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Mr. Tkach in Southeast Asia: 'personal and unforgettable'

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA—"This visit will prove to be a major turning point in the development of the Work in Southeast Asia," said Robert Fahey, Australian and Asian regional director, about Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's Dec. 13 to 26 trip to the Philippines, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

"The brethren warmed to Mr. Tkach immediately and genuinely appreciated his desire to be with them," Mr. Fahey said.

Rodney Matthews, Philippine regional director, said: "Months of heightening anticipation were rewarded for the Filipino brethren. His powerful and stirring messages were a wonderful boost to God's people in a country whose government and people face daily problems and an uncertain future."

Mr. Matthews added: "In spite of an arduous schedule, it did allow more than 4,500 people who are spread over dozens of islands to make personal and unforgettable contact with him."

At each location he visited, Mr. Tkach asked the brethren to repeat "Shabat Shalom" (peaceful Sabbath) in their native languages. "It was quite exciting," Mr. Tkach said.

Touchdown in Manila

Aboard the Church's British Aerospace Corp. (BAC) 1-11 jet, Mr. Tkach touched down at Manila's Ninoy Aquino airport Dec. 15. He and his traveling party were welcomed by Mr. Matthews, his wife, Ruth, Paul Kieffer, director of Ministerial Services in the Philippine Office, and his wife, Monica, and their families.

The Philippines, a U.S. commonwealth from 1935, was granted independence in 1946. Although more than 80 dialects are spoken throughout the 7,104 islands that comprise the Philippines, it has the third largest English-speaking population in the world. English is used in public schools from the fourth grade through college.

Friday, Dec. 16, Mr. Tkach toured the regional office in Makati, a suburb of Manila. Mr. Matthews updated him on God's Work in the region. He then inspected the new premises nearby, where the office expects to move in late January, and signed a certificate from which a plaque will be made commemorating his visit.

INSIDE

Food fight or trade war? . . . 2

Television, Radio spread Gospel message 4

Southeast Asia in pictures . . 5

In the afternoon the group toured the World War II memorial and cemetery in Manila, the largest American cemetery outside the United States.

Later they visited Malacanang Palace, former home to Philippine presidents including Ferdinand Marcos and his wife, Imelda. Although the palace has been converted into a museum, it is still used for some state functions by President Corason Aquino.

At Sabbath services Dec. 17 in Cebu the pastor general spoke to 998 brethren from 16 churches. He explained the purpose and role of a Church member's calling with emphasis on getting motivated.

Mr. Tkach said: "I told brethren that we're commanded in Luke 21:36 to be watching and praying—both, so we can be accounted worthy to escape the things that are to come upon this earth, and to understand God's whole purpose for mankind."

Salvador Cucharo, a member from Cebu, said Mr. Tkach's message was "edifying spiritually and powerfully moving."

After greeting brethren, Mr. Tkach was host at a banquet for ministers, deacons, deaconesses and their spouses in the Cebu Plaza Hotel, where services were conducted.

Mr. Tkach was given a table

clock, handcrafted in Cebu and made of chambered nautilus (mollusk shell) and red coral laminated on wood.

Sunday, Dec. 18, 2,602 brethren from the islands of Luzon, Mindoro, Romblon and Palawan assembled in Manila to hear Mr. Tkach.

In a presentation to the pastor general on behalf of ministers and brethren, Mr. Matthews said that since World War II the jeepney (a minibus made from a jeep) has become a major means of transportation for people throughout the Philippines.

"Therefore no other vehicle better represents the means of bringing people together," said Mr. Matthews. "This sterling silver reproduction of what has become a symbol of the country is a reminder of the parallel to what Mr. Tkach has been commissioned to do—to bring people together into a unified and harmonious relationship within the Body of Christ, to make one family from many diverse peoples called of God."

Mr. Matthews concluded by saying he hoped Mr. Tkach would look at this gift not as just a special symbol of the Philippines, but as something that reflects an aspect of the work that Mr. Tkach has been given to do.

PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear brethren:

I want to take time in this "Personal" to rehearse a couple of basic concepts that all God's people need to keep in mind.

The first area that I want to stress is that of putting undue emphasis upon Mr. Herbert Armstrong or upon me.

In the Church of God, human leaders are never to become objects of reverence or devotion bordering on worship.

It is not appropriate, for example, to assign various scriptures to Mr. Armstrong or me personally as though our leadership were specifically prophesied about in the Bible. Besides being erroneous and spiritually presumptuous, this kind of thinking only serves to falsely brand God's Church as a cultish sect that worships its human leaders.

I have referred to the job of measuring the temple described in Revelation 11:1-2 as being descriptive of part of what I believe God is leading me to accomplish. But I point to it as a figurative reference only.

I am striving to stir up God's people everywhere to recognize the spiritual pitfalls of the societies around them and to further commit themselves to obey God and not be caught up in the wrong ways taught by the world.

As I travel to visit you brethren, I try to get a feel for the problems and spiritual obstacles you may face, and encourage you to stand strong and faithful till Christ returns.

These verses illustrate a part of what I am doing in the sense that the Church is elsewhere called a spiritual temple, but it would be utterly incorrect to say that these verses are a prophecy about me.

God does teach that we should give appropriate respect for the office in which He has placed a leader. But we must take care that such respect and honor is not carried too far.

I have heard stories, for example, about how some had the impression that it would be wrong if my name were not mentioned



SPIRITUAL FAMILY—Brethren from Bahau, Malaysia, gather around Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at Sabbath services Dec. 24. [Photo by Clement Lim]

In the evening Filipino brethren sang and danced for the traveling party.

A 'quiet' spot

John Halford, on-site director of the Church's television crew, related this story: "We needed to record some of the entertainment the Filipino members prepared for Mr. Tkach. I thought it would be nice to choose an outside location for a change, and I asked Mr. Matthews to pick a beautiful, quiet spot.

"He chose the garden of a hotel by Manila Bay," Mr. Halford continued. "It was beautiful. But just before we began recording, there was a traffic jam with a hundred horns blaring. Then a political demonstration occurred up the road.

in each opening and closing prayer at every service. This is clearly nonsense.

I do need and appreciate the prayers of God's people, but it is certainly inappropriate to demand that all prayers in services specifically include me.

And whether or not a prayer includes mention of me is not the measure of how effective the prayer is, nor of how dedicated the person praying is to God's Work, nor even of the person's love or support of me, for that matter. Such a requirement would be merely a hollow shell based on a misperception of how leaders should be viewed.

I am, as Mr. Armstrong was, one among many others whom God has used to lead His people. While appropriate respect for the office is fitting, the point is that it is a mistake to begin to look at human leaders under Christ as more than human, or bigger than life.

The other basic issue I want to address this time concerns the

(See PERSONAL, page 8)

"Then about 50 forklifts tried to get through the same gate at once. Then a sea lion show with a loud commentary in the local dialect began 50 yards away. Then a military band showed up outside and played Christmas carols.

"I hope I never have to ask Mr. Matthews to find me a noisy spot!"

The next day, Monday, Dec. 19, Mr. Tkach, accompanied by the Matthews and the Kieffers, flew to Davao. Ninety minutes later they were greeted by Victor Lim, pastor of the Davao, General Santos City, Kidapawan and Nabunturan churches, and his wife, Ligaya.

At the Central Bank Convention Hall 928 brethren represented eight churches. Some traveled almost 250 miles.

"We should fulfill the calling God has given us, be overcomers and put on the righteousness of God," said Mr. Tkach.

After being given a kris, a traditional sword of the Muslims who make up 20 percent of the population of Mindanao, Mr. Tkach met and visited with brethren and dined with ministers, deacons, deaconesses and their spouses.

