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TWENTY-SEVEN PEOPLE BAPTISED . . .

A SMALL CHURCH REVITALISED

DESMOND B. HILLS, President, North New Zealand Conference



A family of four were among the twenty-seven baptised at Dannevirke. Keith Browning watches as Pastor Stan Rex baptises his wife Leslie. Teenage daughters Lisa and Jody were also baptised.

Photo D. B. Hills.

THE SMALL, but attractive church, strategically located near the centre of the town of Dannevirke, is a church where twenty-seven people have been baptised in less than two years. They do not all live in the town of Dannevirke, which has a population of only 5,000, for some live in smaller places such as Ballance, Pahiatua and Eketahuna. Several are farmers, others business people. Included in the number are housewives, young people and teenagers. Some of those baptised were greatly influenced in their decision by new converts.

Three years ago there were sometimes

only three or four people from Dannevirke present for Sabbath school and church services. The late Brother George Timmins and his late daughter, Pauline, up to the time of their deaths in 1981, engaged in active missionary work and appealed to the conference administration for a minister for Dannevirke. For many years prior to 1981 the church shared the same pastor as the Palmerston North church. The deaths of two members of this pioneer Adventist family awakened in other members of the

family and former members a desire to see the Dannevirke church re-established. Soon after that time, some former members rejoined the church and gave much time and money in dedicated service to the church. Some other church members moved into the district and also joined in missionary outreach with the newly appointed pastor/evangelist Pastor Stan Rex.

Evangelistic campaigns were conducted by Pastor Rex in Dannevirke and Pahiatua in 1983 and in Dannevirke in 1984. One hundred and eighty-three Bible studies were conducted by the pastor in 1983 and 1984, with a combined total of 528 present for these studies. Some of the group Bible studies were held on Brother and Sister Nolan Timmins's sheep station "Hapanui," near Eketahuna. Pastor Rex and Brother Nolan Timmins also travelled another three hours to White Rock for Bible studies every fortnight. Five-Day Plans and other health education programs have been conducted in the town of Dannevirke. The lay people have this year placed 8,000 copies of *Cosmic Conflict* in every home in the district.

As already indicated, there has been intense evangelistic outreach in Dannevirke and district during the past two years. Not only has this dedicated service resulted in twenty-seven baptisms, which was expected to increase to over thirty before the end of 1984, but also some former Adventists have recommenced attending church. A company has been

(Continued on page 3)

Dannevirke, a small but delightful country town on the north island of New Zealand, has a special claim to fame: it is the birthplace of Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, Premier of Queensland.—Editor.



Australasian Record

and Advent World Survey

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In touch with the president . . .

Year of the Lord's Favour

THE YEAR of the Lord's favour began for you on January 1. In this year all the kindness and grace God offers, is yours.

Jesus Himself turns the calendar for you as He did that Sabbath day in Nazareth. The year 1985 is the very one in which the blessings of the Anointed One shower down on you. Let Jesus tell you Himself.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me; he has sent me to announce good news to the poor, to proclaim release for prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind; to let the broken victims go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." Luke 4:18, 19, NEB.

In these words Jesus asks us to take two giant leaps into the past. At the first jump, we are with Isaiah as he paints word pictures of God's love for His people, and what it will mean to live directly under His care in the New Jerusalem of promise. Into that city of love and light He will call the waifs and strays, the despised and disadvantaged, the oppressed and the victimised. He will make that new era a perpetual year of jubilee in which His people will throw themselves totally on God's mercy and live solely on His bounty.

Thus we make the second jump and arrive at that strange yet divinely ordered provision—Israel's year of jubilee. We have no idea how carefully Israel followed this law. Certainly it lived on in their national consciousness and conscience. Both Isaiah and Jesus could speak of it and expect instant recognition.

Leviticus 25 details the events of that year: freedom if you were a slave, your land back if you had been forced to sell it, a harvest at the Lord's bidding without effort on your part except the simple act of gathering.

These ideas the prophet seizes on and Jesus proclaims. Says our Lord: I am bringing freedom, a new status, a healing of hearts, deliverance and release. In this, God's year of grace, these are yours.

And so we mark the moment when God turned the ages over and began the New Year of divine favour. "Today," He said, "in your very hearing this text has come true." Luke 4:21, NEB. Jesus declared the beginning of a year of jubilee which has never closed. The perpetual year of the Lord's favour means that we hear the proclamation of deliverance and restoration through Jesus Christ as clearly today as they did in Nazareth's synagogue. The year of grace rolls on, and our lives with it.

Therefore this year is special, because in Jesus all time is special. It carries with it the qualities of the gracious and loving God who offers us the fruit of the planting of love without deed or contribution, and bids us pluck and eat.

That this year will never close is also written in God's Word, for in Jesus, eternal life is ours today. Then let this year be what God intends every day to be. Accept for yourself God's power to exalt the humble, restore you as His child, break the power of sin and death, and sustain you with the bread of life.

This truly is the year of His delight, of His power and of His favour. And He has given it to you.

Walter R. L. Scragg,
President, Australasian Division.

A SMALL CHURCH REVITALISED

(Continued from page 1)

started at Pahiataua, meeting every other Sabbath afternoon; and the Dannevirke company was formed into a church on Sabbath, October 27, 1984.

A Historic Moment

Over 100 people crowded into the Dannevirke church for the church organisation service on Sabbath afternoon and also for the Sabbath school and church service on Sabbath morning. The old bellows organ used for these services reminded those in attendance of the interesting history of the Dannevirke church, going back eighty-two years. The organ itself was used in the Ormondville church, which was established with twenty-eight members in 1893, when Ellen G. White was present for that service. The first evangelistic campaign in Dannevirke was conducted in 1904 by Pastor C. A. Paap, and this was followed by another major campaign in 1922 by Pastor F. G. Rampton. The 1926 camp-meeting was held at Dannevirke, and this further established the Dannevirke church. The present, modern Dannevirke church building was erected in 1977, with financial assistance from the late Brother George Timmins Senior.

The church organisation service was a time of rejoicing. Pastor Hills gave the address and conducted the organisation of the church. The president was assisted by the Manawatu district coordinator Pastor J. Veld; the church pastor of Palmerston North, Pastor P. Gager; the pastor and evangelist of the Dannevirke church, Pastor S. R. Rex, and the leader of the Dannevirke company, Brother Nolan Timmins. There were representatives from many other churches, including Hastings, which was represented by a children's choir that sang beautifully. The day concluded with a fellowship tea and social program in the town hall concert chamber, conducted by the young people of the Palmerston North church. It has been good to see the strong support of other churches in several pastoral districts, and this has also been evident in the evangelistic outreach.

The amazing growth of the Dannevirke company and its re-establishment into a church is an inspiration to all in the North New Zealand Conference, and we know that church members of other conferences will be inspired by it, too. Do join us in praying that what has happened in Dannevirke and Levin (see RECORD, October 27, 1984), will happen in many other places in this conference and in your conference, too. ■

**B & T DAY,
PORT MORESBY**

B. C. CAMPBELL, Publishing Director, PNGUM



SOME TIME AGO the RECORD reported the need of transport for the literature evangelists of Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. Readers responded to the need with donations to purchase a mini-bus.

Recently our Port Moresby colporteurs celebrated B and T Day. B—standing for Bus, and T—for Transport. Yes, on that day our dreams for these workers became a reality. I just wish you dear readers could have been there to see the faces of these dear workers as we drove up to the mission office at Ela Beach that Tuesday.

All the team were assembled there, waiting, and as they climbed in one by one, the sheer joy and thankfulness shown on their faces will remain with me for life. We took them for a drive around the main business area, and the constant chatter in Pidgin, the laughing and finally singing, all added together, told us just how thrilled they really were.

On the Thursday afternoon, a dedication service was held at the mission headquarters. Mission president Pastor Yori Hibo and the Union Publishing director conducted the dedication service, which was attended by the literature evangelists.

They kept telling me that I must write and thank all you good folk who sent donations. Their Publishing director also wrote a letter of thanks, asking me to send it to the donors. As some of the donations went to the Division and some to the Papua New Guinea Union, we thought it easier if we included that letter with this article.

We have so far received donations to cover half the cost of the bus, but we went ahead in

faith and purchased a Mitsubishi twelve-seater diesel bus. So we borrowed from another fund in faith that more donations would come in.

Yes, here in Port Moresby we celebrated B and T Day. B—for the many blessings the bus will bring, T—for the thankfulness in the hearts of the Moresby literature evangelists. ■

Letter of Many Thanks

"It has been quite a long time since we began to look for ways and means to start a literature evangelism fund. When Pastor B. Campbell came to Papua New Guinea, he saw the difficult situation of transportation and housing. So he began the literature evangelism fund, and asked for donations here in Papua New Guinea, Australia and New Zealand.

"Then much prayer was offered for its success. Thank the Lord, we were able to purchase a twelve-seater bus last year (1984).

"The Lord has been so good to us by your generous gifts. We thank our mighty God for providing the means for people to donate. Many thanks to all who donated, and didn't withhold the blessings which God has provided.

"Thank you, Publishing leaders, for the time and thought which you put into this plan.

"By God's grace we will make good use of the bus, in working for the Master's soon return."

Signed by Peter Serepa,
Publishing director,
Central Papuan Mission,
and nine literature evangelists.

