

# The Worldwide News

OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

MARCH 20, 1989

## Italian brethren warmly greet office manager on first trip

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA—To introduce the new Italian Office manager to brethren, view the new Festival site and conduct a ministers meeting were objectives of a three-week trip to Italy beginning Jan. 31 for evangelist Carn Catherwood.

Mr. Catherwood was accompanied by his wife, Joyce.

John Adams, formerly pastor of the Montreal and Magog, Que., English-speaking churches, was appointed office manager and supervisor of Ministerial Services for Italy in January.

This was the first trip to Europe for Mr. Adams and his wife, Ann, who moved to Pasadena in early March.

"I knew they would end up ap-

preciating the country and the people, and they certainly did," Mr. Catherwood told *The Worldwide News*. "They related well to the brethren, and the brethren really warmed to them and responded."

Said Mr. Adams: "While my wife and I were impressed by the physical beauty of Italy, we were inspired by the warmth and love of the brethren, ministry and office staff. It was very exciting to see the growth God has given and witness the same spirit in His family in another part of the world."

Mr. Adams spoke to brethren in Milan and Rome, and accompanied the Catherwoods to the new Feast of Tabernacles site at Chianciano.

At a ministers meeting in the Bergamo suboffice, which was at-

tended by 12 people, Mr. Catherwood and Mr. Adams discussed the role of the ministry, administrative matters and unity "because we're a fairly new group."

### Servants in Italy

Clifton Veal, Daniel Boesch and Ford Burden serve northern and central Italy, while Luciano Cozzi serves brethren in the south, including Sicily. Some also perform part-time duties in the Bergamo Office. Mike Guidolin is a full-time accountant.

"Within two or three months Ford Burden will be handling the mailing from the office," said Mr. Catherwood. "The postal system has a lot of regulations and permit requirements, so it takes some time to begin mailing from there."

He continued: "The system can be problematic. Brethren could still be praying about that. The postal system can be very slow, and is often very clogged."

"A letter mailed in Rome to another address in Rome can take two (See ITALY, page 5)



CHURCH IN ITALY—Italian brethren meet for services in Catania, Milan and Rome. Under the direction of the regional office in Pasadena they are served by the Bergamo suboffice. [Map by Ronald Grove]

## Accident claims life of AC faculty member

By Kerri Dowd

PASADENA—Sawatsi (Sawat) Yingyuad, 46, of the Ambassador Foundation, died Feb. 23 in an automobile accident in Thailand.

Mr. Sawat, a faculty member and an assistant to Joseph Locke, foundation vice president for international affairs, was returning to his hotel after visiting the new Ambassador Foundation project in Mae Tom.

Mr. Sawat was born July 27, 1942, in Thailand and educated in Sri Lanka, India, Thailand and Burma.

"Going to school with many of the children of leaders gave him many contacts in high places all over Southeast Asia," said Aaron Dean, director of the college's Business Department and former Ambassador Foundation vice president.

In 1971 when Ambassador College advertised for a teacher of Thai, Mr. Sawat submitted an application.

"We had become acquainted with His Majesty's [King Bhumibol's] projects in Thailand and were supportive of them," said evangelist Herman L. Hoeh, who is involved with many foundation projects.

"Mr. Armstrong felt there was a potential value in training students in Thai, anticipating that some

might be able to assist with some future project."

Mr. Sawat began teaching in 1971. He helped Mr. Armstrong set up contacts in Asia. He was also involved with foundation projects in Thailand and Sri Lanka.

In 1981 he began to work full time with the Ambassador Foundation. He translated Mr. Armstrong's lectures into Thai, accompanied Dr. Hoeh on a fact-finding



SAWAT YINGYUAD

tour to Bhutan and translated literature about the Church into Thai.

He was writing his doctoral dissertation and planned to receive his doctorate within six months.

Mr. Sawat, a Buddhist and a spokesman for the Wat Thai Temple in Los Angeles, "supported us in a way that no one else could, by speaking for us without being a part of us," said Mr. Dean.

"Every Sabbath since Mr. Armstrong's death he put flowers on the grave. He had great respect for Mr. Armstrong."

Said Mr. Locke: "Ambassador Foundation was his life. He continually made sacrifices for his job... Everyone thought he was in the Church."

"His work with the foundation was what motivated him. You could tell his heart was in the Work when he would stay at hotels in some of

(See ACCIDENT, page 5)

## Broadcast known in Caribbean

# Lectures show effect of radio

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA—Radio Caraibes, which airs *The World Tomorrow* in French from Martinique and Guadeloupe, interrupted its programming Feb. 27 to air a 30-minute interview with evangelist Dibar Apartian during a visit to Guadeloupe.

Mr. Apartian, French regional director, has been heard for 27 years in the Caribbean as the voice of *Le Monde a Venir* (French *World Tomorrow*).

"Some of the questions were what makes us—the Church—different, how do we proclaim our message without asking for money and why are we interested in the West Indies," Mr. Apartian told *The Worldwide News*.

### Lectures provide witness

The primary purpose of Mr. Apartian's Feb. 23 to March 2 trip was to conduct *Pure Verite* (French *Plain Truth*) Bible lectures and speak to brethren on Martinique and Guadeloupe.

Sabbath morning, Feb. 25, 149 new people attended the first lecture in Fort-de-France, Martinique. "That is a good number, because quite a few people work on Saturdays," said Mr. Apartian.

In the afternoon during Sabbath services Mr. Apartian gave a sermon to 320 brethren and ordained two deacons.

Mr. Apartian said that the church is growing and construction of the meeting hall is almost finished.

"But it is soon going to be too small!" he said. "It was built for 350 people, but almost that many attend now."

Sunday morning, Feb. 26, Mr. Apartian conducted another lecture in Martinique. "That's a good time for people to attend since they don't

work, but there is little transportation available on Sundays."

Nevertheless, 172 people were on hand, which "shows the effect of radio," he said. "We have been a witness on Martinique."

Before leaving for Guadeloupe, Mr. Apartian was interviewed for 45 minutes by an independent

group of six radio stations.

### On to Guadeloupe

In Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, the Radio Caraibes talk show host wanted to know how to prove that the Bible is authoritative and accurate," Mr. Apartian said. "The best

(See CARIBBEAN, page 4)

## PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear brethren:

"But why didn't he come to me first?"

Probably every minister has heard that question at one time or another from a member he is trying to help.

There are indeed rare times that a fellow member might need to go to his minister because he feels unable to go to his brother first.

Yet that is only one aspect of a crucial and important subject for all true Christians—that of helping a brother who is sinning.

God's way is the way of love. It has no room for greed, prideful vanity, attitudes of superiority, nor for bitterness, resentment or retaliation. But God is willing to forgive all these upon repentance.

And in the God-given Christian duty of going to our brother, we are given a two-edged responsibility—never to neglect to help a brother who is sinning, and to strengthen our own spiritual lives.

It is a sad fact that some people use Matthew 18:15 as nothing better than an excuse to express their own self-righteous vanity. Their approach is first to measure their brother by their own standards instead of God's. Then they go to their brother in a haughty, judgmental spirit to tell him his "sin."

It is also a sad fact that some go to their brother in a challenging, impatient spirit, wanting an immediate apology or making some other demand. Others go to their brother over some insignificant matter they've blown out of proportion.

Some go with hurt feelings. Others go because they want to prove themselves right about a matter. And some go with a vindictive attitude, or in retaliation for some wrong they feel they've suffered.

But the teaching Jesus and the apostles gave about preserving and restoring relationships is quite different from the usual way humans handle things. It is

(See PERSONAL, page 4)

## INSIDE

How do you spell 'color'? . 2

South American brethren brave trying times . 3

Soon their wait will be over . . 5

# Dramatic changes in Poland, Hungary

PASADENA—Unless a last minute complication arises, the first free national elections in Communist-controlled Central and Eastern Europe in more than 40 years could take place in early June.

The Polish government is conducting intensive negotiations with political opposition groups, specifically the Solidarity labor union movement, which is on the verge of having its legal status restored.

In a major breakthrough March 9, negotiators provisionally agreed on a new system of government that would be controlled by the Communist leadership but would contain a degree of opposition representation unprecedented in the Soviet bloc.

They agreed to the creation of a new, second chamber to the national legislature. Every seat in the new body, to be called the Senate, is to be open to all candidates who choose to run. No seats are to be exclusively reserved for the Communist Party.

The change in Poland doesn't mean the end of Communist rule—yet. The existing parliament, called the Sjem, will continue to be the dominant assembly. Roughly two thirds of its seats are reserved for party delegates and other official groups, with opposition and independent candidates allowed to compete for the remaining positions.

