early 1980s, but a far more serious breach appears to be opening up in the 1990s.

At the Washington summit President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev discussed at length the next step in the arms reduction process. This entails a scheme to cut in half the intercontinental ballistic nuclear forces of both sides.

START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) would reduce the nuclear firepower of each side to about 6,000 warheads. But rather than enhancing national security, many experts believe that a START slash of this magnitude could seriously jeopardize America's security—especially if Mr. Reagan's projected space-based Strategic Defense Initiative shield is not constructed.

The Soviets are still dead set against SDI, but are not pushing the point at the moment. They apparently believe that the U.S. Congress

might do their work for them and not approve the costly SDI program.

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger reported in the Dec. 21 *Newsweek* that a START agreement could "be a fateful decision to

only a few submarines to carry America's survivable strategic deterrent."

It is almost uncanny how the accelerating arms reduction process corresponds with the decline of



leave our population defenseless against a wide range of foreseeable dangers." He also drew attention to the increased risk of "defending against third countries."

In the Dec. 5 and 6 *International Herald Tribune*, three former U.S. cabinet officials, led by former National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft, expressed their own reservations over the limited U.S. defense options available in the event of a START pact.

They pointed to the expected elimination of mobile land-based missile forces (too difficult to be counted or verified), and fewer numbers of nuclear-missile-firing submarines.

"As we approach the turn of the century," they reported, "America's ICBMs will be located at fixed, easily targetable positions. And in the strategic agreements now being discussed... America would not be permitted more than a dozen ballistic missile submarines, of which only eight or so would normally be at sea..."

"The result of these developments will be a vulnerable land-based ICBM and bomber force and

U.S. economic power and prestige in the West.

In his *Newsweek* article Dr. Kissinger explained that for the past four decades "American world leadership has been based on our ability to protect distant friends and to act as an engine of world economic growth."

"Now the summit was meeting at a time of economic crisis. And the end of the arms-control 'process' being propagated so enthusiastically at the summit may be to leave the United States with no meaningful nuclear option whatsoever."

It is obvious that as America's sins mount up to heaven, the defenses in which it trusts are being torn down. Just as Jerusalem of old, the inhabitants of the United States have "sinned grievously" and "become vile" (Lamentations 1:8, New King James). Therefore "the Lord has purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion... He has caused the rampart and wall to lament; they languished together" (Lamentations 2:8, NKJ).

Columnist George Will summed up the strangely compelling arms reduction momentum: "So after the INF agreement weakens the U.S.-NATO link... the next agreement may enlarge the vulnerability of U.S. strategic forces... Gorbachev is a disarming fellow."

(Second in a two-part series)

## European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



# What summit portends for the future of Europe

BOREHAMWOOD, England—Everyone should see his or her native country's capital at some time in life. I waited until age 50.

Notwithstanding America's ills, it was exhilarating to walk the streets of Washington, D.C., for the first time. To visit the National Archives, the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian. To see the buildings from which the United States is governed. It couldn't help but revive my appreciation for America's national heritage.

It was exciting to join Gene Hogberg, *Plain Truth* world news editor, and Norman Shoaf, an associate editor, in covering the summit.

Thousands of journalists were on hand. They were covering a big story hour by hour. Thankfully *The Plain Truth* and *The Worldwide News* require a different type of coverage. We were charged with analyzing this major world happening in the light of world events, on the backdrop of Bible prophecy.

To help corroborate what the Church has said since the '30s I usually look for some statesman or journalist to analyze present events with a cogent insight into the future.

There are always a few such people. They aid us in convincing a doubting public—providing vitally needed contemporary evidence.

They are seers. People like British World War I Prime Minister David Lloyd George. Winston Churchill wrote of him in *Great Contemporaries*: "He had the seeing eye. He had that deep original instinct which peers through the surfaces of words and things—the vision which sees dimly but surely the other side of the brick wall or which follows the hunt two fields before the throng" (page 218).

How many of the journalists in Washington understood where this summit will lead? Regrettably, pitifully few.

## A European view of the summit

British statesman Enoch Powell has a keen eye for what others do not want to see. Before the summit Mr. Powell wrote in the Dec. 2 *London Evening Standard*: "We are witnessing the dissolution of that dual pattern of North Atlantic Alliance versus Warsaw Pact... In its place

will reappear like some submerged landscape revealed when the floodwaters fall, an older pattern which previous generations would have no difficulty in recognizing."

What is this "older pattern" of which Mr. Powell is writing? Continue his article: "A thing which has as yet no modern name but may provisionally be called Central Europe (*Mittleuropa*) is beginning to be discerned."

But what is this *Mittleuropa*? Let Mr. Powell explain: "It is not, however, new but very old. Its old name is Holy Roman Empire, that amorphous but durable entity which we British, with our visible maritime boundaries and our native ideas of constitutional government, have always found so baffling."

## Restructured Europe

But will a resurfacing of the Holy Roman Empire bring security to Europe? Will it benefit Britain? Will it assure British security?

Not according to Mr. Powell, who wrote: "The eternal imperative of Britain's defence is to prevent the domination of Europe by a power capable from that base of presenting a threat to the British Isles."

"For Britain itself to form part of a permanent continental bloc in Western Europe was profoundly and unnaturally in contrast with that imperative."

This last sentence is a not-so-veiled allusion to the peril of Britain's entry into and participation in the European Community.

We should be alert to the reshaping of Europe—and to the *illusion* of peace as a result of the summit.

Outside of the Church only a few have such understanding. Usually they have a good knowledge of history, as does Enoch Powell. History and prophecy are closely interlinked. Seers are nearly always students of history.

Maybe you'd like to improve your understanding of European history. If so, why not read our brochure *The History of Europe and the Church*. Events beginning to take shape in Europe will radically change the face of that continent—and of the world. You need this background information to properly understand.



## Just between friends

By Dexter H. Faulkner

# How serious are we?

Norman Shoaf, a *Plain Truth* associate editor, was one of three people sent to cover the Reagan-Gorbachev summit. I liked the report he submitted, so I asked for it to be printed in my column. Please also be sure to read "Worldwatch" and "European Diary" on this page. Both are about the summit.

Mr. Shoaf's comments follow: Watching the politicians and the press at the U.S.-Soviet summit in Washington, D.C., was enlightening. I covered the summit with Gene H. Hogberg, *Plain Truth* world news editor, and John R. Schroeder, British regional editor.

Before I left Pasadena, Dexter H. Faulkner gave me my assignment: "Be a sponge." This unusual job description meant that I was to absorb as much as I could of how everything was done and what it meant. So that's what I tried to do.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev took a profound step by signing a treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces from their massive arsenals.

There was no small amount of posturing and posing by the national leaders and their strategists. Advisers and press spokesmen jockeyed for position in front of the cameras and strained to appear statesmanlike. Everyone involved tried to make sure that everyone else heard what he or she had to say.

Information services for both sides churned out an avalanche of reports on every detail of the summit, from copies of the treaty to a blow-by-blow account of a walk Nancy

Reagan and Raisa Gorbachev took through the White House gardens.

Some 7,000 journalists were accredited to cover the meetings. The Grand Ballroom of Washington's J.W. Marriott Hotel, measuring 13,680 square feet, served as international press headquarters. There, 900 telephone lines and 600 telephones were installed—enough to offer 57,600 hours of filing time for the world's reporters.

In addition, satellite dishes atop the Marriott provided reporters with 480 hours of satellite transmis-

## How serious are we about doing what is necessary to bring peace to this world?

sion time, enough microwave energy to cook 480 turkeys.

Hotel spokeswoman Paula Auman-Butler estimated that journalists would consume 8,000 cups of coffee, tea and water each day.

It was all quite overwhelming. But one point stood out.

Underneath all the hoopla—behind the "media circus"—in spite of the bedlam surrounding the summit—one got the unmistakable impression that the U.S. and Soviet leaders were deadly serious about what they were doing. And of course they were.

A lesson came to mind for us in God's Church.

We know that this world does not know the way to peace. Scriptures such as Isaiah 59:8 and Jeremiah 6:14 show that man, having rejected

God and God's laws, cannot hope to find true peace, no matter how many summits take place, no matter how many treaties are signed, no matter how many weapons are supposedly done away with.

But make no mistake. National leaders are serious about trying to find peace. They know that unless they do, the human race is headed for extinction. It's a matter of physical life and death. Without the knowledge we in God's Church have, they see their efforts, such as the December meeting, as the world's only hope for peace.

Without the knowledge we in God's Church have.

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God," said Jesus (Matthew 5:9).

God has revealed the way to peace to us in His Church. It involves overcoming our carnal human nature. It involves conquering the evil ways of this world. It involves taking on the very nature of God. It involves enduring to the

end. It involves announcing to the world that true peace is indeed coming soon, under the rule of Jesus Christ on earth.

But how serious are we about doing what is necessary to bring peace to this world?

Human leaders are serious. They are frantically trying to find a way to prevent a cataclysm that would erase human life from the earth.

As I served as a sponge at the summit, the thought was impressed upon my mind that we need to be—that we'd better be—even more serious about the calling we have to help bring peace to mankind. There's not much time left before God's spirit-born children will begin to do just that. For us, it's a matter of eternal life and death.

How serious are you?



# Scandinavian brethren cope with isolation, yet feel as family

By Peter Shenton and Thomas C. Hanson

BREDSTEN, Denmark—From the vast forests of Sweden to the gently rolling farmlands of Denmark, from the majestic mountains of Norway to the myriad lakes of Finland, Scandinavia is an area of

magnificent scenery. Of the about 22.5 million people who live here, God has called a few—83 baptized members—into His Church.

Peter Shenton, along with his wife, Heather, serve the Oslo, Norway; Stockholm, Sweden; Copen-

hagen, Denmark; and Ipswich and Norwich, England; churches.