Youth Feature . . .

THE WORTH OF A FRIEND

K. WOOLER

WHAT IS A FRIEND? A prize was offered some years ago for the best definition of a friend, and this was the one that received the prize: "A friend is the person that comes in when everyone else has gone out." Of such a character was one who came to John Huss of Bohemia as he was going to the stake, and gripped his hand fervently. Huss turned and said that only God and himself knew how much that handclasp meant. It certainly could easily have spelt death for the courageous friend of this martyr of God.

It is when the winds of adversity blow upon the storm-tossed soul, that the real worth of a friendship is revealed. The Scripture says, "A friend loveth at all times." Proverbs 17:17. In the will of the late Associate Justice Lamar, of the United States Supreme Court, appears an unusual legacy. The testator leaves to his family his "friendships, many and numerous, in the hope that they will be cherished and continued." Here was a man who regarded his friendships as among his most valued possessions, and he would fain pass them on to his family, that they might partake of the fragrance and richness of that true, loving, loyal companionship, that had brightened his own pathway through life.

It is impossible for us to fully estimate the value of a genuine friendship. However, we should prize very dearly those associations that have given birth to lasting friendships, not only so, but we should also express our appreciation by acts of love and kindness, such as the sending of a card, or the giving of flowers, or some other token of friendship.



Do not wait until your friends are laid to rest. Some came to anoint Jesus at His burial. There was one, however, who demonstrated her love by the pouring of a costly, sweet-smelling ointment upon the feet of the Saviour while He sat at meat. Someone has said, "Be gracious to all men, but choose the best to be your friends." In our most intimate friends, we are fortunate if we discover the character traits of trust, reliability, constancy, courage, love and, if needs be, sacrifice. True love will not shrink from sacrifice.

Upon a West Indian island, a lonesome missionary once worked single-handed. He was ignored and scoffed at by the European planters and traders, but the slaves grew to respect and love him dearly. Then one day, severe sickness after a lingering illness came the way of the man of God. Suddenly an old negro appeared before him and simply said, "I'se yours

now." Puzzled, the missionary made inquiries, and found that his negro converts had worried over his loneliness and ill health. Not being able to nurse him because of their own duties to their masters, they had combined their life savings, obtained by hard work, and with this amount bought one of their own number, and this negro was given to the missionary, to care for him. Thus an aged negro was freed from the hard labour of the plantations, and the missionary was cared for. But at what cost? This act meant that, to all appearances, none of these men would ever be able to save sufficient to buy their own freedom.

It was Jesus who said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13. We cannot value by silver or gold such infinite friendship. The Saviour also said, "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15:14. It was Jesus, your friend, and mine, who spoke His Ten Commandments amid the thunders of Sinai so long ago.

"I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt," are the words our Lord spoke as an introduction to the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17). Our Redeemer said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15. Of those who choose the best of all friends, the Apostle John wrote, "Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12. Is Jesus your friend? ■

Pastor K. Wooler wrote this article as an entry in the Write Now competition last year.

Following Christ's Example

M. HASLAM, Innisfail Church, Nth Qld

BAPTISMS are always a cause of celebration for any congregation. The whole of heaven rejoiced with the Innisfail church the day three of our young people sealed their firm commitment for their Lord by following His example.

The floral tribute to the Lord's goodness in providing us with three such lovely new sisters, was breathtakingly beautiful, with banks of the rich purple bougainvilleas and masses of red poinciana and ferns for which this tropical paradise of Innisfail is renowned.

We praise and extol the God of creation for this blessed event, and invoke the guiding hand of the Holy Spirit to be upon these three newly dedicated lives. ■



From left: Sheryl Mauviel, Suzanne Haslam and Christine Wight.
Photo: M. Haslam.

"HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET . . ."

G. W. W. DRINKALL, Communication Director, Western Australian Conference

EIGHTY-SIX YEARS ago George Chapman, who then lived at "Woodland," in Upper Preston in Western Australia, purchased a copy of *Daniel and Revelation* from the indefatigable colporteur F. W. Reekie. That event was one of the earliest that Sherwin Lodge resident Will Chapman, now ninety years of age, remembers.

Will Chapman grew up in the country, attended the Darling Range School (now Carmel College) and proceeded to Avondale College, where he completed his studies in 1917.

After a year in South Australia, and his marriage in 1918 conducted by Pastor C. H. Watson, Brother Chapman and his new bride worked for four years in the Cook Islands. Mrs Chapman's health forced them to return to Australia, and they spent twenty years at West Australian Missionary College (Carmel) in various capacities—farm manager, Bible and maths teacher. Then followed ten years in ministerial service in the south-western area of the Western Australian Conference.

Two of Will's children are currently involved in ministry in Western Australia—Mervyn, who cares for three churches in the Perth metropolitan area, and Jessie, whose husband Bob Hall is pastor of the north-west, based in Port Hedland. Four of his grandchildren are also making significant

contributions—Brian as the Western Australian Conference accountant, Garry as accountant at Avondale College, Chris on volunteer service as a dentist in Pakistan, and Murray has been teaching in Canada.

George (junior), Will's brother, spent some time at Avondale, then served in various capacities in the Sanitarium Health Food Company before being called to the United States to "build up" Loma Linda Foods. During his time there, a marked increase in turnover was evident.

Will's brother Alfred also had descendants who "made their mark" in denominational employment. Ernest, a son, served as a missionary in India. Alf, a grandson, recently deceased, was associated with the library at Avondale College, and his brother Ray served in our hospitals at Wahroonga and Warburton, spent some years as a missionary doctor in Pakistan, and is now a specialist physician in Melbourne, associated with the Health Care Centre at Warburton.

Their sister, Myrtle, taught in our church school system for many years.

Three other siblings of Will's—Henry, Herbert and Eva—served in various spheres at different times. Eva spent some time working at the Australasian Division office at Wahroonga. One grandchild, Rosemary, was engaged in secretarial work for the Sanitarium Health Food



Brother Chapman reads the copy of *Daniel and Revelation* sold to his father by F. W. Reekie in 1898.

Photo: G. W. W. Drinkall.

Company, then later at Sherwin Lodge.

When Colporteur Reekie sold *Daniel and Revelation* to George Chapman before the turn of the century, he could never know that this family would so embrace the truth, and that sixteen of the descendants (to this point) would subsequently serve in the work of God in this country and overseas.

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation." Isaiah 52:7.

Our Cup Runneth Over

EDNA THOMAS, Communication Secretary, Bunbury Church, Western Australia

NOVEMBER 3, 1984, was a high day for God's church in Bunbury, Western Australia, as six of our people were baptised into the family of God during a service conducted by Pastor Graham Allen, our local pastor.

We had many visitors with us, and our church was full. Some of our special visitors were Pastor and Mrs Andrews and their son John. Pastor Andrews was our pastor back in 1972.

Another heart-warming story of the day was that Natalie Chapman's grandfather came to see her baptised. He had more or less disowned his daughter when she married a Seventh-day Adventist, but their prayers were answered that day. The Holy Spirit had broken down some of the barriers, and we pray along with Barry and Bev that it won't be long before they are a united family again.

Our cup was truly full and overflowing when, following a call from the rostrum, four people stood to indicate they wanted to give their lives to God.

The six young people baptised were: Greg and Donna Miller (married couple), Natalie Chapman, Rachel Hough, Noel Garvin and Karl Van-Zwol. Pastor Allen had been studying with these people before the mission, so they were not fruits of his mission. We are looking forward to that in the near future. ■



Natalie Chapman and Rachel Hough, following their baptism in Bunbury.

Photo: E. Thomas.

DORCAS NEWS

E. M. COURTNEY, Communication Secretary, Mackay Church, Nth Qld

FOUR TIMES per year our Caneland Shoppingtown holds charity days. On each occasion our ladies set up a stall selling bread, patties and other healthful cookery. The selling proceeds of one stall were used to purchase a motor mower for the Handicapped Craft and Leisure Centre. Proceeds of the last stall were used to send a handicapped person for a week to a handicapped persons camp. She was overjoyed, as it was the first holiday she had had in years. She is a resident of the Pioneer Nursing Home, North Mackay. The sum of \$100 from the same stall was donated to the Bible Society. Our Dorcas leader Mrs Pam Winkle presented the money to the Bible Society president Mrs Fussle.

We packed and sent twenty bags of clothing to the Northern Australian Conference for use in the mission fields. Brother Graham Ernst proved very handy with the bag needle, and kindly delivered the bags to the railway station. We did appreciate his help.

We do thank our heavenly Father for the opportunity of giving—which we can certainly do through our Dorcas Society. ■

DEVOTIONAL . . .

What on Earth Are We Here For?—2

BRUCE MANNERS

HE WAS the bogeyman, this man from Gadara. He lived among the tombstones, and many a mother warned her children that if they did not behave, the man from the graveyard would get them.

Fear and an evil thrill accompanied the very mention of his name.

Every time a funeral took place, the men of the city would band together to protect the mourners. Who knew what this madman would do?

They had tried to quieten him, they even bound him with chains, but he shattered them with his superhuman strength. No one was strong enough to be a match for him. No one walked alone at night near the graveyard.

Some nights, like a wounded animal, he wailed into the blackness. Like a man tormented, a man possessed, his cry echoed through the hills. He was possessed. He was a man feared. A man to be pitied.