Agreement was also reached on establishing a new office of president, one having strong powers, to be elected by a majority of both chambers of parliament. This provision, too, assures party control.

Nonetheless, the agreement represents the first real crack in Communist control of a major Soviet bloc state.

The two forces in Poland recognize they need each other in light of the country's severe economic difficulties.

The government realizes it needs the support of the restive industrial workers, farmers and students. The latter, in turn, understand they can't have everything they want at this time. Better to have a third of a loaf than none at all.

This doesn't mean that the new relationship (which still has to be approved) represents an unchangeable status quo. The opposition will certainly continue to press for changes.

When he began negotiations with the government, Lech Walesa, Solidarity's charismatic leader, made it clear that, from his perspective, the long-term goal of the talks would be "dismantling the monopoly" of Communist power in Poland.

Equally dramatic changes are under way in Hungary, where opposition political groups have been established. Multiparty elections are said to be pending. Economic reforms are further advanced in Hungary than anywhere else in the Soviet bloc.

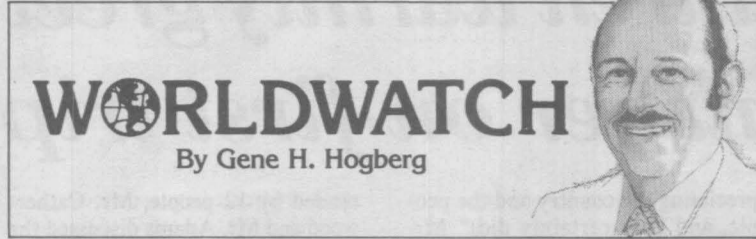
At the same time nostalgic interest is blossoming concerning Hungary's impressive history, for the time when the country was linked with Austria in the dual monarchy of the Austro-Hungarian Empire of the Habsburgs.

This interest reached a peak March 1 when Otto von Habsburg visited Budapest as part of a European Parliament delegation. The visit would have been unthinkable only a few years ago.

Speaking to an overflow crowd of 700 people at Karl Marx University, Dr. Habsburg observed that his appearance marked "progress in

But where would Poland and Hungary go should they gain greater political latitude?

In his latest book *The Grand Failure: The Birth and Death of Communism in the Twentieth Century*, Zbigniew Brzezinski tells of the powerful attraction of these two Western-oriented countries to the European Community, whose door,



## WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg

the sense . . . that the oldest son of the last crowned king of Hungary can deliver a lecture as a representative of Germany in the European Parliament."

Dr. Habsburg showed he was as much concerned about the future as the past when he boldly proclaimed, in fluent Hungarian, "One thing I want to assure my Hungarian friends of: we hold the door wide open for Hungary in the European Community."

As numerous observers have mentioned, what we are witnessing is the beginning of the unraveling of the Soviet empire. It is not occurring everywhere all at once. Certainly Poland and Hungary are much further along the road toward a freer status than Romania or Bulgaria.

Dr. Habsburg said, is wide open.

"As Western Europe marches toward more genuine and organic economic unity," wrote Mr. Brzezinski, "and as its political unity emerges in the wake of economic unification, the historical and cultural attraction of Europe to the East Europeans will dramatically increase . . ."

"A progressively more united

Europe, economically dynamic and culturally appealing, will stand in dramatic . . . contrast to either a turbulent or a stagnant Soviet Union . . .

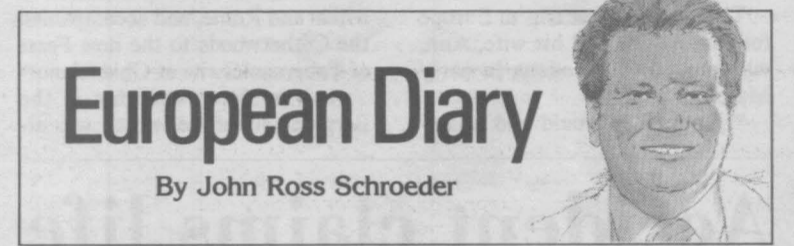
"Almost all of the East European states will seek closer links with Western Europe, with the lead probably maintained by Hungary and Poland . . .

"Crossing that line will be difficult. No Communist regime has yet traversed peacefully across that invisible divide.

"Hungary is the best candidate for a peaceful transition. It is smaller and geopolitically less neutral to the Soviets, which means Moscow is less likely to engage in disruptive interference in the country's internal evolution."

We can now envision the eventual attachment of two or more nations of Central and Eastern Europe to the emerging European power bloc in the West, the nucleus of the last revival of the Roman Empire.

History is coming full circle. "Central Europe's political and cultural connection to Western Europe has existed for more than a thousand years," wrote William Pfaff in the Dec. 26, 1988, *New Yorker*. "Central Europe was the heart of the Holy Roman Empire."



## European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



## Just between friends

By Dexter H. Faulkner

## It costs you nothing

All of us like to be told that our work is appreciated.

After we exert great amounts of energy toward some achievement, it's nice to receive recognition. Sometimes we think that the people with whom we work and live don't appreciate what we do.

But how often do we comment about the things we like? Appreciation and encouragement are easy to give. They cost nothing and their rewards are extensive.

One of our highest duties is that of encouragement. In the book of Job, Eliphaz unwittingly paid Job a tribute, one that we can apply: "Your words have kept men on their feet, the weak-kneed you have nerved" (Job 4:4, Moffatt).

It is easy to laugh at others' ideas; it is easy to pour cold water on enthusiasm; it is easy to discourage and put others down. The world is full of discouragers. We have a Christian duty to encourage others.

This responsibility does not exclude any one of God's people! Many a time, a word of praise or thanks, or a word of cheer, has kept a man or woman on his or her feet.

### Small things

Acts of encouragement don't have to be monumental. Doing a good turn for another may be extremely encouraging, particularly when the person has a real need.

In Matthew 25 Christ mentions giving food and drink to the hungry and thirsty, showing hospitality to strangers, clothing the needy, nursing the sick and visiting the widows and prisoners. Encouraging other people in any of these ways is the same as encouraging Christ.

But, small gestures can be power-

fully encouraging as well. In my mail this morning I received one of those cute little Snoopy cards. It read: "You're the pepperoni of my pizza . . . you're the marshmallow in my hot chocolate . . . you're the whipped cream on my hot fudge sundae . . . you're the one who makes all the good things in my life



even better!" My sweet wife, Shirley, sent it and just at the right time.

The little things we do are often our greatest achievements. Couples tend to gauge their relationships by the little niceties they do for each other. I find that a note, a flower or a spontaneous back scratch or neck rub does wonders for my wife.

A phone call to a friend, taxiing someone to church and rolling up the windows of a car about to be drenched with rain all belong in the catalog of little encouraging actions. Let's be sure we practice these easy ones.

### Just being there

Sometimes the most encouraging actions are not anything that you do, but take the form of just being

there. This is especially true when someone is going through a crisis. The gathering of friends and relatives to support close family members in the event of a death illustrates this point.

Being there for another person can be a powerful encouragement. God's omnipresence is a great comfort for us, whether He is sharing in our joys or sustaining us in trials.

Why study God's Word daily? Because it is an encouraging source—it is God speaking to us every day!

Early in life we learn the importance of people being there for us, and we love and trust them for it. You can always determine who the primary caretaker of a child is by watching who he or she seeks out when hurt. You'll also find that he or she looks for this same person first to share excitement.

We carry this to adulthood. Being there for others is a tremendous encouragement and places us first in line to share their joys.

Paul recognized the importance of being an example of encouragement and reminded the Thessalonians of his example to them:

"For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory" (I Thessalonians 2:11-12, New International Version).

We need to be developing this talent that God has given us. There are many ways to do this. You can demonstrate your appreciation and encouragement daily to your family, or at work or at school. By just smiling, waving, hugging or kissing, shaking hands or giving a pat on the back. With words like *thank you, good job, bravo, terrific*.

And don't forget actions like giving a gift, inviting someone to lunch, honoring an employee or other similar behavior.

Let's do as Paul said: "Therefore encourage (admonish, exhort) one another and edify—strengthen and build up—one another, just as you are doing" (I Thessalonians 5:11, The Amplified Bible).

## Worldwide News usage: words of right colo(u)r

BOREHAMWOOD, England—The Atlantic Ocean separates Britain and America. An even greater division, in some ways, is their common language.

In this column I have sought to give to North Americans the British point of view—and vice versa.

