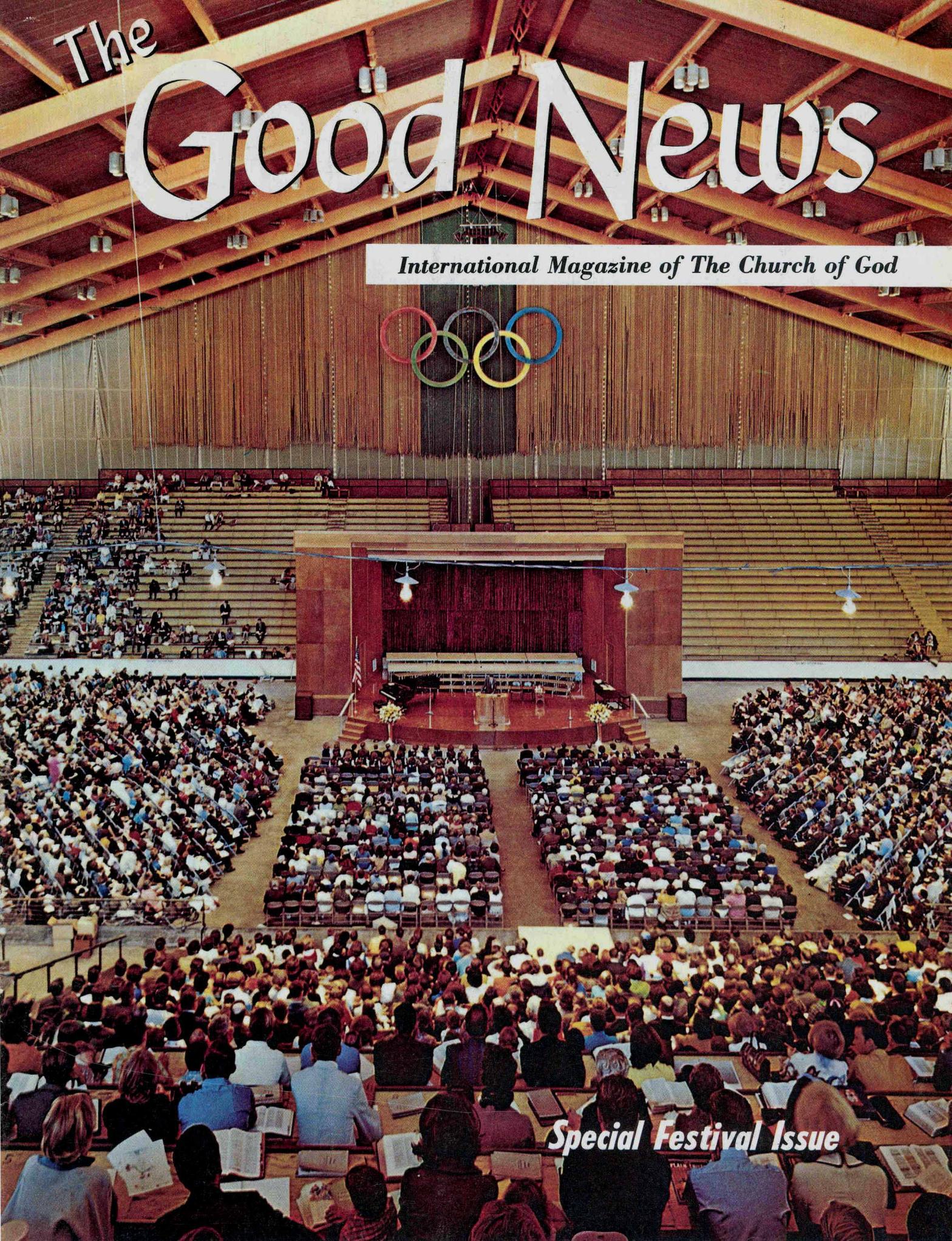


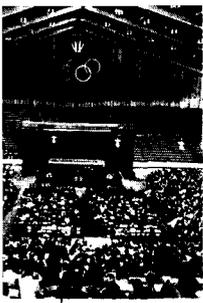
The

Good News

International Magazine of The Church of God



Special Festival Issue



More About Our Cover...

Here is a view of part of the brethren who assembled to keep the Feast in Blyth Arena at Squaw Valley, California, which was one of the twenty-two Feast sites around the world this year.

This special Feast issue gives you the reports from each of those sites showing that the 1969 Feast of Tabernacles was, indeed, the "best ever!"

Ambassador College Photo

What our READERS SAY...

Ozark Site

"Just home from the Ozark Feast and how happy it made me to see and hear the wonderful sermons of you and Mr. Garner Ted, and of course I did enjoy so much hearing the other ministers. What love — everyone was so nice to me. I am 86 and did not miss one sermon and I did learn so much. What a Church — and to think I was in that Methodist Church from 17 years old to 80 years old and never learned one thing, and I even read the Bible over seven times."

Alice B., Kansas City, Missouri

Barbados

"I learned so much at the Feast in Barbados. Mr. Hall from Pasadena was just wonderful, coming straight-out with the facts and explaining that even children can understand and learn. It was a refreshing sight seeing the youngsters listening and obeying their parents in God's Church, all being given the golden rules of child rearing. The sermons Mr. Bass and Mr. Hall gave were what I love to hear and I am sure they are going to be of great benefit to all of us. I felt away from the outside world. I felt very happy and at peace. I had a feeling of speaking one language. I have been feeling that way since my baptism."