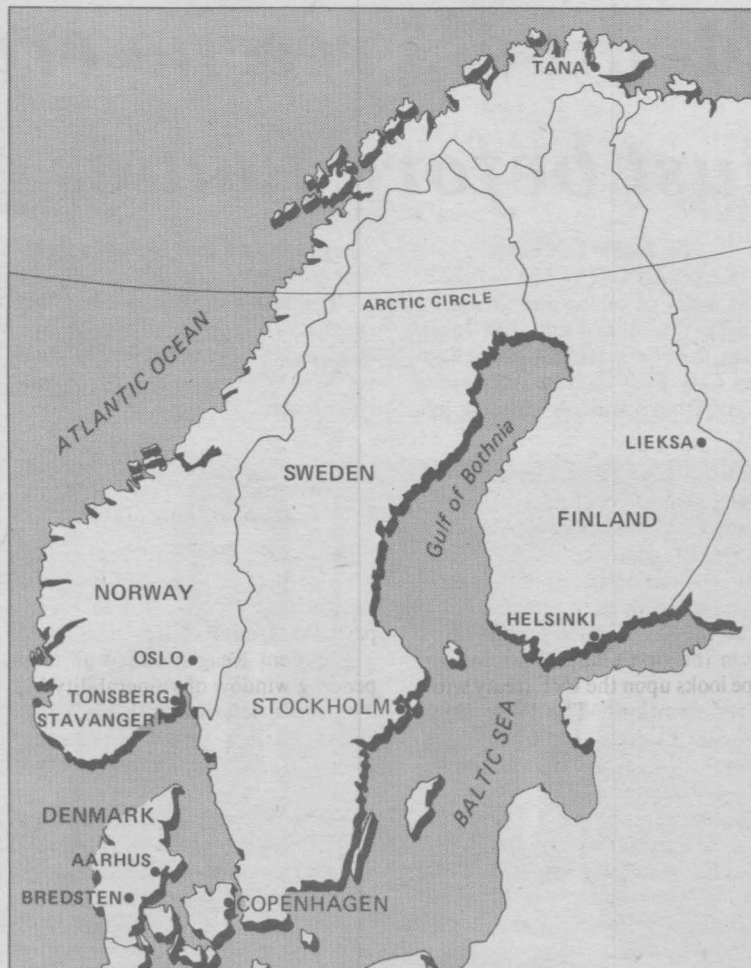
Mr. Shenton conducts English-language services once a month in each Scandinavian church. On the other Sabbaths the members listen to taped services from England or watch a videotaped service. Distant members also receive taped services.

As scattered brethren, members must cope with obeying God in isolation. This is an especially acute problem for young people and singles, who have no one to date.

*Peter Shenton pastors the churches in Scandinavia. Carl Frederick Aas, a local elder in Oslo, Norway; Ulf Stahle, a member in Sweden; and Ib Jarlskov, a member in Denmark; contributed to this article.*

"Of all these problems I think isolation is the biggest, because we all need friends to talk to," said Ulf Stahle, a member from Sweden.

Schoolchildren of Church members face problems with national customs such as Christmas and Easter, religious isolation (not (See BRETHREN, page 4)



**ISOLATED MEMBERS**—Members in Scandinavia attend services in Oslo, Norway; Stockholm, Sweden; and Copenhagen, Denmark. One member and his family live in Tana, 275 miles north of the Arctic Circle, and can only attend services twice a year. Eleven members live in Finland, some within cycling distance of the Soviet Union. [Map by Ronald Grove]

## British minister cares for flock in Scandinavia

BREDSTEN, Denmark—For the past 12 years Peter Shenton, 51, and his wife, Heather, have served the Scandinavian brethren.

Each month Mr. Shenton flies to Scandinavia from their home in Wivenhoe, England, where he pastors the Ipswich and Norwich churches.

He spends five to eight days in Scandinavia visiting members and prospective members, and conducting as many as three services on the Sabbath—in Copenhagen, Denmark; Stockholm, Sweden; and Oslo, Norway.

Mr. Shenton's circuit would be like pastoring the Reseda and Glendora, Calif., churches in the Pasadena area three Sabbaths a month, then flying to Klamath Falls, Ore., and conducting a Friday evening Bible study, and flying to Boise, Idaho, for morning services and on to Reno, Nevada, for afternoon services.

Though he speaks Spanish and some French, Mr. Shenton decided not to learn any of the Scandinavian languages, to avoid showing favoritism to any country.

### Family background

A native of Dover, England, Mr. Shenton learned some of the truth through his father. The elder Mr. Shenton was a conscientious objector during World War II, kept the Sabbath, looked forward to the Kingdom of God on earth, had the Holy Days written in his Bible and did not eat unclean meats.

When *The World Tomorrow* be-

gan on Radio Luxembourg in 1953 Mr. Shenton and his father listened.

The younger Mr. Shenton also became a conscientious objector. His options to military service were 10 years in the coal mines or 10 years in the merchant navy. Mr. Shenton chose the merchant navy, and worked on cruise liners, which took him "everywhere but Russia and South America."

He received *The Plain Truth* while at sea, but only read it occasionally.

"It was a rotten life—working 10 hours a day, seven days a week, for three to five months," Mr. Shenton said.

After eight years the law changed, the draft ended and he left the merchant navy.



PETER AND HEATHER SHENTON

For the next two years he was a tour guide in Belgium. It was at this time that he asked for a ministerial visit. Unknown to him, his sister, Pauline Horne, now of Launceston, Australia, had already become a member. His father, though he taught his family much of the truth, did not become a member.

### Off to Ambassador College

Mr. Shenton was accepted to the Bricket Wood, England, campus of Ambassador College in 1964. Upon graduation he became travel manager, then transportation manager.

His wife-to-be, Heather Bowden, was a senior when he was a freshman. She graduated in 1965 and they were married one year later. Now confined to a wheelchair, Mrs. Shenton suffers from multiple sclerosis.

Her father, William Bowden, was the estate manager for the property that became the Bricket Wood campus. The late Herbert W. Armstrong asked Mr. Bowden to stay on as estate manager when the college purchased the property.

Mr. Shenton graduated in 1968. In 1975 he was ordained a local elder and was raised in rank to preaching elder in 1976 by evangelist Frank Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Shenton have two children, Michael, 18, and Stephen, 16.

Of his wife Mr. Shenton said: "She is great in backing me up in the work I do in Scandinavia. It's a big area, and I must travel a lot. Most of our friends are in Scandinavia."

## Member helped build college campus Serving Pasadena from Norway

By Michael Morrison

BREDSTEN, Denmark—Although Sandrup "San" Abrahamsen lives in Norway, he often thinks of headquarters.

*Michael Morrison is an editorial assistant for The Plain Truth.*

He can visualize the Ambassador College campus, even the new stream and the fountain above it. That's not surprising, for he helped build it.

And, although he lives thousands of miles from Pasadena, he still helps in the ways that he can.

San Abrahamsen, 72, and his wife, Hjordis, illustrate the worldwide nature of God's Church: born in Norway, they moved to Canada, then Alaska and Washington, then Pasadena and now they've completed the circle by moving back to Norway. In his homeland they are near their son, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Abrahamsen first heard about God's work in 1963, when he worked as a shipwright in Alaska, repairing wooden boats. He asked his landlord for some magazines to read, and among them was *The Plain Truth*.

In 1964 his wife joined him in Alaska, and in that year they became *Plain Truth* subscribers. The next year they moved to Seattle, Wash., and found that his brother and older sister were also getting *The Plain Truth*.

Mr. Abrahamsen was baptized in February, 1966, and his wife that fall. His brother and sister were also

baptized that year.

In 1967 they moved back to Norway, where there was no church. In his conscience Mr. Abrahamsen knew they should go back to the United States, and they soon did. But his wife was heartbroken, he said, to leave their grandchildren behind.



SANDRUP AND HJORDIS ABRAHAMSEN

In August, 1969, while living in Seattle, he received a telephone call from Pasadena; Ambassador College wanted him to work on the carpentry and cabinet crew. The call was on a Friday, and by Wednesday he had moved. As foreman of the carpentry crew, he was involved in much construction of the campus.

"It was a rewarding job," he said. "I wouldn't mind staying there for 1,000 years." But he couldn't stay in Pasadena. The smog made his wife ill, and in 1981 he retired and

they moved back to Norway. He bought a house north of Oslo, but he regretted it. "It was stupid. I should have built it myself."

They live about 2½ hours north of Oslo (3½ hours in the winter). They attend services every other week, and listen to taped sermons at home on the other weeks.

Mr. Abrahamsen visited the United States for a few months in 1984 and 1985, and helped build one of the newest parts of the campus—the fountain near the library and the new stream. He laid about 80,000 pieces of small mosaic tile. Many years earlier he helped lay the tile in the campus swimming pool.

"The campus is beautiful," he said, giving emphasis to *beautiful* to make it mean more than just external appearance. He feels more at home in Pasadena than in his homeland. "I come to my own country, and it's not the same."

Though back in Norway, Mr. Abrahamsen still works for headquarters, using skills in wood carving.

Since returning to Norway Mr. Abrahamsen has carved several Church seals for the Borehamwood, England, Office. Using a design by Ken Tunell, one of the Church's illustrators in Pasadena, he carved a scene titled "The World Tomorrow" and gave it to Herbert W. Armstrong.

He then carved "The World That Was," depicting the pre-Flood world. Mr. Abrahamsen flew to London, England, to give it to Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach when he spoke to the Church in England in August. He is now carving "This Present World."

Mr. Abrahamsen also takes care of the *Den Enkle Sannhet* (Norwegian *Plain Truth*) newsstand in Gjøvik, Norway.

"Mr. and Mrs. Abrahamsen are pillars in the Norwegian church," said Carl Aas, a local church elder in Norway. "They are always positive, willing to serve and support the work."