One reader took exception to the American spelling of *labor* (*labour* in the United Kingdom) in reference to the Labo(u)r Party. It is the style, however, of *The Worldwide News*, which is published in the United States, to use American spellings.

Ideally we would need to publish *The Worldwide News* not only with basic American spellings, but also with British, Australian, New Zealand, Canadian and South African versions.

Obviously this is impossible. Therefore, we ask other English-speaking brethren to bear with our American spellings.

The English language is not static. It is always changing. Theologian John Stott said that if William Shakespeare (1564-1616) were alive today, he could only understand four out of nine words. That's how much the language has altered since Elizabethan times.

It was inevitable that as English spread around the globe, the language itself would develop different strains in various countries.

Naturally, if there are differences in spelling, pronunciation or usage, you feel that your native country is always right.

The apostle Paul warns Timothy about those who indulge in "wordy wrangles which lead to envy, quarreling, slander, evil suspicions and constant irritations" (I Timothy 6:4, Translator's New Testament).

Nonetheless we should recognize that there are differences in pronunciation, spelling and usage wherever the language is spoken.

Take, for example, Britain and America. English has diverged so much across the Atlantic that Norman Moss published a *British/*

*American dictionary.*

In the days of Ambassador College in Bricket Wood, England, it was deemed necessary to print a small dictionary mainly for the sake of the American students.

American newspaper journalist and critic H.L. Mencken published a book, *The American Language*, in 1919. Raven McDavid Jr. brought the book up to date.

The two streams of English began for practical reasons. Mr. Mencken wrote: "The first American colonists had perforce to invent Americanisms, if only to describe the unfamiliar landscape, weather, flora and fauna confronting them."

However, these new words found little favor in the United Kingdom. Mr. Mencken wrote: "The occasional English tolerance for things American was never extended to the American language" (page 25).

One note of encouragement comes from Mr. Moss in *The British/American Dictionary*: "The two languages are moving together. The accents, speech rhythms and words of each country are becoming more familiar to the other."

"Increased travel across the Atlantic both ways is a factor. Others are the growing number of British programmes [American: programs] shown on U.S. television" (page xi).

However, the differences in spelling look deadlocked for the foreseeable future. As Mr. McDavid pointed out in *The American Language*, "Efforts to remedy the irrationalities of English spelling have been under way for many years, but so far without much success" (page 777).

Spelling is nowhere near as important as understanding.

Those in this great Work of God seek to communicate the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. We wish to transcend all barriers, whether languages or otherwise. But sometimes it is necessary to exercise a little patience.

# Drought, inflation challenge brethren in South America

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA—Four ministers serve brethren in Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay—an area half again as large as the United States.

Drought, inflation and other severe problems make life miserable for inhabitants.

Brethren, however, are "faithful and positive," reported Alberto Sousa, pastor of the Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Salto, Uruguay, churches, Feb. 14. Mr. Sousa was in Pasadena to conduct the marriage of his brother, Hugo, of the Pasadena Spanish church.

## Argentina

Argentina experienced its worst drought in 50 years, Mr. Sousa said. "Temperatures often reach 100 degrees [Fahrenheit, 38 Celsius], and millions of dollars have been lost because of insufficient electricity. The new nuclear power plants were shut down too."

According to the Jan. 19 *Latin American Weekly Report*, "The absence of drinking water and the continuation of the hot spell ... posed the danger of epidemics in some of the poorer districts."

Hydroelectric dams reached record low water levels, causing government officials to restrict power usage to between noon and 6 p.m. Television broadcasting was reduced to four hours of viewing, from 7 to 11 p.m.

"Most of the brethren felt that was very good news," said Mr. Sousa. "They didn't complain at all—the less television the better!"

Inflation in Argentina is 9 percent a month, said Mr. Sousa. "To make ends meet, families pitch in together and their children work. They cut down on eating out, going to the cinema and buying clothes. Those things simply cannot be bought. Their salary goes mainly for food and utilities."

The multicultural Buenos Aires church is composed of brethren of Chilean, Paraguayan, Uruguayan, Argentinean, English, Italian and Czech descent.

## Brazil

Mr. Sousa visits the 60 Brazilian

## The Worldwide News

CIRCULATION 65,500

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Founder: Herbert W. Armstrong 1892-1986

Editor in chief: Joseph W. Tkach

Editor: Dexter H. Faulkner

Senior editor: Sheila Graham; managing editor: Thomas C. Hanson; layout editor: Ronald Grove; news editor: Jeff Zhorne; associate editor: Kerri Dowd; "Iron Sharpens Iron": Norman L. Shoaf; staff writers: David Bensinger, Carla Pearson; composition: Maria Stahl, Shane Granger, Liana Scott; photography: Warren Watson, G.A. Belluche Jr., Charles Feldbush, Hal Finch, Barry Stahl, Susan Bramer; proofreaders: Peter Moore, Lana Walker

Publishing Services composition: Don Patrick, Steve Doucet, Larry Miller; printing coordinator: Robert W. Richards

Regional correspondents: Debbie Minke, Vancouver, B.C.; Terri Conti, Italian Department; Eleazar Flores, Manila, Philippines; Frankie Weinberger, Bonn, West Germany; Rex Morgan, Auckland, New Zealand; Christopher Harmon, Borehamwood, England; Richard Steinfort, Nieuwegein, Netherlands.

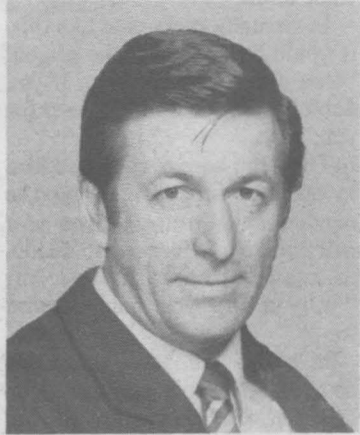
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brethren about once every two months. "Most members are doing very well, with above-average incomes," he said.

About 12 attend a weekly Bible study in Rio de Janeiro. Noemi Rivera from Belo Horizonte, who suffers from Parkinson's disease, has been unable to attend the Feast of Tabernacles for several years.



ALBERTO SOUSA

"She's very tired physically and would appreciate us remembering her," Mr. Sousa said. "I visit her anytime I can, especially when I'm on my way to Brasilia."

In Sao Paulo, Herbert Schmidt "is the only Church member in a city of 14 million," said Mr. Sousa. "He has a good management position in the textile industry, and as a result he's well respected."

Mr. Schmidt is Brazilian with a Swiss background, speaks English, German and Portuguese, and has two children.

Jair Vasconcelos, also a member, translates Church booklets and articles into Portuguese.

Despite a superb trade year "Brazil is going through an economic downturn," Mr. Sousa reported.

In 1986, to cope with 60-percent-a-month inflation, the government changed the currency from the cruzeiro to the cruzado.

At that time a dollar bought 88 cruzados. But last December the rate was 1 to 1,000 so the government created a new cruzado.

"The government has decreed that a bill worth 50,000 cruzados is now worth 50 cruzados."

The brethren receive pay raises, but not apace with inflation. Making ends meet is difficult.

Brazil is looking to Europe for ties and investment.

## Paraguay

Two members live in Paraguay; one in Asuncion, the capital, and the other in a German Mennonite colony.

The member in the colony owns a farm and raises cattle. To battle drought he built a cistern to collect rainwater. "It hasn't rained in several months, but he has enough rainwater stored to weather the drought," said Mr. Sousa.

A change of government brought about by a February coup will not affect brethren that much, he said. "Hopefully it will make conditions a little bit better."

## Uruguay

Uruguay is a buffer state between



**SPANISH MEMBERS**—Alberto Sousa and Michael Medina serve brethren who attend services or Bible studies in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Salto and Montevideo, Uruguay; and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. [Map by Ronald Grove]

the giants of Argentina and Brazil. "It's a stable country and the people are so warm and friendly," said Mr. Sousa.

Michael Medina and his wife, Adriana, serve the church in Salto, where 35 attend weekly Sabbath services. Mr. Medina's biweekly visits alternate with a sermon tape.

In Montevideo, Mr. Medina speaks to about 30 brethren at a monthly Bible study.

Despite the benefits of tourism Uruguay's economy feels the crises in Argentina and Brazil.

Uruguay is smaller, and it has cattle, wool and textile industries from which it earns foreign currency.

Residents struggle with 60 percent annual inflation, but it's much lower than their neighbors. "The people are talented, slow-paced, tranquil and serene," said Mr. Sousa. "That reflects in the members—very loving."

## Crime on upswing

Mr. Sousa said that muggings and violence are common. Members going to church in Argentina have been robbed or assaulted. "Money or a few personal items are taken. It becomes increasingly stressful under such conditions."