"God's people on Mindanao are very thankful for the historic visit and message" of Mr. Tkach, said Marcial Billacura, a retired minister in the Davao church.

(See ASIA, page 3)

Canada conducts talent event

VANCOUVER, B.C.—The 1988 Youth Opportunities United (YOU) national talent contest took place here Nov. 27. Eighteen Church youths from five regions participated.

Robert Brown of Halifax, N.S., placed first in the senior vocal category with "A World of Wonders" by Ross Jutsum. Runner-up was Bronwyn Melville of Lethbridge, Alta., who sang "That's What Friends Are For" by Carol Bayer-Saeger and Burt Bacharach.

Roger Francisco of Toronto, Ont., placed first in the senior instrumental category with a mandolin performance of J.S. Bach's *Concerto in D Minor*. Pianist Lonnie Katai of Vancouver was runner-up with Frederic Chopin's *Polo-naise in A Minor, Opus 40, No. 1*.

First place in the junior vocal category. (See CANADA, page 3)

New Booklet

PASADENA—Editorial Services and Printing Services have completed work on a new booklet, *Who Was Jesus?*, according to evangelist Ronald Kelly, booklet editor. The booklet, written by Plain Truth senior writer Paul Kroll, looks at the life and times of Jesus Christ and His soon-coming return to rulership of the earth.

The booklet is scheduled to be offered on *The World Tomorrow* in the second half of the 1988-89 season.

Because this is a new booklet, it will be sent automatically from Pasadena to all English-speaking member heads of household. It should be ready for mailing in January, so members need not call or write to request it.

U.S. and EC: food fight or trade war?

PASADENA—"US, EC Appear Headed for All-out Trade War." This headline in the Dec. 29 *Journal of Commerce* put in dramatic terms the seriousness of the trade dispute between the United States and the European Community.

As of Jan. 1, the United States is imposing a 100 percent duty on \$100 million worth of selected food items imported from the 12-nation European bloc.

This was in retaliation to an EC ban, also beginning Jan. 1, on the import of American beef treated with growth hormones.

EC spokesmen claim that consumer groups in Europe have demanded such a ban out of health concerns. The United States counters that such fears are scientifically unsubstantiated.

Trade rows between the two powers have erupted in the past, usually resolved by last-minute compromises. But in this food fight neither side appears willing to back down.

EC foreign ministers have drawn up a list of agricultural products that could face higher tariffs in response to the U.S. retaliation to the hormone ban.

In return, the U.S. ambassador to the European Community replied that if the Europeans took such countermeasures, "it's fair to say that you can anticipate further action on our side."

Thus, the two sides, reported the Dec. 23 *Financial Times* of London, could "become embroiled in a vicious cycle of retaliation and

counter-retaliation."

The Jan. 1 *Los Angeles Times* cautioned that such an escalation could throw the transatlantic relationship—economic, financial and military—into question, eventually prompting, on the American side, calls for "reductions in the number of U.S. troops stationed in Europe."

It is possible that there could be resolutions to both the hormone dispute and the one over agricultural subsidies (see "Worldwatch," Dec. 26).

But the fact is, the European Community is no longer as willing as it once was to be the first one to back down. With its aim set on achieving an integrated free market by the end of 1992, it is rapidly becoming a power to contend with.

This was evident at the December summit conference of the heads of government of the 12 EC countries. Meeting on the isle of Rhodes, Greece, the leaders attended to what they called "the irreversible nature of the movement towards a Europe without internal frontiers."

Drawing a parallel between the meeting site—Rhodes—and Greek history, Britain's *Daily Mail* said that progress toward a European Colossus is "un-arrestable."

The EC leaders stressed furthermore, that "the internal market will not close in on itself. Nineteen ninety-two Europe will be a partner and not a 'fortress Europe.'"

Yet some nations, especially rival industrial competitors such as the United States and Japan, remain suspicious as to how open the Eu-

ropean Community will remain.

At a conference I attended in Washington, D.C., titled "Europe 1992: Challenge or Opportunity?", one speaker said that the Europeans, having begun their march toward unity as far back as 1951,

startling: "In the revolutionary scheme of things, an economic war between the United States and Europe can only be beneficial. This economic war will stir up Europe's political conscience.

"Escalation of the economic war

WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg



"are not about to lie down and let the Americans and the Japanese come in and take all the pickings."

American companies have a tremendous stake in Western Europe, their assets totalling \$185 billion in 1986. Many are better positioned to take advantage of 1992 than most European firms, which have traditionally concentrated on individual national markets.

Despite the risky game of economic brinkmanship under way, there is no evidence of a desire to undermine the Atlantic alliance.

But the danger of things getting out of hand is growing. And some people, presently in the minority, view the trade war syndrome in a different, even optimistic, light.

In 1987 I asked Jean Thiriart, a Belgian who believes in a powerful "unitary Europe," what the consequences of a trade war could be.

Mr. Thiriart's answer was

can only be positive, desirable in fact, for the political formation of Europe.

"American economic cynicism will open the eyes of people who initially do not see the United States as the geopolitical enemy that those of us who are conscious of being Europeans consider it to be."

European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



Path of disbelief leads to questioning the Bible

BOREHAMWOOD, England—A miniseries called *Testament* is on British television. Presented by archaeologist John Romer, *Testament* describes the making of the Bible.

Unfortunately this series questions whether ancient Israel existed and whether many of the biblical characters walked the earth. In general it tends to sow doubt rather than faith in the listener's mind.

In a Nov. 5-11 *TV Times* article titled "Bringing the Good Book to Life," Mr. Romer said, "I believe the time has come to take the Bible apart; to put it under the historian's microscope and see what it's really worth."

We in the Church staunchly believe that the Word of God can stand any such test. However, our approach to the authority of the Bible is the critical linchpin to belief and understanding.

Acts 17:11 should be the keynote. "These [Bereans] were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so" (New King James).

Anyone who does not have the Berean attitude will not fully believe the Bible.

The late Francis Schaeffer made a telling point about how to approach scientific or archaeological information that contradicts the Bible.

Mr. Schaeffer wrote in *No Final Conflict*: "The history of science, including science in our own day, has often seen great dogmatism about theories which later have been discarded.

"Thus there is no inherent reason why a current scientific theory should immediately be accepted.

"And there is no inherent reason why a Christian should be put in a panic because the current scientific theory is opposite to what is taught in the Bible" (page 26).

Some 20th century historians have questioned the existence of David and Solomon and the Israelite civilization. This is a century of disbelief. But where did disbelief begin?

Humanly speaking, it began with

A quarter-century ago, Mr. Thiriart made a remarkable prediction in a treatise titled *Europe: An Empire of 400 Million People*.

"Inevitably this economic power will give birth to political power, which will be too great and imposing to be controlled by the feeble democratic politicians . . .

"As the Common Market grows to its full potential, an economic conflict with American capitalism will occur externally while political difficulties will occur internally.

"It is at this point that the present European politicians will find themselves too weak to cope with the resistance encountered, and men of a different calibre will be required.

"The technocrats who created the European Economic Community will want to see their work carried through. So it is highly likely that . . . they will turn to other more determined politicians with more audacious policies to complete their masterpiece."

Europe, Mr. Thiriart told us in a *World Tomorrow* interview, has "the need of a very authoritarian man."



Just between friends

By Dexter H. Faulkner

Oops!

It has been said that doctors bury their mistakes, lawyers send theirs to prison and journalists print theirs for the whole world to see.

Despite the efforts of writers, copy editors, typesetters and proofreaders, sometimes mistakes occur—even in the Church's publications.

In my Aug. 8 column we printed the following:

"Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works" [Revelation 2:5]. This instruction from Paul applies to our physical as well as our spiritual married lives."