### The Work in Scandinavia

	Church members	Plain Truth subscribers	Den Enkle Sannhet subscribers
Norway	30	1,769	9,710
Denmark	23	3,501	8,620
Sweden	19	8,365	8,385
Finland	11	6,053	299
Total	83	19,688	27,014

### The Worldwide News

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Senior editor: Sheila Graham; managing editor: Thomas C. Hanson; layout editor: Ronald Groves; news editor: Jeff Zhorne; associate editor: Kerri Miles; "Iron Sharpens Iron": Norman L. Shoat; staff writer: Marie Myers; composition: Tony Styer, Dawna Borax, Marianna Laursen; photography: Warren Watson, G.A. Belluche Jr., Kevin Blackburn, Charles Feldbush, Hal Finch; proofreaders: Peter Moore, Lana Walker

Publishing Services composition: Don Patrick, Barry Gridley, Steve Doucet, Larry Miller, Linda Snuffer; prepress production: Dale Machi, Jeremiah Frazier; printing coordinator: Robert W. Richards

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## Members rescue crash victim just before flames engulf car

By Jackie L. Cooper

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—July 27 was a day of caring and giving for Larry Whitehead and Jim Inselman, members who attend the Kansas City East church. Returning home from a window-cleaning job,

they rescued a man hurt in a three-car accident.

The man's car struck two other cars, overturned and caught fire. Car and driver landed within yards of Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Inselman's car.

Both ran to the car, and Mr. Whitehead struggled to open the driver's door, which was stuck. He finally was able to open it and attempted to release the seat belt, but the heat and flames proved too much.

*Jackie L. Cooper is a member who attends the Kansas City, Mo., East church.*

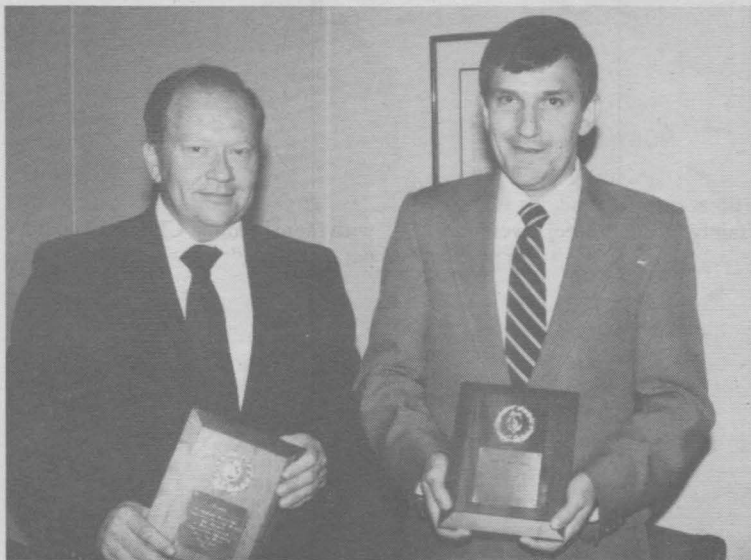
The victim, still conscious, screamed as Mr. Whitehead tried again to release the seat belt. Flames singeing his hair, he was again forced back by the heat. Then the victim's hair caught on fire.

Mr. Inselman, remembering he had a razored window scraper in his shirt pocket, cut the seat belt. Both members grabbed the victim and pulled him out of the car, just before it became engulfed in fire.

Mr. Whitehead dragged the victim a few feet from the burning auto, and another bystander helped carry him to safety.

Both members were given commendations from the Kansas City Police Department.

The driver suffered first- and third-degree burns, severe cuts and neck injuries.



**HONORED FOR BRAVERY**—Larry Whitehead (right) and Jim Inselman, members who attend the Kansas City, Mo., East church, display plaques given to them by the Kansas City Police Department for rescuing an accident victim July 27, 1987.

## Truth 'wonderful,' says member

By Betty Thompson

EAU CLAIRE, Wis.—Ninety-year-old Jennie Olson's association with God's people began 62 years ago in High Point, N.C.

*Betty Thompson and Jennie Olson are members who attend the Eau Claire, Wis., church.*

After she and her husband were baptized in the Mississippi River by a Seventh-day Adventist minister in 1919, Mr. Olson sold books for the Adventists in High Point.

It was there in 1925 that they became acquainted with the Church of God (Seventh Day) and its lead-



JENNIE OLSON

ers Andrew Dugger and Clarence Dodd. In 1950 her husband traveled with Mr. Dugger on a six-month tour of the Caribbean, Africa and Israel.

Mrs. Olson recalls when Herbert W. Armstrong began contact with the Church. Although she did not see him at that time, she remembered his name and that he said the Holy Days should be observed.

Mrs. Olson began reading *The Plain Truth* in the early 1940s. After Mr. Olson died in 1968, Mrs. Olson sent her tithes to Pasadena and requested Church literature.

Six years later she attended her first Passover service in St. Paul, Minn.

Last June Mrs. Olson began to suffer from congestive heart failure and is not strong enough to attend services. But she feels "no pain, and that's the beauty of it."

Mrs. Olson had six children and has outlived two of them. She also

has 20 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

One son, Albert, is a member. Describing his mother, Albert noted: "She was always a peace-maker and very patient. She never bad-mouthed anyone."

Mrs. Olson's interests include crocheting, embroidering, making quilts, sewing her children's clothes and playing the piano.

She said she has "learned so much about the future and what's going to happen—and it's wonderful to know!"

## Brethren

(Continued from page 3)  
many members), few friends in the Church (and widely scattered), lax school discipline, sexual emancipation and drugs.

God's Church in Scandinavia, built on the English-language *Plain Truth*, is made up of many professionals. To come into the Church, members had to be able to understand the truth in English.

In general, most members can also communicate with one another in Swedish, Danish or Norwegian. The Finnish language, however, is vastly different.

Understanding the Scriptures in a Scandinavian language and English gives members an added dimension to their biblical comprehension. However, some have trouble with "King James" English.

In 1984 a Norwegian edition of *The Plain Truth* (*Den Enkle Sannhet*) was born. In four years the circulation has increased to 27,994.

"The men in the Scandinavian church are strong in the Church, and this could indicate great growth there in the future," Mr. Shenton said. "They do a remarkable job at their annual Spokesman Club meeting, which is conducted at the Feast."

All Feastgoers are invited, and the men speak in English, which is not their first language.

### Similar, but diverse

"In general there are similar conditions that Scandinavians live under," said Mr. Shenton, but the four countries are "as diverse as you can get."

Scandinavia is an area of massive (See BRETHREN, page 8)



**NORWEGIAN BRETHREN**—God's Church meets each week in Oslo, Norway, the capital. One service a month is conducted in English by Peter Shenton, pastor of the Scandinavian churches. Another is conducted in Norwegian by local church elders Diedrik Zernichow and Carl Frederick Aas. On other Sabbaths brethren listen to taped services.

## Letters TO THE EDITOR

### Tithing blessings

At the Feast I was wondering how we would get through the winter financially since our third tithe year was about to begin. I am self-employed and my income is at a low ebb in the winter. After the Feast, however, a job which could supplement my income opened up. Now we are better off financially than we usually are in the summer, even when we don't have third tithe to pay.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Elsinger  
Colesburg, Iowa

This past year was my third tithe year.



**SORRENTINOS**—Three generations of Sorrentinos who play basketball for the Kenosha, Wis., women's team are, from left, Lorraine (grandmother), Kimberly (granddaughter) and Annie (mother). [Photo by Earl Gramza]

## Three generations play on same basketball team

By Conni McClure

KENOSHA, Wis.—Basketball runs in the Sorrentino family. Kimberly, 16, and Tracy, 13, sisters, are the third generation of Sorrentinos to play basketball on the church's women's basketball team.

*Conni McClure is a member who attends the Kenosha, Wis., church. Kimberly and Tracy Sorrentino are the daughters of Richard Sorrentino, a local church elder in Kenosha, and his wife, Annie.*

Kimberly and Tracy, their mother, Annie, grandmother, Lorraine, 64, and aunt, Debbie, play together on the church team. Their two brothers, Robert and Steven, play on other church teams.

Annie and Lorraine have been members of the team since its inception five years ago. "It's really a

lot of fun," said Annie. "But when you have children playing basketball on the same team, you have to really be careful of your example, because they are watching you more closely."

Annie watches professional and collegiate basketball on television, picking up techniques and strategies. "You can learn a lot from watching," she said.

"I guess I'm really blessed to be able to play yet," said Lorraine, who does aerobic exercises about three times a week "and every day before a tournament."

Lorraine is an example to the younger women in the Church, showing them that just because one gets older doesn't mean one has to stop being active.

Younger players—men and women—have joked with Lorraine: "I wish you'd stop playing basketball. I can't stop unless you do!"

### God's protection

An amazing thing happened last week: my wife, Dianne, was giving our 14-month-old son David his bath. Normally, he has to be coaxed to come out when finished, as he likes to play in the bathtub a while longer.

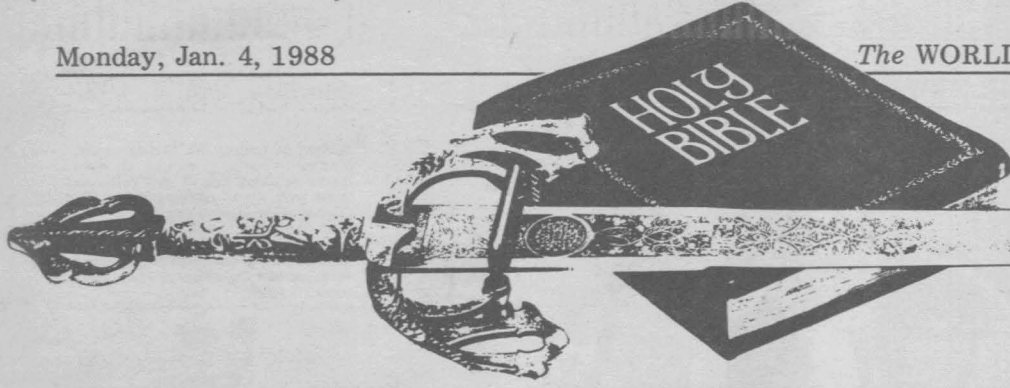
This particular evening he suddenly raised his arms up and beckoned his mother to take him out. Surprised, she did so and picked him up and put him on the change table.

Just then she heard a crash and discovered that a very heavy rack we had on the wall . . . had fallen down and landed in the exact spot where David had been sitting seconds before.

Stephen and Dianne MacLellan  
Toronto, Ont.