But then, he met Jesus.

All Changed by Jesus

What an encounter! No person can meet Jesus and not be affected—one way or another. Jesus touches the life, the heart and the mind. Some, like the woman at the well, accept Him. Others, like the rabble at Pilate's palace, cry, "Crucify Him!"

The madman—or the demons within—recognised Jesus. Evil confronted perfection near the graveyard at Gadara. Christ had come to find the living even among the dead.

Hell is no match for heaven; the powers of evil no contest for the power of God. The man was cleansed. The chains that held his mind were shattered by supernatural strength—Jesus freed him.

Word quickly spread through the city. People came to see the madman, now sitting calmly at the feet of Jesus. He was dressed, but more importantly, he was "in his right mind."¹

And the people were afraid, not afraid of their bogeyman—they had learned to live with him—but afraid of what had happened. What power could change a man like that?

Sometimes the power of God is so great it is overwhelming; all we can do is stand back in awe. The most dramatic demonstration of the power of God on earth has always been, and always will be, in the changing of lives.

Healing Encounter

All humanity needs an encounter with Jesus to bring it "into its right mind."

The madman had had a conversion experience. He was "born again." He was one of God's elect. Simply stated, he had accepted the salvation Jesus offered.

Conversion was the prerequisite for the next step in the story.

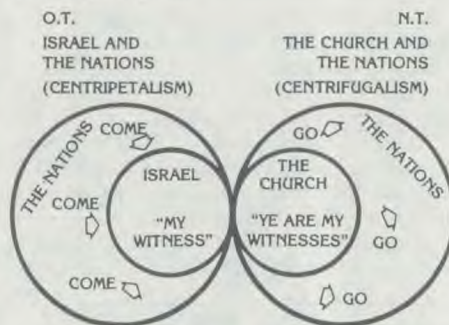
The man begged to go with his Saviour. It was natural that he should want to go with the One who had saved him from his madness, his demon possession, his living hell. But no, it was not to be. Listen: "Go home to your family

and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."²

This command is as positive as the gospel commission given to all Christ's followers at the end of Matthew. "Go and tell" is central to the ministry of Jesus. It is the motivation behind the Book of Acts; it is the doctrine of Paul (see Romans 10:9, 10), and it is the cornerstone of the three angels' messages of Revelation chapter 14.

Jesus was breaking new ground with His "go and tell" command. Although the Jews had done some proselytising, the basis of the Old Testament was "come and see," that is, come to the mountain of the Lord, see what our God is like, hear what He has to teach.³ Their witness was passive.

The difference between the witness of the Old Testament and the New is illustrated by the following diagram.⁴



BIBLICAL UNIVERSALITY AND REVERSED METHODOLOGY

The Christian witness is meant to be an active, dynamic thing. It is more than simply "living the life" or building up a lifestyle that people will want to "come and see." Christian lifestyle is important, but witnessing involves a "going and telling."

The instruction given to the man from Gadara is as valid today as it was two millennia ago. He was told to

1. Go and tell his kinsmen.
2. Tell of his own experience with the Lord.

Today, the most successful and productive form of witness is sharing with our own family and friends; it has always been that way, but we now have some statistics to conclusively demonstrate that fact. Notice the following chart.

PERSONS AND AGENCIES THAT INFLUENCED NON-SDA MOST TO JOIN THE CHURCH⁵ (in percentages)

Neighbours, friends	40
SDA minister	21
Relatives	17
Public evangelism	13
SDA schools	9
SDA publications	7
Radio, TV	7
Bible correspondence schools	2-3
Other	2-3

Almost 60 per cent of people surveyed joined the church because of a relative or friend.

It is obvious, actually. A person is more likely to take notice of a friend than a stranger who appears on his doorstep. We trust our friends, and it is easier to share our feelings and our heart's desire with them. We have more opportunities to talk on an informal basis with a friend, without them or ourselves feeling threatened.

Is the greatest challenge of the Seventh-day Adventist Church member to study how to witness to his friends? Or is it perhaps to make friends outside of the Seventh-day Adventist church to witness to?

Having selected my friend though, what do I talk about?

Jesus answered that when He said, "Tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."

The Key

The key to having a message to share is to first have had an encounter with Jesus Christ. Our experience with Him is the message, and you and I are both experts in the area of our own experience.

We may not be experts in Bible doctrine, or church teaching. We may not understand the complexity of a certain prophecy, but we do know about ourselves and what our relationship with Christ has done, is doing, and the hope He gives for the future. We can talk about that with ease.

Now, not all conversion experiences are outwardly dramatic, but every conversion is a major miracle. We can talk about the miracle of God working in our lives. We can witness about what we know. Nobody is asked to be a witness about something he does not know or has not experienced (that is impossible anyway).

Within any church family there are people who can fill some of the deficiencies we may feel we have. We can introduce our friend to our church family friend who can, let's say, give Bible studies or help with a personal problem, etc. The church family is a team; we are not alone.

What on earth are we here for, then? To "go and tell."

The encounter the man from Gadara had with Jesus teaches us three things about witnessing:

1. We need an experience with Jesus first.
2. Our first priority of witness is to those we know.
3. Our message is built on our experience.

By the way, the healed man was not content to simply tell his family and friends. He made a tour of ten cities in his area telling his story to any who would listen. His enthusiasm would not let him stop at his family.

"All the people were amazed" at his story.⁶ "Go and tell" with confidence. ■

1. Mark 5:15. All texts quoted from the New International Version.

2. Mark 5:19.

3. See for example Isaiah 2:2ff.

4. G. W. Peters, *A Theology of Church Growth*, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA, 1981, page 211.

5. G. Oosterwal, *Patterns of SDA Church Growth in America*, pages 40, 41. Quoted in *Witnessing for Christ*, Review and Herald Publishing Association, USA, 1981, page 30.

6. Mark 5:20.



From the right: Allen Bray; Pastor R. Stanley; Alderman Jim Webber, Mayor of Rockhampton; D. Bosomworth and C. Friend.
Photo: L. Parker

Evangelism at Rockhampton

LEWIS PARKER, Pastor, Rockhampton Church, South Queensland

ROCKHAMPTON Seventh-day Adventist church has been delighted with the programs it experimented with in 1984. In July we began a series written originally by Pastor R. Stanley, called—"Rediscovering the Faith of Jesus." During the church service time, for a period of ten weeks, the distinctive Seventh-day Adventist beliefs were presented in an evangelistic style. In one church service, we had eighteen people who wished to learn more about our church. This figure may not sound very great, but what has happened to the church and what is presently happening is the important part of this story.

One family, who came to the first meeting in July, have rarely missed a church service since. Bible studies were started the next week, with Brother C. Friend and I visiting this home. Thus we have found that evangelism is a tool which brings people to our church. Now the Rockhampton church is convinced that evangelism does pay. It has generated a feeling among the members that has been missing for some time. Something is happening—God is working! Old members are finding their way back—new members are joining us.

By means of videotapes, the members have found another way to preach. These, combined with the evangelistic series, have meant that those interested are still attending regularly.

To help bind the church year together, we invited Pastor Stanley to come and personally present his "Way of Life" series. So on October 26 he began a nine-night program which finished on November 3.

Part of the church service time on November 3 was taken up with the presentation of a "Community Services Award" to Allen Bray, for his services to the community in organising Meals on Wheels in central Queensland. We invited the Mayor of the town, Alderman Jim Webber, to present the award. After this, Pastor Stanley presented both the Mayor and Mr Bray with one of our books.

Another feature of Pastor Stanley's visit was that we put his "Way of Life" series on to videotape. The "Way of Life" is a persuasive presentation of the Adventist lifestyle and health message. We already have non-Adventists wishing to view these as soon as we can complete the final production. There are nine meetings on three 180-minute cassettes.

Thus 1984 changed Rockhampton church. We have learned to minister to others. In August God added to our church three new members; and on Sabbath, November 24, eleven new members were baptised. The thrilling prospect for this year is that more are preparing to join us. May we suggest that you, too, may experience the thrill of the gospel commission. Try it—it's "fun." ■

HOW I BECAME A SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

PAMELA SOMMERS

IT ALL began late in 1983. I felt I had reached a stage in my life where, while I did not want for the material things in life (which are supposed to make us "happy"), there was just an empty feeling and the question of, Is this all there is to life? I became very low in spirit. During this time, one night while sleeping I saw in a wonderful dream a very tall man dressed in a long white robe. He was surrounded by a beautiful sky-blue glow, and was holding out his arms to me. He said, "Come to me," and I felt an intense feeling of warmth, love and peace. This feeling did not leave me for several days.

That same week, as was usual, I went to Northland Shopping Centre and called into the Sanitarium Health Food store for my vegetarian needs, having become a vegetarian over a period of approximately two years. This shop has played a part in my conversion to Adventism. I have always admired the ladies working in the shop—as they are so unhurried, so calm and very helpful with recipe leaflets and any questions asked of them. They have been an example to me that I have tried to follow.