Terrorism is a constant threat and menace, he added, and brethren need our prayers.

Nevertheless, most members in Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay are not suffering, Mr. Sousa added.

Most are employed and eat well, because God has provided for them, according to Mr. Sousa. "But they surely need our continued prayers."

## Q & A from the Pastor General's Report

**What reliance should be placed on the views of Alexander Hislop, as expressed in *The Two Babylons* or *Papal Worship Proved to Be the Worship of Nimrod and His Wife*?**

*The Two Babylons*, first published in Britain in 1916, is one of a class of anti-Catholic polemics. So is the volume *Babylon Mystery Religion* by Ralph Woodrow, published in 1966.

The "Note by the Editor" (R.H.) of *The Two Babylons* makes the claim "that no one, so far as we are aware, has ventured to challenge the accuracy of the historical proofs adduced in support of the startling announcement on the title page."

Most scholars would not spend time and effort to demolish the conclusions of a polemic work with a narrow reading audience. Since, however, Alexander Hislop's work has been rather widely circulated by certain religious groups, we should take note of its basic flaw. It has absolutely no chronological framework to support the author's conclusions. Hislop, for example, makes the claim that myths about Osiris and Ninus pertain to the one person Nimrod, son of Cush. He fails to note that many centuries separate the earliest inscriptional reference to Osiris in Egypt from the much later dates assigned to Ninus and Nimrod by Armenian, Greek and Jewish writers.

Isis, wife of Osiris in the myths, is referred to in inscriptions of the Old Kingdom of Egypt many centuries before Semiramis (wife of Ninus in Armenian, Greek and Assyrian traditions) is presumed to have been born in Syria.

And the Jews' traditions about Nimrod make no association of Nimrod with the heroic legends of Ninus of Assyria. In fact, Alexander Hislop abuses such classical writers as Diodorus of Sicily when he attempts to link the biblical Nimrod with the Ninus of Diodorus' *Library of History*.

When referring to Nimrod, we should make reference to Genesis, not cite anti-Catholic polemics.

**What is meant by "your pleasure" and "your own pleasure" in Isaiah 58:13? What can be the difference for those led by the Holy Spirit between this and God's pleasure?**

*The New Brown, Driver, Briggs, Gesenius Hebrew and English Lexicon* tells us that the word translated *pleasure* in the Authorized Version and New King James is better rendered in this instance (and in Isaiah 58:3) as *business* or *affairs*.

Several translations, including the Jerusalem Bible, the Modern Language Bible and Moffatt, use *business*. Smith and Goodspeed's American Translation, another example, renders verse 13: "If you turn back your foot from the sabbath, not doing your own business on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight, and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it by not following your accustomed ways, nor doing your own business, nor indulging in idle talk."

What God is saying in this scripture is that we should avoid our everyday affairs, business and work and talking about these things. The Sabbath is to be a delight and there-

fore must include that which is spiritually pleasurable.

The Sabbath is holy time and a day of rest. Therefore, it is not the day on which to pursue recreational endeavors such as hunting, fishing, golfing and skiing. The Sabbath is too precious to be spent in pastimes or time-consuming hobbies.

Sports and most games, because they divert our minds from the meaning and purpose of the Sabbath, are not proper activities for (See Q & A, page 5)

## Letters TO THE EDITOR

The *Worldwide News* welcomes your comments. Letters for this column should be addressed to "Letters to the Editor." The editor reserves the right to use letters so addressed in whole or in part, and to include your name and edit the letter for clarity or space.

### Correspondence Course

I am writing this letter with a very heavy heart, knowing that this will be my [last] lesson . . .

I have been receiving the lessons and every other available piece of literature that you advertised for nearly three years now and it is almost like receiving mail from home.

It has been so enlightening and informative and it gave me something to look forward to. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for making it possible for me to take your course.

I have learned so many things about the Bible.

Federal Way, Wash.

I received your letter of congratulations on my completion of 32 lessons [of the Ambassador] College Bible Correspondence Course.

I graduated from eight years of Catholic grammar school, attended Bible courses and talks, but never learned 10 percent of the Bible information as I have and still am learning from the many books and literature I receive from you.

Hollywood, Fla.

### Vision impaired

I want to express my thanks to the Church for the cassettes of the magazine and other material. Without these tapes there would be no way I could get this precious truth since my sight has gotten so bad.

Roanoke, Va.

I can never listen to your TV telecast because in this local mountainous area I can only get one channel . . . and since I am an 84-year-old arthritic cripple, I can't drive the 80 miles to the nearest church in Billings, but I do get a great deal of benefit from your tapes that are sent to me as an aid to the visually handicapped.

Fishtail, Mont.

☆☆☆

### A Muslim's view

I congratulate you on the wonderful work you are doing to awaken the world spiritually. It is all positive what you are doing.

However, in further thought, may I suggest that, as a Muslim, I find no fundamental conflict between the Bible (or the teachings of Moses and Jesus) and the Koran (the book God gave to Muhammad).

I find myself completely able to absorb what you disseminate in your magazine, without any clash whatsoever with my faith.

London, England

## PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

based on a different foundation and, therefore, gets quite different results.

Let's again go through some of these priceless principles of God's Word—especially important as we focus our attention on the coming Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread.

First, we read in Galatians 6:1-5: "Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

"If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, for each one should carry his own load" (New International Version).

These verses point out fundamental principles that all true Christians, those whose minds are genuinely led by the Holy Spirit, should recognize and practice.

First, we are reminded that all Christians are subject to falling into sin.

Second, we are told that we are not to neglect our responsibility to help one another repent of sin.

Third, and very important, we are shown that such help is to be given gently, and therefore

should be done by those who are more mature spiritually.

That is, before we attempt to help our brother with his sin, we must ourselves be spiritually fit so that we will do it God's way and not our own.

Fourth, a part of spiritual maturity is to realize that we are not superior to the person we are restoring—we are also subject to sin.

Fifth, in the same connection, we are to understand that humility is essential to be successful in any Christian endeavor, particularly in helping someone out of a sin.

And sixth, we see the danger in comparing ourselves with others, even those we may be helping with a sin, in a spiritual sense.

These verses reveal an approach and an attitude that is indispensable in being able to help someone who is sinning. It is the attitude of humility. And let's realize that humility is not possible without a spirit of repentance.

Let's read James 4:6-12: "But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

"Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord,

and he will lift you up.

"Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.

"There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?" (NIV).

The role of repentance and humility cannot be overstated. I repeat, you cannot be successful in helping your brother see his sin and change if you yourself are not in a humble, repentant spirit!

If you are being judgmental, superior, self-righteous or unforgiving in your own heart, your "going to your brother" is of no real value either to your brother or to you!

Notice Christ's instruction in Matthew 7:3-5: "And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck out of your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye?"

"Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck out of your brother's eye" (New King James).

When you have hurt feelings, or jealousy, or pride, you cannot see clearly enough spiritually to help your brother with his sin. The need to help your brother

should serve as further motivation to get your own life in order so that you will be able, in time, to help your brother.

There is also another aspect to consider. Sometimes, you may not have the necessary skills to be able to help your brother with his particular sin.

You may know he needs help, but you don't know how to provide that help. You may realize that you are not equipped, for whatever reason, to be able to reach him in a way that will be truly helpful. In this kind of situation, you will have to get help from someone who does know what to do.

In virtually every case like this, it would be best to tell the person: "You need to go get help. If you don't, I will have to get help for you."

Then you have encouraged him to take the initiative to get the needed help himself. And you will not have to face the difficult-to-answer question later on, "Why didn't you come to me first?"

In every case, your goal must be to help, not to get your way, or to get back at him, or to "prove" to him you are right and he is wrong.

In rare situations, though, you may need to simply get help without talking to the person first. This would be rare. But sometimes, when a person is openly creating division and discord within the Body of Christ, you may need to inform some higher Church authority immediately.

But even then, if possible or practical, it would be best if you could first encourage the person to get the needed help himself. Then, if he doesn't do so within a short time, you should go ahead.

But in all these situations, let's keep firmly in mind that the purpose of going to someone about a sin is to help him or her. In order for your action to be of help, it must be done in the attitude God demands, never in retaliation, anger, impatience, self-righteousness, bitterness, selfishness, superiority or with hurt feelings. And it must never be done rudely, inconsiderately or harshly.

We must first consider ourselves, prayerfully removing any wrong attitude or motivation, including any hurt feelings or anger, and then, in the love of God as His Spirit leads, go to our brother in humility. Our approach must be kind, patient, considerate, thoughtful and humble. If the person has wronged us

personally, we must be forgiving.