Gene Fox  
Springfield, Ohio





# IRON SHARPENS IRON

## Preparation for the Sabbath: It shouldn't be a crash landing!

By Clayton Steep

My shopping finished, I got into my car and started it the way I always do. This time, though, when I stepped on the accelerator it jammed. Off the car went, at a pretty good speed. With me in it.

*Clayton Steep is a senior writer for The Plain Truth.*

For a considerable distance I steered through traffic and weaved around pedestrians using the brakes to slow the car or hold it still at stop signs. Eventually, however, the brakes became so hot they wouldn't hold. Brakes gone, the speed began to increase. Tires squealed as I finally swung the car around the last corner and headed up my long driveway.

First casualty was the side of the house. Bang! Scraape! But the car kept going—right toward the garage. I'm sure my eyes must have gotten very big as I saw what was coming. There was no way to steer around this!

Within moments there was a thunderous percussion. The splintering of wood. The slamming of metal. Then silence.

It was over. As quickly as it had started, the frenzy ended. My car had come to rest—halfway through the mangled garage door.

What a sudden, dramatic transformation! One moment there was a frantic, nerve-shattering whirl of activity. The very next moment there was incredible peace and quiet. I sat there, savoring the tranquillity, watching the dust settle back to earth.

In the rearview mirror I could see a few neighbors, aroused by the commotion, gathering at the foot of the drive. They gazed in silence as if wondering whether any recognizable form of life was going to emerge from the chaos.

Definitely not the proper way to put a car in the garage!

### Think ahead

What does this have to do with preparing for the Sabbath? Simply that, we all have probably at one time or another carelessly entered the Sabbath as abruptly as I entered my garage.

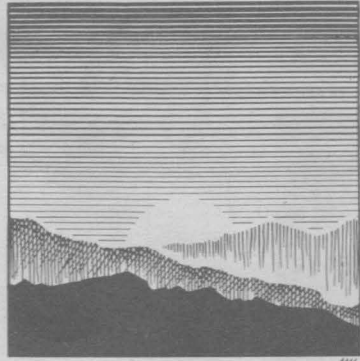
We have smashed through the sunset Friday time barrier at great speed and crash landed on the Sabbath. It's easy to do in this busy and complex world in which we live.

Most of us know the right way to put a car in the garage. For one thing, we give adequate thought to what we are about to do. We make sure preparations—such as opening the garage door—are taken care of. Then we slowly ease the car into the garage, where we come to a gentle stop.

That's more like the way we should approach the Sabbath. We should arrange our schedules so we are not caught up in our normal hectic routines until the second the sun goes down and, suddenly, without forethought or preparation, find ourselves in holy time.

We should look at the arrival of the Sabbath as one might look at the arrival of a highly honored guest. What preparations would we make for such an event? For sure we wouldn't wait until the doorbell

rings to get things ready. Instead, we would straighten up the house, take care of other related business, have the table festively set and fam-



ily members appropriately groomed all in advance of the guest's arrival.

The Sabbath truly is special. None of us should let this day of days just happen. God in His Word

places great emphasis on the importance of setting apart His holy day. So should we.

No one who can count to seven has any reason for the Sabbath to arrive by surprise. The command to remember the Sabbath in itself indicates that it should not be totally absent from our thoughts and planning the rest of the week. After all, it is the high point of the week, the day to which all other days lead.

You may be surprised at how a little effort spent in planning and forethought can help you set the Sabbath apart and enrich your Sabbath keeping.

Exactly how you go about planning to make the Sabbath a delight may depend somewhat on your own needs and circumstances.

### Make it special

To prod your thinking, here are some ideas other brethren have

found helpful in planning ahead to set the Sabbath apart from other days:

- Choose a special subject for your Sabbath Bible study. Think about it beforehand and formulate some questions about the subject that you will be eager to find the answers to.

- Be mindful of coming Sabbath services and opportunities for fellowship. Focus on the fact that you will be appearing in the presence of the great Creator God, for He most certainly will be there, dwelling in the ministry and the brethren through the Holy Spirit.

Do you not enjoy fellowship as much as you should because you sometimes run out of things to say to others at services? Plan ahead by making a mental note of topics you can bring up should moments of awkward silence occur.

- Have a particular item of clothing or jewelry that you wear only on the Sabbath and other special occasions. This can help you set the Sabbath apart.

- Occasionally plan to share a meal with some brethren on the Sabbath. Get-togethers like these can be enjoyable and profitable.

- Are you going to buy a prime cut of meat or special food or beverage? Why not save the best for the Sabbath?

- When the weather is nice, try a change of scenery. Do some Bible study in a quiet place outdoors somewhere. The Sabbath is different from the other days of the week. Let's rejoice in that difference.

- Help children—yours and others—look forward to God's holy day. Do some of your preparing with them in mind. Children should not come to dread the Sabbath as the long day they must sit still and be bored. Here is where special food, toys or other delights and surprises can work wonders.

Try to spend some nonhurried personal time with your children on the Sabbath. It is not always possible to give this kind of special attention on the other days of the week.

The Sabbath is an awesome and priceless gift God has given us. Don't approach and enter it carelessly. Give quality thought to its coming each week and make adequate preparation to keep it the special day it is.

## Opportunity to express your joy

# How important is song service to God?

By Philip Stevens

Music is important to God. For thousands—maybe even millions—of years, music has been a vital component in the praise and worship of the Creator.

*Philip Stevens is a regular contributor to The Good News.*

Read Job 38. The episode being related in the early verses predates man by, quite possibly, several millennia. Beginning in verse four we see that God is discussing with Job the creation of the earth. In verse seven we read what happened after God had finished that part of His task: "The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy" (New King James).

These morning stars are angels. They were created some time previously and were accustomed to God's unique handiwork. But when they gazed down on the magnificent spectacle of the newly created earth they couldn't restrain their emotions. They burst into song, loudly singing praises to God.

The angels knew something of God's purpose for them and that the earth played some part in that plan. Therefore, they joined in a joyful chorus in praise of their Maker.

### Our part

Do we have a similar attitude when we hear about our part in God's plan for us and for all of mankind? In particular, is that our attitude when we come into God's presence on the Sabbath?

During the song service we have the chance to express our joy in God's creation and His plan the same way the angels did long ago. Hymn singing is not just an interlude in the Sabbath service or part of some meaningless ritual. It is an opportunity to actively and collectively worship the One who called us to that service in the first place.

### Important to God

The Bible is full of details about

how important music is to God. In I Chronicles 15:16 we read how David instructed the Levites to appoint singers and musicians for the praise of God. As a mark of their importance these Levites were given fine robes to wear (verse 27). I Chronicles 16:5 lists the names of some of these high-ranking individuals. In I Chronicles 23:5 we see that 4,000 Levites were appointed to provide music for the Temple services.

Important events, such as the dedication of the wall at Jerusalem, were often accompanied by music (Nehemiah 12:27). The singing of praises went along with the thanksgiving that followed a deliverance from trouble (Zephaniah 3:17).

As we come before God we

should be so full of joy at our deliverance from this world that we want to join wholeheartedly in the song service. Not everyone can give the sermon or sermonette, lead songs or give the opening or closing prayer. But all can listen to the service—and all can join in the singing.

We shouldn't take this portion of services for granted. It's not simply an opportunity to stretch our legs before the sermon. Nor is it the time to be sorting out our Bibles and notebooks, getting the children's toys arranged or chatting with our neighbor. It is a time to loudly, joyously praise our Creator.

In Matthew 26:30, at the end of the Passover meal and before the greatest test any of the disciples had

so far faced, Jesus led his followers in a hymn. Jesus realized the hours ahead would be traumatic. He wanted to create an atmosphere of unity. So they all joined together in singing a psalm of praise to God.

The same is true of us today. After the Sabbath service most of us won't see other Church brethren for a week. We, too, face the trials and tests of Satan's world. So we close the service with a hymn. It is an uplifting and unifying way of rededicating ourselves to God.

Yes, music is important to God. So the next time the song leader says, "Please stand and turn to page number . . ." let's all join in and sing together in joyful praise to the One who created music and who enjoys hearing us sing out to Him.

## BE READY TO GIVE AN ANSWER

### SABBATH

#### The Sabbath was made by God

- On the seventh day God ended His work, and He blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work (Gen. 2:2-3, Ex. 20:11, Ex. 31:17, Heb. 4:4).

#### For both Jews and gentiles

- The gentile who was joined to God's people was to keep the Sabbath (Isa. 56:2-5).
- The Sabbath was made for man (Mark 2:27).
- Christians should be Jews inwardly, with circumcised hearts (Rom. 2:28-29).
- Both Jews and gentiles are one in Christ; we are all Abraham's seed (Gal. 3:28-29).

#### A sign between God and His people

- God's Sabbaths are a sign between God and Israel, that we may know that God is the Lord who sanctifies us (Ex. 31:13, Ezek. 20:12).
- The Sabbath will be kept during the Millennium (Isa. 66:23, Ezek. 44:24).

#### The seventh day is a commanded rest

- The Sabbath was revealed before the Israelites reached Mt. Sinai. When some tried to gather manna on the seventh day, God said, "How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My laws?" (Ex. 16:22-29, New King James).
- The Sabbath was part of the Sinaitic covenant

(Ex. 20:8-11) and was commanded several times (Lev. 19:3, 23:3, 26:2, Deut. 5:12-15).

#### Punishment for breaking the Sabbath

- In ancient Israel, Sabbath breakers were to be stoned to death (Ex. 31:15, Num. 15:32-35).
- Breaking the Sabbath was one reason Israel had to wander 40 years (Ezek. 20:13-16) and later go into captivity (verses 23-24).
- In prophecies for Israel, Sabbath breaking is listed as a cause for future captivity (Ezek. 22:6-8, 15, 26, 23:36-38, 46-47).

