



# CHURCH of GOD

## News

CORPUS CHRISTI — SAN ANTONIO EDITION

Vol. 2, No. 10

December, 1962

### TRIPLE THREAT

One of the best Spokesman Club meetings ever held in this part of the United States was held in Victoria,



Texas, Dec. 9. This was the combined meeting of the Houston, San Antonio and Corpus Christi Spokesman Clubs. We had all been looking forward to this for some time and what a blessing it was!

Old friends renewed acquaintances and new friends were made. Men in the Club seem to have a real closeness that is sensed by everyone.

After a fine meal of steak and the trimmings the meeting was called to order by Mr. Flores, president of the San Antonio Club. We had a very lively business session and discussed several interesting topics.

Mr. Harold Treybig, our Table Topics Master, carried a zesty session full of interesting comments through to its finish. One of the most interesting parts of it was the dividing of the room into two groups; one of which was the manager of a steel mill during the millenium and the other half were spirit beings. Questions were asked by the steel mill "managers" about various phases of steel production and the "spirit beings" tried to answer them.

During the speaking session we had six speakers; two from each Club. Mr. Ryan and Mr. Lutes from Houston,

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## New Churches Raise Totals To 59

During the nineteen-year period following the establishment of the first Philadelphia era Church at Eugene, Oregon, there were only four others started. Now, attesting to the rapidity with which events are moving, **THERE ARE 59 CHURCHES OF GOD!**

### WELCOME !

We wish to extend a hearty Texas welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Tony Hammer. They have recently returned from Australia where Mr. Hammer was Pastor of the Melbourne Church of God. During their two and a half year stay in Australia their time was divided between one year in Sydney assisting Mr. Waterhouse, and a year-and-a-half in Melbourne. This was Mr. Hammer's first full pastoral responsibility, and during this time, he saw this Church grow from about 25 to nearly 100 in regular attendance.

Among the other souvenirs of their stay in Australia, Mr. and Mrs. Hammer brought back two little daughters—Vickie, aged 2, and Jan, aged 7 months.



Mr. and Mrs. Tony Hammer and Family

Five of these have come about very recently. The Medford, Oregon, Church began July 7, with about 65 members attending. Mr. Raymond Cole is the pastor of this new Medford Church.

A short time later, on August 4, a Church was raised up at Tucson, Arizona. It is ministered by Mr. David Jon Hill. Before this came about, some of the brethren went to Church by driving two hundred and forty miles—**ONE WAY!**

About a month later, on September 8, the Indianapolis Church began under Mr. Dean Blackwell, with an attendance of **THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THREE!**

And now—this month—a local Church has just been raised up at Toledo, Ohio, and another in Harrisburg, Illinois! The first meeting of the Toledo Church was held Friday evening, November 9. It will be pastored by Mr. Bill McDowell, assisted by Mr. Bob Hoops. Services will continue to be held Friday evenings until schedules can be readjusted.

The Harrisburg Church began on November 10, which is actually the same Sabbath day the Toledo Church started. Mr. Hal Baird will be the pastor, and is to be assisted by Mr. Bob Steep, an advanced ministerial graduate of Ambassador.

This is not all the encouraging news from around the earth, however! Mr. Gerald Waterhouse, in a fact-finding tour of South Africa, hopes that by contacting the proper authorities we

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Sponsored by the Corpus Christi-San Antonio Spokesman Club

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## EDITORIAL

By Bill Seelig

Do you know what "pure" Christianity is? Your Bible defines it thus: ". . . to visit the fatherless and widows in their afflictions . . ." (James 1:27)

How many times in the past have you known of a fatherless child or a widow who was ill or afflicted in some way and did nothing? The business of being a Christian is a serious business with laws laid down in one-two-three order. Most of us keep these laws in the letter, but did you know that if we only do that which is required of us we are unprofitable servants?

We have several widows in our local congregation whom I imagine get a little lonely at times, especially when they are sick and cannot get around. Their children have no father to lead and guide them and it is really hard trying to be father and mother at the same time.