It was my habit to pick up a copy of the *Signs* magazine from the shop. I love to read this valuable paper. It was significant that during that very week, when I was reading the *Signs*, my attention was directed to the section advertising free Bible guides. This prompted me to send away for the guides. Subsequently, at the end of the course, I received a visit from Pastor John Chan of the Preston church. I now believe after studies and discussions with Pastor Chan that my dream was from the Holy Spirit, and that I was guided to the pathway to becoming a Seventh-day Adventist. I was baptised on September 15, 1984. ■



Pamela Sommers.

PIONEER DAY IN THE BAROSSA VALLEY

MRS LORNA PARBS, Communication Secretary, Barossa Valley Church, South Australia



From left: Clive Nash, daughter Adele, Monica Nash (nee Parbs), Lorna Parbs (nee Roennfeldt), Frank Parbs. Three generations, descended from charter member Erhardt Roennfeldt, all still worshipping at Barossa Valley church.



Some of the happy crowd who came to honour the Barossa pioneers.
Photos: L. Parbs.

CONFLICTS AND CRISES come in different forms and in different ways. It was about the time of the start of the Great War of 1914-18 that Pastor Daniel Nathan Wall, with the assistance of Gustav H. K. Backhaus, came to conduct an evangelistic campaign in the little township of Greenock in South Australia's Barossa Valley. That mission in 1914 led to the formation on 10/4/15 of the German Seventh-day Adventist church of Greenock. Later that same year, the group moved to nearby Nuriootpa after changing their name to the Nuriootpa Seventh-day Adventist church on 25/9/15. More recently, in 1975, the name was changed to the Barossa Valley church.

Some of the pioneering names to be found on those early church rolls are still familiar today. Among other names to be found recorded are Roennfeldt, Zeunert, Raethel, Maywald, Zimmermann, Fallscher, Schwartzkopf, Standish, Parker and Klix. With a heritage of Lutheranism, some of these folk found themselves involved in conflict at the local level. Memories still linger today of persecution and ostracism—ostracism in some cases from the children of those who themselves had left Germany to avoid persecution.

Honouring Pioneers

In remembering these pioneers, present senior elder Clive Nash enthused the members to honour them by holding a celebratory service. The old church, standing at the rear of the new, had fallen into disrepair. Through faithful labour it was prepared for the special date of November 10, 1984.

On the morning of that day, thunderstorms and much rain may have deterred some from attending. However, the result was still a church filled to overflowing, with the small

overflow for church service time watching proceedings on video in the new church. Former members and friends came from far and near to hear a program that the pioneers themselves could have conducted. Many came in period dress. Clive and Monica Nash and their daughter Adele even arrived in their restored 1936 Chevrolet sedan. Only one person who was present in 10/4/15 was present on Pioneer Day—Mrs Lorna Parbs (nee Roennfeldt). Tribute was paid to her on the day. Her daughter Monica Nash and granddaughter Adele Nash still worship at the Barossa Valley church today.

Reports of Yesteryear

After an old-fashioned song service, utilising songs from *Christ in Song* and the *Advent Hymnal*, the Sabbath school began under the leadership of Mrs Angela Val. Features of the Sabbath school were Victor Klix's reading of the report of Sabbath school held on 10/11/17 (the report that the offering raised six shillings and sixpence produced many smiles); the reading of the report for 3/11/84 for comparison; Aubrey Hiscox's review of the previous week's lesson; a stirring old-fashioned lesson study, firmly in the grasp of David Maywald; a duet, "When I Come to the End of the Road," by Clive and Monica Nash, accompanied by Wendy Brooks; topped off with a victorious ten-minute "mission exercise" by the "Missionary leader" Shane Robins, revealing an increase in the "Harvest Ingathering" total of 60 per cent over 1983.

For the divine service, Wendy Brooks again pumped the old harmonium (donated in 1915 by Wanda Habermann) for a rousing song

*Lay Activities leader and Adventist Appeal, to the uninitiated.

service. The platform party consisted of Pastor Brian Pepper (preacher for the day), Frank Parbs (former senior elder), Darold Wegener (newly ordained elder) and present senior elder Clive Nash. Clive extended a welcome in German and English, followed by a historical outline of the church. In it he shared some items culled from old minute books, including some recollections in a lighter vein. From time to time the business meeting minutes noted that Brother Zeunert was asked to obtain ½ or 1 cwt of carbide for the light. The minutes of 13/1/29 record the congregation's appreciation of the new electric lights!

Cause of Organ Disorders

On 3/7/21 it was "noted that members will not allow for anyone to yard a horse in the church yard." On 9/4/22 "a question was asked concerning flowers on the organ, whereupon Pastor [A. W.] Anderson said, 'The organ is no place for flowers,' because he knows from experience that the cause of most organ disorders is from having flowers on the organ. This settled the argument."

Pastor George Maywald, Clarence Roennfeldt and Miriam Wegener (nee Standish) sent their greetings. Pastor Pepper preached with vigour on last-day events, illustrating his sermon with an old-time chart. To close the service, Clive Nash sang, "Are You Ready for Jesus to Come?" This was followed by an appeal for commitment to Christ—to which all responded.

Pastor Harold Josephs, a former minister, asked God's blessing on the sumptuous lunch. It was a happy, relaxed occasion, with old friends exchanging memories and stories over good food.

A "Memories" Program

As 2.30 p. m. drew near, people moved to the new church building for the "Memories" program. Everybody enjoyed the old hymns and seemed most reluctant to stop singing. Pastor H. Josephs offered the prayer and Pastor Angus McPhee (the current church pastor) gave an interesting devotional about pioneers. He spoke about them being flesh-and-blood men and women just like us. They carried out the everyday duties of life. Perhaps as the years go by we tend to forget their failings, and just magnify their triumphs.

Monica Nash (granddaughter of charter member Erhardt Roennfeldt) presented a resume of the early years of the church. She asked the congregation to slip back in time to the 1840s. The Advent message was first preached in America and also in parts of Europe. Germans were leaving their homeland because of religious and political persecution, to settle in America and also in Australia—particularly the Barossa Valley. Even two and three generations after the Germans settled here, the customs and traditions are just as strong, making the Barossa a "little Germany."

The Advent message came to South Australia in 1886. Not too many years later L. D. A. Lemke came as a colporteur, and stayed with a Lutheran minister who recommended his books to his congregation. This attitude of cooperation did not last long, however.

Pastor Wall arrived from America in 1914 and, with George (Gustav) Backhaus, conducted an unsuccessful mission at Freeling. A successful mission at Greenock provided the first fruits of the Nuriootpa church.

Erhardt Roennfeldt, who was an elder, trustee, and layreader in the Nuriootpa St Petri Lutheran church, decided to take his stand for the truth. This prompted August and Johanna Zeunert to join the "Adventisten" also. Several other folk were converted too. The church had humble beginnings—meetings in various homes, commencing at Sister M. Fallscher's home. There was much persecution—those who kept the Sabbath were cut off from their families for many years.

There were egg-and-mustard throwing incidents, threats to burn down a mission tent set up in Nuriootpa by Pastor Wall. Pastor Wall's baby boy was miraculously saved from certain death one night when a brick was heaved through a window of their house. Only moments earlier Dora Backhaus (who was baby-sitting) was impressed to move the baby's cot away from the window!

There were debates set up by Lutheran ministers—these stormy affairs resulted in more people joining the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Popularity Took A Dive

Erhardt Roennfeldt's eldest son Erwin had been a favourite son of the Lutheran faith, and the Lutheran ministry had determined to send him to a seminary in Germany to train for the ministry. When Erhardt and his family became "Jews," Erwin's popularity took a tremendous dive. In fact, when Erwin's former minister learned that Erwin was studying for the ministry at Avondale, he wrote to Erhardt in strong terms, concluding the letter by saying,



Pastor Brian C. S. Pepper presented an "old time" Adventist message.

"May the curse of God rest upon you and your family for ever."

When a building was found for the members, it was a humble workshop which needed renovation before it could be used as a house of worship. There was a time of anxiety for the members just two weeks before the building was due to be dedicated. As George Backhaus was paying his rent in Tanunda at the agent's office, an auctioneer came into the same building and, upon seeing George, asked him if he knew that the church and land were going to be sold the very next day. The man who had donated the building and land could not keep up his payments on the mortgage and the sale was to go ahead to recoup the money he owed. Fortunately one of the church members was quite financial, and he paid off the mortgage, thus ensuring the safety of the church. It was dedicated as planned on 9/10/15.

An interesting and probably unique feature of the old church is the set of wall paintings depicting Christ and the open Bible with the texts John 3:16 and John 17:17. These were originally painted in German by Mr Max Stelter. Bert Schwartzkopf later repainted them in English during the 1920s. German services were still being conducted once a quarter in 1927—old habits die hard.

Perhaps one of the most interesting stories of the early days concerns the midnight baptism. Baptisms were performed in Erhardt Roennfeldt's large dam near Greenock. Pastor W. G. Turner conducted his first ever baptism in that dam on 29/12/17. The first minutes book records that members gathered at Brother Roennfeldt's home at 11 p. m. for a short study and examination, then moved to the dam where the candidate, Brother Wilhelm Sachse of Robertstown, was baptised. Baptisms were still conducted in that same dam until the early 1950s.