Violet S., Chaguanas,
Trinidad, W. I.

Canada

"Money could not pay for the priceless 'vacation' I had at Penticton, with

pages of stored food to take home and feast on during the year. The joy there was in searching all the beautiful faces. I loved them all from Mr. Herbert Armstrong to the last one I met. The wonderful warm reception by the Mayor of Penticton, Mr. Stewart. The warmth of all the Canadians in and not in the Church, the beautiful choirs and solos, all music and singing. The lovely places to stay and the miracle (to me) tent! A beautiful trip and back. Delicious food, no matter where one ate in the city. Canadians can cook and had good food to start with. Many old acquaintances, many new, some just new in the Church. I felt many emotions — laughing, pondering seriously, worshipping God, singing with joy, and not being able to sing for the lump in my throat. Sometimes tears ran down my face. Condensed, just a drop in the bucket! Wonderful eighth feast — not 'old hat.'"

Vera C., Doty, Washington

Alaska

"We had a wonderful time here in Alaska at the Feast of Tabernacles. God was here to inspire Mr. Brogaard and Mr. Bailey to preach such wonderful sermons. They answered the many questions I was prepared to ask but didn't have to."

Donald W.,
Sterling, Alaska

Sermons

"I want to thank everyone for sending in his excess second tithe so that my

(Continued on page 16)

The Good News

International magazine of
THE CHURCH OF GOD
ministering to its members
scattered abroad

November-December, 1969

Volume XVIII

Numbers 11-12

Published monthly at Pasadena, California
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and new address. IMPORTANT!



The 1969 FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Conn — Ambassador College

At *twenty-two* sites in *twelve* countries around the world, over 63,000 of God's people assembled to REJOICE before Him in keeping the "best-ever" Feast of Tabernacles in the Philadelphia Era of God's Church! Over 54,000 brethren congregated at *seven* sites in the continental United States and Canada while over 9,000 met at *fifteen* other sites around the world.

For eight joyous, exhilarating days, God's people dwelled together in unity and love and experienced a foretaste — a kind of preview — of the wonderful WORLD TOMORROW. It was an inspiring, encouraging, spiritually rejuvenating, *spiritual* Feast, as well as a time of physical abundance and fine food.

The Feast — A Powerful Witness

Besides helping us to prepare for *our* part in the soon-coming rule of God on a breathtakingly beautiful, bountiful earth, the Feast also provided a powerful *witness* to the thousands of people in the local communities near our Feast sites around the world.

When a group of God's people — whether 100 or 10,000 — gather for an eight-day period, the *blessings* — the fruits — of *GOD'S* way of life are openly obvious! When a *group* of us — who are only *pinpricks* of light individually — gather together, our lights are combined into a powerful *spotlight* which *cannot* be overlooked by those in the world! They may not agree with our

religious beliefs, but with one voice they laud and praise the *results* of living that *way*!

Appreciate Being Appreciated

This year, as in years past, the local residents — especially the restaurant owners, waiters, waitresses, motel managers and local government officials — shook their heads in wonderment at the exemplary conduct of our people! *Never*, many commented, had they ever hosted such a *fine* group of people. Never had they seen such friendly, courteous, patient cooperation, such orderliness and cleanliness and such well-behaved, well-trained children.

One restaurant owner in the new Feast site at the Lake of the Ozarks was

so impressed that she sent a \$100 contribution to the Church on the Last Great Day! A motel manager in that same area wrote to some of the brethren after the Feast, "It is a rare privilege for us to be morally OBLIGED [emphasis *hers*, not ours] to write our guests to acknowledge their outstanding care of our units and their leaving behind the perfect order and cleanliness received upon their arrival!"

One letter expressed the appreciation of the local people "for all your 'good people' who blessed our area with sunny skies, comfortably warm and cool weather and well-behaved guests for an unprecedented 12 (twelve!) days (Somebody up there loves you!). It rarely stays 'fair' — no rain — for that long a time!"

In a letter to Mr. Herbert Armstrong, the governor of the state of Georgia, Mr. Lester Maddox, wrote: "I have been told on many occasions about the impression your Worldwide Church of God members have made on the Coastal people of Georgia, and again, I want to thank you for selecting Georgia as your festival location in 1969."

The attitude of the people in the local communities near our Feast sites around the world is perhaps best exemplified by this letter from Mr. Horace Caldwell, Director of the Jekyll Island State Park Authority, to the Worldwide Church of God:

"To you charming people whom all the residents of Jekyll Island, the Jekyll Island Authority and we who maintain the island love so dearly, we welcome you back home again.

"Never in the history of Jekyll Island has there been such a large and outstanding group as yours and everybody looks forward to your return to *YOUR* lovely island. We welcome you and beg of you to let us know if there is anything we can do to make your stay more pleasant than last year. We assure you that no stone will be left unturned.

"Please drive safely, arrive early and stay late."

