

# The



National

# Handshake

As One That Serves

Issue No 16

Fall Edition

Sept. 90

## Announcing !

The 17th

### National AOTS Convention

To be held on the Campus of the

### University of Windsor In the Southlands of Ontario

August 2nd-3rd-4th, 1991

### Convention theme

### "Challenge to Commitment"

Will Be Presented By

**Rev. Bob Duthie**

Chairman Kent Presbytery



**A speaker who will stir  
and inspire us with his  
dynamic message**

**"A Time to Share A  
Time To Commit"**

### President Bob Lewis Reports

It has been noted in the past three months that there has been a downturn in the level of attendance at Round-Ups and Conferences. This is true for AOTS as well as other church groups. I thought therefore that it might be a good topic to comment on in this column.



As they used to say "the test of the pudding is in the taste." In the case of retreats the test is the taste that lingers long after the event is over. Experience shows that by far the majority of the attenders will tell you that they will return because of the moving experience encountered. Just what is it that caused this inspiring experience? There are as many reasons as attenders, but I believe there are four main motivators that usually apply to everyone.

First and foremost I believe, is the periodic need we all have, to step outside of our normal daily routine, and look at what we are doing and where we are going in our journey through life. The second motivation is the opportunity to take a fresh look at our spiritual life through the eyes of completely different persons than we are used to. We need to see if there are new insights to make our spiritual experience more rewarding for us and for others. For some, the most enticing aspect is the opportunity to make new friends or renew acquaintances with old ones. Many of us have been able to cultivate friends all across our country through AOTS events. The last of the prime motivators is the need to look again at the beauty of God's world from a receptive frame of mind. Banff is the ultimate example, but this is not to detract from the many beautiful sights of natural beauty where we gather to worship together. When you consider the prime purpose of AOTS fellowship, spiritual life, and service, you will find that all are in

Ernie  
Stafford  
Enters  
Hall  
Of  
Honour



Our immediate Past National President was inducted into the ranks of Life Members in Sept. of 1989. Still an active member of Duncan AOTS where he was club president, Ernie became well known as a B.C. Provincial President and National Western Vice President before taking on the highest Office of AOTS as National President.

### Comming Events

1990

Banff Conference

Oct. 12-13-14

Speaker Herbert O'Driscoll

Theme

**On Being a Christian in the Third  
Millennium**

35th Stanhope Conference

Prince Edward Island

Sept-21-22-23

Theme

**"Into The Light"**

Speaker-Rev. Don Macpherson



**In Loving  
Memory of  
Allan Rupert  
Jones**

.A true servant of the Lord who gave leadership in AOTS up to the level of National President. Al was a founding member of the Banff Conference, and also the Calgary School of Theology. He was certified as a Lay preacher who will be remembered across all levels of the church.

**Well done good and  
faithful servant!**



Ontario  
Round Up  
125  
Men  
Good  
&  
True

General  
Park  
Lake  
Simcoe



**RoundUp 90**

A well attended(125) and well received Round Up has been rated by the attenders as a success. 5 Ontario Conferences were represented.

**Sensational!**

Was what they said about Don Smith, the theme speaker. His talk was on Leadership which stimulated the discussion groups to a high level of sharing.

**Holy Communion**

It stimulated in early morning discussions on its meaning. Later Ted Kersey our Chaplain of the weekend, lead us in Communion by "Tincture".

**Sid Bagnall**

Our National Honourary President inspired worship through song.

**Entertainment**

Was provided by a group of young people from Orillia Ontario called the Razz Ma Tazz. Great sound and much joy prevailed.

**Sharing Weekend**

Was like its fellow retreats across Canada. There was Good Music, Good Food, Good Fellowship.

**Congratulations**

To Toronto Conference for a job well done. The plans for Round Up 91 are already under way with Manitou Conference in charge.

Reg Cooper Reporting

**Bellefair AOTS**

"They Had a Ball"! So reads the first entry in the Bellefair Newsletter. Everyone enjoyed the food and antics at the Annual Ladies Night. A timely quote from one of the ladies. "Its great to see a congregation that can laugh at itself."

**Ontario RoundUp 90**

They won the attendance trophy. Their numbers included 6 young men. Good recruiting Fred Gossmith .

**2nd Mile and Hospital Project**

.Executive have recommended \$300.00 to each project.

**Easter Colouring Books.**

Have on hand a supply of two books. One in the Easter Theme, the other called "Games and Things". The later for all seasons. With no bazaar in sight to promote sales the members have been put on notice to get out there and sell!