Shared Memories

Following Sister Nash's speech, various "old" members came to the microphone to share their memories—both happy and sad. Eighty-year-old Ella Grange (nee Parker) declared this to be a high day in her life. Some of the stories generated much laughter, such as the story of the "Seven-day Pigs." The Germans were (and are) noted for their love of pig's flesh, and in the early days of the church, health reform was not by any means completely practised. Erhardt Roennfeldt was persuaded by his wife Antonie to sell his pigs at the Kapunda market. On the way there he decided to buy some more piglets to replace those he would be selling. As he returned home he had an accident—the pigs were tipped out of the cart, but passersby helped him to recover the animals. When he arrived home, those pigs caused such a terrific commotion with their squealing that Antonie declared they had the devil in them and she would go down to the sty with a broom "to straighten them out"! Finally Erhardt was convinced that he should get rid of them. Who should buy the pigs at the Angaston market but A. W. Raethel, another Adventist. In turn when he was convicted to sell the pigs, another Adventist purchased them from him! The story got around and the pigs were dubbed the "Seven-day Pigs."

At the conclusion of the two-hour "session," which all were loath to close, people moved on to view the displays of photographs, documents and objects of historical importance.

Our day of honouring the pioneers caused us to remember the way in which the Lord has led His people in the Barossa Valley. The pioneers looked forward to the blessed hope as do we who follow in their footsteps. ■

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

NEWS BRIEFS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



The office section, overlooking the nearby lake. Paving is now down.



Production facilities at the press, seen from the side entrance.
Photos: PPPA.

Progress at Pacific Press

BOB KYTE, Vice-President Marketing, Pacific Press Publishing Association, Idaho, USA

FROM TIME TO TIME we are asked, "How are things going in Nampa, Idaho, on the construction?" We appreciate the enthusiastic interest shown in the new Pacific Press. Things are going great on the building.

The production office and facility is now being moved to the new plant at Nampa. All facilities in Mountain View, California, were vacated by December 1, 1984. Production in the bindery began at the end of November 1984. We plan to have shipping relocated into its new home by January 1, and the remainder of the Pacific Press should be moving from the temporary offices in Boise, Idaho, to Nampa in January or February 1985.

This is an exciting time for Pacific Press. We look forward to all being settled in our new Press home, and look forward to an even more effective publishing program. ■

Faith for Today Gives Films to Russian SDAs

During Faith for Today's advisory board meeting on October 20, 1984, director Dan Matthews presented thirteen Westbrook Hospital programs to Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders from the Soviet Union.

Accepting the videotapes were Michael Kulakov, president of the Association of Seventh-day Adventists in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, and N. A. Zhukaluk, co-chairman of the church in the Ukraine.

After embracing Pastor Matthews, Pastor Kulakov said, "We wish to thank Faith for Today for these character-building programs. They will be a wonderful, wonderful help to our people."

—Adventist Review.

ADRA Meets Needs in Haiti

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is providing programs in Haiti that benefit at least 70,000 people.

In addition to supplying one meal per day for 52,000 school children, ADRA runs mother-

child health centres and clinics that serve more than 15,000 children.

ADRA also currently sponsors twenty-two Food for Work projects, in which local groups engage in various community improvement projects and receive food as payment for their work.

—Adventist Review.

News from China

RECENT REPORTS from China bring encouraging news. In one large city, between 300 and 400 new believers wait to join the church. But there is no convenient baptistry where they can be immersed. Prayers are requested that soon a church building will be given to our people, so that regular services, including the ordinances, can be conducted by an Adventist minister.

In one province, nearly 4,000 have been baptised since 1979, and five or six new chapels have been built.

A brother went to visit a relative and was asked to speak to the believers. At first he spoke for one and a half hours. That was not enough, so he spoke for another one and a half hours.

Still they wanted to hear more. After the third hour and a half of speaking, he became so hoarse that he was forced to play a cassette in order to satisfy the listeners. While there, he baptised sixty persons, and believers wept when he departed.

In a section of South China, 250 candidates were baptised at one service as the result of the work of just one dedicated sister!

—General Conference Communication Department News Release.

Baptisms in Poland

Evangelistic efforts were conducted in Poland in the summer months last year. Following a four-week campaign, Finnish evangelist Pastor Markennen baptised twenty-two people, and a baptism of nineteen concluded a fourteen-day effort by American evangelist Don Reynolds, in Lodz. He also preached in Wisla, where hundreds of people attended his lectures.

The union reports 327 people baptised in Poland thus far from 1984 campaigns, toward a goal of 400. Much interest is generated from public literature evangelism, with hundreds of church members participating.

—Northern Light.

Warehouse for Publishing House

The Polish publishing house has completed its latest project—a warehouse for printed materials and supplies. A 520-square-metre building was completed in October 1984, near the Seminary in Podkowa Lesna. The project was funded from profits from the large publishing sales in Poland in 1984.

—Northern Light.

MOORINGS

FORTY YEARS AGO . . .

With Our Boys in the Forces

Medical Patrol in Wild Areas of New Guinea

A Letter From W/O2 Lawrence Gilmore

"IT IS a lovely, quiet, and restful Sabbath day, with the sun shining brightly. While I write this letter near the hospital, some of the patients are enjoying life in their own style. I am surrounded practically on all sides by mountain ranges, heavily timbered, and hills covered with the inexhaustible kunai grass.

"Since my last letter I have conducted medical patrols through practically the whole of this central highland, travelling into areas where only one or two Europeans had preceded me, and in a few places where never before had there been a white man. At one place I was on

the borders of uncontrolled territory, and believe me, I was glad to leave when I discovered there had been a skirmish between the natives and a police boy. At the time it seemed quite exciting being in comparatively new country, but it was nothing in comparison with the district I shall now describe.

Into New Areas

"Upon orders from the District Officer, I patrolled into areas which had only just been opened before the war. You may remember that about that time an expedition explored this place, and much was learned concerning the natives and the geography of the district. The natives are wild and raw, and don't like the white man or his government, so it can

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO . . .

THE Seventh-day Adventist church of Melbourne meets for public worship in Temperance Hall, Russell Street, each Sabbath (Saturday), at 11 a.m. The public is cordially invited to attend.

"Come to Stay"

A NUMBER of inquiries have reached us of late regarding our object in coming to this country, and how long we expect to remain. We are happy to announce that we came here to see the truths of the third angel's message (see Revelation 14:9-12) established in these parts, and expect to remain until that work is accomplished. Already a good-sized church has been organised in Melbourne, and two companies are established in New Zealand. Those who have already taken hold of these truths are from the

better class of society, many of them being men and women of thought and culture.

Situated in North Fitzroy, we have a publishing house, from which is issued *Bible Echo*, and a book repository, where may be found in stock publications on all Bible subjects. We are, moreover, greatly encouraged to know that our efforts to establish the work are not unappreciated. Already we have received evidence of a substantial character from leading business-men, of their goodwill toward the enterprise. In this we confidently expect others will take a part, and that we shall ere long see the cause move in Australia with a mighty impetus. We would therefore have our friends understand that we have "come to stay."

—*Bible Echo and
Signs of the Times,*

Vol 1, No 1, January 1886.

truthfully be said they are not altogether friendly. To arrive somewhere near the central area requires a walk of six days, through the roughest country I have yet seen. High mountain ranges, which are enveloped continually in clouds, bar the way. My carriers and I were caught in a thunderstorm on the worst range, at about 11,000 feet. Had it not been for the sharp eyes of the natives, I am sure many times I would have been lost in the dense bush. The track is indescribable. As you wend your way in and out amongst the trees, trying to avoid the gnarled and twisted roots, and making desperate attempts to see that your boots only disappear from sight, continually you think, 'What did I come to New Guinea for?' It seemed that the stench of centuries' decay greeted me that day. All the trees were covered with a thick moss as also were broken branches which littered the track. Thinking to dodge a pool of water, I would step on a 'strong' root or branch, only to have my leg sink above the knee in a quagmire of mud. This kept up for four hours, and it really amazes me how the carriers are able to perform their valuable work. Well, after six days of up and down, over and across ranges, we finally reached the camp of A. W. O. You can well imagine his reactions on seeing another white man, for he had been there many months alone, and I was also able to give him some precious mail. Few people realise the value of a letter to the lonely man somewhere in the outposts of New Guinea.

"I was most fortunate in being at this place at that particular time, for a rare sing-sing was in progress, and I was able to secure many good snaps, besides taking notes on the dress, ceremonies, and procedure.

"They are warriors true out there, just biding their time until one section thinks they are sufficiently strong to settle a fight which they may have had fifteen to twenty years before. Because the government stops their fighting they don't like it, and would be most happy if they were allowed to return to their former state.

"Imagine my surprise the other day when, going into our inland headquarters on business, I saw Pastor C. E. Mitchell arrive in the plane.

Don't Forget the Boys

"In conclusion, I would like to say that when you are talking to our people, tell them not to forget the boys in the services, for they need their prayers. Write often to the boys, for nothing is more valued than regular correspondence. The task to be done here is greater than we can compass, but receiving 'strength of ten' from the One above we will go forward, endeavouring to alleviate the sufferings of this needy humanity. God hasten the day when sickness and suffering shall be no more."

★ ★ ★

Parcels intended for last Xmas travelled 23,000 miles and ran their owner to earth seven months later in Victoria. A cake sent by members of the Epping church was still quite palatable, but crystallised nuts and fruits had melted before the onslaughts of the Red Sea temperature.