We should make it a regular habit to visit our own widows and fatherless children as often as possible and to have them in our homes. Let them join in our joy of family togetherness for we truly are one family.

We can look into the past and see the many things we could have done.

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## SPOKESMAN CLUB NEWS

Mr. Foster planted, Mr. Battles and Mr. Hammer have watered and now, God is giving the increase. This is not an original quotation as you know, but very apropos.

The Clubs in Corpus Christi and San Antonio have yet a long way to go before they become anything like professional groups, but we are getting more polish and control of ourselves.

We are, in a way, more blessed than most clubs in that we have had three ministers to observe our faults and our good points, tell us where we need to improve the most and give us encouragement. A pat on the back occasionally with the kick in the pants we receive regularly has kept our morale high.

The Spokesman Clubs are planning several activities including a joint meeting in Beeville with the wives as guests.

At this time we wish to say adieu to Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Battles who were with us but for a short while but whom we all came to love and respect very much. And we wish to also welcome with a great Big Texas "HELLO" Mr. and Mrs. Tony Hammer and wish them a long and happy stay with us.

Every man in the Spokesman Clubs needs your earnest prayers that each can grow and take the position waiting for him when the time comes. Remember, men can plant and water, but only God can give the increase.

## Floundering Trip Success

Saturday night, November 27th, was the beginning of several activities to be sponsored by the Corpus Christi Spokesman Club for the young people of this congregation.

Around midnight, six men and nine youngsters were anxiously preparing to leave on an all-night floundering party.

We arrived at the camping grounds on the Aransas Channel about 1 A.M. After we had set up camp and built a campfire, about half of us took to the water (b-rrr!). On the first trip, one party brought back one flounder and another brought back two. As others went out to try their hand, we remained to enjoy the beautiful night, the warm campfire, and to lend our voices to the group singing.

About 4:30 A.M. our cook, Mr. Laney, began preparing breakfast for

a very hungry crew. We had the unlikely menu of steak, fried potatoes, red chili beans and scrambled eggs!

At daybreak one more party went to the ferry landing at Port Aransas and brought back five or six big flounder.

This first extra-curricular activity, planned to help the youngsters have more association with older men in the Church, was a tremendous success.

\* \* \*

## Church News At A Glance

The San Antonio, Corpus Christi and Rio Grande Valley brethren are very thankful to God and Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Battles for their short, but very needed instructive time spent with us. His sermons (especially the last one) are still ringing in our ears.

We were all saddened to hear of Mr. Roy Hammer's death. He was a sincere and dedicated servant of God and we can all rejoice in the fact that, in a manner of speaking, "he has it made."

We are sorry that Mr. and Mrs. Hammers little girls got the whooping cough soon after they arrived. We know that Mrs. Hammer is anxious to be able to attend Church and Bible studies and to meet all of God's people here, so let's all pray that their children will get well soon.

The San Antonio congregation bids welcome to Mrs. Ann Willbanks, who was just recently in the St. Louis congregation. She is here by herself right now, but her husband is coming after he clears up matters in St. Louis. Mr. Willbanks has a position with Universal Electronics of San Antonio.

We bid good-bye to Sgt. Don Borthick, who left November 29 to go to West Germany where he has been assigned to duty by the Air Force. Sarah, his wife, and the children will stay in San Antonio until school is out and then join Sgt. Borthick in Germany.

In attendance for Sabbath services at San Antonio on December 1, were Mr. and Mrs. Ladd Simcik and family from Granger, Texas. Also attending were Mr. and Mrs. George Hill and family from Lohn, Texas. We welcome them and hope they will visit us again very soon.

# THANKSGIVING SOCIALS

## SPANISH STYLE

Who could ask for anything more? There was a beautiful Texas sky, a Spanish style dwelling in Olmos Park, San Antonio, which had a cozy fireplace and lounge chairs. Also, there was an open courtyard enclosed by a rock wall, studded with trees. This provided the setting where the Spanish brethren gathered to join the nation in giving thanks to God for the many blessings we have received.