These comments are NOT reproduced to cause wrong pride in ourselves, brethren, but to show what the Spirit of the Living God can do. Let's *plan* right NOW to use that matchless Spirit even more NEXT YEAR!

Armstrongs Visit Six Sites

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong were able to visit all six of the major Feast sites in the United States and Canada this year. Many hundreds of brethren were able to see them and hear them speak in person for the first time.

Mr. Herbert Armstrong hopes to be able to attend *seven* sites next year, beginning with the Feast in England. Our new Gruman Gulfstream II business jet will be able to cross the Atlantic non-stop, thus making it possible for Mr. Armstrong to attend in England as well as the six major sites in the United States and Canada. We know all of the brethren who keep the Feast in England are excited about the prospect of having Mr. Armstrong speak to them there and are eagerly looking forward to this opportunity!

Ordinations

This year's Feast was especially outstanding because of the *unprecedented* number of new Feast sites added this year and the *record* number of ordinations which occurred at the Feast.

A total of *seven* new sites were added this year, several of which enabled the local brethren to assemble for the Feast for the *very first time!*

There were a total of *thirty-four* ordinations during the Festival season this year — *twenty-six* new ordinations to the office of Local Elder in God's Church and *eight* raises in rank to the office of Preaching Elder.

We have, in years past, been able to introduce you to each man who was ordained by giving you a brief write-up about each in *The GOOD NEWS*. Now, however, because of the number of ordinations — for which we are *very thankful* — it is just not practical to do this. So far in 1969 we have had a total of *one hundred forty-one* ordinations — *99 new* ordinations and *forty-two* raises in rank! We can certainly rejoice in this much-needed growth which God is giving while we *continue* to pray that the Lord of the harvest will send forth *more* laborers into His harvest!

We will give a list of those ordained, along with the area in which each is serving. Here is a list of those who are

employed full-time in the Work and who were ordained as Local Elders:

Mr. Richard Aitkins (Los Angeles, California)
 Mr. Gene Bailey (Tacoma and Olympia, Washington)
 Mr. Larry Bathurst (Anderson, S. Carolina and Asheville, N. Carolina)
 Mr. Steve Botha (Leeds, England)
 Mr. Fred Davis (Pasadena, California)
 Mr. Tom Fish (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
 Mr. Dan Fricke (Seattle, Washington)
 Mr. Felix Heimberg (Flint & Midland, Michigan)
 Mr. Kyriacos Stavrinides (Bricket Wood, England)
 Mr. George Menassas (Kitchener & Toronto, Ontario)
 Mr. Bob Mitchell (Warrington, England)
 Mr. Ben Morrison (Bismarck & Fargo, N. Dakota)
 Mr. James Oakley (Detroit, Michigan)
 Mr. Bob Peoples (Eugene and Salem, Oregon)
 Mr. Stuart Powell (Bricket Wood, England)
 Mr. Richard Rand (Grand Rapids, Michigan and South Bend, Indiana)
 Mr. Bruce Vance (Findlay and Toledo, Ohio)
 Mr. Lyndel Wornat (Bluefield, W. Virginia and Kingsport, Tennessee)

Those ordained as Local Elders from local Church areas who are not employed by the Work were as follows:

Mr. Henry Bontrager (South Bend, Indiana)
 Mr. Scott Erickson, Jr. (Duluth, Minnesota)
 Mr. James Forrester (Memphis, Tennessee)
 Mr. George Forsyth (Detroit, Michigan)
 Mr. Richard Fulks (Charleston, West Virginia)
 Mr. Charles Jobe (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)
 Mr. Robert Mangum (Memphis, Tennessee)
 Mr. Don Morehouse (Seattle, Washington)

And those raised to the rank of Preaching Elder were as follows:

Mr. Wayne Dunlap (Oakland and San Francisco, California)
 Mr. William Freeland (Richland Center, Wisconsin)

Mr. George Lee (Edmonton and Calgary, Alberta)
 Mr. Bill Rapp (Pasadena, California)
 Mr. John Ritenbaugh (Long Beach & Anaheim, California)
 Mr. Mike Swagerty (Findlay and Toledo, Ohio)
 Mr. Tom Williams (Richmond, Virginia)
 Mr. Ray Wooten (Atlanta and Macon, Georgia)

Congratulations to all of these men on their added responsibilities and additional opportunities for service in God's Great Work!

Let's take a brief look now at each of the sites around the world, as we review this "best-ever" Feast of Tabernacles!

BIG SANDY

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong began the Feast in Big Sandy, where he greeted nearly 12,000 happy, smiling brethren who kept the Feast for the first time in our new metal "Convention Center" there.

The weather was somewhat warm throughout the Feast, but this provided ideal weather for swimming in Lake Loma and other outdoor activities. Many enjoyed a round of golf on our new nine-hole golf course right there on

the grounds. A "first" for the Feast in Big Sandy was a horse show held one afternoon on the Ambassador College Ranch. The performers in this fine, well-executed show were Ambassador College students. The success of the show this year will perhaps mean that it will become an annual event!

The friendly, family atmosphere of the Feast is especially accentuated at Big Sandy where most of the brethren were able to camp right on the grounds with their own Church areas. Over 1900 of our Negro brethren were able to camp and keep the Feast together at Big Sandy.