However, as we know, Paul is not the author of Revelation. As diligent as the *Worldwide News* staff is, sometimes errors do get through.

Gentle correction

After the mistake I received the following letter from a member.

I quote it because it is the kind of letter we like to receive when we make a mistake.

He began, "Hello, from [city and state]." A sense of warmth and friendliness comes across in his opening statement.

Then: "Thank you with the deepest gratefulness, for all the stimulating, encouraging and convicting messages that you constantly give the brethren in God's family." He shows appreciation for the work that we do.

Later he mentioned: "I take God's Word seriously and study it meticulously. I'm a perfectionist (Matthew 5:48) though admittedly not perfect yet." Here he shows that he too makes mistakes.

"I apply a special intensity to reading your column because on more than one occasion they have been 'meat in due season.'

"So I want to bring to your attention an error (oops!) in your column . . . In the fifth paragraph you quoted Revelation 2:4 correctly and imputed the statement to Christ.

"But in the sixth paragraph you quoted Revelation 2:5 and imputed the statement to Paul (oops!).

"Later . . . you go on to say 'those who really forgive have grasped the deeper meaning of love.'

"So, I forgive you!"

Now, that's the kind of correction I have little trouble accepting.

This member applied Galatians

Sometimes we are our own worst enemies when it comes to making mistakes. Even though God and the wronged party forgive us, we sometimes torture ourselves with guilt.

6:1 when offering correction. "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted" (Galatians 6:1, New King James).

It is sad that, on occasion, we receive letters, even from Church members, pointing out errors (real or imagined) in an angry tone.

Yes, we do make errors. And when we do, we do not take it lightly. It hurts us, and we know that it can hurt you, our readers.

As journalists we strive for accuracy. It is one of our highest goals. We give great attention to detail.

But deadlines always loom over us, and sometimes mistakes occur in

the rush to finish a publication. Journalism has been called literature in a hurry.

When we make mistakes

As frustrating as it is, we all make mistakes. God knows we will, and He has designed a way to erase those mistakes, leave them behind and overcome them.

Any hope God might have had that man would not make mistakes, ended when Adam and Eve sinned.

Sometimes we are our own worst enemies when it comes to making mistakes. Even though God and the wronged party forgive us, we sometimes torture ourselves with guilt.

We forget that Christ paid the penalty for our sins. He forgives and forgets. Even if we have gone to our brother, asked for and received forgiveness, we often can't forgive ourselves and forget past mistakes.

Even when we are corrected for our mistakes we must realize that God's correction is not vengeful, but He corrects us so we may grow in character and inherit eternal life.

Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know

the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope" (NKJ).

God wants us to learn from our mistakes and grow. His ministers are motivated by this same spirit. When they correct us, they want us to overcome our problems and grow.

If we treasure the correction, as painful as it may at times be, learn from our mistakes and change, we are on the way to forgiving ourselves and forgetting past mistakes.

We need to remember Paul's example of "forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before" (Philippians 3:13).

Asia

(Continued from page 1)

Said Eliotario Rizallosa, a member from Davao, "He has contagious warmth and enthusiasm!"

Dec. 20 Mr. Tkach and his traveling party went by boat to Corregidor, an island fortress guarding the entrance to Manila Bay, where U.S. and Filipino soldiers made their last stand against Japanese invaders during the first months of World War II. While touring, Mr. Tkach discussed his Pacific war experiences.

Steve Bergstrom, remote operations engineer for the television crew, said: "I recall my father talking about World War II and how it changed America. I look at my father and Mr. Tkach and realize these men . . . are tough people that survived. Mr. Tkach is now a soldier in the right army, as we all are."

Hong Kong

Continuing on to Hong Kong, the pastor general was greeted at the Kai Tak airport by Mr. Fahey and his wife, Evelyn.

Hong Kong, which means "Fragrant Harbor" in Chinese, covers 403 square miles along the south coast of China. Hong Kong's population is 5.65 million, making it the third most densely populated area in the world. About 98 percent are of Chinese descent.

A bustling trade center, and shopping and banking hub, Hong Kong is one of the greatest trading and transshipment centers in the Far East.

Thursday, Dec. 22, Mr. Tkach and his party toured Victoria Peak, Repulse Bay, Stanley Market, Aberdeen Floating Village and San Pan City. That evening the pastor general was host at a dinner in the Regent Hotel for the six Hong Kong members.

Those attending were Irene Lee, Buggy Daswani, Mr. and Mrs. Ma Ming Tak and their 6-month-old son, Joseph, Peter Lam, Jimmy Wong and his son, Wallace, and Joe Zachariah, a U.S. citizen living in Singapore.

For more than an hour after dinner Mr. Tkach talked with the group and answered questions about the Work, Hong Kong and the rest of the world, according to Mr. Fahey.

Hong Kong members presented Mr. Tkach with a book on Hong Kong signed by all the members and

a photograph of a runner with the inscription, "Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith."

"This couldn't have been a nicer evening," said Mr. Daswani. "It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Accompanied by the Faheys, Mr. Tkach and his traveling party boarded the BAC 1-11 for Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Dec. 23.

Malaysia

Stretching 400 miles across the South China Sea, the Federation of Malaysia lies just north of the equator, giving it a hot, humid climate.

The two monsoon seasons bring heavy rainfall to coastal areas. About 90 percent of the land area is covered with dense forests.

In Kuala Lumpur Mr. Tkach was met by Yong Chin Gee, Malaysian pastor, and his wife, Yuet Siam.

Sabbath services Dec. 24 were conducted in the Sarawak Room of the Shangri-La Hotel, where 253 brethren assembled.

Mr. Tkach explained how God is building His family to help save the rest of mankind, and that brethren are privileged to be called of God to be a part of it. A Malay short sword and a coffee and tea set with goblets, both made from pewter, were presented to the pastor general.

After shaking hands with brethren for more than an hour, Mr. Tkach was host at a dinner for ministers, deacons, deaconesses and their spouses.

Evening entertainment by Malaysian brethren included a Malay welcome dance, Indonesian dance, fan dance, Chinese ribbon and court dances, flower dances and bamboo flute and organ solos.

"The immediate bond of friendship that springs up between people of different cultures in God's Church shows that what we have in common is far stronger than our apparent differences," said Mr. Halford, who pastored the churches in Malaysia 11 years ago.

Mr. Tkach viewed a video presentation on the Work in Malaysia and Singapore. He said: "I told Mr. Fahey that I believe that area has a great potential for growth and development. It's sad that we don't yet have the personnel to assist in those remote areas of the world."

Dec. 25 the group left for home,

stopping for fuel in Guam, Wake Island and Honolulu, Hawaii.

"On the way to the Philippines we had refueled on Wake Island, a tiny island in the middle of the Pacific," Mr. Halford related.

"There is basically room for only an airstrip, a small base and that's it. There are only seven American servicemen stationed there, a few civilians and some Thai people managing the facilities. Basically it's an emergency stop and for refueling in the Pacific."

He continued: "When we landed, the base commander had his courtesy bus waiting and took us on a complete tour of the island. He happened to mention that the nearest McDonald's restaurant was 1,200 miles away on Guam."

"So, on the way home, since we

had to stop both in Guam and Wake, we picked up seven quarter-pounders and seven orders of french fries at McDonald's and two dozen Winchell's doughnuts on Guam, and delivered them to the major for U.S. troops on Wake.

"We told him, 'We even deliver!' The gift was much appreciated."

Vote of thanks

"Our regional directors, their wives and those who help them in our international offices really deserve a vote of thanks for all their labor," said Ellen Escat, Mr. Tkach's administrative assistant. "The calling God has given them is a great responsibility. It is not an easy task."