And another major factor: We must not spread the problem around. We have no business discussing it with other people. If we do, it is a dead giveaway that our real motivation is not rooted in love, with a true desire to help.

Instead, it is rooted in vanity, to compare ourselves with someone whom we feel is weaker. It is rooted in a superiority that is willing to hurt, to damage a reputation or to run down our brother to puff up ourselves.

The Christian responsibility to help a brother who is erring from the truth is a most serious one. It is to be done in the love of God, carefully thought through with the motivation to truly help the sinner find repentance.

It should not be done without prayer for wisdom and humility to approach the person in the best possible way so that he might hear you. It is a labor of love that also serves as motivation to keep your own spiritual life in order.

Some would rather gossip or run down others instead of trying first to get their own problems and attitudes straightened out so as to enable them to be able to help a brother.

God takes this responsibility. He has given Christians most seriously. It is wrong to let a brother continue in sin. But it is also wrong to go to that brother before we have carefully considered our own sins and repented, and before we have asked God for the true humility and wisdom necessary to truly be of help.

Finally, let's read James 5:19-20: "Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins" (NKJ).

What a wonderful goal is achieved when one is able to help his brother in this way! But this is not a task to be taken lightly, or done carelessly or impatiently. It must be done God's way, with the attitude and approach in which God leads us through His Spirit.

Brethren, let's continue to grow in true Christian love toward one another.

And be sure to pray earnestly for God's Work. As Leroy Neff's report explained in the March 6 issue, we are right now experiencing a continuing income dip that could become quite serious if the trend does not reverse. Let's pray that the Spring Holy Day offerings will be unusually strong.

## Baby healthy despite complications

# Brethren rally around mother

By Debbie Markham

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—I was afraid for our baby.

I was only six months pregnant and my water had broken. Most women go into labor soon after the amniotic sac ruptures, but the doctor said the baby was too small to stand a good chance of survival.

*Debbie Markham is a Church member in St. Louis, Mo.*

What could our family do? My husband, David, and I have three other children and depend on my child care job to survive.

God's Church came to our rescue. Several women came to stay afternoons while our son John, 15, stayed home from school each morning. He had to make up the classes missed by going to summer school.

My pride suffered greatly to accept the kind of help I needed. I could not get out of bed even for a few minutes. The women cooked meals and cleaned our home, others sent food, but most importantly, everyone prayed. For 10 weeks our friends in Christ rallied around us.

Six weeks before the due date, labor started. Whenever the amniotic sac ruptures prematurely there is a chance for infection. On that same day I began to run a fever and the baby was started on antibiotics as a precaution.

The problem now was a dramatic decrease in the baby's heart rate at every contraction. The umbilical cord was around its neck. An emergency cesarean section was performed.

I've had several miscarriages and did not want to lose this baby. We prayed for God's will to be done.

Jessica Rae was born April 24, 1988. She was not breathing correctly and needed more help than the hospital could provide.

She was transferred to the neonatal unit at Children's Hospital, and

we didn't see her for three agonizing hours as she was taken to the other hospital.

The day after her birth an infection attacked her heart. The doctors telephoned us immediately. Jessica was anointed, and the brethren prayed with us.

When David and I arrived at the hospital the doctors told us that after the phone call Jessica had improved but there was still nothing they could do.

I will always remember the pain-



JESSICA RAE MARKHAM

ful words: "There's no hope. She's going to die." Jessica was hooked up to many gadgets and wires as the doctors tried to keep her alive.

She was anointed and we thanked God for her life no matter how short it might be. Sitting by her incubator holding her tiny hands, bits of sermons crept into my thoughts. Jessica would be all right wherever she was. God would take care of her.

Jessica stayed in the hospital three weeks. The diagnosis was that organisms had entered the blood stream and colonized the heart and that she had a rapid heart rate.

When Jessica was about three months old our pediatrician told us he was almost certain the plates in

her skull fused together too quickly. This doesn't allow for normal brain growth and must be remedied by an operation.

He wanted Jessica to have X rays immediately. We asked him to wait until Monday, and Jessica was anointed on the Sabbath.

Jessica was x-rayed that Monday, but there was no trace of the problem.

At 11 months, Jessica is progressing normally with seemingly no complications. She is behind in development and small for her age, but the doctors say she should catch up by age 2.

We thank God for His love and mercy and His people for their prayers and support.

## Caribbean

(Continued from page 1)  
way is to show how prophecy is being fulfilled."

The host mentioned the evening lecture, titled "Why People Don't Understand the Bible," and said she would like to attend.

Two hundred attended that evening. "God is opening people's eyes, because we've never had that many in Guadeloupe."

The next evening 201 attended. During the lecture Mr. Apartian read an article from *Paris Match* magazine about how the oceans would rise 100 meters (about 330 feet) if a global warming trend raised temperatures 5 degrees and melted icebergs.

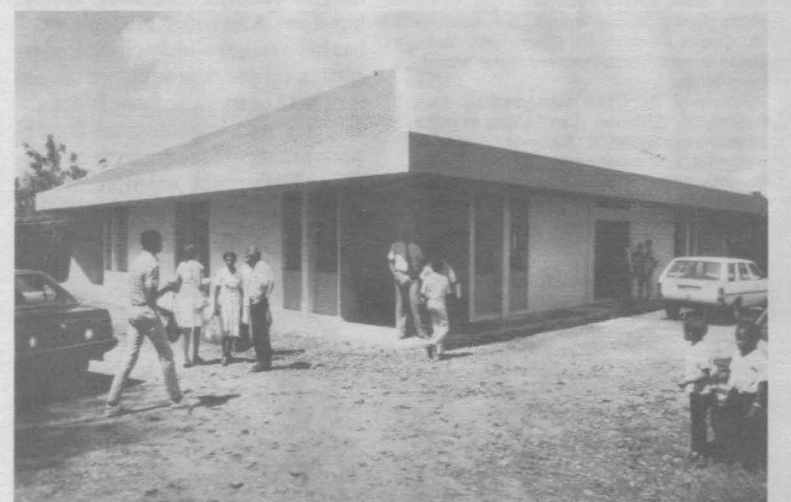
"I heard later that the magazine practically sold out on newsstands," Mr. Apartian reported.

"A good number of the predominantly Catholic people don't believe Christ will return. According to a survey conducted in France, about 60 percent are either not sure or don't believe it," he continued. Six follow-up Bible studies are sched-

uled on the two islands.

Wednesday evening, March 1, Mr. Apartian addressed 250 brethren from Basse-Terre and Pointe-a-Pitre, in Pointe-a-Pitre, and gave news about the Work.

"The brethren are very much encouraged about the Work's prog-



**CHURCH-BUILT**—Construction of a Church-owned building in Fort-de-France, Martinique, nears completion. "It was built for 350 people, but almost that many attend now," said evangelist Dibar Apartian, regional director. [Photo by Leroy Neff]

ress," Mr. Apartian said.

Mr. Apartian added that unemployment is not a problem for members on the two islands. The evangelist also spent time with the pastors there—Erick Dubois on Martinique and Gilbert Carbonnel on Guadeloupe.



# IRON SHARPENS IRON

## Third World's wait soon over; struggling, suffering will end

By Paul Krautmann

You join the line for kerosene and wait. The sun beats down mercilessly hour after hour as you stand there with your battered plastic container.

*Paul Krautmann is an ordained minister of a Worldwide Church of God congregation in a Third World country.*

You look anxiously toward the front of the line, hoping the supply will last long enough for you to get a few pints, hoping you can survive the heat and the pushing, shoving and cursing crowd.

You smell the people around you, and feel the breath down your neck of the man behind you. You clutch the crumpled currency in your hand, wondering how you will manage to find some flour or rice before walking the two miles back to your home.

That will mean joining another line, and another wait for maybe three or four hours. You think about your children—they are growing, and their shoes are almost worn through. To buy a new pair will cost a month's pay.

You think about the future. What does it hold for you and your family? The situation in the country is going from bad to worse.

No matter what one tries to do, it always seems to fail. There is so much corruption and crime. You just cannot trust people any more.

Most are concerned only about themselves.

Where is it all leading? How will you feed and care for your family if things continue like this? People don't smile much these days—it's just the same old drudgery day after day, struggling to survive.

At this point, after considering all this gloom and doom, you catch yourself, and you remember. Hey, but things won't always be like this. I know the end of the story, and it says, "We win!"