Mr. David Antion was the Evangelist in charge of the Feast during the first half, and Mr. Leslie McCullough during the second half. Mr. Ted Armstrong ended his tour of the various Feast sites at Big Sandy on the Last Great Day.

SQUAW VALLEY

Over 8,200 of our "western" brethren from California, Arizona, Utah and Nevada assembled to keep the Feast at Squaw Valley in the magnificent high Sierras. The weather was typically beautiful for this time of the year, with warm days and cool nights. Deer season opened the first day of the Feast, and

several brethren took advantage of this opportune scheduling by getting a deer later in the week.

Mr. Leslie McCullough took the first half of the Feast and then switched with Mr. David Antion, who was in charge for the second half.

The Feast was highlighted by Mr. Ted Armstrong's visit on the second day of the Feast, plus an enjoyable, inspiring concert presented by the Ambassador Chorale and the Ambassador Big Band in the middle of the Feast, and also Mr. Herbert Armstrong's visit on the next to the last day of the Feast.

PENTICTON

The Mayor of Penticton was on hand for the opening night of the Feast there. He gave a short speech of welcome to the brethren, and stayed to hear an inspired sermon by Mr. Ted Armstrong on current world conditions and the urgent need for God's Kingdom to be set up on this earth.

The natural friendliness and warmth of the 6,642 Canadian and North-

A huge tent was erected at the new Penticton Feast site to seat the 6,642 brethren attending there.

Conn — Ambassador College



FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Many brethren at Squaw Valley enjoyed a ride on the new ski lift.



Clark — Ambassador College

western brethren assembled to keep the Feast there, more than made up for the cool, rainy weather. Since the rain was not heavy, and since it seemed to stop whenever services were over and the brethren had to leave the tent, it did not really dampen the brethren's spirits to any degree.

From the opening sermon by Mr. Ted Armstrong to the closing sermon by Mr. Herbert Armstrong, with sermons by Mr. Ronald Dart and Mr. Albert Portune during the first and second halves respectively, the brethren enjoyed a real spiritual feast!

Many of the brethren in Pentiction

had the pleasure of witnessing one of the most unusual sports activities that has ever been held at a Feast site — a mock ice hockey game between the United States ministers and the Canadian ministers. It was played on ice, but with regular shoes rather than ice skates, and cut-down brooms were used to swat a large ball through the opponents' goal.

The winners? The United States ministers squeaked by with a 4 to 3 victory in a hilarious, nip-and-tuck contest.

Another fun-filled activity was the family night. The dry humor of Mr. George Lee as the Master of Ceremonies

and the "homespun" entertainment by some of the brethren from various local Church areas provided a very entertaining evening.

LAKE OF THE OZARKS

Over 7,600 brethren kept the *first* Feast to be held in the scenic Lake of the Ozarks area. The weather was unusually beautiful for this time of year in Missouri, and everything went very well. It was evident that the experience of past years — especially in the beginning of a similar site in the Poconos — had really paid off.

Mr. Albert Portune was the Evange-



WORLDWIDE



RIGHT, Mr. Pat Giunta directs the Ozarks Feast Choir.



Conn — Ambassador College
 ABOVE, Mr. Herbert Armstrong greets the brethren as he arrives at one of the six Festival sites he visited this year.



Smyda — Ambassador College

list in charge of the first half of the Feast, Mr. Roderick Meredith the second half.

Many enjoyed fishing on the lake, while others took advantage of the opportunity for a cruise on the lake. Another popular outing was a trip to one of the unusual caves in the vicinity. Special performances of the well-known "Ozark Opry" were also scheduled for the brethren. Family night featured Mr. Bill McDowell as the Master of Ceremonies and the Ozarks' Feast Choir under the direction of Mr. Pat Giunta in a balanced program of musical performance and comedy acts.

JEKYLL ISLAND

Lovely, picturesque Jekyll Island hosted 7,600 of our Southeastern brethren for the Feast again this year. This was the *seventh* year we have met in this area, and the local community has learned, over the years, to *deeply appreciate* our people.

Although a "hurricane watch" was not necessary this year as in some years in the past, it did rain after a few days of lovely weather. The rain did not cause the cancellation of any services, however. The worst downpour occurred on a free afternoon when the huge, specially erected tent was unoccupied.

Mr. Jon Hill was in charge of the first half of the Feast in Jekyll Island, and Mr. Ronald Dart crossed the nation from the opposite corner in journeying from Penticton to Jekyll Island for the second half.

Mr. Darryl Henson was the Master of Ceremonies for the annual Family Night entertainment which, like that of Penticton and Lake of the Ozarks, consisted of a variety of acts by a number of brethren from local Church areas.

POCONOS

"Gorgeous" is the word to describe the brilliant fall foliage in the Pocono



Duncan — Ambassador College



ABOVE, RIGHT — The beautiful fall foliage at the Anchorage, Alaska, Feast site provided an inspiring setting for the Feast.



ABOVE, LEFT — Some of the 1900 Negro brethren who kept the Feast at Big Sandy as they participate in the song service.

LEFT — A group of the brethren who assembled to keep the Feast at Baguio City, the Philippines.
Ambassador College Photo



Ambassador College Photo

mountains at this time of year. Mt. Pocono this year became the *largest* Feast site in the world with 12,250 brethren keeping the Feast in this resort area!