Also traveling with Mr. Tkach were administrative projects coordinator Michael Rasmussen and

secretary Esther Apperson. After visiting Ambassador Foundation projects in Sri Lanka and Thailand (see Dec. 26 *WN*), Mrs. Escat rendezvoused with the traveling party in Manila.

The Church's television crew was composed of Mr. Halford, Mr. Bergstrom and cameraman Gary Werings.

Serving as Mr. Tkach's BAC 1-11 flight crew were Captain Jack Cogburn, co-captain Laird Cogburn, co-captain Lawrence Dietrich, steward Jay Brothers and chef Terence Wiclawski.

"All the brethren feel closer to headquarters and the special calling that God has given Mr. Tkach," said Mr. Matthews. "Members around the world are now linked by Mr. Tkach's personal contact."

Typhoons ravage Philippines

TOLEDO, Philippines—Brethren here experienced the unexpected when Typhoon Welpring (Tess) struck the Central Visayas region Nov. 2.

The typhoon was preceded by Typhoon Unsang and followed by Typhoon Yoning (internationally known as Ruby and Skip), which also brought death and destruction to the Philippines.

Although Welpring's winds of 70 kilometers (about 45 miles) an hour did not hit Toledo directly, the typhoon caused heavy rains and flooding, according to Tiburcio Rota, a minister in the Toledo church.

It swept away bridges and damaged properties, crops and livestock. Several people died.

At 1 p.m. floodwaters began rising rapidly at the Atlas Mining Sangi Compound, where Mr. Rota, member Flaviano Calope and their families live. Residents were evacuated to the Sangi Power Station building.

The flood made Toledo "almost isolated from the rest of the world as far as land travel was concerned," said Mr. Rota.

The only link between Toledo and Cebu, Philippines, was a narrow piece of land passable only by light vehicles.

Reynaldo Taniajura, pastor of the

Cebu and Toledo churches, conducted Sabbath services Nov. 5, but brethren from northern and southern towns were unable to attend.

Those who did make it walked a few miles and spent more than double the normal fare for tolls and temporary ferryboats.

Brethren handled the situation positively, said Mr. Rota. "This experience made us more sober and realized more the need for God's divine protection and intervention."

Some members on the islands of Leyte, Samar and Luzon suffered property damages and crop losses, according to Rodney Matthews, regional director.

"Several members experienced God's protection during the storms," said Mr. Matthews.

Floods destroyed a number of houses in the center of Donsol when a creek overflowed its banks and swept away some of the streets.

A member's home was about five meters (16½ feet) from one of the flooded streets, but it escaped damage. A neighbor's house was heavily damaged, however, when floodwaters washed its foundation away.

Brethren affected by the storms commented that the assistance provided by the regional office and area members is visible proof of the family attitude within God's Church.

Minister escapes injury in automobile accident

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia—Pastor Yong Chin Gee had a narrow escape in an auto accident Dec. 11, after conducting a Bible study for Indian-speaking brethren.

He related: "I drove back alone to Kuala Lumpur at about 7:30 at night. Halfway through the two-hour journey, on a stretch of quite isolated, single-lane road, there appeared an animal, which was slightly larger than a dog, and it dashed in front of my car."

"I was traveling about 60 miles per hour. That very instant a loud impact occurred. All of a sudden the 1800cc Honda I was driving went out of control."

"I pressed on the brakes as well as the clutch, and the car swerved from the left side of the road to the right."

"It descended a steep slope while rocking from side to side. I must

have uttered a prayer for God's rescue.

"The car marvelously came to a halt. It was fortunate that there were no cars in front or behind when the incident happened."

"But immediately after that, vehicles whisked by both sides of the road. Some motorists stopped by when they saw an accident had occurred."

"My car was now perching precariously on the steep slope of the embankment. However, with the help of some of the motorists I was able to make my way up to the main road again."

"The car suffered no damage except for some markings on the front fender. I felt relieved and very thankful for God's intervention, otherwise I would not know what the consequence would be."

Canada

(Continued from page 1)

egory went to Deidre d'Entremont of Halifax, N.S., who sang "Lovely Moon" by Murgatroyd Farrar. Kristy Fenemore of Barrie, Ont., was runner-up. She sang "Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans?" by E. Delange and L. Alter.

Pianist Tammy Hiller of Winnipeg, Man., took first place in the junior instrumental category. She played Ludwig van Beethoven's "Fuer Elise." Runner-up was pianist Laurie Katai of Vancouver,

who played Frederic Chopin's *Waltz in E Minor*.

Each participant received a hard-bound certificate of participation. George Patrickson, executive assistant to evangelist Colin Adair, regional director, presented awards. Mr. Adair was in Pasadena for the regional directors conference.

Daniel Hope, pastor of the Abbotsford, B.C., church, was master of ceremonies.

The group arrived Nov. 25 for a reception and a tour of the Church's regional office. Other weekend activities included meals at several restaurants overlooking Vancouver's inner harbors.



TALENTED TEENS—Pictured are finalists in the 1988 Canadian Youth Opportunities United (YOU) national talent contest, which took place Nov. 27.

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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; Jeremy Rapson, Borehamwood, England; Richard Steinfors, Nieuwegein, Netherlands.

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Report from

the Treasurer's Office

Leroy Neff

PASADENA—U.S. Church income for 1988 was 5.5 percent more than 1987. We are pleased that God has continued to bless the Church with increases. Of course, we would all like these increases to be greater.

We overspent the expense budget by a fraction of a percent. Therefore, our year-end reserves are slightly lower than what we planned they would be.

The 1989 budget is in the final stages of completion. Only a few numbers must be slightly revised. In this new budget a small reserve is planned to cover the slight losses in reserves during 1988.

During 1988 we have almost eliminated all long-term debt and have continued to "pay as you go." I realize that this is not a common practice today. Many nations, businesses and people are heavily in debt. That is an unhealthy situation that portends great problems for the future.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support during 1988.

Each role in Television aids in conveying Gospel message

PASADENA—Producing the *World Tomorrow* program in English, German, French and Italian, along with other Church productions, takes a multitasking and dedicated staff of 60 full-time employees.

Assembling each *World Tomorrow* program takes more than 500 man-hours after the presenter leaves the studio.

Because of the creative processes and the cross-over of talent involved in producing each program, the people who work in Television Production cannot be grouped into specific sections. There are, however, several distinct areas.

Writing

Before the production process takes place scripts are written. Television's two scriptwriters are John



SENIOR EDITOR—Clay Thornton adds video clips to a master video tape. [Photo by Barry Stahl]

Halford and Keith Stump. Tina Kuo and Barry Sowder do research and specialty writing.

Production

Tobin Wegner, an associate director for the telecast, is also the supervisor for the English-language *World Tomorrow* and Festival productions.

Each *World Tomorrow* program and the Festival productions are assigned to an associate director. Before the script is finalized and the program taped, the associate director—Duane Abler, Joseph Costantino, Mary Shaner or Mr. Wegner with the help of production assistant Bardet Lucas—determines the cover (video clips that relate to the topic) that will be used.

"One of our greatest creative challenges is to visually illustrate spiritual and prophetic concepts so that the correct message gets across to the viewer," said Mr. Abler.

The associate director organizes and directs scenes taped by on-location cameramen Gary Werings and Mark Broadwater or obtains the needed footage from commercial sources. The associate director is assisted by Peter Lee, production manager; Rebecca McMorris, pro-

duction assistant; Charles Vorhes, researcher; and Vera Boone, tape librarian.

"The associate director all but owns a program from the time the presenter leaves the studio until the program is viewed and approved," said Mr. Wegner. "Each part of the post-production process receives his or her creative energies and attention."