**Maple Syrup**

H. Wolfram thinks he can get the franchise to sell this product within Crown Life once again. A supply will be available for sale at any rate and members are alerted to line up their customers. The Books and Maple syrup are their two prime sources of revenue. Ed's note : How about a stall at the 91 Convention where we Maple Syrup starved Westerners can stock up.?

Excerpted from Bellefair Newsletter. Harry Wolfram Editor. Great work Bellefair. How about some pictures?

**AOTS In Nicaragua**

National AOTS Council members past and present , Jack Cleave and Lloyd Clark, were among 36 other London Conference grass-roots member of the United Church to spend time during February and March 1990 in Bluefields, Nicaragua. The objective there was to build a second story on a Moravian "L" shaped school building (120 ft.on the long side) in which to hold church services while over the next three years the Moravian Church, destroyed by hurricane Joanne, is being rebuilt. Later the space will accommodate a library and class rooms.

This pilot project, using ordinary members from local churches, was the inspired "child" of the Division of World Outreach within the London Conference Executive. As of April, 1990, the new walls have been built to hurricane and earthquake standards. The building is ready for trusses and roof.

What a most rewarding experience to live amongst, work with, and serve the needs of a third world Moravian Congregation. If ever such an opportunity ever comes your way, we say, Go for it!"

Lloyd Clark and Jack Cleave reporting.

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## Celebration of Faith

### It Happened Again!

For 34 years this event has turned into a series of collective religious experiences. It starts in the slow friendly atmosphere of renewing old friendships and starting new ones.

### Songs of Praise



Then we gather under the direction of our Song leader Bob Bagshaw and his brother in music Harry

Vogel. At first our efforts are perhaps a bit weak but as we progress that great spirit of worshipping through song grows and grows. The culmination for some of us is when we come in on the chorus of our favourite "Jesus Jesus Jesus".

### It Starts

The fuse is lit, the intensity grows through the fellowship in the dining room, through the inspiration from the theme speaker, through deep caring and sharing and praying in our discussion groups, and finally an exchange of Christian beliefs and concerns at our work shops.

The scenario is a mirror image of the many retreats held every year for men across this vast land of ours

### Some are Missing

During the devotionals, which are handled by selected individuals, our thoughts go out to Celebrations past when we shared with our brothers who have been called "home". We give pause for thought as we pray together for some of our brothers who are hurting so much, they feel they can no longer share this hurt with us. We are hurting too and want to share. Can we not once again reinforce our faith in God together as we did in days past?

Our collective hearts cry out as we recall that old Scots song,



Will Ye No Come Back Again!



That's Russ Sharpe of South Burnaby in the centre who built this racing car track..Scout Master Russ Thacker receiving.President John Carswell right.. Scout and father build the car between them.

### Sunday Morning

As we anticipate the final theme presentation by Rev. Howard Groom we think of men who have publicly witnessed to their faith and concerns unashamedly through both tears and laughter.

### May I Say I Love You?

At this years "Celebration" the editors felt that the most poignant moment of sharing was a testimonial by Keith MacDonald. He shared at letter written during the week end to his family. Keith brought to mind our need to be at the Celebration and yet our concern of being away when perhaps we are most needed. He asked his family if they could not pray and share and resolve any differences under the guiding light of Jesus and God's Holy Words. We wish Keith and his family well and we send our prayers of support to them. We also thank Keith for telling us how we should practice what we have learned and share it with our families.

### On The Way Home

You realize that it's over for another year. You are tired in body but strong in spirit. As we hurry back to our loved ones the thoughts of those moments of sharing are running through our minds. We are reassured here and reinforced there. You look forward to next year.

Bill Hastings Reporting

### St. Andrew's Mens Group Quesnell.B.C.

This small group welcomes and supports the Handshake. Although not affiliated this is their link with AOTS. Like many groups members have been lost due to the controversy over the ordination of homosexuals. Never the less they soldier on with a discussion on the changing roles of men and women in the Church and society in general.They are looking for a meeting time most compatible to their potential membership. Coming projects include assisting with the replacing of the carpet in the downstairs hall. A Pancake Breakfast is planned for December.

Five men attended the Banff Conference relearning with some ideas on club promotion. They were singularly impressed with the singing.

Our combined prayers are needed for Bob Ferguson the minister of this church. He is slated for more brain surgery some time in the next six months.