God's Kingdom is coming, and all this evil and suffering will come to an end. I, and thousands of others in God's Church, have had my eyes opened to the truth, have been given God's Holy Spirit, and am being trained to show this world how to live the right way.

We are learning by the things we suffer now, so we can help others, just as Jesus did: "Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered" (Hebrews 5:8, New King James throughout).

It's a long, hard struggle, and we are tempted to give up and quit, but then we remember—it's only for a time. It won't always be like this.

And Jesus promised to help us endure: "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

"Be of good cheer," He said. Yes, it is all going to be worth it in the

end. And once we put God, His Work and His people first in our lives, He will take care of our needs—even our needs for shoes and clothes (Matthew 6:33, Deuteronomy 8:4).

We all have to go through trials of one kind or another to enter God's Kingdom (Acts 14:22).

What about all those men and women of God mentioned in Hebrews 11? Cruel mockings and scourgings, imprisonment, wandering about in sheepskins and goat-skins, destitute, afflicted, tormented, living in dens and caves of the earth (verses 36 to 38). They went through these sufferings so that they might obtain a better resurrection (verse 35).

And we, with them, will inherit all things (Revelation 21:7). What a time that will be!

"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed



away" (Revelation 21:4).

This waiting in line for a little kerosene, flour or rice will end one day. In the meantime we must wait on God: "Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him" (Psalm 37:7). This is the longest line we shall ever join. It will take a whole lifetime of waiting!

"All the days of my hard service I will wait, till my change comes" (Job 14:14).

In Psalm 27:14 David encourages us to keep on waiting in line: "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart;

wait, I say, on the Lord!"

All this waiting and wondering, all these trials and problems, all this suffering and struggling to survive will come to an end.

And then we will be able to look back and say: "It was nothing really. Because we waited on God, because we endured to the end, we have eternal life, power and glory in God's Kingdom: 'For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory'" (II Corinthians 4:17). God speed that day!

## Accident

(Continued from page 1)

these outlying areas for \$2.50 a night just to save us money."

Dr. Hoeh said: "He felt that he was able to do more for the Church as a respected member of the Buddhist community than as a convert to Christianity. He considers all of us brothers."

Mr. Sawat, said Mr. Dean, was "a major help in every Asian project we have. He will be sorely missed. He was well respected in the Thai community here and in Thailand."

Mr Locke added: "I personally feel that I lost a great friend and assistant when Mr. Sawat died."

Mr. Sawat is survived by his wife and an 8-year-old son.

Several memorial services were conducted in the Los Angeles area and in Thailand in the two weeks after his death.

The Church sent flowers and a framed portrait of Mr. Sawat to the Wat Thai Temple.

Foundation Chairman Joseph W. Tkach and the Ambassador Foundation sent flowers.

March 1 his body was sent to Bangkok, where a memorial service took place at Wat Po Temple, the temple affiliated with the royal palace.

Funeral arrangements, including the traditional cremation, were handled in the manner afforded to royalty, government officials and high-ranking Buddhist monks.

"This is an extreme honor, and it shows the tremendous respect the Thai people have for Mr. Sawat," said Jim Little, assistant to Mr. Locke.

Thailand's Queen Sirikit sent a royal funeral wreath with her emblem and seal. Those who visit the temple can see the wreath.

King Bhumibol sent the fire to

light the funeral pyre. "The king and queen gave him the highest honor possible for a person of his rank," said Mr. Dean.

Leon Sexton, a ministerial trainee in Mojave, Calif., and a former Ambassador Foundation representative, accompanied Mr. Sawat's widow to Thailand for funeral services. Mr. Sexton was one of Mr. Sawat's first students.

## Q & A

(Continued from page 3)

this day.

This does not mean, however, that all activities other than Bible study, prayer, meditation and attending Sabbath services must be avoided. There is, for example, nothing wrong with using some Sabbath time to take a casual walk.

Those with small children should remember that youngsters need time to play. Certainly, parents need time alone for prayer and Bible study. And family Bible studies should also be a part of each Sabbath.

But having some time with Mom or Dad in subdued activities such as throwing a ball around or tossing a frisbee in the backyard or nearby park can make the Sabbath very special to children, particularly because the family is doing something together in an activity they enjoy.

Even here, we must use wisdom in what we allow. Children would certainly enjoy the rides in an amusement park, but such merriment would teach them wrong lessons about the Sabbath. But quiet, relaxing time together as a family helps teach children and adults more about their heavenly Father and the day He created for them as a delight.



**VOICE-OVER STAFF**—Television and French Department employees commemorating the 100th voice-over of the French *World Tomorrow* program March 14 gather around the telecast set. In a voice-over, viewers listen to a translation that overrides the original speaker. From left (from Television): international language supervisor Glenn Mitchell; language specialist Randall Gordon; editor Victor Martinez; secretary Barb Wilcox (seated); Bernard Hongerlout, from the French Department, who does the voice-overs; and audio specialist George Hague. [Photo by Francoise Metayer]

## Italy

(Continued from page 1)

or three weeks to be delivered."

When invitations are mailed for public Bible lectures, "we like the letters to arrive about 10 days before the lecture, but it's difficult to gauge correctly with the postal system," said the regional director.

"But one good thing is the cost. The post office charges rock bottom prices. It may be the cheapest place in the world to mail *The Plain Truth*."

**High response**

The Italian Department sponsored a Bible lecture in Messina, Sicily, last December. The lecture, which received an 8.5 percent response, "shows the receptiveness of the people," said Mr. Catherwood.

"Only once have we had less than a 5 percent turnout of those invited."

The reason? Disenchantment

with religion. He explained: "Italians . . . have strong religious instincts built into them."

"They have been disillusioned with the traditional church for the past five to 10 years and are looking for alternatives . . ."

"If we can reach the people, they will ask questions," he continued. "They may not agree, but they are responsive . . . Potentially, Italy is the Bible belt of Europe."

"We're considering adding a Bible study in Padua, about 25 miles from Venice, later in the year, because it's a very fruitful area," said Mr. Catherwood. "There are a number of members there traveling very long distances."

For example, Mr. and Mrs. Vigutto and their 2-year-old daughter, who live near the Yugoslavian border, travel by car or train about 185 miles (300 kilometers) each way to biweekly services in Milan.

**Visit to Sardinia**

Last year Mr. Veal made five visits during a three-day trip to the Mediterranean island of Sardinia. No *Plain Truth* representative "has ever gone there before, as far as I know," said Mr. Catherwood.

"Mr. Veal had visits stacked up for a year," he added. "He said one woman is ready to be baptized. The Sard language is a mixture of Italian and Catalan Spanish. But everybody speaks Italian, so he did fine."

Mr. Catherwood said the 100th member was baptized in November. "I remember when there were only six."

## Donation Receipts

PASADENA—April 17 is the deadline for filing U.S. tax returns. Annual receipts for 1988 contributions were sent to members in January. Some members may need duplicate receipts to complete tax returns.

Any U.S. brethren who need a second annual receipt should call Mail Processing's donation file personnel by using the toll-free number (1-800-423-4444). Since this information is confidential it cannot be provided over the telephone.

Please allow at least 10 days for a replacement receipt to reach you.





**FIVE GENERATIONS OF CHURCH MEMBERS**—Pictured are San Antonio, Tex., members (from left): great-great-grandfather Bill Myers, great-great-grandmother Hazel Myers, great-grandmother Billy Lux, grandmother Donna Jonas, mother Krissie Thomson (now living in Pasadena) and daughter Kirsten Thomson. [Photo by Michael Kiser]

### Holy Day Envelopes

PASADENA—Holy Day offering envelopes for the Spring Festival season have been mailed to U.S. members. If you have not received your supply by April 7, please call the toll-free number (1-800-423-4444) no later than April 12. This is the last date the Mail Processing Center (MPC) can mail personalized envelopes with assurance that they will reach you by the first Holy Day April 20.

These envelopes are intended solely for Holy Day offerings in order to speed the processing of those donations. Please handle changes of address and literature requests through other correspondence.

### Youths meet in Chile

# Friendships formed at SEP

**By Mario Seiglie**  
SANTIAGO, Chile—One hundred Church youths from Chile, Argentina, Peru and Brazil gathered for a Summer Educational Program (SEP) in Icalma, Chile, Jan. 22 to Feb. 2.

*Mario Seiglie pastors the Santiago and Temuco, Chile, churches.*

This is the only time of the year when the youths from these countries can meet and make lasting friendships.

The camp took place in a boarding school near the Chile-Argentina border. It is set in a wilderness area next to a national forest. Campers used a lake for water sports.