—AUSTRALASIAN RECORD,
Vol 49, No 1,
Warburton, Victoria, January 1, 1945.

Ingathering! Adventist Appeal!

EDNA SMITH, Hamilton Church, Nth NZ

OUR LAY ACTIVITIES leader here in Hamilton was not very happy with the start to the Appeal campaign. So I gave him a surprise by telling him what I had collected in four hours—that made him smile! He is a salesman and can sell anything from a needle to an anchor. "Right," he said, "you can give an experience on Ingathering in the ten-minute exercise."

I must admit collecting is not one of my talents. This year a sick member was unable to go on the Appeal, and she asked me to do it for her. Usually we have gone out together and enjoyed it. I braced myself and did it alone.

The morning I started in, my husband prayed that the Lord would give me the courage I needed to do the job quickly and efficiently. We need the Lord with us all the time in His work. Just as I went out the back door to the car, the phone rang and it was our sick friend, saying that she and her husband would be praying for me, even in the dentist's surgery, as they both had dental appointments that morning.

Had I thought about Ingathering the night before, I would never have gone out Appealing. For forty years I have been making excuses as to why I should *not* go out collecting. This last year I had run out of excuses.

The first hour I did really well; everyone was pleasant, with no refusals. Then I came to a milk bar shop. I spoke to the lady about the work we do. She then turned to the back page of our booklet, looked at it, and said, "What's this Seventh-day business?" Before I could explain to her, she went off like a packet of crackers. "You are the crowd who don't celebrate birthdays, Christmas or wedding anniversaries!"

I was nonplussed at her reaction, as she did everything but swear at me. I did manage to get a word in edgeways to explain to her that I was an SDA, not the group she was evidently confusing me with.

She told me to take my book and move out of her shop. However, I wasn't going to let her hound me—I move when I am ready to. I left her the book and told her to sit down with her feet up and read the book—it was well worth the reading. As I went out the shop door I was thinking, "Oh my, I hope I don't meet any more like her!" That experience was nearly enough to put me off Ingathering. I was scared stiff just doing the job, even without meeting anyone like this lady.

It has actually been a great experience for me this year to do the business areas. I kept steadily working shop after shop—doing two hours one day and two hours the next day. The result was \$300 gathered into the treasury for the Lord's work from four hours' collecting.

Should the Lord spare my life for another year, I will go out again on the Appeal, with no more excuses.

I write my experience in the belief that it may help some lovely person who, as I am, is scared stiff of Ingathering/Appealing! At seventy years of age, I am just beginning to enjoy the job. ■



Open day visitors—parents, friends and community contacts—gather in the modern atmosphere of Carmel College to see Christian education on display.

Photos: G. W. W. Drinkall

OUTREACH CARMEL STYLE

G. W. W. DRINKALL, Communication Director, Western Australian Conference

CARMEL COLLEGE, senior school in the Western Australian Conference education system, is vitally interested in outreach, and the events of Sunday, October 21, 1984, served to emphasise that fact.

Invitations had been widely distributed throughout the local community, articles submitted to local and city newspapers, and the Adventist population circularised and notified via local church bulletins. Open Day was to be a big event.

The day arrived, and Carmel was open to the public—and the public came! It was most encouraging to hear people, at the front door, asking, "Do you mind if we go in?" "Is it all right for us to have a look around?" "Could we have a brochure on your school?"

Carmel on Display

When the visitors entered, the first feature they saw was a well-arranged and coordinated display in the chapel, by the Art and Home Economics departments. Then they had the opportunity to view displays organised by each department of the school in the separate classrooms, the manual arts complex and science laboratory.

Display and Sell

Carmel College Industries made the most of the opportunity to display their produce—and to sell it! The nursery, too, had more custom from the neighbourhood than from the church membership on the day.

Entertainment was provided at various times throughout the day, and all age groups were catered for. The hill trolley derby produced thrills and spills as enthusiastic contestants endeavoured to negotiate a difficult course in their homemade vehicles. A roller-skating team demonstration captured the interest of a large group of spectators, while events such as the obstacle race, slow bike race, ladies rolling-pin throw and greasy-pole event involved a large cross-section of people.

Favourable Reactions

Many favourable comments were heard as people left the campus after a most enjoyable day. Visitors and members alike were able to see, at first hand, many facets of positive Christianity in action at the Carmel Open Day. ■

BY SPECIAL DELIVERY

JEAN JONES

"KEN, do you realise that unless that ship from Brisbane arrives soon, we'll be practically out of food? There's not much in the gardens just now, either. What are we going to do?"

"Well, dear, that ship must be close by now, surely. But let's pray about it again," Ken comforted his young wife. "God knows about our needs, and He won't let us starve."

Young missionaries Ken and Beth had been in Papua New Guinea for only a few months. They were concerned because the expected shipment of food had not arrived, though well overdue.

Missionaries in Papua New Guinea had to contend with malaria, extreme heat, and other dangers. Problems about food arose too, if ships were late in arriving from Australia.

Ken had promised to make a trip to a village, some distance away from their home. The chief had asked him to visit, and he was due to leave soon, taking a few of the natives from the village with him.

"Beth, dear, I'm sorry to leave you today without much food," Ken told her a couple of days later, as he was leaving. "but we know that the Lord will take care of us all." Then he and the natives were off, with very little food in their packs.

"Now, friends," Ken reminded them as they walked along, "we've only a little food with us; we must use it carefully, and do let us keep our

eyes open for any wild fruit or berries. Let's keep praying, too—the Lord will help us."

It was hard walking up and down the steep and slippery hills, but they made good time. At lunchtime they stopped for a few mouthfuls of food. They prayed again for food to be sent them. Then Ken called, "Let's get moving again," and he led the way, the natives following at a short distance behind.

Just as he was rounding a curve in the trail, Ken caught sight of someone standing at the top of the hill he was climbing. It was a native woman—well-dressed, too—and she was holding onto a large sack which stood on the ground at her feet. She called out to him: "Good afternoon, sir. I have a present for you."

Very surprised, Ken called back: "Good afternoon to you! Thank you for the present, but what is it?"

The answer came back, "Come and see!"

Ken's track now led through a clump of thick bushes, where the woman was hidden from his sight. Emerging from the underbrush, he looked uphill to where she had been standing—to his surprise, she had vanished! But the large sack she had been holding was still on the ground.

By this time, the natives had caught up with him. "Who were you talking to, master?" they wanted to know.



FOR THE CHILDREN

"I'm not sure just who she was," Ken answered, "but she has left us a present in this sack. But before we look inside it, let's look around for her; she can't be far away." And they hurried off in all directions and hunted for her without finding any trace of anyone.

Eagerly they opened the sack. They were overjoyed to find it full of the best quality sweet potatoes! How wonderful! they said. Soon the men were clearing a space to start a fire to cook the sweet potatoes.

"Master, who do you think left these?" the men asked him.

"I feel sure it was an angel," Ken answered reverently. "Remember we had been praying that the Lord would send us food." They all bowed their heads to offer sincere thanks, and started to eat. Well, they all agreed that those sweet potatoes were the best they had ever tasted! They all enjoyed a good meal.

"Now let's divide up the rest of the potatoes so that we can all help to carry them."

A Warm Welcome

A couple of days later they reached the village to which their chief had invited them, and received a warm welcome. They were able to tell the wonderful story of how God loved them all as His children, and had sent His Son to live on the earth, and to die for them. As the story unfolded, the natives became really appreciative of what God had done for them. Ken was repaid over and over for the long way he had walked to reach their village. He promised he would send one of the native missionaries to tell them more about God, and the way He wants us to live.

They had plenty of those sweet potatoes to eat on the homeward trail, and enough left over to take some home, too.

Ken was eager to get back home. He was wondering how Beth was faring for food. He was glad to see her on their veranda, and called out his greetings. She was excited to see him, too.

"Ken, we've had a message that the ship with our food has arrived. You can go to collect it any time. Isn't that good?"

"Yes, dear, it's good to hear that. But I've brought you back some very special food, too. You'd never guess how we came by it!"

Beth was told the wonderful story of the angel who brought the sweet potatoes to the hungry men. Together they thanked their Lord for His kindness in caring for their needs. ■

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TOMATO AND SAUSAGE PIE

430 g can Vegetarian Sausages
1 or 2 onions (depending on taste)
500 g tomatoes

Mashed potato
Little butter
Salt to taste

Slice onion and fry. Cut sausages in halves lengthwise and lay half of them in a greased pie dish. Cover with onion rings and peeled and sliced tomatoes. Add salt and seasoning to taste. Then place remaining sausages in dish and cover with a thick layer of mashed potatoes. Smooth with knife and decorate with fork-marks. Place small pieces of butter on top. Bake in hot oven until brown.

Marie Aitken, NSW.



SISTER KENNY, aged ninety-six, is the oldest member of the Brentwood church, North New Zealand, and also the oldest Sabbath school member in New Zealand. She still attends Sabbath school and church services. In this photograph, taken during a recent mothers' day celebration at the church, Sister Kenny is flanked by Sister Hasse and her two daughters—the other end of the generation scale.

—Ruth Gooch, Communication Secretary,
Brentwood Church, Nth NZ.