#### The Sabbath in the New Testament

- As His custom was, Christ taught on the Sabbath (Mark 1:21, 6:2, Luke 4:16, 31, 6:6, 13:10).
- Paul, the apostle to the gentiles, taught gentiles on the Sabbath, as his custom was (Acts 13:42-44, 17:2, 18:4).
- Gentiles who were turning to God heard Moses' writings read every Sabbath (Acts 15:19, 21).
- Sabbath is a day of assembly and fellowship
- It is a holy convocation (Lev. 23:2-3).
- We should not quit assembling ourselves together, exhorting one another (Heb. 10:24-25).
- Our fellowship with each other is with God the Father and Jesus Christ (I John 1:3, 7).



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BIRTHS

ALLEN, Gary and Cheryl (Tesch), of Castlegar, B.C., boy, Jared Jeffrey, Sept. 25, 8 a.m., 7 pounds 2 ounces, first child.

ANDERSON, Ken and Joni (Giese), of Houston, Tex., girl, Rachel Kathleen, Oct. 15, 2:48 p.m., 6 pounds 11 ounces, first child.

AZBELL, Bill and Edwina (Nelms), of Birmingham, Ala., girl, Laura Elaine, Oct. 28, 8:40 a.m., 8 pounds 7 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

BAILEY, Willie and Marie (White), of Richmond, Va., girl, Benita Michelle, Nov. 7, 3:12 a.m., 7 pounds 11 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

BUDDA, Edward and Nancy (Evans), of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., girl, Brittani Kathleen, Nov. 7, 8:51 a.m., 7 pounds 2 ounces, now 1 boy, 3 girls.

BURLESON, Steve and Beth (Roberts), of Birmingham, Ala., boy, Brian Eben, Oct. 10, 10:41 p.m., 11 pounds, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

CHANDLER, Eric and Christine (Klassek), of Perth, Australia, boy, Benjamin Robert, Nov. 3, 3:30 p.m., 7 pounds 11 ounces, now 2 boys.

DE CAMPOS, Jorge and Kathryn (Domila), of Johannesburg, South Africa, girl, Jennifer Lynn, Nov. 19, 6:09 a.m., 8 pounds 5 ounces, now 2 boys, 3 girls.

DIXON, J. Clark and Donna (Nickerson), of Digby, N.S., boy, Graham Kenneth Clark, Sept. 18, 3:01 p.m., 9 pounds, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

DYE, Kenneth and Janice (Stutler), of Lenoir, N.C., boy, Matthew Shane, Nov. 14, 3:26 p.m., 7 pounds 8 1/2 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

ECHELBERGER, Chester and Sharon (La Plant), of Findlay, Ohio, girl, Angela Kay, Nov. 8, 8:43 p.m., 9 pounds 4 ounces, first child.

EFTHYVOULOS, Oly and Karen (Banwart), of Pasadena, boy, George Anthony, Nov. 22, 7:20 p.m., 4 pounds 13 ounces, first child.

GRIFFITHS, Larry and Dolores (Koetter), of Vancouver, B.C., girl, Jennifer Marie, Sept. 19, 2:45 p.m., 6 pounds 11 ounces, first child.

HOVNIANIAN, Jay and Joyce (Flanders), of North Andover, Mass., girl, Jamie Maureen, Nov. 16, 4:41 p.m., 7 pounds 11 ounces, now 3 boys, 2 girls.

HOWARD, Thomas and Bonita (Reihing), of Toledo, Ohio, girl, Ciera Elizabeth, Nov. 27, 10:47 a.m., 8 pounds 11 ounces, now 3 girls.

KNOWLEN, Lowell and Irene (Teetaert), of Billings, Mont., twin girl and boy, Lorene Marie and Phillip Andrew, Nov. 22, 8:20 a.m. and 10:19 a.m., 6 pounds 8 ounces and 7 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

LEVASSEUR, Ernest J. and Rachel (Albert), of Bathurst, N.B., girl, Martine Morina, June 5, 9:47 p.m., 7 pounds, now 4 girls.

MITCHELL, Bradley and Kathleen (Lewis), of Palmdale, Calif., girl, Ashley Rose, Dec. 1, 11:15 p.m., 8 pounds 12 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

MORGAN, David and Ardena (Jansz), of Melbourne, Australia, boy, Jonathan James, Nov. 2, 11 a.m., 9 pounds, now 5 boys.

MYERS, Gary and D'Renda (Walker), of Wichita Falls, Tex., girl, Micah Lexie, Nov. 18, 8:50 p.m., 7 pounds 11 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

PRICE, Howard and Linda (Parsons), of Olympia, Wash., boy, Matthew Charles, Dec. 10, 6:11 p.m., 7 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

PUMPHREY, Richard and Jill (McClane), of Millersville, Md., boy, Shane London, Nov. 26, 1:53 a.m., 9 pounds, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

ROBERTS, David and Laura (Lancaster), of Sutherlin, Ore., girl, Erica Beth, Oct. 12, 5:35 p.m., 9 pounds 12 1/2 ounces, now 1 boy, 4 girls.

ST. PIERRE, Tracy and Kristi (Wangness), of Omaha, Neb., girl, Jordan JeNae, Nov. 1, 11:37 a.m., 7 pounds 5 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

SATAVA, David and Susan (Brown), of San Francisco, Calif., boy, Steven Spencer, Oct. 12, 5:55 a.m., 9 pounds 3 ounces, first child.

SCHULTZ, Gary and Christine (Schlote), of Edmonton, Alta., boy, Jeffrey Frazer Otto, Nov. 20, 9:40 a.m., 10 pounds 12 1/2 ounces, first child.

SETHMAN, Robert and Colleen (Erlor), of Belle Vernon, Pa., boy, Eric Robert, Nov. 21, 8 pounds 15 ounces, first child.

SEXTON, Dennis and Lori (Reyer), of Pasadena, girl, Amy Eileen, Dec. 1, 7:45 p.m., 8 pounds 1/2 ounce, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

STEPHENSON, Keith and Peggy (Latham), of Fort Worth, Tex., girl, Leannia Kelly, Aug. 13, 3:39 p.m., 7 pounds 3 1/2 ounces, first child.

SUMLAK, Warren and Brenda (Straker), of Calgary, Alta., girl, Tracy Nicole, Dec. 10, 10 p.m., 7 pounds 15 ounces, now 2 girls.

TROW, Dale and Lydia (Froschin), of Pasadena, girl, Tessa Katrina, Dec. 12, 5:06 a.m., 7 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 girls.

WEST, Larry and Traci (Mitchell), of Salem, Ore., girl, Jennifer Lynn, Nov. 3, 12:07 p.m., 8 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

## ENGAGEMENTS

Mr. and Mrs. Duffield Davis of Escondido, Calif., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Lisa Faye to Steven Andrew McWilliams, son of Mr. and Mrs. William McWilliams of Bloomfield, Mich. A spring wedding in San Diego, Calif., is planned.

## WEDDINGS

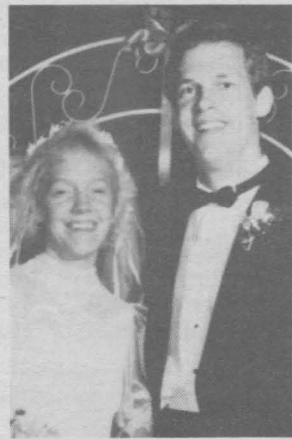
Iris Linda Maria Pearman of Hamilton, Bermuda, and Aubrey Arundel Turner, son

of Patience Jackson of Somerset, Bermuda, were united in marriage Sept. 13. The ceremony was performed by Cecil Pulley, pastor of the Hamilton church. Marcelle Clamens was matron of honor, and John Scotland was best man. The couple reside in Somerset.



MR. AND MRS. F. MORGAN

Saleema Williams and Frederick Morgan were united in marriage Aug. 30. The ceremony was performed by Earl Williams, pastor of the New York (Spanish), Brooklyn South and Queens, N.Y., churches. Lydia Huntley was maid of honor, and Russell Morgan, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple reside in Brooklyn.



MR. AND MRS. EUGENE KUBIK

Sherry Ann Palmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Palmer of Tacoma, Wash., and Eugene I. Kubik, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Igor Kubik of Minneapolis, Minn., were united in marriage June 14 in Tacoma. The ceremony was performed by the groom's brother, Victor Kubik, pastor of the Minneapolis South and Mankato, Minn., churches. Darlene Limani was matron of honor, and Cory Erickson was best man. The couple, both Ambassador College graduates, reside in Auckland, New Zealand.



MR. AND MRS. TOBIN COOKMAN

Jennifer Ann Preteroti, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Preteroti of Canonsburg, Pa., and Tobin Dries Cookman, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Cookman of Phoenix, Ariz., were united in marriage June 14. The ceremony was performed by John Dobrith, pastor of the Washington and Belle Vernon, Pa., churches. Valerie Fish, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and George Harper was best man. The couple, both 1987 Ambassador College graduates, reside in Big Sandy.



MR. AND MRS. ROY OESTENSEN

Pamela Margaret Mason of Copenhagen, Denmark, daughter of Laurence and Lawan Mason of Victoria, B.C., and Roy Oestensen of Borehamwood, England, were united in marriage Nov. 22. The ceremony was performed in Copenhagen by Peter Shenton, pastor of the Ipswich and Norwich, England; Copenhagen, Denmark; Oslo, Norway; and Stockholm, Sweden; churches. Patricia Mason, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Einar Faaberg was best man. The couple reside in Hemel Hempstead, England.



MR. AND MRS. JON LIPSKY

Deborah Adelheid Bakula, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bakula of Peabody, Mass., and Jon Eric Lipsky, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lipsky of Woonsocket, R.I., were united in marriage Sept. 27 in Peabody. The ceremony was performed by Douglas Winnail, pastor of the Providence, R.I., church. Matron of honor was Cheryl Laing, and best man was Tracey Lambert. The couple reside in Glendale, R.I.

Martha Melania Liguguda and Ben Kaswaga were united in marriage Sept. 20 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The ceremony was performed by Owen Willis, pastor of the Nairobi and Kibiri, Kenya, and Blantyre, Malawi, churches. Asteria Sobu was matron of honor, and Tom Kaswaga, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple reside in Dar es Salaam.