Mr. Roderick Meredith began the Feast there and Mr. Jon Hill was there for the second half. Mr. Herbert Armstrong arrived on the second day of the Feast but cut his visit short because of hoarseness.

The cool, rainy weather could have spoiled a convention being held by "conventional" groups, but as the local newspaper, *The Pocono Record*, noted "... it was miserable weather, but there were no complaints. The Worldwide Church of God members don't complain."

That is certainly true! God's people realize that a positive, *big-minded* approach can override minor inconveniences and that a Feast can be inspiring,

joyful and happy in any kind of weather.

The record number of brethren in Mt. Pocono had a wonderful Feast in spite of the weather — which was not *really* miserable. It was miserable only to those not in a genuine "Feast of Tabernacles" attitude!

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

The opportunity for the Alaskan brethren to meet together to keep the Feast was a real blessing to these "scattered" brethren who still do not have even a local Church to attend on the Sabbath. Mr. Fred Brogaard, from the Tacoma and Olympia, Washington area, went up to conduct the Feast in Anchorage, assisted by Mr. Gene Bailey, who was ordained as a Local Elder just before the Feast. Mr. Brogaard reports:

"The Feast of Tabernacles, 1969, in

Anchorage, Alaska, was a truly wonderful experience. Being one of the smallest groups to observe the Feast this year, we had a real family atmosphere in every respect. Our largest attendance was 120.

"The weather, for the most part, was beautiful — no snow and very little rain. We had three 'family nights' when we had games for the adults, as well as for the children, a sing-along, some very interesting Walt Disney nature films, and a 'talent' show.

"The meals were prepared by the ladies at the Feast, and they were absolutely *scrumptious*. We had such things as fried chicken, steak, goat, moose, *fresh* salmon, and *fresh* halibut! All the food was of excellent quality, including the homemade whole wheat bread and jam.

"The experience of sharing every-

thing — plus God's Spirit — created a real bond among all in attendance. And by the time 'God Be With You Till We Meet Again' was sung, there were very few dry eyes."

HAWAII

Mr. Al Carrozzo flew out to Hawaii to conduct the Feast for 127 of God's people assembled in Laie, on the island of Oahu. Here is Mr. Carrozzo's report:

"To say we had the 'greatest Feast ever' might sound trite, but it is an absolute fact! From the time of our departure from Los Angeles International Airport until we returned to the same airport, we enjoyed an experience of a lifetime which we will never forget. We found the people to be the most warm, friendly, wide-eyed and childlike people we have ever met.

"The Feast of Tabernacles was held in a tent behind the Lani Loa Lodge Motor Hotel where we, and all the brethren, stayed for the full eight days during the Feast of Tabernacles. The accommodations were quite nice and included a very fine swimming pool in the center of the lodge which was used a great deal of the time. A buffet style meal was provided by the Lani Loa Inn just across the street from the lodge. The food was quite nice and plentiful.

"The Feast of Tabernacles was probably the smoothest I have ever had the privilege of attending. I am sure the

reason for the tranquility and smooth operation of the feast was the fact that it was quite small (127 total) and we were, therefore, able to control everything quite nicely. We didn't have to make one sour announcement during the whole feast. Everything went very smoothly and everyone seemed to enjoy the feast very much."

MINEHEAD, BRITAIN

Mr. Raymond McNair reports from Britain: "This year we had the most glorious Feast of Tabernacles ever held in Britain. The weather was, by far, the best ever. The food and chalets were very good and the sermons were truly inspired.

"This was undoubtedly the most cosmopolitan Feast of Tabernacles ever held by God's people. The 2,530 who attended the Festival came from 68 countries.

"Again we had approximately 200 German-speaking brethren attending the Feast. The auditorium is set up so they can see all of the speakers at the same time they have a translation of each sermon and sermonette given.

"It was a *healthy* as well as a happy time partly due to the nice weather and partly due, undoubtedly, to the abundance of fresh fruits of all types which were made available to all the people attending the Feast.

"All of us were very happy to have



Kilburn — Ambassador College

ABOVE, "Look ma, no hands!"

BELOW, Mr. Al Carrozzo leads singing in the "mini-tabernacle" at our Hawaiian Feast site.

Gillen — Ambassador College



Mr. Gerald Waterhouse with us. His inspiring sermons on the theme of God's overall plan helped all of us to get a better glimpse of the soon-coming World Tomorrow and of life as it will be in the New Earth and the New Jerusalem."

PRAZ-SUR-ARLY, FRANCE

Mr. Dibar Apartian, the Director of the French Work, was in charge of the Feast at Praz-sur-Arly, France. He reports as follows:

"The picturesque French alpine village of *Praz-sur-Arly* once again was the location to which the French-speaking brethren of Europe came to rejoice at the Feast. The towering slopes of Mont Blanc were covered with cold, glistening snow, but down in the valley we enjoyed the sunshine and an *ideal* climate. As a matter of fact, the weather was *so unusual* for the time of year that some of the local townsfolk were heard to remark: 'We always have such beautiful weather when you people are here!'