Weddings

BLEE—FIRTH. Love and companionship brought two lonely hearts together and which led to Leonard James Blee and Marie Doreen Firth exchanging marriage vows before their Maker, relatives and friends in the Gosnells church, Western Australia, on Sunday, November 18, 1984. As they share their retiring years together in their villa home in Armadale, we wish them every happiness and Heaven's blessing.
H. J. Watts.

JACKSON—HEATH. On Friday, November 30, 1984, in the beautiful St Johns Uniting Church in Wahroonga, New South Wales, John Jackson, originally from Auckland, New Zealand, and Rosanne Heath, from Hornsby, Sydney, pledged their love to each other before a large group of relatives and friends. John and Rosanne will be setting up

home at Avondale while John completes his studies. We wish them much of God's presence and endless love.

T. A. Fischer.

KEANE—ALEXIS. On Sunday, September 30, 1984, in "The Church in the Market Place," Bondi Junction, Sydney, New South Wales, Phillip Keane, son of Sidney and Marjorie Keane, now of Broken Hill, and Elise Alexis, daughter of Victor and Paulette Alexis of Martinique, exchanged vows as they committed their lives to each other and to their Lord. With the many relatives and friends who attended and joined the reception at the Woollahra Adventist church hall, we wish Phillip and Elise much happiness and God's blessing as they establish their home in Paddington.

W. J. Gerken.

LINDSAY—PIEZ. On December 2, 1984, Peter Nigel Lindsay and Glenda Ruth Piez made a life commitment in marriage in the Seventh-day Adventist church, Galston, New South Wales. Peter, an Avondale teaching graduate under appointment to Strathfield High School, is the first son of Dr and Mrs Allan Lindsay of Avondale College, and Glenda, a Sydney Adventist Hospital registered nurse, is the only daughter of Mr and Mrs Eddie Piez of the Greater Sydney Conference. As this next generation of Adventists set up their home and begin denominational service, we know the love of Jesus Christ will permeate their witness.

T. H. Ludowici.

PEREIRA—COELHO. It was a joyous occasion on Sunday, September 23, 1984, in the newly acquired and beautifully decorated Portuguese church, Ashfield, New South Wales, as Anna, the only daughter of Manuel and Maria Coelho was joined in marriage to Jose Altonio, the second son of Antonio and Maria Pereira. The wedding reception was held in a silk-lined marquee, which had been erected in the grounds of the Coelho home in Drummoyn. We all joined in wishing this consecrated and dedicated young couple the blessing of God on their marriage.

C. T. Parkinson.

SLOBODIAN—DICKENS. On Monday, December 3, 1984, in the beautiful garden setting of the Windsor Gardens, Willoughby, Sydney, New South Wales, Peter Oleh Slobodian and Katrina Clarke Dickens exchanged their marriage vows as they committed their lives to their Lord and to each other. The reception was also held at Windsor Gardens. Here the relatives and many friends enjoyed a beautiful wedding feast with Katrina and Peter. All joined in wishing Peter and Karen God's choicest blessings as they set up another Christian home in Sydney.

G. W. Maywald.

STACE—TWINHAM. On Sunday, December 2, 1984, Mount Colah church, Sydney, New South Wales, overflowed with relatives and friends who witnessed the marriage of Peter Stace and Donna Twynham. Peter is the son of Clive and Janet Stace of the Blue Mountains, while Donna is the eldest daughter of Martin and Carol Twynham of Mount Colah. The bride and groom have, over several years, given valued service in youth and Pathfinder activities. Even more importantly, they have claimed Jesus as their friend and Saviour, and have determined to carry this commitment into the establishment of their home. We have every confidence that this dedicated couple will bring much honour and strength into the Lord's wide family.

W. F. Taylor.

TRACY—DAVIDSON. An outdoor country setting was a splendid choice for the wedding ceremony for Brian Raymond Tracy of Loganholme, Queensland, and Helen Claire Davidson of Chambers Flat, Queensland. It was a sunny Sunday afternoon, December 2, 1984. Many friends and relatives gathered to wish Brian and Helen a happy future together.
John Banks.

Till He Comes

ADDERTON. On October 23, 1984, God saw fit to lay to rest our husband, father, brother, "pop," and friend, John Paul Adderton, of Auburn in Sydney, New South Wales. A "big" man in every way, many were at the Rookwood Crematorium to pay their last respects and mourn his loss, because he had been a good friend to so many. We will miss him, but we rest assured in the eternal hope and the gracious promises of God, who never fails. We, his loved ones, place our trust there. Pastor H. Kingston's ministry was much appreciated.
John Kosmeier.

BARTER. Mr John Barter of Willetton, Western Australia, fell asleep in Christ on Friday, November 23, 1984. The loss of this Christian gentleman will be deeply felt by his many friends and loved ones. Especially do we feel for Noelene, Hayley and Jodie, who have lost a dedicated husband and father. John was a unique person whose commitment to whatever he took on was intense and devoted. John battled against tremendous odds and never gave up until his tired body would go no further. I am sure that we will meet again on that wonderful resurrection morning when many of the questions we have now will be answered.
B. C. Smith.

CRAFT. Gladys Craft peacefully passed to her rest at her residence on November 25, 1984, in her seventy-fifth year. During her relatively short illness she was a wonderful witness to her Lord, whom she loved so dearly. The eleven children of her large family deeply mourn her passing. Several of the family are well known in Adventist families; Len, who is a stalwart of the Lightning Ridge church, Wal, who is senior elder of Maitland church, and Ruth, who lives in England. A memorial service was held in the Swansea church, then Sister Craft was laid to rest at the Belmont Cemetery, New South Wales. Pastor G. Branster assisted the writer in both services.
L. H. Barnard.

JURY. George Harrington Jury passed to his rest at the Austral Nursing Home, Morphetville, South Australia, on October 26, 1984, at the age of eighty-four years. George served the church for nineteen years as a literature evangelist, supported by his wife Bell. Following a service at the Morphet Vale church, George was laid to rest at the nearby Bains Cemetery to await the call of the great Life-giver. To his wife and sons, Bob and Stan, and to the many relatives and friends gathered, the promises of the soon return of the Lord brought comfort, for His coming will end all partings. Pastor Webb assisted the writer in the service.
A. J. Croft.

KILLOWAY. Phyllis Grace Killoway died on November 10, 1984, at Parklea Nursing Home, Kings Langley, New South Wales, aged eighty-one years. She had given forty-nine years to denominational service by the time of her retirement in 1970. Born in Calcutta, India, she married Thomas Killoway in Lucknow, India, where she had worked in the publishing house and the Southern Asia Division office. Called to Poona when the office and publishing house moved in 1924, they also served together in Burma and Bangalore. Widowed in 1941 while her husband was secretary-treasurer of the South India Union Mission, she served in Vincent Hill College, Mussooree, till 1954, when she came to Australia. Here she worked in the Division office, and at Longburn College, New Zealand, till her retirement. Her two sons Judson, from Sydney, and Kendrick, who serves in the conference office in Melbourne, with their wives and a small group of friends and former colleagues, were present at the interment in the Avondale Cemetery.
N. E. Bolst.

KNAPP. Eric Mervyn Knapp was born at South Greenough, Western Australia, in 1906, and as a youngster

attended the Bookara Seventh-day Adventist church. After his retirement from the railways, he gave his heart to God, and for eleven years he lived at Sherwin Lodge. In recent months he was plagued with cancer. However, he maintained a positive outlook, and died on October 18, 1984, in hope of being among the victors at the Lord's return. We shall miss Eric Knapp at our visits to Sherwin Lodge, but look forward to a grand reunion hour in the kingdom to come.

G. I. Wilson.

KRAUS. Therise Kraus closed her eyes in death in the early hours of Sunday, November 25, 1984, at the age of eighty years. Sister Kraus was born into a Seventh-day Adventist family in 1903 in Rumania, and moved to East Prussia as a very young girl. She faithfully led her five children through the ravages of war in Europe and came to Australia in 1962. She settled in the Springvale area of Melbourne, Victoria, and soon became a faithful member of our Springvale church. Her many loved ones and friends who attended the service at the Springvale church were reminded of that great resurrection morning, when parting will be ended.

B. G. Whelan.

LAURIE. The sudden passing of Phyllis Meta Laurie (nee Ahrens), on October 7, 1984, brought sadness to her brother, sister, two sons and families, as well as to her fellow church members in Bonalbo, New South Wales. Although she had been in indifferent health for some months, she felt well on Sabbath, October 6, and spent a happy time with the little group of believers at Bonalbo. That night she died peacefully in her sleep. A very large group of family and friends gathered in her honour for the funeral service at the Bonalbo Cemetery, where the writer, assisted by Pastor F. Pearce, pointed those present to the resurrection day.

E. A. Raethel.

MOORE. A packed church gathered at Warrimoo, Sydney, New South Wales, on November 21, 1984, to pay tribute to Gladys June Moore. This lady was a very active church and social worker, and much loved and respected, not only by fellow church members, but also in the community. She fell asleep in Jesus her Lord on Sunday, November 18, after a long and painful illness, patiently endured. She was committed to the safe keeping of her Lord at Pine Grove Crematorium. Her sorrowing husband Kenneth, and her devoted children Cheryl, David, Robert and Jennifer, await the great reunion morning. D. Dunn and B. Shield were associated with the writer at the service.