The associate directors work closely with other members of the production staff. Graphic artist Nick Leaver creates the theme graphic and other graphics such as maps and charts that appear on each program.

Taping the *World Tomorrow* program is a team effort. The taping is done on the *World Tomorrow* set in Television's main studio. The program is taped with three cameras. Depending upon their schedules Mr. Leaver, Mr. Lucas, Mr. Werings, Mr. Abler and Mr. Broadwater operate the cameras.

Larry Omasta, operation manager for the Television/Radio Production Department and producer of the *World Tomorrow* telecast, directs the taping from one of Television's two control rooms.

During the taping he calls for camera shots he would like recorded. Also in the control room is Tony Murphy, assistant chief engineer, who serves as technical director and operates the video switcher that routes the camera video signal to various video tape machines in the VTR (video tape room).

Mr. Wegner, also in the control room, times taping segments and discusses production strategies with Mr. Omasta. Linda Scobee, administrative assistant to Mr. Omasta, operates a prompting system, which allows the presenter to read the script while looking directly into the camera.

Mr. Costantino, floor director during tapings, works with the presenter, guiding him through camera changes and taping procedures given to him by intercom from the taping director.

Other members of the taping team include Tom Ivcevic, senior production audio specialist, who works from an audio room to record and monitor the audio portion of the telecast; Lee Pettijohn, chief engineer, who works in video control to monitor the balance and color from each camera to ensure that they match; and Matt Hart, senior VTR operator, who records the video output of all the cameras.

After the program is taped an audio cassette goes to scripting, where it is transcribed by Linda Hansen, scripting supervisor, or Cindy Owens. Mr. Omasta and Mr. Wegner

then go over the script to see how much of the taped material can be incorporated into the final program.

Since each television program must be exactly 28 minutes and 30 seconds in length—the maximum accepted length of a 30-minute program the stations will air—the amount of program material taped must be trimmed down.

After the program is cut "on paper" the script is given to Rick Morris, production audio specialist. He follows the script and cuts the audio tape. He also adds additional interviews and narrations when called for to complete the audio track of the program. This timed audio track is then laid back to the master video tape.

Senior editor Clay Thornton then matches the video, shot in the studio, to the audio track that is on the master tape. Mr. Thornton also supervises the insertion of the scriptures, quotes, phone numbers and addresses that appear in the program. These are typed on the compositor (a word processor for video) by Nanci Wilcox.

In the meantime the associate directors assemble the footage they have obtained to cover the clip sec-



PLANNING MEETING—The *World Tomorrow* producer, writers, associate directors and audio engineers meet to discuss a taping. Clockwise from upper left: Keith Stump, Larry Omasta, Linda Scobee, John Halford, Tobin Wegner, Al Killebrew, Duane Abler, Tom Ivcevic, Joseph Costantino and Mary Shaner. [Photo by Barry Stahl]

tions. By using an off-line editing system (a less expensive editing system) they prepare preliminary video drafts of the clips that can be viewed, discussed and approved by Mr. Omasta. Then the clips go to Mr. Thornton for insertion into the master tape of the program.

The next step in the production cycle is the addition of music and sound effects. Al Killebrew, music editor, locates or composes the music for the video clips, and Mr. Ivcevic adds the sound effects and assembles the final narration. Mr. Killebrew and Mr. Ivcevic are responsible for the final assembly and

mix of all the audio tracks.

Most employees work 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., but some of the telecast production crew works 3 p.m. to midnight, allowing the department to take advantage of production equipment as many hours as possible. These include editors Jerry De Gier and Gary Ras, video controller Rob Gordon and video tape operator Mark Reingoudt.

Shelby Grundy, the only employee who works from midnight to 8 a.m., duplicates the telecast for distribution. Mr. Grundy has worked this shift for 15 years.

(See TELEVISION, page 7)

Recording, editing, transcribing, shipping

Radio staff is a team effort

By Kerri Dowd

PASADENA—Only one station in the United States airs *The World Tomorrow* on radio—KGGF in Coffeyville, Kan.

The English radio broadcast is heard on 17 other stations in eight countries, according to Garland Snuffer, supervisor of the Radio Production Department.

The broadcast continues to air on one station in the United States in order to safeguard the Church's copyright on radio, according to Mr. Snuffer.

Mr. Snuffer, a Church member since 1958, began working with the radio program as a dubber (duplicating tapes) in 1967—just before the department reached its peak number of stations, 351.

"I've had an interest in communications and radio all of my life," he said. Mr. Snuffer worked in communications, broadcasting and electronic manufacturing before coming to work for the Church. He has been supervisor of Radio Production since 1977. Mr. Snuffer is also a ham radio operator.

The English radio program is an edited version of the *World Tomorrow* telecast. Manfred Fraund receives tape reels from Television and edits them to produce the radio broadcasts.

Because certain parts of the telecast are seen and not heard, additional material is taped at Television for the radio program.

Roxonne Wright scripts the broadcasts. She is assisted by Kirsten Harty, an Ambassador College senior.

Le Monde a Venir, the French radio broadcast, is aired on a number of stations that varies each month. "Officially it is on four stations," said Martin Tranquada, who makes tapes for the French areas. These stations include Radio-Television Luxembourg (RTL), which covers most of France.

He explained that because air time is free in some French-speaking areas, ministers can have the program aired on various stations. "For example, besides the one station we have contracted for in Martinique, six additional stations relay

the program throughout the island," said Mr. Snuffer.

The French broadcast is a 15-minute program written and produced by evangelist Dibar Aparthian, French regional director.

But the *World Tomorrow* radio broadcast is not all that comes from Radio Production. For disabled subscribers, the department produces and copies about 1,800 cassette tapes of each issue of *The Plain Truth*, 1,000 copies of *The Good News*, 550 copies of *The Worldwide News* and 300 copies of *Youth '89*. "More than 2,000 people are served this way," said Mr. Snuffer. Booklets are also available on tape.

Before 1977 the literature tapes featured the voice of just one person. In 1977 three people took on the job. "Now, as much as possible, we like to get the authors to read their articles," Mr. Snuffer said.

Karwin Klassy edits these recordings. He also produces sermon masters for tapes of selected sermons and Ambassador College classes to be sent to the ministry.

Melinda Burgess and Miss Wright transcribe sermons to be sent to deaf members and maintain all the records for shipments to the handicapped, Mr. Snuffer said. "About 90 people are receiving

these scripts."

William Linge packages and ships tapes to the ministry and churches and is responsible for record keeping. Jonathan Middleton packages and ships tapes to disabled members. They are assisted by Ambassador College senior Jane Leavell.

Michael Rogalski, audio maintenance engineer, maintains the de-



PRODUCTION PLANNING—Garland Snuffer, supervisor of Radio Production, points out information on the department's production schedule to his secretary, Mary Lou Morris. [Photo by Hal Finch]

partment's equipment, researches new equipment and assists in other areas.

Mary Lou Morris serves as Mr. Snuffer's secretary and receptionist for the department.