To get the day off to a rousing start, young, as well as old, joined in a stimulating game of softball. We played for approximately two hours. After that strenuous exercise, we were all ready to eat turkey with all the trimmings.

After the meal, some of the men and ladies played volleyball and some croquet.

It was a full day for all the thirty-one people that were present, not only full of activity, but full of happiness as well—a type of happiness which still lingers in the minds of all our Spanish brethren.



## NEGRO SOCIAL

The Negro brethren in the San Antonio Church met at the Wheatley Courts Recreation Center. There was a double blessing in that it was the first time we ever met in a hall and it was rent-free.

Thanksgiving is a day set aside by man to give thanks for the many blessings we have, and we in the United States are more blessed than any nation in the world. And we in the church of God are really blessed!

We had a grand spread of turkey with dressing and all the extra trimmings. After the meal we gathered around the piano and had some live entertainment. Games were played and everyone seemed to have a joyous time. Now, we are looking forward to the next time.

## THANKSGIVING ON THE FARM

What a grand and glorious fall day presented itself November 22, 1962! After a week of mist, rain and chilly winds, God had given us a perfect day for the Thanksgiving social sponsored by the San Antonio Spokesman Club at the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Tuttle near Poteet, Texas. Families had begun arriving before mid-morning and soon there were more than fifty people gathered in good-natured conversation and fellowship. (Some had driven in from far west Texas to join in the festive occasion and stay over with brethren for Spokesman Club, Bible Study and Sabbath services.) By 1:30 a great abundance of savory, wholesome food had been set forth on long tables beneath blue skies and almost-bare trees. God's blessing was asked upon the food and thanks given for the multitude of blessings He has so generously showered upon us. What a feast! The turkeys and trimmings required at least one return trip by almost everyone! Later, the men gathered in the pasture for horse shoe pitching and the women for canasta and visiting, while the children played games, explored the farm, or cheered for the men. All too soon, the happy day drew to a close and farewells were said, but this Thanksgiving day will long be remembered by those who observed it on the Tuttle farm.

## THANKSGIVING "GET TOGETHER"

The time: 10:00 A.M., November 22. The place: Prescott School, Corpus Christi, Texas. The occasion: a "get together" we will long remember, sponsored by the Corpus Christi Spokesman Club.

At the time set, people began to arrive, bringing many delicious foods, and an anticipation of joyous fellowship with others in God's Church. While some of the ladies decorated the tables and others set the food in order, a lively bean-bag game was started for

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## Personal Glimpses

There is a couple in the Corpus Church we think you would like to know better. Although they are "senior citizens" in age, they have a spirit and vitality of people many years their junior. If you haven't already guessed, we are speaking of Mr. Augustus Laney and his wife, Lillie Susan.

Mr. Laney was born March 4, 1888 twenty-five miles from Hope, Arkansas. He attended grade school in Wortham, Texas. He has quite a varied early life, working first as a paper hanger, then as a barber, and then



Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Laney

joining the U.S. Army in 1918. In the course of his army duty, he was sent to France.

Although in recent years, he has not worked steadily, he has put in many years as a barber.

Mrs. Laney's birthplace was Milford, Texas and she was born March 23, 1894. She attended grade school at Milford and Silverton, Texas. She has been a cafe owner and cook.

The Laney's first saw each other at the post office in Silverton, Texas and Mr. Laney was so impressed that he followed that "very pretty girl" to her parents' cafe, where they became better acquainted. They were married June 21, 1911 in Silverton.

They have four children, three of them are in the Church.

Mr. Laney came into the Truth through hearing the Broadcast and reading the **Plain Truth** and booklets. He was baptized March 21, 1955, in the Nueces River.

Mrs. Laney heard Mr. Wayne Cole explain the Bible and this led to her baptism February 9, 1955, also in the Nueces River.