David Sutton Reporting

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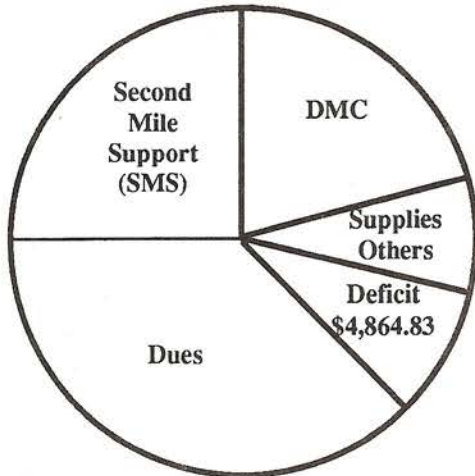
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Service  
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Cleaning



**Receipts**  
 Please Note  
 Dues represent a fixed limited income. The grant from the DMC will be down more in 1990-91. The receipt item with potential growth is Second Mile Support.  
 Lloyd Clark Finance Chairman



**Disbursements**  
 Send SMS to  
 Kenneth Lane  
 Treasurer  
 National AOTS  
 Men's Clubs  
 1208-1305  
 Ontario St.  
 Burlington Ont.

**The Colnett Scholarships 1990**

These are available to young persons who wish to prepare to teach, do research or pursue other vocations related to food production or distribution in developing countries. The Value of each of the three 1990 awards is \$750.00 payable immediately following registration at a University or College. Preference will be given to candidates who are enrolled in agriculture, fisheries, human ecology or related discipline AND

who have demonstrated interest in working in a developing country. Applications are available in writing to:

Dr. Murray McPherson  
 Room 420, Faculty of Education  
 University of Manitoba  
 Winnipeg, Manitoba  
 R3T 2N2

AOTS members are encouraged to make these awards known in their area

**Newfoundland**

**Bethany AOTS Reports**

Our club was formed Dec.16,1985. The Club was sponsored by a Zion AOTS of Lascie. The first president was Dr. William McKelvie. Other Presidents have been Clayton Green, John Burton, Jerry Parsons. Our reigning President is Maurice Burton. The club began with 21 Charter members. Presently we have 18 on our roll but due to shift work at the mines we can only expect about one third of them per meeting.

**Club Activities.**

In May of 1986 the club sponsored the Men's fellowship at West Haven and was responsible for coordinating activities such as Worship, Fun Time, Meals and transportation. Quite a number of clubs were represented. We also met new friends from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Our Theme speaker was Rev. Clem Rogers. It was a very enjoyable time.

Some of our members attended "The Conference RoundUp" which was held a Loon Bay Camp September 22-24. The theme was Discipleship-Challenge of the 90's". The theme speaker was David Windsor.

The AOTS purchased materials and constructed a canopy to the side entrance of our church, built new steps and installed railing to same. We helped the UCW purchase a new stove. The necessary wiring and fittings were purchased and installed. Provided Christmas trees for Needy Children. Purchased and installed ceiling fans in the Sanctuary. John Burton, one of our past presidents, built new cabinets for the U.C.W. Made a donation to the Second Mile Fund.

Rev. Sidney Newbury (Sec.) reporting.

Editor's Comment: Thanks for this history Bethany AOTS. Can you get us some pictures and a report of the Baie Verte Hospital so we can tell its story to the rest of Canada. Could someone from Newfoundland share with us the Story of the West Haven Retreat?  
 WGH

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# Bible N Prayers

## God in the Legislature (cont.)

### National Prayer Breakfast

325 attend with 80 representatives from the 99 Embassies stationed in Ottawa.

#### Cross country representation

Including top executives, several deputy ministers, Supreme Court Judges, Senators, Shirley Carr representing labour, and lots of M.P.'s.

The seminars, the dinner previous to breakfast and concluding luncheon were all well attended. Although no vote was taken there was a consensus across the spectrum of those attending that it "was extremely worthwhile and enjoyable."

#### Program March 29 1990.

Musical Prelude-----Mr. Morely Paget

Invocation---The Hon. Guy Charbonneau  
Speaker of the Senate

Welcome and Introduction Of the Head  
Table -----Nelson Riis, M.P.  
House Leader New Democratic Party

Statement of Purpose.  
Mr. Albert Cooper M.P. Chairman  
Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast Group

Music-----Judith Manley-  
Barbara Paget

Scripture Reading---The Hon. Herb Gray  
Interim Leader- Official Opposition

Scripture Reading-----  
The Right Hon. Brian Mulroney  
Prime Minister of Canada

Prayers for Canada  
and Nations of the World-----  
The Right Honourable R.G.B. Dickson  
Chief Justice of Canada

Appreciation----- The Hon. John Fraser  
Speaker House of Commons

Closing Prayer---Mr. Gib Parent, M.P.,  
Vice Chairman, Parliamentary Prayer  
Breakfast Group

Next Issue we will feature a club based on prayer study.