TV PERSONALITIES—Writers, directors, editors, engineers, graphic designers, audio technicians, administrative staff, production assistants and support personnel produce the *World Tomorrow* telecast, Festival productions and other projects in the Television Department. [Photo by Barry Stahl]



RADIO EMPLOYEES—From left: Nana Carl, an employee for almost five years (who transferred to the Security & Safety Department in December), Karwin Klassy, Mary Lou Morris, Michael Rogalski, Garland Snuffer, Martin Tranquada, Roxonne Wright, Manfred Fraund, William Linge and Jonathan Middleton. Not pictured: Melinda Burgess and student employees Jane Leavell and Kirsten Harty. [Photo by Hal Finch]

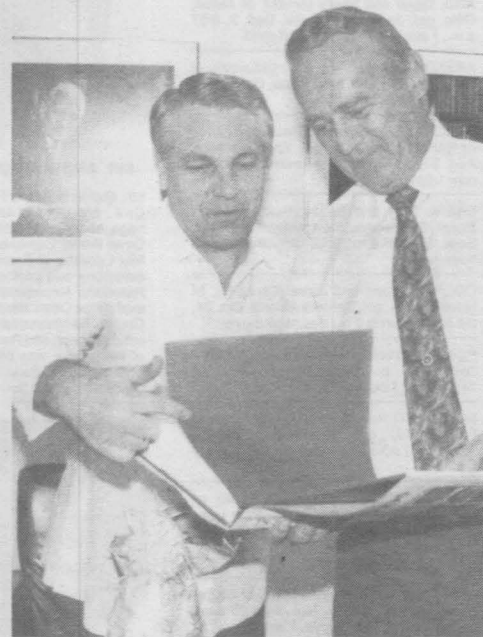
Our Family in Southeast Asia



MANILA, PHILIPPINES



KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA



MAKATI, PHILIPPINES



MANILA, PHILIPPINES

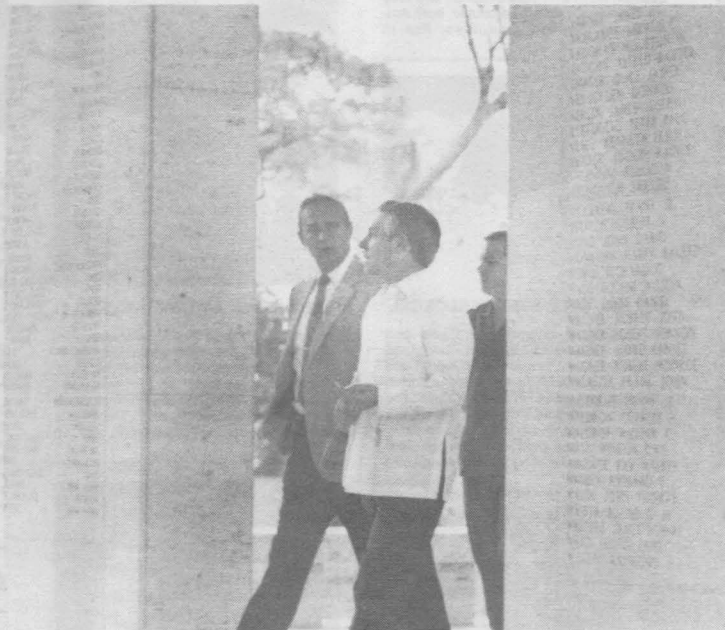
FAMILY IN CHRIST—Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's Dec. 13 to 26 trip to Southeast Asia begins with (clockwise from top right) a visit to the Church's Office in Makati, Philippines, where regional director Rodney Matthews gives Mr. Tkach a book about the Philippines; Reynaldo Taniajura, Cebu pastor, presents Mr. Tkach with a gift in Cebu; pastor Victor Lim (center), his wife, Ligaya, and brethren with Mr. Tkach in Davao; youths prepare for evening entertainment in Manila; Hong Kong brethren with Robert Fahey (far left), Australian and Asian regional director, and his wife, Evelyn (seated, left); Pedro Ortiguero, the longest-serving minister in the Philippines, and his wife, Saling, receive 25-year watches in Manila; dancers get ready for an evening show; brethren encircle Malaysia pastor Yong Chin Gee and his wife, Yuet Siam, in Kuala Lumpur. Center, Mr. Matthews escorts Mr. Tkach through Manila's World War II memorial and cemetery. [Photos by Lawrence Dietrich, Antonio Espinosa, Ruel Guerrero, Rebecca Laureano, Clement Lim and Rafael Uy]



CEBU, PHILIPPINES



HONG KONG



MANILA, PHILIPPINES



DAVAO, PHILIPPINES



MANILA, PHILIPPINES



MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Graduates of '68, '78 gather in Pasadena for AC reunion

By Carla Pearson

PASADENA—Graduates from the Ambassador College classes of 1968 and 1978 gathered here for a class reunion Dec. 24 and 25.

Having the reunion over the Christmas weekend allowed more graduates to attend who might otherwise have been unable to get time off work, according to William Hutchison. Mr. Hutchison, coordinator of the event, is a 1978 graduate and a systems programmer in the Church's Computer Information Systems Department.

Eight 1968 graduates and 57 from 1978, along with their families, made attendance for the reunion 110. Almost 50 percent live in the Pasadena area, Mr. Hutchison said.

The weekend began with a reunion Bible study on Sabbath morning conducted by evangelist Dean Blackwell. Mr. Blackwell focused on the theme, "We Are One Family." He encouraged the graduates to take what they learned, and to exhort and encourage others.

The two classes sat together for

Sabbath services in the Ambassador Auditorium that afternoon. In the evening the graduates and their families assembled in the student center club rooms to eat snacks and watch a videotape of 1977 Thanksgiving ball entertainment that was put on by the 1978 class. Movies were shown for the children.

"We talked, laughed and told stories about the good old times," Kathlene Lewis, a 1978 graduate and secretary in the vice chancellor's office, said. "The reunion really bridged the 10-year gap since we were last together."

Sunday morning, Dec. 25, some graduates toured the Ambassador Auditorium. That afternoon a class photograph was taken by the Hall of Administration and a luncheon took place in the club rooms.

It was in 1977 that Ambassador College in Big Sandy closed and the Big Sandy students joined the Pasadena students for the 1977-78 school year.

Jeb Egbert, assistant director of Career Services and instructor in business administration at Amba-

sador College in Pasadena, served as 1978 co-student body president, along with Mark Mickelson, assistant pastor of the Omaha and Lincoln, Neb., and Sioux City, Iowa, churches.

John LaBissoniere, an audiovisual coordinator in Ambassador Printing Services, and John Siston,

office manager of an employment agency in Azusa, Calif., served as co-senior class presidents. Mr. Siston spoke to the group during the luncheon.

Evangelist Ronald Kelly, Big Sandy dean of students for 13 years and now a senior writer for *The Plain Truth*, was guest speaker. He commended the graduates for their stability, strength and stamina.

After the luncheon the graduates visited with alumni friends.

In preparation for the reunion, graduates were asked to supply information about their occupation, the names of their spouses and children, what they had done since

graduation and to send in a picture. These were compiled in a brochure that was distributed during the weekend. Pasadena-based graduates provided accommodations for their out-of-town classmates.

"The weekend was very successful," Mr. Hutchison said. "We hope to get together again in about five years at the Feast of Tabernacles at one of the U.S. sites to spend a little more time with one another."

Any 1978 Ambassador College graduates who are interested in a Festival class reunion in five years should contact Mr. Hutchison at Computer Information Services, Pasadena, Calif., 91123.

Television

(Continued from page 4)

Another part of the production team is the remote video crew, supervised by Mr. Halford, associate producer for the Festival productions, including the *We Are One Family* presentations. Steve Bergstrom, remote engineer, and Mr. Werings or Mr. Broadwater accompany Mr. Tkach on his worldwide travels and gather footage.

The footage they bring back is edited and presented to the brethren worldwide as special sermons shown during Pentecost and the Feast of Tabernacles.

Another aspect of production is the audio and visual area. Robin Stow, production specialist, assists in providing audio and video needs for Ministerial Refreshing Program speakers and, when necessary, for area ministers for Bible studies in Pasadena.

Television produces the French, German and Italian *World Tomorrow* programs under the supervision of Glenn Mitchell. These are voice-over programs, which means the viewers listen to a translation that overrides the original speaker's audio, which can be heard in the background.