MR. AND MRS. C. HOUGHTALING

Kay Ellen Berra and Creig Houghtaling were married June 28 in St. Louis, Mo. Gary Demarest, assistant pastor of the Syracuse and Rochester, N.Y., churches, performed the ceremony. Annette Berra, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Read Houghtaling, brother of the groom, was best man.



MR. AND MRS. DAVID FENWICK

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Griswold are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter Shelly Beth to David Robert Fenwick of Elkhart, Ind. The ceremony was performed July 19 in Joliet, Ill., by the bride's father, a minister in the Hammond, Ind., church. Jennifer Griswold, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Jeff Robbins was best man. The couple reside in Bristol, Ind.



MR. AND MRS. DANIEL WATSON

Mr. and Mrs. Royal Quisenberry are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Laura Ann to Daniel Warren Watson. The ceremony was performed June 14 by Gerald Witte, pastor of the Flint and Lansing, Mich., churches. Paula Jones was matron of honor, and Rob Watson was best man. The couple reside in Dover Centre, Ont.



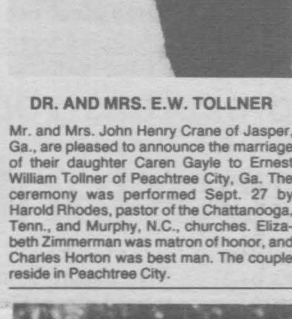
MR. AND MRS. MARK SCHLOTE

Marusia Dianne Kushniruk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kushniruk, and Mark Stephen Schlote, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gunter Schlote, were united in marriage May 17. The ceremony was performed by Douglas Smith, pastor of the Edmonton, Alta., North and South churches. Eileen Kushniruk, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Scott Lord was best man. The couple reside in Edmonton.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN O'DONNELL

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Gubb are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Wendy Elizabeth to John Charles O'Donnell, son of Mr. and Mrs. John O'Donnell. The ceremony was performed Oct. 4 in Brisbane, Australia, by Kerry Gubb, associate pastor of the Melbourne, Australia, South and East churches. Geoff Robertson was best man, and Viki Terpkos was maid of honor. The couple reside in Cairns, Australia.



DR. AND MRS. E.W. TOLLNER

Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Crane of Jasper, Ga., are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Caren Gayle to Ernest William Tollner of Peachtree City, Ga. The ceremony was performed Sept. 27 by Harold Rhodes, pastor of the Chattanooga, Tenn., and Murphy, N.C., churches. Elizabeth Zimmerman was matron of honor, and Charles Horton was best man. The couple reside in Peachtree City.



MR. AND MRS. D. RENDALL

Ramona L. Chitwood, daughter of Phyllis Chitwood and James Chitwood of Hamilton, Ohio, and Douglas C. Rendall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald C. Rendall of Zion, Ill., were united in marriage Sept. 27 in Hamilton. The ceremony was performed by Bob League, pastor of the Cincinnati, Ohio, North and South churches. Connie Zevchak, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Jeff Dohrmann was best man. The couple, both Ambassador College graduates, reside in Pasadena.



MR. AND MRS. D. BRESSLER

Pamela Kirkley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Kirkley, and Douglas A. Bressler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas W. Bressler, were united in marriage Aug. 22 in Springfield, Ill. The ceremony was performed by Randy Holm, pastor of the Springfield and Champaign, Ill., churches. Trina Atkinson was matron of honor, and Joe Wysacki was best man.



MR. AND MRS. ESSIEN GEORGE

Edith Opara and Essien George were united in marriage Sept. 27 in Owerri, Nigeria. The ceremony was performed by Lateef Edalere, pastor of the Owerri, Lagos and Benin City, Nigeria, churches. Ngozi Ekwebelem was maid of honor, and Raphael Nduka was best man.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN O'DONNELL

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Gubb are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Wendy Elizabeth to John Charles O'Donnell, son of Mr. and Mrs. John O'Donnell. The ceremony was performed Oct. 4 in Brisbane, Australia, by Kerry Gubb, associate pastor of the Melbourne, Australia, South and East churches. Geoff Robertson was best man, and Viki Terpkos was maid of honor. The couple reside in Cairns, Australia.



MR. AND MRS. CHEAH PENG LOON

Cheah Peng Loon and Chow Yau Kwan of Malaysia were united in marriage Sept. 20 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The ceremony was performed by Yong Chin Gee, pastor of the Kuala Lumpur and Johore Bahru, Malaysia, churches. Chua Lan Kee was maid of honor, and Lim Weng Meng was best man. The couple reside in Kuala Lumpur.



MR. AND MRS. BARRY BOURNE

London, England, brethren presented a cattery service to Barry and Thelma Bourne on the Sabbath, Oct. 31, in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary. Mr. Bourne pastors the London and Basildon, England, churches. The Bourne's children, Alison and Malcolm, also received gifts. An anniversary cake and several other cakes were served.

## ANNIVERSARIES MADE OF GOLD



MR. AND MRS. BILL COYNE

Bill and Lillie Coyne celebrated their 50th

wedding anniversary Oct. 23. Ottawa, Ont., brethren honored them with an open-house reception Nov. 8, and presented them with an anniversary clock. The Coynes were married Oct. 23, 1937, in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. They have one son and one daughter. Church members since 1958, Mr. Coyne was ordained a deacon in 1966, and Mrs. Coyne was ordained a deaconess in 1968.



MR. AND MRS. W. THOMPSON

Mr. and Mrs. William T. Thompson, members who attend the Tampa, Fla., church, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Oct. 15. Mrs. Thompson was baptized in 1978, and Mr. Thompson in 1982. The Thompsons were married Oct. 15, 1927. They have two sons; three daughters, including Bettie Endres, a Church member; 19 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

## OBITUARIES

NIKOLAI, David Robert, 9 days, of Edmonton, Alta., died Dec. 4 of complications from a rare type of bacterial pneumonia. David is survived by his parents, Bernie and Tina Nikolai, and two brothers, Michael, 9, and Stephen, 6. Funeral services were conducted by Douglas Smith, pastor of the Edmonton North and South churches.

LAMORE, Aime E. Jr., 37, of Montpelier, Vt., died Oct. 30. Mr. Lamore is survived by his parents, Aime and Barbara, and four sisters, Monica Glover, Sybil Wood, Carmela Bostwick and Cheryl Shaw, all Church members. Funeral services were conducted by Kenneth Williams, pastor of the Concord, N.H., and Montpelier churches.

RANDOLPH, Jerusha, 65, of Trenton, N.J., died Nov. 13 after a long bout with cancer. Mrs. Randolph, widow of Edward Randolph, was baptized in 1972. She is survived by one son, Christopher Ivan; two brothers; one sister; and a grandniece, Winifred Howard, a Church member. Funeral services were conducted by James Rosenthal, pastor of the Brick Town and Trenton, N.J., churches.

NANNA, Billy Joe, 58, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., died Nov. 22 of a heart attack. He has been a Church member since 1975. Mr. Nanna is survived by his wife of 37 years, Betty; his mother, Pat Boyle; a sister, Betty McCleary; three daughters, Deanne Nash, Nancy Robey and Connie Coosak; and three granddaughters. Funeral services were conducted by Arnold Clauson, pastor of the Paducah, Ky., and Cape Girardeau churches.

LUM, Elizabeth, 73, of Trenton, N.J., died Nov. 14 of a heart condition. She has been a Church member since 1957. Mrs. Lum is survived by two sons and four daughters, including Church members Sarah Smallwood, Joan Cole, a deaconess, and Susan McCarty; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. James Rosenthal, pastor of the Brick Town and Trenton, N.J., churches, conducted a graveside service.

FOX, Beverly G., 70, of Vanport, Pa., died Nov. 18. He has been a Church member for 19 years. Mr. Fox is survived by his wife, Natalie; three sons; one daughter; three brothers; and 10 grandchildren. David Orban, pastor of the Pittsburgh and Beaver Valley, Pa., churches, conducted funeral services.

JONES, Dorothy Y., 75, of Sandy, Ore., died Nov. 2 after a long struggle with cancer. She and her husband, Stratton, were baptized in 1969. Mrs. Jones is survived by her husband; a daughter, Beverly Guthrie, a Church member; a son, James York; a sister, Calla Holley; a brother, Bud Johnson; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Glen White, pastor of the Portland, Ore., South church.

DURKIN, Robert, 46, of Scranton, Pa., died Nov. 16 after a short illness. He has been a Church member since 1971. Mr. Durkin is survived by his wife of eight years, Mary Ann, also a Church member; his mother, Helen Madzin Durkin; a brother, William; a sister, Mary Ann Fiorenza; and nieces and nephews. Roy Holladay, pastor of the Bethlehem A.M. and P.M. and Wilkes-Barre, Pa., churches, conducted funeral services.

ALEX, Floyd, 57, of Seneca, Pa., died Nov. 24 of a heart attack. He has been a Church member since 1976. Mr. Alex is survived by three sons, a daughter and several grandchildren. Ronald Weinland, pastor of the Erie and Franklin, Pa., churches, conducted funeral services.

CONTRERAS, Elena C., 86, of Bakersfield, Calif., died Nov. 23 after a long illness. She has been a Church member since 1974. Mrs. Contreras is survived by a daughter, Lenore Torres, a Church member. She is also survived by another daughter, four sons, 25 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Camilo Reyes, pastor of the Bakersfield and Mojave, Calif., churches.

PETZNIK, Hilda, 73, of Athens, Wis., died Dec. 3 of a heart attack. She has been a Church member for 10 years. Mrs. Petznick is survived by five sons, one of whom, Verlon, is a Church member; 14 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. A memorial service was conducted by Norman Strayer, pastor of the Wausau and Wisconsin Dells, Wis., churches.

WILLANS, Thomas G., 103, of Leeds, England, died Oct. 28. He has been a Church member since 1974. Mr. Willans is survived by a daughter-in-law and a granddaughter. Joseph Dowson, assistant pastor of the Bradford, Hull, Middlesbrough, Newcastle upon Tyne and Sheffield, England, churches, represented God's Church at funeral services.