"This year there were 386 brethren at the Feast — compared to 260 last year. That is an increase of over 48%! Messrs. Carn Catherwood, Colin Wilkins and Etienne Bourdin assisted me in bringing them sermons and sermonettes about Christian living and preparing for the Kingdom.

"A variety of activities, including scenic excursions, movies, the Fun Show (thanks to a few French-speaking students who were sent from Bricket Wood), and a Single People's outing assured that nobody would have trouble finding something to do between services.

"And here is more good news for rejoicing: we had 24 baptisms; furthermore, two deacons, and the first French deaconess in this Church age, were ordained. It may not be original to say it; nevertheless, this was truly the 'BEST Feast yet' in this area!"

THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE

Mr. Frank Schnee and Mr. John Karlson conducted the *first-ever Feast of Tabernacles to be held behind the Iron Curtain!* Mr. Schnee conducted the first

two days of the Feast in Potsdam, East Germany — which is near East Berlin — and *twelve* were present, plus the four Schnees. Mr. John Karlson conducted the services on the last two days.

Here is a report from Mr. Karlson, who assists Mr. Schnee:

"Both Mr. Schnee and I immensely enjoyed the Feast near Potsdam, in a small lake-strewn resort area just outside Berlin. The twelve who were able to keep it with us, however, enjoyed it even more! In spite of the fact that we were behind the Iron Curtain, God intervened so that everything went extremely well. We had rented two bungalows, plus three large camping trailers. One bungalow had a room large enough for all of us to sit comfortably for Bible Studies and preaching services.

We were able to sing too, without fear of being disturbed. Mr. and Mrs. Schnee and their boys went for the first two days to start the Feast off. Mr. Schnee held three services and was able

GEORGE, SOUTH AFRICA

Down on the southern tip of Africa in the city of George, South Africa, 525 (more than the total number worldwide who kept the Feast in 1952) of our brethren gathered to keep the Feast in the *spring* of the year. (Their seasons are the opposite of ours in the Northern Hemisphere.) The minister in charge was Mr. Robert Fahey, the Office Manager of our regional office in Johannesburg. From South Africa comes this report:

"God really blessed us in South Africa! Everything seemed to go right! The speaking was obviously inspired. We all could see that God wanted us to take advantage of the *rare* calling given us, to learn to serve now, preparing for the job ahead. Also by fixing our minds on the Work, we can avoid present discouragements.

"The free time was blessed too by *perfect* weather. Many first-timers



Robert — Ambassador College

Pavilions at Praz-sur-Arly where our French-speaking brethren have been keeping the Feast of Tabernacles for the last three years.

to give everyone personal counselling. I then went over for the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day. We also had three services, plus personal counselling. It was a real joy for all of these brethren, as well as for us, to be able to keep the Feast together. We saw God's help and intervention in many ways."

learned to water-ski at the lagoon beside Wilderness township. All age groups had activities so no one was left out.

"The people of George, where we held the Feast, were a little suspicious of us as a group at first. They have had so many bad experiences with conventions you can hardly blame them. But as the Feast progressed, you could



see a change in their greeting, service and willingness to make us at home in their city. One shopkeeper, demonstrating to his staff 'what nice people these are' DELIBERATELY gave some *too much change* — knowing it would always be returned! And *it was!* They are looking forward to us next year. No more suspicions!"

BLACKHEATH, AUSTRALIA

Mr. Wayne Cole, the Regional Director of the Work in Australia and New Zealand, sent the following report on the Feast in that area of the world:

"This year, for the first time, the Feast of Tabernacles was observed at three separate locations in Australia and New Zealand, with a total attendance of nearly 3,000.

"In Blackheath, New South Wales, Australia a very inspiring — 'best-ever' — festival was observed with 2,376 in attendance.

"Dr. Clint Zimmerman, the minister in charge of the Personal Correspondence Department at Headquarters in Pasadena, California, with his wife and daughter spent the first six days of the Feast with us in Blackheath. His powerful, graphic and inspiring sermons added tremendously to the Festival. The Zimmermans spent the last two days of the Feast with our brethren in Taupo, New Zealand.

"Sermon after sermon for the brethren in Blackheath hammered home the point of 'setting our spiritual house in order' with the aid of God's Holy Spirit and then with conviction and concern being lights and witnesses to a sick and dying generation.

"The organization of all aspects of the Feast in Blackheath was so well done this year that a noticeably more relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere prevailed. The willingness to serve and the love shown to others was truly a credit to all those who attended the Feast to portray happy and harmonious living conditions that will be seen everywhere in 'the World Tomorrow.'"

Ambassador College Photo
Inside Blyth Arena, Squaw Valley
— wall-to-wall people.

PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Pastor of the Perth Church, Mr. William Winner, reports on the *first* Feast to be held in Perth:

"After months of eager anticipation, the very first Feast of Tabernacles was observed in Perth, Western Australia. And it was a success in every way! God's inspiration was obviously present as 260 gathered together to worship their Creator. Inspiring sermons, beautiful weather, tasty and wholesome food were the order of the day every day.

"For the first half of the Feast we were privileged to have Mr. and Mrs. Keith Crouch with us. Messrs. Leroy Cole and Ted Tupper, along with their families, joined the fellowship throughout the whole of the Feast. The inspiring messages given by God's ministers were most helpful to all.