Bernard Hongerlout does the French voice-overs; Norbert Link does the German; and Carmelo Anastasi does the Italian. These men, all Church members, are employed by the Church in other departments.

The French, German and Italian telecasts are identical to the English version, except that any words—

scriptures, quotes, titles and literature offers—must be replaced, according to Mr. Mitchell. "Occasionally, a clip must be reshot or an alternate clip must be used," Mr. Mitchell said.

Since January, 1988, French, German or Italian transcripts of the telecast have been offered to viewers when no equivalent literature is available in those languages.

Mr. Mitchell supervises a separate production staff that includes Barb Wilcox, Mr. Mitchell's secretary; two full-time language specialists, Randall Gordon and Martina Tholl; and two students. George Hague, an audio specialist, and Victor Martinez, an editor, also assist in producing the programs.

The Church's French, German and Italian departments are responsible for translating the scripts. Not every script is translated because some subjects are too American or too controversial for certain areas, Mr. Mitchell said.

Engineering

The engineering section is supervised by Mr. Pettijohn and his assistant, Mr. Murphy. Marge Kelly is the engineering secretary. This area

consists of production engineers and maintenance engineers. The production engineers provide technical support and work with the production team.

Rick Lundquist, Mike Limanni, Rob Gordon (video control), Mr. Hart, Larry Pritchett and Mr. Reynoudt (VTR) are part of the production engineering team. They are responsible for setting up the studio cameras and video tape machines, making sure that video and industry standards are met. They also watch to be sure there are no technical imperfections in the video that might distract the viewers.

"The real unsung heroes of the facility are the maintenance engineers," said Mr. Pettijohn. Maintenance engineers Al Allworth, Dwight Blevins, Randy Champion, Paul Coleman, Richard Dolan, Duane Dunn, Ron Newport and Bob Wickersham assure that the equipment is working optimally. They diagnose and remedy equipment problems.

"With a facility that runs 24 hours a day, 6 days a week and with every minute of downtime costing big money, that's no small feat," (See TELEVISION, page 8)

Church News Clips

● Roanoke, Va., brethren made 60 gallons of apple butter Oct. 29 and 30 at the orchard of member Mike Kinzie.

More than 30 brethren peeled 34 bushels of Winesap and Stayman apples. Six others stirred and added apple pieces to two copper kettles. During the last hour of cooking, sugar and oil of cinnamon were added. Then the apple butter was canned.

Some apple butter will be sold retail at the orchard and some sold to brethren at a discount. Proceeds will go to the church's activity fund.

● Melody Farms Music Museum was the destination of a Wellington, New Zealand, senior citizens mystery tour Oct. 30. The museum

houses player pianos, music boxes, Edison phonographs with wax cylinders, early recordings and record players—even a portable turntable that was used in the trenches of World War I.

After the tour and a piano-roll sing-along, the group had afternoon tea.

● Tractors, combines, hay bales, livestock pens and pine trees transformed the convention center on the Big Sandy campus into a giant barn for the church's second annual barn dance, Nov. 19.

A professional square dance caller, dancing to live music, game booths, board games, livestock and refreshments added to the evening.

Children's Corner

The Best Gift

By Vivian Pettijohn

Miss Jones, the third-grade teacher, tapped a ruler on her desk as a woman in a red dress entered the room.

"Class, may I have your attention, please? This is Mrs. Meade from the newspaper. She is writing an article on what children consider their best Christmas gift, and she wants your help.

"So be thinking of your answer. I'll call your names alphabetically—starting with you, Jessica Albertson. What was your best gift?"

Jessica answered excitedly, "A big doll with a blue dress!"

The boys snickered.

One by one, the answers came—a skateboard, a kit for a model railroad depot, a video game, a puppy, a ticket to Disneyland, a bicycle, an ant farm—on and on.

Kathy Winfield didn't hear most of the answers as she thought, I wish Miss Jones would skip me. Since I don't celebrate Christmas, I didn't re-



Artwork to color by Ken Tunell

ceive Christmas gifts to tell about.

Mrs. Meade busily wrote down each answer, smiling.

"What should I say?" Kathy asked God silently. After a minute she knew.

Since her last name started with a *W*, Kathy's turn came near the end. This gave her a few minutes to think—and to get more nervous.

Finally, it was Robert Williams'

turn, just ahead of Kathy. He said proudly: "My best gift was a wrist-watch. See? I'm wearing it!"

"Next, Kathy Winfield," Miss Jones said. "And your best gift?"

"My parents and I don't celebrate Christmas. As for presents, my family gives each other gifts at other times."

Mrs. Meade looked surprised. She looked to Miss Jones for an explanation.

"Mrs. Meade," Miss Jones said, "Kathy does not observe Christmas. For a moment I forgot, and I apologize to her for expecting her to answer."

"Kathy, thank you for answering. Now, the last student is Simon Zakl. What was your best Christmas gift?"

After Miss Jones dismissed the class for the day, Kathy and her two brothers walked home from school.

She told them what happened and exclaimed: "I'll be so glad when everyone learns the truth about God and His plan. Then they will know that God's truth is their best gift."

Suggestions?

How can *The Worldwide News* better serve you? The *Worldwide News* staff is considering ways to improve the paper, and we would like to hear from you, the reader. Are there articles or sections you particularly like? Are there any you never read? Is there anything you would like added to the paper? Please send your suggestions to *The Worldwide News*, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91129.

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

PASADENA—Richard Young, *Reader's Digest* West Coast director for international sales, visited Communications & Public Affairs Dec. 7 to review 1988 and discuss 1989 advertisements in the magazine.

"The Church has a high profile with *Reader's Digest* internationally and is valued by them as a major client," said evangelist David Hulme, director of Communications & Public Affairs. "We are their second-largest international advertiser."

Ads are scheduled to appear in the magazine in the first quarter of 1989 in Belgium, the Netherlands, Australia, France, Switzerland and South Africa.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—The Ambassador Foundation will sponsor a public television production of *A Raisin in the Sun*, which centers on the struggles of a black ghetto fam-

ily in Chicago, Ill.

The production will appear throughout the United States on Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) stations during the 1989 season of American Playhouse. It is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 1.

★ ★ ★

MANILA, Philippines—Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach presented Pedro Ortiguero, and his wife, Sal-ing, with watches Dec. 18 to commemorate their 25 years of service to the Church.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—Church Administration announced the following ordination.

John Andrews, a ministerial trainee in Maidstone, England, was ordained a local elder on the Day of Atonement, Sept. 21.

★ ★ ★

BONN, West Germany—Alfred

and Helene Hennig, press photographers who have worked with the Church for 21 years, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the 37th annual ball of the German press in November.

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach sent the Hennigs a bouquet of 50 red roses with congratulations and thanks for their years of service to



ALFRED & HELENE HENNIG

the Church. Regional director John Karlson, and his wife, Kristina, delivered the flowers along with an Austrian crystal candelabra on behalf of the regional office.

The Hennigs have provided many photographs for Church publications and have helped the Work establish contacts with leaders and heads of state.

spirit of teamwork that has to exist here at Television in order to get the job done. Everyone working here has an important job, if just one aspect of a job is neglected, it will cause a domino effect that will cause serious repercussions," said Mr. Omasta.

Another function of the administrative staff is media traffic, supervised by Mary Hamilton, who is assisted by Dorcus Taylor. Media traffic keeps up with the Arbitron ratings, receives and analyzes statistics on the telecast and records pre-empted and airing problems.

Media traffic also processes information from Church members involved in the monitoring program. Members view the telecast and report airing problems. Monitoring in international areas is coordinated through media traffic as well.