Fishing, hunting and baseball interest Mr. Laney. At our Church picnics,

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## Thanksgiving . . .

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the children ("assisted" by a few adults) and some couples enjoyed dancing.

After partaking of a very delicious meal of "turkey with all the trimmings", we gathered around the piano and Mr. Romike directed us in a song fest, which he termed "Sing Along with Adolph."

Then many of us tried our luck at dancing. To get everything under way, a Paul Jones was conducted, accompanied by much laughter and merriment. We then played musical chairs, with two games being conducted simultaneously, one for the adults and one for the children. This game was anything but sedate, as everyone scrambled for a chair.

All too soon, it was time to go back to our respective homes, but we can look forward to other enjoyable occasions such as only God's people can experience.



## Triple Threat . . .

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Mr. Skinner and Mr. Schubert from San Antonio and Mr. Romike and Mr. Laney from Corpus Christi were the speakers. Mr. Laney with a speech entitled, "GO!" received the best speakers award. His speech was a "Stir to Action" speech showing us how we should be zealous in doing things in the club.

Mr. Ryan received the most improved speakers award and Mr. Upchurch from the Corpus Christi Club received the most helpful evaluators award. Mr. Lutes received honorable mention as it was his "Ice Breaker" speech.

Everyone present really seemed to enjoy the meeting and are now looking forward to our next meeting together.

## Personal Glimpses . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

he outshines many of the youngsters with his vigorous baseball playing.

Mrs. Laney also enjoys fishing, along with cooking and playing "42". Many have said she is second to none in the cooking department.

So when you have an opportunity, get to know these two friendly and interesting people better.

## Editorial . . . .

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Now let's look into the future and see what can and will be done about this.

Names and addresses of our widows are:

Mrs. Brewer, Flour Bluff, Texas

Mrs. E. E. Robinson, Aransas Pass, Texas

Mrs. Lillian Armstrong, Rockport, Texas

Mrs. Hull, Corpus Christi, Texas

Mrs. Martha Cade, Corpus Christi, Texas

## New Churches . . .

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may be able to open offices in a country found impenetrable thus far. Mr. Al Portune, assistant to Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong, has said in a letter: "Our fervent hope and prayer is that on this fact-finding trip through South Africa, Mr. Waterhouse will be able to obtain the authorization to establish an office there. He will then return to the United States with the information he has gathered from this fact-finding tour and we will make our decision concerning the opening of an office in South Africa at the Ministerial Conference. All of you brethren should be earnestly praying and crying out to God that His will be done in Africa."

## A NOTE OF THANKS

Every Spokesman Club member wishes to express his most sincere appreciation and gratitude for all the generous contributions received to help with the paper expenses. We can assure you that it was greatly appreciated.

## CHILDREN'S COLUMN

Dear Boys and Girls:

Try your hands and minds at unscrambling these names of Bible men.

1. nosim .....
2. liphip .....
3. hasmot .....
4. hatpanil .....
5. wethamt .....
6. cessarhi .....
7. spjeho .....
8. honj .....
9. neosim .....
10. rabowemloth .....
11. vile .....
12. trepe .....
13. and .....
14. agd .....
15. sajem .....
16. eberun .....
17. adjus .....
18. share .....
19. duje .....
20. epmbnai .....
21. enward .....
22. buzunel .....
23. dahuj .....

Answer the following true or false:

1. We should have in us the mind that was also in Christ.....
2. God does not love those that He rebukes and chastens.....
3. We must worship God in spirit and in truth.....
4. If someone comes to your home with a false doctrine, you should invite him in, listen politely, but not believe him.....
5. We will all perish if we do not repent.....
6. When God talks to anyone, He speaks with a soft, tender voice. ....
7. Jesus Christ remains the same always.....
8. We should prove all things that men tell us.....
9. Through Jesus Christ in us, we can do all things.....
10. After His resurrection, Christ was seen on earth for forty days.....
11. Jesus came to destroy the law. ....
12. Of these three things: faith, hope, and charity; faith is the greatest. ....