"Being small in number we had the advantage of a family atmosphere — one could get around to chat with just about everyone.

"The Festival site itself was another outstanding feature. While we were virtually sitting in the midst of the city, we were secluded by beautiful gardens, lively fountains, streams of water and landscaped lawns. A beautiful setting at any time, but particularly during this season — springtime in Australia.

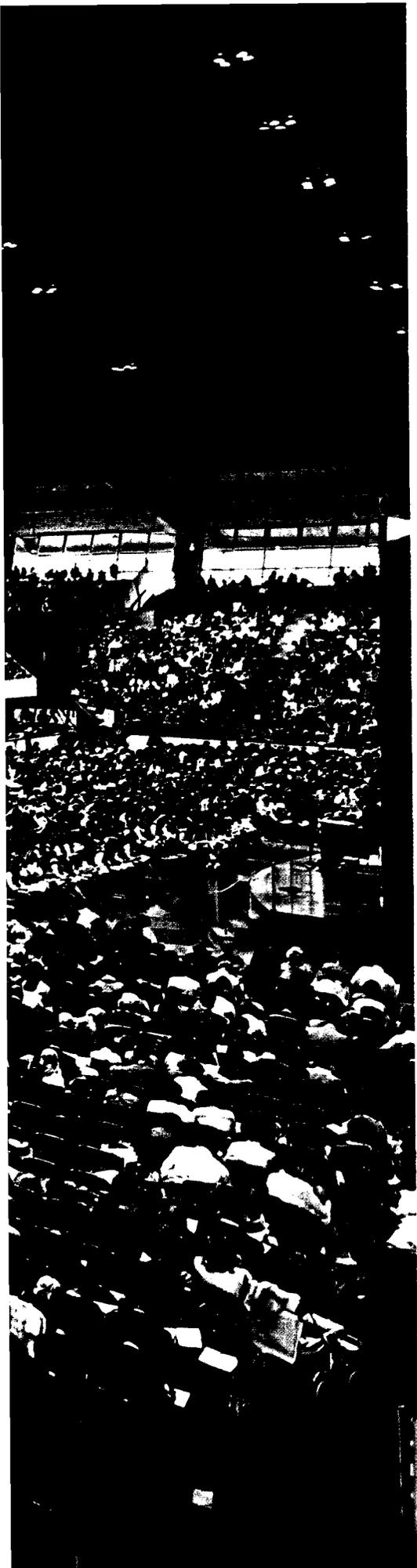
"As usual, at the end of a wonderful Festival one could hear over and over the so familiar words: 'This was the best Feast ever.'"

TAUPO, NEW ZEALAND

The following is a report from Mr. Graemme Marshall, the Office Manager of our office in Auckland, New Zealand:

"Eight days of glorious sunshine were experienced in the scenic setting of Lake Taupo by the 333 brethren keeping the *first ever* Festival of Tabernacles to be observed in New Zealand. Over half of the brethren were accommodated in a luxury tourist hotel located just five miles down a new, fast highway from the meeting hall in Taupo. Modern rooms, top-flight service, beautiful grounds — these were MILLENNIAL surroundings!

"The hotel prepared in trepidation





for what was to be their biggest conference ever — *and for eight whole days!* Remarkable cooperation was experienced from them and they had so little to do throughout the period that the Manager expressed to me, 'Although worried at first, we actually had so little to do that we were able to get our end of year balance done instead!' Such was the favour and cooperation we experienced this year with this hotel. Other moteliers, townspeople and meeting hall attendants were also friendly and especially helpful.

"We were privileged to receive a two-day visit from the Regional Director in Australasia, Mr. C. Wayne Cole. Dr. Clint Zimmerman, his wife and daughter from Headquarters in Pasadena were present for the latter part of the Feast. The opening words in the first service set the theme for the Festival: 'Rejoice by forgetting self and serving mankind both now and in the future — *live now* the way which the world will live Tomorrow.'

"Because of the fine facilities and excellent accommodations — along with the friendly cooperation of the hotel staff — God's people were able to rejoice in an atmosphere they normally would never have known. This was truly a FORETASTE of the Wonderful WORLD TOMORROW!"

KINGDOM OF TONGA

On the South Pacific island Kingdom of Tonga, 41 of our brethren assembled to observe a UNIQUE Feast of Tabernacles! The brethren met in a tabernacle which they themselves had constructed to hear Mr. Isileli Ha'angana and other leading men in the Church of God in Tonga translate articles from *The GOOD NEWS* and *The PLAIN TRUTH*, as well as a selection of important booklets, during services.

Around the tabernacle building itself they had constructed small single-roomed booths from coconut leaves and palms. Mr. Ha'angana reported that the brethren were simply *overjoyed* to be

Duncan — Ambassador College
 "Family Night" at Big Sandy
 featured a round-the-world tour
 by the Big Sandy students.



Gruzewski — Ambassador College

A group of our brethren at Blackheath, Australia on an outing during the Feast.

together in this natural setting, away from the evils of the villages in which they usually live. So much did they enjoy this peaceful harmony that they wanted to stay on living together that way for a while *after* the Feast!