V. Wood-Stotesbury.

MORRIS. Joseph Frederick Morris passed away in the Townsville Hospital, Queensland, on Friday, November 23, 1984, at seventy years of age. Brother Morris became interested in the Adventist message when Pastor Bullas conducted evangelistic meetings in Ingham in 1935, and was later baptised by Pastor Gane in Brisbane. Brother Morris wrote books and articles published in our church papers. He was a stalwart collector for the Appeal for Missions. He was laid to rest in the Townsville Cemetery in the hope of the resurrection.

A. K. Gersbach.

ROFE. Joan Constance Rofe died peacefully at the Brisbane General Hospital, Queensland, on October 11, 1984, aged sixty-three years, and now rests at the Pinaroo Lawn Cemetery, Albany Creek. To Joan's husband, Archie, of Rockhampton, her daughter and son-in-law, Lyn and Reg Howell, and grandchildren, friends and relatives, sincere sympathy was given at the graveside. The writer was assisted by J. Williams.

H. G. P. Miller.

WILKES. Laura Jean Wilkes of Telegraph Point, New South Wales, fell asleep in Jesus on October 30, 1984, aged seventy-one. She was buried in the Port Macquarie Cemetery after a service in which the blessed hope of the resurrection was held up before the group of mourners, who included her husband John, and children Beverly (Alaban), Gwen and Allan. The service was conducted by Pastor Albert Watts.

D. J. Coltheart.

The family of the late Peter Wynstra wish to express their sincere thanks to the many friends who sent flowers, cards and messages of love and comfort during the time of their recent sudden and tragic loss. They ask you to please accept this notice as an expression of their deep love for your sympathy and compassion given to them at this time.

ADVENTIST AVIATION ASSOCIATION

Members and interested persons are invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Adventist Aviation Association of Western Australia set down for Sunday evening, February 3, 1985, at 6.30 p.m. in the Maida Vale Campground dining room. Reports will be presented, including "Video." Election of office bearers for 1985 will also take place. Ladies to please bring a plate.

Jack B. Payne.

Hon Secretary of AAA WA.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

Diggings is a monthly archaeological newsletter keeping you in touch with the latest excavations in the lands of the Bible, and reviewing the great discoveries of the past that confirm the historical records of the Bible. It is published by Pastor David Down, who does archaeological work in the Middle East every year, and who gives an annual series of lectures on Biblical archaeology in the Sydney Opera House. Cost: only \$10 for one year's subscription. Send your cheque to D. K. Down, PO Box 341, Hornsby, NSW 2077.

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Advent Heritage II around Sydney and Avondale. Tour leaves from Melbourne and Warburton, March 10, 6 days, \$299.

Murray River, Flinders Rangers visits Swan Hill, Mildura, Paddlesteamer cruise, Berri fruit juices, Wilpena Pound, Arkaroola and more. Departs March 14, picks up in Melbourne and South Australia.

Central Australia Rail and Coach. Uses three great trains, visits Ross River Homestead, MacDonnell Ranges, Alice Springs, Ayers Rock and Olgas plus scenic flight and Coober Pedy. Leaves Sydney, Saturday night, May 4, and picks up in Melbourne and Adelaide, 16 days.

Papua New Guinea and Far North Queensland. Tour beautiful far north Queensland including Barrier Reef Islands and Atherton Tableland, then fly to Papua New Guinea for an unforgettable tour taking in the Highlands and Coastal areas with special visits to Adventist hospitals, schools, college, etc. Departs June 2, 25 days, \$2,280.

Far North Queensland, including Magnetic Island, Cooktown, Barrier Reef Islands, 20 days. Leaves June 2, only \$1,098.

Gold Coast/Sunshine Coast. 9 days, departs July 14, \$599.
WA at Wildflower Time, including Indian Pacific. 25 days, departs September 8, picking up in Melbourne and Adelaide.

Tasmania, Treasure Island. 13 days, departs November 3. Tour cost includes motel accommodation, vegetarian meals, most meals except lunches, all cruises, sightseeing, etc. Brochures available on each tour.

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SCHOOL UNIFORMS

LEO'S MENSLAND, suppliers of uniforms to Seventh-day Adventist schools, have just issued their price-list. For full details regarding prices and all sizes of girls and boys uniforms, write to Leo's Mensland, Brice Avenue, Mooroolbark, Vic 3138, or phone (03) 726 9683; speak to Mr Levy.

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FLASHPOINT

LINCOLN STEED
Assistant Editor



CENPAC MOVE. The major re-relocation of the Central Pacific Union Mission office from Papatoetoe, NZ, to Suva, Fiji, was all but complete when a few weeks ago Pastors Cobbin and Bath and Brother Les Nobbs took up residency on the compound. Housing construction and extensions to the office building are continuing. The "new" office, complete with a second floor, is expected to be completed by April 1985—at which time the transfer will be complete.

TOURING SONGSTERS. The forty-voice Solomon Islands Choir, under the leadership of Kata Ragaso Jr, thrilled audiences in the Greater Sydney Conference and Central Coast area over the December 7 to 11 period.

MORE MOVES. Adrian Flemming, MA Ministerial graduate, to SAH to assist in chaplaincy department and as dean of men. Harvey Carlsen, from Moonah School, Tasmania, to head of Commerce department at Sonoma College. Pastor Lindsay Laws, from Avondale Memorial church, to Sth Qld. Pastor Wayne French, from Toronto, Nth NSW, to Greater Sydney. Pastor A. B. Gane, from Youth director, British Union, to Bible teacher/pastor, Lilydale Academy. Pastor E. A. Parker, from PNGUM, to chaplain, Warburton Health Care Centre.

YOUR RADIO MINISTER could easily turn out to be an Adventist, particularly if you live in WA. Pastor Ian Royce regularly broadcasts at Esperance as part of the ministers fraternal, Lyn Uttley takes to the air at Albany and Pat Marshall at Carnarvon. Conference Communication man Pastor George Drinkall, busy at the end of the year broadcasting on access radio, was pleasantly surprised when the announcer asked for copy of his script (on nutrition and Christianity) and remarked three times on the outstanding health figures shown in Adventist lifestyle studies. A great witness.

DR SID COLE, who is currently director of Clinical Laboratories at the Sydney Adventist Hospital, has responded to a call to the Inter-American Division to fill the position of departmental director of the World Food Services for the Inter-American Division and managing director of Health Food Companies with factories in Mexico, Costa Rico, Columbia, Jamaica and Puerto Rico. Sid and Von will be working out of Miami, Florida.

EVANGELIST PETER ROENNFELDT is now on videotape (remember the recent RECORD article). The Nth NSW Conference sponsored the production of the five tapes, which are now available from ABCs for \$200. Pastor Peter has been conducting missions in the Newcastle area (with Maitland showing the best results). In 1985 he is off to Wellington, Nth NZ, to run a series there.

A NOTE FROM Nth Qld tells of Revelation Seminar successes in Mackay, North Mackay and Yalbaroo. Pastor Ray Kent has eighty-four in regular attendance—most of them non-SDAs! I think we need a special RECORD column just for Revelation Seminars!

WITH INTERNATIONAL TENSION escalating, it is no wonder that Dial-a-Prayer call-ins in Nth NSW showed a sharp upturn during '84. Final monthly call-in rates were 2,800, nearly double the first few months of the year, according to Communication man Pastor Malcolm Potts.

BAPTISMAL FIGURES were encouraging for Sth NSW, with thirty-five to the end of third quarter '84, with the year-end total expected to reach eighty.

NEW LEVEL FOR PINE RIVERS. Sth Qld Conference president Pastor H. G. Harker is confident that the Pine Rivers School will open in '85 with a Year 9 level in addition to the lower grades. Sth Qld is serious about Christian education.

INSTANT CLASSROOM recently added to our Canberra Primary School at Mawson. The \$2,000 "demountable," purchased from the building fund, will provide several spacious rooms—planned for library and computers.

EVANGELISM in Nth NSW will continue to gather impetus in '85 with a \$60,000 budget allocation. Most significant is the \$22,000 allocation for seventy Revelation Seminars.

REVELATION SEMINAR BREAKDOWN for Nth NSW shows interesting results. Fifteen seminars were conducted in the last quarter of the year: a total of 170 non-Adventists attended on the first night, 100 continued to attend, 79 were "good interests," 28 are attending church and 17 have requested baptism. One hundred Revelation Seminars are planned in Nth NSW during 1985.

IN PRISON AND YOU VISITED. Over in WA, Pastor Merv Tonkin had visited an inmate of Fremantle Prison for some time, and then continued studies as the man moved to Bartons Mill Prison. The story begins (not really an ending) with news that this man was baptised near year end at Bickley church. It all began with IIW and a lonely prisoner who wrote in to learn more of God's way.

TOP NEWS is the newsletter of the recently formed Northern Australian Conference, and that is just what it contains. A checklist of baptisms just concluded or coming up fills nearly a column, and covers reaping ground from Mount Isa (five or six before year-end) to Darwin (a baptism on December 7).

A KEY TO Northern Australian enthusiasm is the continuing Maranatha Seminars—with Number III coming up on February 8 to 16. No doubt a column will be inadequate to list the baptismal line-up following the Mk III of this great series.

"FINALLY, BRETHREN . . .": Some families can trace their ancestry back several hundred years, but can't tell you where their children were last night.