Carl Burquist, shipping coordinator, assisted by Ed Paradis, handles tape distribution to domestic and international television stations as well as to the satellite feed, WOLD, which syndicates to 151 stations in the United States and 11 in Canada. Stan Duncan, driver, also serves in this area, when he is not on the road.

"I can't emphasize enough the

that those in Sardis who have not defiled their garments become Philadelphians. Nor does it say that those in Thyatira who hold fast will become Philadelphians.

It is simply not biblical to say that the best spiritual state is the state of being Philadelphian, and that we should all strive to be Philadelphian above others.

What the messages to the churches do tell us is that we should look carefully at our spiritual state, whatever it is, and repent wherever necessary, so that we will be ready when Jesus returns—no matter the century or era.

This is the message of the entire New Testament. We are told to hear, and to heed, what the Spirit says to the churches. The best spiritual state is that of being forgiven.

Details of our trip to visit the brethren in the Philippines, Hong Kong and Malaysia are included in this issue of *The Worldwide News*. But let me take this opportunity to pass on to everyone their love and enthusiasm for God's Work and all their brethren around the world.

Finally brethren, as 1989 begins, let's each put our prayers and energies into making this year even more productive and successful than last, both in personal growth and for God's Work! My prayers are with you daily.

Television

(Continued from page 7)

said Mr. Pettijohn. Maintenance engineers are always on call because when a piece of equipment goes down it doesn't necessarily happen between 8 and 5.

Administration

The administration area assists Mr. Omasta in overall planning, scheduling, budgeting, cost accounting, scripting, distributing and monitoring of the *World Tomorrow* program.

Mrs. Scobee helps coordinate the administrative staff, which includes JoAnn Conn, cost accountant; Kay Ford, local area network (LAN) administrator; and receptionists Darlene Limanni and Nanci Wilcox. Kim Meyerdierks, Mr. Omasta's secretary, also helps keep this area running smoothly.

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

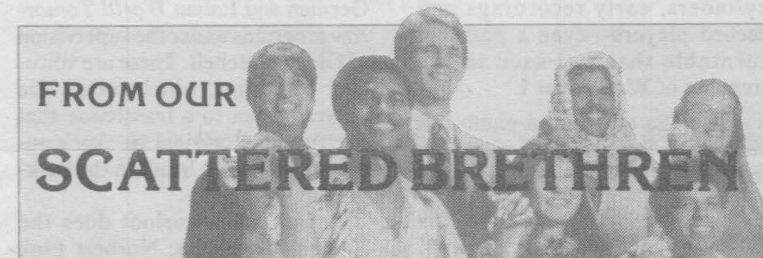
messages to the seven churches in the book of Revelation. Specifically, I want to sharpen our focus on Philadelphia and Laodicea.

Over the years, some have referred to the faithful in the Church as Philadelphians, and the unfaithful as Laodiceans. I believe this practice may have created the false impression that all Philadelphians are faithful, and all Laodiceans are unfaithful.

While the overall condition of the Philadelphia church is positive and Laodicea negative, the Bible most certainly does not say that Philadelphia is the standard.

The Bible calls on those in Laodicea who are weak to repent. Those who do are considered faithful and receive their reward. It also calls upon those in Philadelphia, before whom God both opens and shuts doors, to "hold that fast which you have, that no man take your crown." This indicates that some in Philadelphia won't, and therefore won't be faithful.

Furthermore, the Bible does not say that those who repent in Laodicea become Philadelphians, and those who don't hold fast in Philadelphia become Laodiceans. The Bible also does not say



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

PASADENA—In cooperation with Church Administration here, the Philippines Regional Office is now responsible for any Church activity in South Korea. The country was formerly administered by the Australian Office.

The islands of Kiribati, Tuvalu and Nauru, also handled by the Australian Office, are now administered from New Zealand.

"When we looked after them, we had to go through Fiji to visit them," said Robert Fahey, regional director for Australia and Asia.

Mr. Fahey also reported that he is attempting to send Ken Howah, an employee in the Australian Office, and his wife, Maureen, to Malaysia to help Yong Chin Gee, pastor of the Kuala Lumpur and Johore Bahru, Malaysia, churches, set up a mailing office.

"This is something we have wanted to do for years," he added. "Maybe God is opening the door now."

Office moves

The Trinidad suboffice in the Caribbean was relocated in November to the city of Arima, where there is space to meet the growing needs of the office. Church activities can also be conducted there.

"Amazingly, the cost for the office is the same as was being paid for the other office and meeting hall, which were of much lower quality," said evangelist Stan Bass, Caribbean regional director.

Clifton Charles, Trinidad pastor, helped ensure a smooth transfer of the telephone system and lines into the new office, because the system "plays a critical part in receiving the large weekly response from the *World Tomorrow* program," said Mr. Bass.

The Hennigs were honored with choice seats at the ball. Other guests included West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, and President Richard von Weizsaecker.

★ ★ ★

BURLEIGH HEADS, Australia—Mohan Jayasekera, pastor of the Colombo, Sri Lanka, church, left his country Jan. 1 to spend one year in Pasadena.

"He has requested the opportunity to enable him to have some further training in visiting," said Robert Fahey, regional director for Australia and Asia. "He will also be working with the Ambassador Foundation and Mail Processing operations."

David Baker, director of Waterfield Institute, an Ambassador Foundation project in Nuwara Eliya, Sri Lanka, was ordained a local elder on the Sabbath, Dec. 31. He will serve the Colombo brethren, while Mr. Jayasekera is out of the country, according to Mr. Fahey.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—Pasadena Ambassador College senior Charles "C.W." Davis and junior Timothy Quast will leave for Sri Lanka Jan. 16, where they will teach at the new school in Kotmale sponsored by the Ambassador Foundation (see *WN*, Dec. 26).

The school will offer a one-year program to graduates of Waterfield Institute. Twenty-four students will live on campus and continue their education in business, accounting, computers, English, speech, international history and geography.

PASADENA—Ralph Di Fiore graduated with a bachelor of arts degree, and Jorge Diaz De Leon received an associate of science degree at Ambassador College winter commencement exercises Jan. 4. Mr. Diaz graduated with distinction.

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BURLEIGH HEADS, Australia—For the fifth time since 1974, Penang, Malaysia, will be a Feast of Tabernacles site.

Services will be at the Orchid Hotel at Tanjung Bunga, where most overseas visitors will be housed.

Prices will be about M\$75 (about US\$30) a room for one night (single or double occupancy). Food costs will be a minimum of M\$50 (US\$20) a day for each person.

Penang is about 250 miles by road from Kuala Lumpur, the Malaysian capital, or 40 minutes by air.

Weather in Penang at Feast time is warm and sunny with an average temperature of 28 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit) with occasional showers. Humidity is 85 percent to 95 percent.

The site features family activities and the chance to meet the Malaysian brethren.

Brethren interested in attending the Feast in Malaysia should submit an application to their pastor immediately.

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PASADENA—The Festival Office here announced that the Feast site in Trabolgan, Ireland, has reached capacity, and no further applications will be accepted.

cessing area.

Evangelist visits Philippines

Traveling evangelist Gerald Waterhouse visited the Philippines in November as part of his 10th world tour.

Despite delayed flights and a flight cancellation, Mr. Waterhouse completed his entire schedule and gave slide presentations to 2,550 brethren at three midweek Bible studies and two Sabbath services.

"Many members commented very positively on Mr. Waterhouse's explanation of the history of God's Church in North America," said Rodney Matthews, Philippine regional director.

Philippine members also saw slides of one of Mr. Waterhouse's early visits to the Philippines.

Mr. Waterhouse opened the Manila Office in 1962.

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