HANOLD, George V., 78, of Woneoc, Wis., died Nov. 16 of a heart attack. He has been a Church member since 1961. Mr. Hanold is survived by his wife, Nelda, and daughter, Beverly Cary, both Church members; two sons; and six grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Norman Strayer, pastor of the Wausau and Wisconsin Dells, Wis., churches.



## PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

Work. For the past year and a half, we have held *Plain Truth* circulation at the seven million mark, and held our television time buying at the same dollar levels, in order to make sure that growth does not outstrip our ability to pay for it.

With time buying, David Hulme, director of Communications & Public Affairs, has paid close attention to upgrading times and stations while continuing to stay within the same spending levels. And Ray Wright, director of Publishing Services, has found ways to econ-

omize in the production of *The Plain Truth*, though ever-rising costs continue to take their toll.

Our coverage for *The World Tomorrow* in the United States is currently quite good. Mr. Hulme has also constantly been trimming stations found to be inefficient, while adding more effective coverage. For the most part, he will continue to do so as we find certain doors opening in Europe.

But the circulation of *The Plain Truth* does not have the same kind of flexibility. I believe that we do need to begin again to increase circulation, slowly but surely, but that will take more money. And it is not a one-time expenditure, like a building, for

example. It is an ongoing *commitment* to a certain level of spending *year after year*.

That is why we must proceed *cautiously*, working within the funds God gives us, so that we do not find ourselves in the position of rapidly growing in circulation only to have to make massive cutbacks to pay the bills. *But we do need to grow!* We cannot just stand still at any one level if we are to complete the Work.

Of those seven million copies each month, about 27 percent are devoted to the newsstand program. Of the remaining copies, about 50 percent are sent to subscribers we call primes. That is, subscribers who have renewed their subscription at least once.

But some 50 percent of subscribers will not renew. It is this latter number of subscriptions that we are able to give to *new* people each year. At our current subscription levels, this amounts to a little more than two million *new subscribers* each year.

While that is a fine, strong level of *new growth* each year in one sense, it is still quite small when you consider the times we are living in and the vast numbers of people who still have not received nor even *read The Plain Truth*.

God's Work must continually be thinking about *growth!* We do not know how extensive God will eventually allow the Work to grow. But in any case *God wants*

*us to be doing our very best*—to do ALL WE CAN with what He makes available to us! And He wants us to be doing it *with our whole hearts!*

So again, I ask you to join me, and all of us here at headquarters, and all God's Elect around the world, in *praying earnestly* that He will lead us in the direction He wants us to go, and that He will provide the human and financial resources to finish *all* He has for us to accomplish.

And above all, let's be *sure* our hearts are right with God. Let's stay close to Him, and keep our main attention on *growing spiritually*, so that we will be ever more useful tools in His service!

## Longtime Spanish member dies

PASADENA—Cleotilde Soria, 85, a longtime member who attended the Spanish church here, died Dec. 12 after fighting various illnesses for many years, reported the Spanish Department.

Known affectionately as "Mama Soria," she could barely walk in her later years, had vision problems and was afflicted by diabetes and scleroderma (hardening of the skin).

"Nevertheless she never complained about her condition," said pastor Fernando Barriga, who gave the funeral address.

"She was never idle but always worked with her hands, making beautiful bedspreads and crocheting blankets as gifts for couples to be married or children about to be born in the Church," he added.

Mrs. Soria knew each of the ministers in Latin America, loving them as if they were her own children, according to Mr. Barriga.

Born in El Salvador, she was hired by a prominent government family. She moved to Europe in 1920 to be the family's tutor and

seamstress. Mrs. Soria spent five years in Brussels and Paris, becoming fluent in French.

Mrs. Soria returned to her homeland and later lived in Honduras and Guatemala. She also lived in Mexico for 15 years.

"She spent all her money in feeding poor children and teaching them from the Bible," said Mr. Barriga, who met Mrs. Soria in Los Angeles, Calif., in 1955, when both had Bible questions and asked God's ministers for answers.

"Some of the things that she said to those children sounded to me like heresies . . . until I heard Mr. [Herbert] Armstrong. Then I realized how much she understood."

In those days the Church had little literature in Spanish, so Mr. Barriga translated for her. Mrs. Soria was baptized in 1964.

In the words of Mr. Barriga: "I started my ministry with her."



CLEOTILDE 'MAMA' SORIA

## Graduates from 1957, 1967, 1977

### Three classes meet for reunion

PASADENA—Graduates from the Ambassador College classes of 1957, 1967 and 1977 gathered here for a class reunion Dec. 26 and 27.

"We chose the Christmas weekend because many of the graduates would normally be off work at that time," said Ritchie Gaston, a 1977 graduate who works at the Church's Accounting Department and coordinated the event.

The first activity was a Sabbath morning Bible study conducted by evangelist Herman L. Hoeh, *Plain Truth* editor. Dr. Hoeh recounted what was happening in world news when the different classes were at Ambassador College.

Graduates were invited to Sabbath services in the Ambassador Auditorium that afternoon. That evening they went to the student center club rooms to eat snacks, watch a slide presentation from their college years and view old *Envoys*, the college yearbook, and *Portfolios*, the college newspaper.

Sunday morning, Dec. 27, some graduates took campus tours. That afternoon they gathered in the club rooms for grilled steaks.

Carlton Smith, 1957 student body president, spoke to the group. He told about going on early baptizing tours and what the campus was like in the mid-1950s. Mr. Smith pastors the Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo, Calif., churches.

Evangelist Ronald Kelly, Big Sandy dean of students for 13 years and now a faculty member in Pasadena, told the group of the effect that Ambassador College graduates have on the Church.

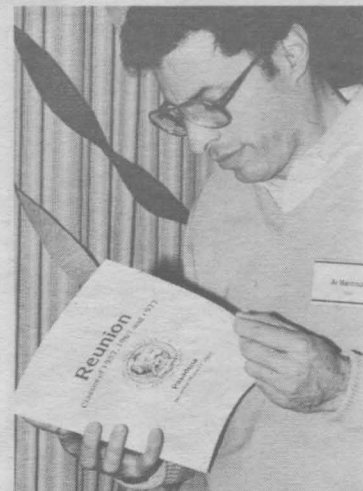
John Stryker, 1977 Pasadena student body president, was master of ceremonies for the weekend. Mr.

Stryker is associate pastor of the Victoria and Courtenay, B.C., churches. His wife, Beth, is a 1977 Big Sandy graduate.

Commenting on combining three classes for the reunion, Mr. Stryker said, "I feel closer to the classes of 1957 and 1967 because we were together at this reunion."

Plans for the reunion began soon after the class of 1976 reunion, according to Mr. Gaston, who coordinated the event at the request of Mr. Stryker. A letter announcing the reunion was sent out in April. This gave graduates time to make plans for the trip to Pasadena.

Graduates were asked to supply information about what they had done since graduation and to send in a photograph. These were printed in



**AC REUNION**—Al Baroody, a 1977 Ambassador graduate, reads a brochure at a get-together during the class reunion in Pasadena Dec. 26. [Photo by Thomas C. Hanson]

a brochure that was distributed during the weekend. Pasadena-based graduates supplied housing for their out-of-town classmates.

## ACCENT ON THE LOCAL CHURCH



**SACRAMENTO FASHION**—Brethren from the Sacramento, Calif., church display various categories of clothing in the church's annual fashion show Nov. 22.

### Women present fashion show

Women of the **Sacramento**, Calif., church presented their annual fashion show Nov. 22. More than 83 brethren and guests attended the show, which included a chicken luncheon.

Categories were children's and casual wear, day and Sabbath wear

### Youths break ice at speech club

### Youths break ice at speech club

**Liverpool**, England, Church youths attended the first meeting of a Youth Opportunities United (YOU) speech club Nov. 28.

Sixteen youths gave three-minute icebreakers. In the second half of the meeting Robert Harrison, pastor of the Liverpool and Stoke-on-Trent, England, churches, explained the goals of the club. *Paul Naisbett.*

### Teens clean horse course

Ten **Bradford**, England, Church youths raised 300 pounds (\$534) Nov. 22 by clearing packhorse trails in a forested area at the National Trust property at Hardcastle Craggs.

In Britain the National Trust protects more than 550,000 acres of countryside.

The workers were financially sponsored by family members, friends and workmates. The money they raised went to buy sports equipment, and the sponsored work day also benefited a national charity. *Stuart Powell.*

### Report from the Treasurer's Office

*LeRoy Neff*

PASADENA—God blessed the work in 1987 with an increase over 1986 of 5.7 percent. This is good growth considering national and world conditions. We should be grateful for this increase, in a year of unsettled financial conditions and a stock market crash. God more than supplied the real needs for the year.

During the year we received \$3,782,111 for the building fund, which included specific contributions for the Office Facilities Building. The building was purchased the last week of 1987, and the Church owns the property free and clear. This essential building will continue as a work place for carrying on our mail processing and other operations. Thank you for your part in making the purchase of this building possible. We hope that you will now make such contributions to the general building fund. This will make it possible to pay off the remaining mortgages and to improve, construct or purchase facilities as they are needed.

During this past year we have accelerated or paid off some of the long-term debt ahead of schedule. This has put the Church in a stronger financial condition than last year. We hope to continue this procedure during 1988.

The preliminary expense figures for the year show that we have not quite kept within the budget established a year ago. At the time of this writing the expense figure is estimated to be 0.6 percent over budget.

We are in the process of establishing the 1988 budget. You may have heard that Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach has initiated new procedures for this budget. It will be zero based, or objective based. Such a budget requires a longer time to prepare, and more self-examination by each department. Such a budget shows the cost of each program. This information will enable Mr. Tkach to allocate funds wisely. We believe it will also promote efficiencies throughout the work. There is still much to do before the final budget package will be complete.

There is a united effort here to do more work with moneys received. God will supply the real need; we must accomplish as much as possible with what He supplies.



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

PASADENA—Church Administration released the following ordination:

**Joseph Clarke**, a deacon in the Los Angeles, Calif., church, was ordained a local church elder on the Feast of Trumpets, Sept. 24.