THREE SITES IN PHILIPPINES

Our brethren met at *three* different sites in The Philippines this year. At Baguio City on the island of Luzon, 522 were in attendance, while the sites at Kiara and Manikling on the island of Mindanao had attendances of 700 and 190 respectively, for a total of 1412 keeping the Feast in The Philippines.

Reporting on the Feast in Baguio City, Mr. Arthur Docken, the Office Manager of the Manila office, summed up the Feast in this way:

“It was the ‘best Feast ever!’ in the Philippines this year — which was of course expected. We knew it would be because they always are. But there were reasons for it being the best yet. More planning and organization went into this year’s Feast and it paid off in a thrilling and inspiring Festival for 522 that gathered in the cool mountain resort area of Baguio City. *Forty percent* more people were here this year but everything went smoothly.

“Two or three storms hit the Philippines during the Feast. In Manila trees were uprooted and other damage was caused by the high winds. But in Baguio City there was hardly a breeze! We did have some rain but not enough to dampen the spirits and enthusiasm of God’s people — just enough to keep it comfortably cool.

“Visitors from *Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Guam, Japan* and the *United States* added spark and interest to the Festival. In all, *nine* nationalities were represented.

“A formal concert presented by the Manila Church Choir added a fitting cultural touch to the Feast. Sacred, popular and folk numbers comprised the first half followed by selections from ‘The Messiah’ as a finale. Colorful costumes added to the mood of the music. Many expressed their appreciation for this opportunity to enjoy fine inspiring music. Some had never attended such an event before.

“The sermons covered a wide range of subjects but the overall theme was our preparation for the truly fantastic work God has waiting for us in the World Tomorrow and beyond. We

were all left with a challenge to strive to back up this Work and at the same time improve ourselves in the year ahead. As an expression of the fine attitude of the brethren, our Holy Day offerings were *one hundred percent greater* than last year!

"It was more with a thrill of anticipation than any sadness that we sang the final hymn, *Go Ye Into All the World*, and everyone was determined to return next year for the *next 'BEST FEAST EVER!'*"

ALGARROBO, CHILE

Another *new* Feast site this year was located in Algarrobo, Chile — which is just a few miles outside of the capital, Santiago. Mr. Robert Flores, our resident Elder in Santiago, conducted the Feast. He was assisted by his son, Bob Flores, who is presently a sophomore student at Ambassador College in Pasadena.

Mr. Flores reported that the Feast in Algarrobo was a tremendous success, overall. The Feast began with 75 in attendance but the attendance rose to 89 on the Last Great Day. The brethren in South America are very receptive and responsive, and we expect many more will be called in that area of the world within the next few months. The subscription list of the Spanish edition of *The PLAIN TRUTH — La PURA VERDAD* — has already passed the 65,000 mark!

MARTINIQUE, WEST INDIES

Mr. Louis Jubert, our Local Elder, reports from Martinique:

"On the tropical French island colony of Martinique, 153 persons happily celebrated the Feast. For the seventh straight year, the brethren in this area have been able to assemble together enjoying the fellowship, activities and spiritual instructions — not to mention the deliciously prepared homemade food and the tropical fruits and vegetables.

"Three persons were baptized — two from Guadeloupe and one from Martinique.

"After the Last Great Day, as people started back to their homes, there were



Flores — Ambassador College

A group of our brethren at Algarrobo, Chile, wait for a bus after the Feast.

the usual feelings of sadness that the Feast was over — mixed with feelings of renewed courage, determination and looking forward to the next Feast."

BARBADOS, WEST INDIES

To complete our round-the-world tour of the Feast sites, here is an excerpt of a report by Mr. Tom Hall, an Elder from Headquarters who joined Mr. Clarence Bass in conducting the Feast in Barbados:

"The Feast site in Barbados offered a breathtaking view of the deep blue and emerald Caribbean Sea. People in the congregation came from such exotic-sounding places as Antigua, Jamaica, Bermuda, Tobago, St. Lucia, Trinidad, British Guiana — and, of course, Barbados and the U.S.A. The attendance swelled to 260 the Last Great Day, the rest of the week it varied between 230 and 250.

"The weather stayed quite humid with frequent showers occurring, but the sea breezes intervened time and again to modify the swelter.

"Everyone seemed to have a grand time fellowshiping, attending services, touring the island, enjoying the water, playing cricket and table tennis, romping at the beach party, and viewing aspects of God's Work on movie night.

The Feast of Tabernacles, 1969, is now past, but it will certainly be remembered as one of the best ever!"

That's the way it was — around the world at *twenty-two sites* — the Feast of Tabernacles 1969 — the *best ever!*

Reader's Say . . .

(Continued from page 2)

sons and I could go to the Feast again. The sermons were most inspiring. It seemed they were all meant for me, especially the one Mr. Antion gave about God being a Father to the fatherless. I have two sons that I have brought up without a father. They are 15 and 11 years old. The youngest one has never known his father, so you can see how much we appreciated that sermon."

Lucille S.,
Muskogee, Okla.

Light Appreciated

"I am a waitress and served some of your people at their convention at the Lake of the Ozarks. I have never waited on such polite people who had such well-behaved children. I believe there is some hope for the future of religion in this country. It was such a pleasure to meet these people."

Mrs. Claude C.,
Lee's Summit, Mo.