The second-year camp included 45 Argentinean youths, 45 Chileans, four Peruvians who traveled 3,000 miles for three days on a bus, a Brazilian girl who traveled more than 2,000 miles one way from Brasilia, and three ministers and their wives.

Morning educational classes covered topics such as dating, weather

forecasting, handicrafts and astronomy.

The ministers involved in the camp have commented on how this

camp has united the youths in their churches, and has turned them on toward their parents and the Church.

### Youth wins essay event

PALMDALE, Calif.—Jason Mance, 11, was one of five runners-up in the grades four to six category of *Family Circle's* Back-To-School Essay Illustration Contest.

Jason attends the Mojave, Calif., church with his mother, Kerry Mance.

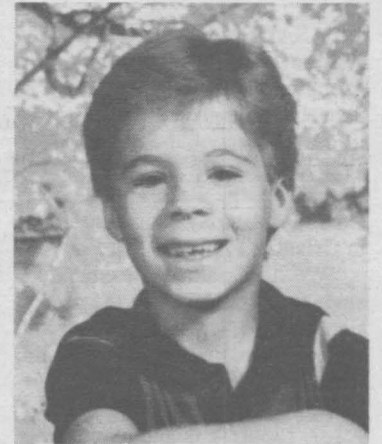
The October, 1988, contest brought in more than 9,000 entries.

Jason is a fifth-grade student at Wilsona Elementary School in Palmdale. His teacher asked the class to enter the contest as a writing assignment. The theme was "What I Would Do If I Were President of the United States."

In his essay Jason explained how he would administer God's way of give, which he described as "the ticket to a good country."

Although this was Jason's first

entry to a writing contest, "it certainly won't be his last," Mrs. Mance said.



JASON MANCE



## PAGES FROM THE FAMILY ALBUM

*"And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit everlasting life." (Matthew 19:29, New King James)*

## Abbotsford, B.C.

**By Kerri Dowd**

About 300 brethren from two countries attend the Abbotsford, B.C., church.

Most of the congregation is Canadian, but five families come up from Washington state.



**56 YEARS TOGETHER**—Fritz Ammann, Abbotsford's oldest Church member, and his wife, Marie, celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary. [Photo by Tony Van Dorn]

The members are scattered throughout rural areas in the Fraser River Valley and about five cities, including some Vancouver, B.C., commuter cities.

Abbotsford pastor Daniel Hope described the area as "a river plain, bottom land, enclosed by mountains. It is geographically considered a temperate coastal rain forest, and it takes about two hours to drive the length of the church area."

Mr. Hope and his wife, Julianne, were introduced to the Church, about one year apart, by a teacher.

"I had him for business administration at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ont., and he taught Julie typing in high school in St. Catharines, Ont., about 100 miles away," Mr. Hope said.

"By his example he encouraged us to explore the understanding he

had about God's way of life... He introduced us to *The Plain Truth*, and we went on from there."

Mr. and Mrs. Hope attended Ambassador College and were married in 1975. They have served in Abbotsford since 1981 and will transfer to Fredericton, N.B., this summer.

Abbotsford members include Ray Anderson, an inventor, who came to the congregation in November, 1981.

His inventions include the rotary lawn mower, mining equipment, a miniature security system for houses and a prefabricated wall system.

In 1981 Mr. Anderson left his job as town site manager at a mine in Faro, Yukon, to become an entrepreneur and to go to Abbotsford to allow his family to participate in church life.

Mr. Anderson began reading *The Plain Truth* in the 1960s and was baptized when he moved to the Abbotsford area. His wife, Solveig, his three oldest children and his mother are also members.

#### Families

The Abbotsford church includes several large families such as the Fehrs and the Kroekers. With the marriage of Willy Kroeker and Gerie Fehr Dec. 11, 36 members of the Kroeker-Fehr family attend in Abbotsford.

Additional family members attend other congregations, including Elvin Kroeker, the first baptized of just two Church members in Paraguay.

Other family groups in Abbotsford include the Rosses, with 21 attending services, and the Tolmies with more than 20 attending.

Bill and Betty Tolmie are the longest-time members in the congregation. In 1956 they were the fifth and sixth members baptized in Canada. (Evangelist Carn Catherwood, Italian regional director, was the seventh.)

"There were no churches in the area at that time," Mr. Hope said. "The Tolmies learned about the Church when they heard Mr. [Herbert W.] Armstrong on radio, and



**LONGTIMERS**—Bill and Betty Tolmie were the fifth and sixth Church members baptized in Canada. They have been members since 1956. [Photo by Daniel Hope]

attended Sabbath services in Seattle, Wash."

Fritz Ammann, 85, is the oldest member in the congregation. He and his wife, Marie, have been married 56 years.

#### Employment

"Most of the people work in



**CASTLE CONTEST**—Paul and Alyssa Anderson's sand sculpture placed first in Abbotsford's 1988 sand-castle building contest. [Photo by Tony Van Dorn]

forestry and wood products, home building and service industries," said Mr. Hope. "We have one dairy farmer."

"Abbotsford is basically a middle-class congregation. A couple of people are having difficulty with employment, but I think people are probably underpaid more than anything."

One member, Tim Brerton, has a cottage industry making gourmet chocolates. Mr. Brerton sells the chocolates to shops and would like to open his own shop.

Another member, Angus MacEachern, harvests worms for the fish-bait industry in Canada and the United States.

"On a good night he can catch up to 10,000 worms, though the average is around 5,000," said Mr. Hope.

#### Activities

Church activities include an annual summer camp-out in the Rocky Mountains about two hours away; a sand-castle building contest in Birch Bay, Wash., where brethren create sports cars, the Babylonian hanging gardens and other works of art; and ski week, alpine skiing in Vernon, B.C., for the youths during their school break.

"One of the things the congregation tends to do is a lot of hiking in the mountains," Mr. Hope said.

Nineteen men attend one Spokesman Club, which includes graduates and undergraduates "to allow everyone who would like to be involved to be involved," Mr. Hope said.

About 21 people attend a father-son speaking club once a month. "We have them talk about subjects pertaining to youth—such as how to deal with emotions."

Four teens speak at each meeting. Tabletopics have six questions: two from a father, two from a teen and two from the minister, all on the same theme.

Abbotsford brethren raise funds for activities in January by doing inventories for department stores, earning about \$8,000.

Mr. Hope described the Abbotsford church as "a very warm and friendly, service-minded congregation."

#### Abbotsford, B.C.

Attendance	300
Local church elders	1
Deacons	6
Deaconesses	1
Teens	37
Children under 12	70
Seniors	45
Spokesman Clubs	1
Graduate Clubs	0

## WE ARE ONE FAMILY

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

# UPDATE

PASADENA—Church Administration announced the following ordinations.

Jeffrey Broadnax, a ministerial trainee in the Pasadena Auditorium P.M. church, and Michael Rasmussen, administrative projects coordinator for Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach, were ordained local elders on the Sabbath, March 4.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—Roger Lippross, assistant director of Computer Information Systems, Purchasing & Travel, gave a presentation Feb. 14 titled "Professional Publishing Issues in the Corporate Publishing World" at the sixth annual Electronic Printing Systems conference in Orlando, Fla.

"We have gained a tremendous amount of credibility in the professional world," Mr. Lippross said. "People recognize who we are, and, increasingly, the corporate world is looking to us for answers."

Mr. Lippross talked about desk-

top publishing, publishing ethics, the abuse of copyright in desktop publishing and what being professional means.

"These issues are not addressed fully by equipment manufacturers. Many don't tell you that it takes a lot of hard work to get a publication out on a regular basis," Mr. Lippross said.

Attendees at the conference included representatives from publishing, data management information systems and corporate management.

Mr. Lippross and Don Patrick, composition and systems supervisor for Publishing Services, attended selected lectures at the conference, which began Feb. 12 and ended Feb. 16.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—Segovia is the site for the 1989 Feast of Tabernacles in Spain.

Services and lodging will be at the Acueducto Hotel at the foot of

Segovia's Roman aqueduct. Prices will be about US\$40 a person for each night, double occupancy, including breakfast and lunch.

Segovia is a Castillian historical city in the heart of Spain, about 56 miles northwest of Madrid. Attractions include the Alcazar (a 13th century fortress), Romanesque churches and a Gothic cathedral, all in the old quarter of the city.

Weather in Segovia at Feast time is sunny with an average temperature of 18 degrees Celsius (64 Fahrenheit), with occasional rainy days.

Train and bus service is available from Madrid.

Activities at the site will be family oriented. Services will be in Spanish.