★ ★ ★

JERUSALEM—**Yigal Shiloh**, 50, director of the City of David archaeological excavations in Jerusalem, died Nov. 14 of stomach cancer.

Between 1980 and 1986 about 300 Ambassador College students and other Church members served as volunteer workers at the dig site, according to **Richard Paige**, an associate professor of history at Pasadena Ambassador College who served as dig coordinator for the college.

Dr. Shiloh headed the Institute of Archaeology at Hebrew University in Jerusalem and was chairman of the Archaeology Department there

from 1983 to 1986. Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek awarded him the Jerusalem Prize for archaeology.

"Dr. Shiloh was one of Israel's leading archaeologists. He has a worldwide reputation," said Mr. Paige. "His particular area of specialization was urban planning in the period of the Israelite monarchy [c. 1000 to 586 B.C.]."

He was a visiting professor at several U.S. universities, including Harvard, the University of California at San Diego and Duke University.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—**Paul Troike**, facilities engineer for the Architecture & Engineering Department for 15 years, moved to Calimesa,

Calif., Dec. 28 with his wife, **Marilyn**, to serve as assistant pastor of the San Bernardino and Banning, Calif., churches.

Mr. Troike came to Ambassador College as a married student in 1968. In 1969 he began working for Architecture & Engineering as office manager. He was ordained a local elder in April, 1982, and served in the Pasadena Imperial A.M. church.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—Worldwide Festival sites for the 1988 Feast of Tabernacles are scheduled to appear in the Feb. 15 *Worldwide News*, reported **Mark McCulley**, Festival administration manager.

"International transfer applica-

tions will be mailed to all pastors by that time, so that members will be able to apply to sites overseas," Mr. McCulley said.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—The *World Tomorrow* two-part Christmas telecast produced 67,042 responses, according to evangelist **Richard Rice**, director of the Mail Processing Center.

"The Plain Truth About Christmas," which aired Dec. 12 and 13, brought in 36,940 calls, and "What Christmas Doesn't Tell You," which aired Dec. 19 and 20, brought in 30,102 calls.

More than 1,000 callers wished operators a "Merry Christmas" after requesting the literature offered on the program.

## Brethren

(Continued from page 4)

income taxes (beginning at about 50 percent), many benefits and some of the highest living standards in the world. The welfare states of Scandinavia, with their cradle-to-grave socialism, provide free medical care and schooling from nursery school to the university.

With every physical need taken care of, Scandinavians feel no need for God, Mr. Shenton said.

Scandinavians have some of the highest taxes in the world, which puts economic pressures on the members.

### Godless land

Scandinavians have legalized things that are abhorrent to God, such as nudity, homosexuality and pornography, and they are paying the penalty for it, according to Mr. Shenton.

Denmark leads Scandinavia in suicides with 30 for each 100,000 people each year. Finland is a close second. In Norway it's 15 people for each 100,000.

Each year 1,500 people in Denmark commit suicide and 15,000 try. Suicide is the most frequent cause of death for people between the ages of 20 and 44.

It is illegal for parents to spank or raise their voices at their children. *Den Enkle Sannhet* was in the newspapers in Norway two years ago because of a series of articles on child rearing. Many newspapers reacted negatively toward the articles.

### Norway

Norway is the Scandinavian country with the most members—30. And it was there, in the Oslo area, that the first Scandinavian Church service was conducted in 1973.

Four million people live in Norway, which is home to a man who is probably the northernmost member of the Church of God. He is Olav Johansen, and he lives in Tana, 275 miles north of the Arctic Circle.

How do you keep the Sabbath when the sun does not set for part of the year and does not rise for the other? The Church ruled that members in such regions can keep the Sabbath on Jerusalem time (adjusted to local time).

Mr. Johansen can attend services only twice a year: at the Feast and the Passover. Tana is about 900 miles from Oslo—about the distance from Portland, Ore., to Pasadena, or from Oslo to northern Italy.

Mr. Johansen is the only member in Norway who lives north of the Arctic Circle. The rest live in the Oslo, Tonsberg and Stavanger areas.

The church in Norway is served by two local church elders: **Diedrik Zernichow**, who translates Church literature into Norwegian, and **Carl Frederick Aas**. In addition to the English-language service conducted by Mr. Shenton, members meet in Oslo once a month for a

Norwegian-language service.

### Denmark

"We are not persecuted for religious reasons at all," said **Ib Jarlskov**, a member in Denmark. "Danes are quite tolerant and are careful not to break the constitutional right of religious freedom."

Mr. Jarlskov said, "Danes as a rule are not religious and tend to look askance on anyone who is." In the school system it is more or less taken for granted that the children are "beyond" that kind of "superstition."

"When you talk to well-educated and 'enlightened' modern Danish adults they simply take it for

granted that you are a nonbeliever until you prove otherwise."

A doctor of theology voiced his concern that new religious movements are going to overtake the hearts and minds of the Danes. He said that as far as religion is concerned many Danes are illiterate. They are like empty houses in which anybody can enter.

### Sweden

Sweden is larger than California, but has only one third of the population.

Ninety-five percent of the population call themselves members of the Church of Sweden, but only 5 percent of the members regularly attend church. "It's tempting to ob-

serve that what 10 centuries of hardship could not destroy... has all but been erased by 40 years of material ease," wrote **Rushworth M. Kidder** in the Nov. 23-29, 1985, *Christian Science Monitor*.

### Finland

Eleven members live in Finland, some within cycling distance of the border with the Soviet Union. Four members meet regularly in Helsinki to listen to taped services.

### What to pray for

Mr. Shenton asked that brethren pray for ministers to serve in Scandinavia. Members now have no opportunity to go through the Bible systematically with a minister. He

asked members to pray that the Church can give Scandinavians the truth of God that they so desperately need.

Brethren should pray for the continued effectiveness of *Den Enkle Sannhet*, success for *The World Tomorrow* on Sky Channel, a better time slot (now 1 a.m., Sunday), a Norwegian *Good News* and a full-time minister in Scandinavia.

Mr. Shenton asked brethren to pray that God will call more members into God's Church so they won't be as isolated.

"We certainly feel as one large family in the Church and care for one another," Mr. Jarlskov said. "Maybe especially because we are so few."



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

PASADENA—**Peter Shenton**, pastor of the Scandinavian churches and two churches in England, completed a 12-day, 14-flight tour to Scandinavia Nov. 23.

"The trip began on a sad note with the funeral of longtime Church member **Cliff Erikson** in Copenhagen [Denmark]," said evangelist **Frank Brown**, British regional director. Mr. Erikson, 71, the first member in Scandinavia, was the lone member in the region for years.

Mr. Shenton's trip concluded on a happier note, with the marriage of Scandinavian *Plain Truth* editor **Roy Oestensen** to **Pamela Mason** of Copenhagen.

Mr. Shenton conducted the wedding in the Hotel Scandinavia in Copenhagen. The bride's parents, **Laurence and Lawan**, traveled from Victoria, B.C., to attend the wedding. The Oestensens now live in Hemel Hempstead, England.

"Mr. Shenton conducted a large number of visits on his trip and brought back the good news that the Scandinavian membership of God's Church had increased by three," Mr. Brown said.

Mr. Shenton said the people he visited were "extremely positive and well advanced."

### New employee

**Shirley Buik** of Colchester, England, is a new addition to the Scandinavian *Plain Truth* staff and will serve as assistant editor, Mr. Brown reported.

Early last year Miss Buik, who is fluent in French, German and Spanish, began courses to increase her fluency in Norwegian. She plans to return to Norway in January for a secondary six-week course.

Miss Buik is assisting Mr. Oestensen with translating and can already take shorthand in Norwe-

gian, Mr. Brown said.

### Wedding in Tanzania

For the first time a Church wedding took place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. **Ben Kaswaga**, a local church elder, and **Martha Melania Liguguda** were married Sept. 20 by **Owen Willis**, pastor of the Nairobi and Kibirichia, Kenya, and Blantyre, Malawi, churches.

Members who attend the Dar es Salaam Bible study and families and friends of the couple met in a house that Mr. Kaswaga helped build (see "Weddings," page 6).

### Nigerian minister

The British Office reported in November that members in eastern Nigeria are "in high spirits," after **Michael Ogunlase** was transferred there to be the resident minister.

"Mr. Ogunlase is now beginning to make great inroads into the large number of outstanding visit re-

quests that have accumulated in this area over the last year or so," said Mr. Brown. "The eastern region is the fastest growing area of the work in Nigeria."

Because of severe economic conditions in Nigeria, many are returning to subsistence farming. Too late rains last year, however, caused a poor first crop. By contrast, the later rains in some regions were torrential.

Food shortages are expected.

### Bible studies in Italy

Dec. 12 the first regularly scheduled Bible study took place in Milan, Italy, marking a "significant change" for the Italian congregations, according to evangelist **Carn Catherwood**, Italian regional director. **Michael Caputo** conducted the study.

The churches in Rome, Milan and Catania, Italy, will now have monthly Bible studies, in addition to monthly Sabbath services.

"A lack of manpower has prevented us from being able to do this before now," Mr. Catherwood explained.

Until recently the Italian membership was widely scattered. Two trips to services each month "would have been impossible for the majority of them," he added.

Growth in attendance at Sabbath services, however, especially in the major cities, led to establishing

bimonthly meetings.

### Danger in Latin America

Evangelist **Leon Walker**, Spanish regional director, submitted the following report:

"It is becoming increasingly more dangerous to travel in many countries in Latin America.

"Terrorist activity, including bombings, assassinations and kidnappings are almost daily occurrences in Peru. Travel on the open highways outside of major cities in Peru is very risky.

"Members in Colombia and El Salvador still face potential problems from terrorist-controlled regions.

"The recent stock market crash in the United States will have a serious impact on the Latin American economies and consequently employment, trade and inflation.

"The recent panic devaluation of the Mexican peso is illustrative of the economic instability that prevails at this time."



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030219-0008-5 3 W181  
MR-MRS DONALD C TODD  
RT 3 BOX 3214  
MANCHESTER TN 37355-9117 3DG