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PASADENA—The prices for accommodations at the Feast in Mar del Plata, Argentina, were listed incorrectly in the Feb. 20 *Worldwide News*.

Daily room rates will be between US\$20 and US\$40 for each person, based on double occupancy.

☆☆☆

GLASGOW, Scotland—More than 350 gathered Jan. 28 to mark the 25th anniversary of the church here.



THE FOUR PRESENTERS—World Tomorrow presenters gather on the set in the television studio. From left: evangelists David Hulme, Ronald Kelly, David Albert and Richard Ames. [Photo by Warren Watson]

The area first received the *World Tomorrow* broadcast on Radio Luxembourg in 1953. Herbert W. Armstrong, then pastor general, gave a lecture here in 1955.

The congregation was the seventh established in the United Kingdom. Robin Jones, Glasgow's first pastor, who now pastors the Reading, Godalming and Southampton, England, churches, was a

guest at the celebration.

Other guests included evangelist Colin Adair, regional director for the Church in Canada, and his wife, Margaret.

After Sabbath services brethren celebrated with a social. They presented a framed picture to pastor Colin Wilkins and his wife, Sylvia, who transferred to pastor the Montreal, Que., English church.



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

PASADENA—Italian meteorologists are calling it the worst drought in 70 years.

Throughout Italy the effects of an unseasonably warm and virtually rainless winter have been felt, with forest fires, dangerously low water tables and significant damage to crops.

Evangelist Carn Catherwood, Italian regional director, said a Church family living on a fruit farm in Sicily experienced damage to their orange groves.

"Thankfully, however, the majority of our brethren in Italy have not suffered major problems," Mr. Catherwood said.

During the dry spell a thick fog blanketed most of northern Italy. Office personnel in Bergamo said it was the worst fog in several years.

Traffic accidents have escalated, with a 150-car pileup Feb. 20 on the Bologna-Milan *autostrada* (motorway).

Clifton Veal has not been deterred by the fog, however, driving about 2,000 murky kilometers (1,240 miles) on his visiting circuit.

In February the 80-year-old father of Angelo Di Vita, a member in Catania, Italy, was suffering from a serious pancreatic illness.

"His doctor said such a disease would ordinarily be terminal for even a young man and gave the bedridden Mr. Di Vita Sr. only a few hours to live," Mr. Catherwood said.

After a prayer request in the three Italian churches, Mr. Di Vita regained consciousness, began speaking and eating, and within a few days returned home from the hospital.

#### Burmese deacon dies

Robert Fahey, Australian and Asian regional director, received this letter from Saw Lay Beh, Burmese pastor.

"I am deeply saddened and grieved to let you know that my useful and faithful help fellow member Mahn Yaw Han [a deacon in Burma] died peacefully in the faith

on Dec. 14, 1988, at his home at about 5:20 a.m.

"Throughout his whole life he was loved and greatly respected by all of his friends, associates, his students new and old and our Church members.

"In order for his relatives, friends, his fellow teachers and his new and old students far and near to be able to see him for the last time, his corpse was put in the coffin a few yards away from his house.

"He was buried on Dec. 18 morning. He was only about 52 years old when he died. His friends, fellow teachers and his new and old students, all of them, deeply regretted his death."

#### Philippines visit

Evangelist Larry Salyer, associate director of Church Administration for international areas, con-



LARRY AND JUDY SALYER

ducted a ministers conference in the Philippines Feb. 6 to 9.

"Most of the Philippine ministry has not had the opportunity to attend Ambassador College," said Mr. Salyer, "and they really appreciate the instruction they can receive in a conference atmosphere."

Regional director Rodney Matthews "booked a very fine conference center in a rural setting that provided almost ideal conditions for both meetings and fellowship," said the evangelist.

"I would like to publicly thank both Mr. Matthews and Paul Kieffer, who supervises Ministerial Ser-

vices, for the superb job they did in planning and conducting this conference."

Mr. Salyer continued: "[My wife] Judy and I... were deeply moved by the dedication and zeal of the ministers and their wives. Most of them serve under conditions that we in the West would consider hardships. Yet they do it with enthusiasm and appreciation."

#### Caribbean SEP site

Camp budget, curriculum and improvements to camp environment were discussed Feb. 13 and 14 at a Caribbean Summer Educational Program (SEP) planning meeting.

Attending were evangelist Stan Bass, regional director; Victor Simpson, SEP director; Lincoln Jialal, assistant director; and Paul Brown, last year's assistant director.

The group considered moving the camp to Trinidad.

"Water shortages in Tobago last year made it practically impossible to use the new washing machines," Mr. Bass said.

Mr. Bass and Mr. Simpson visited a new 30-acre camp site in northern Trinidad. It is equipped with swimming and kitchen facilities and an auditorium.

"Though the physical facilities of the camp in Trinidad are enticing, because of its religious connections with another group, it was felt that it would not be the best camp for SEP," Mr. Bass said.

The SEP will again be conducted at the youth camp at Mount St. George in Tobago.

#### Spanish-speaking areas

Average attendance at Sabbath services in Spanish-speaking areas last year was 2,806 brethren in 40 churches and Bible studies in 13 countries, reported evangelist Leon Walker, Spanish regional director. These figures mark a 5.2 percent increase over 1987.

The top 10 areas with members are Mexico, Colombia, Chile, Argentina, Peru, Guatemala, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Venezuela.

In 1988 Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach visited members in seven Latin American areas.

Circulation of *La Pura Verdad* (Spanish *Plain Truth*) averaged 220,479 in 1988, down 2.7 percent from the 1987 average. More than 70,000 new subscribers were added, however.

Spanish *Good News* (*Las Buenas Noticias del Mundo de Manana*)

circulation registered 19,479 at year's end.

*Pura Verdad* Bible lectures were conducted in 25 cities in eight countries, with 3,932 new people attending, Mr. Walker said. Ministers have already submitted plans for 25 lectures in 1989.

The number of co-workers, who total 2,331, decreased by 5 percent in 1988. Sixty percent of all co-workers are from Mexico, Puerto Rico and the mainland United States.

The number of donors, up 13.5 percent, ended the year at 3,084.

Brethren from 18 Spanish-speaking and two Portuguese-speaking countries, along with transfers from North America and Europe, represented a Feast of Tabernacles attendance of 4,587, an increase of about 5 percent over 1987.

The amount of mail received in 1988 increased to 370,428 pieces, an increase of 27 percent over 1987. Nineteen hundred letters requiring a personal answer were handled by the two employees in personal correspondence.

#### Spanish lectures

"People from all levels of life" attended a *Pura Verdad* Bible lecture Feb. 12 in Santo Domingo, capital of the Dominican Republic, said Pablo Gonzalez, pastor of the San Juan, Puerto Rico, church.

Of the 170 people there, 100 came for the first time.

"Interest in knowing more about *La Pura Verdad* and the Church was evident," Mr. Gonzalez said.

A 45-minute talk explaining the magazine and the purpose of the Work "was very well received and prompted many interesting questions," he added.

Mr. Gonzalez fielded questions concerning doctrines for about an hour afterward, and invited the audience to a follow-up meeting the following Sunday, Feb. 19.

Arriving at the airport the evening before, Mr. Gonzalez was "drenched by torrential rain" that continued through the night.

"Sadly, eight people were drowned on the streets of Santo Domingo that night," Mr. Gonzalez said. "It took us about 2½ hours to get from the airport to the hotel (a normal 35-minute ride)."

Sunday morning the rain continued, but by midmorning skies began to clear. "I was sure at least a few would come to the meeting," said the pastor.

"By 3 p.m. we had 45 interested people who kept me talking to them

until around 5:30," he said.

#### United Kingdom

In 1988 more than 1.5 million *Plain Truths* were printed for distribution on newsstands in Britain and Ireland, "a record high since the program was restarted in 1981," reported evangelist Frank Brown, regional director for Britain, Scandinavia, East and West Africa and the Middle East.

"We plan to print a year total of 1,656,000 *Plain Truths*, with the extra 76,000 *Plain Truths* being used on the motorway sites," said Mr. Brown.

"We will be looking to add several new, prestigious, high-volume outlets to replace the least effective of the current ones."

This January, 2,531 letters were received from Eastern Europe. Most were unsolicited requests for *The Plain Truth* or from people who had seen the program on Super Channel.

A large proportion came from Poland, and many requests were filled out on photocopies of a friend's subscription card.

January mail income for 1989 exceeded that of last year by 9.5 percent.

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630219-0008-9 3 W293  
MR-MRS DONALD C TODD  
RT 3 BOX 3214  
MANCHESTER TN 37355-9117 3DG