## Part II of Why I Study The Bible by Ernest Gilbert

Some people look at the Bible as a fictional work because of the hard to believe future events described in some of its books, especially Daniel, Ezekiel and Revelation. In parts it could become a love story, in others a manual for starting and running a church. But now I believe the Bible to be God's Word telling me how to live and in the future after death.

If we believe that the Bible is God's Word and that God is the same, past present and future, and that God is a God of order and not disorder, then I propose there is only one overall interpretation of it. Immediately many people will object to this view saying we are all different and therefore God has different messages for us. I feel that if any two people, for example you and I, disagree on a passage of scripture then there are three possibilities that exist: (1) I am right and you are wrong, (2) you are right and I am wrong or, (3) we are both wrong. If we agree, then there are two possibilities: (1) we are both right or (2) we are both wrong.

The Bible can't be read like any other book, we can not understand or grasp the most important parts of the main plan of it, by human power or reasoning; God's Word must be revealed to us as God's gift to us. Jesus made it possible by his death for us to speak directly to God. Since then, now and in the future we can and need to ask God in prayer for understanding when reading his word..

## A Successful AOTS Club



### Part IV By John Carswell Planning

When we have a meeting there must be a purpose, a need, and a reason. Your executive holds a meeting with the purpose of planning meetings, functions, and activities for the club. Whatever the purpose of these, they must be interesting.

## Long Range Planning

Your speakers must be interesting and they must be selected well ahead of time. Having set the purpose of the meeting you then must decide who is best qualified to fulfil the role of speaker. It may be the mayor of your city, a famous sportsman, or a professor. To get this type of speaker you must have done your planning and homework. Long range planning included the structure of the meeting, the selection of key people all of which has to be agreed upon at least six months in advance.

## Short Term Planning.

This will fall into place in due time. It has to involve everyone from the custodian to the minister, the song leader, committee reports etc. Have everyone become a "part of the club". Report your plans to the men in a letter at least once a month and suggest how they can become involved. Invite the congregation to hear selected speakers.

### The Editors

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# Come Join Us At Banff !Oct 12-13-14

## 36th Annual Banff Men's Conference Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Potal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Registration begins 2 PM Fri Oct 12.

Special Requests: Handicap, Diet, Requested Room mates, etc.

Age Group: Under 20 \_\_\_\_\_ 20-30 \_\_\_\_\_ 30-40 \_\_\_\_\_ 40-50 \_\_\_\_\_ over 50 \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Registration Fee \$60.00(enclosed) Total Fee \$ 165.00

Make cheques or money order payable to 1990 Banff Men's Conference

Late cancellation/no show fees will be charged at cost-balance to be refunded.

### Cut Out-Mail To

The 1990 Banff Men's  
Conference  
C/O Ronald White Registrar  
3347-Upton Place N.W.

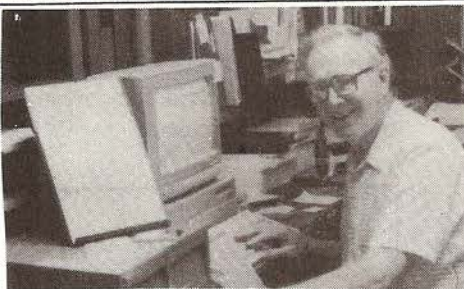
Calgary, Alberta

T2 N 4G9

Do it NOW!!

Tell them the Handshake done sent you.

Herbert O'Discroll  
"On Being A Christian  
In The Third  
Millennium"



### Photographs!

Keep them coming guys Your support is terrific and most appreciated.. Our goal is recognizable photographs

Starting with this issue the head and shoulder shots will be computer digitized. True they lack contrast but they are adequate. The one above of me and the computer, like the other larger photos have been done the usual way.

Bill Hastings

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### Saskatoon

On May 12 St. Pauls held a garage sale for Nicaragua sponsored by "Tools for Pesace." The net of \$2569.04 marked it as a success.

Items sold ran the amut from a deep freeze to a Christmas Tree.

## Are you enjoying your Handshake?

## Then support it with an Individual Membership!

### APPLICATION FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP WITH THE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED CHURCH AOTS MEN'S CLUBS

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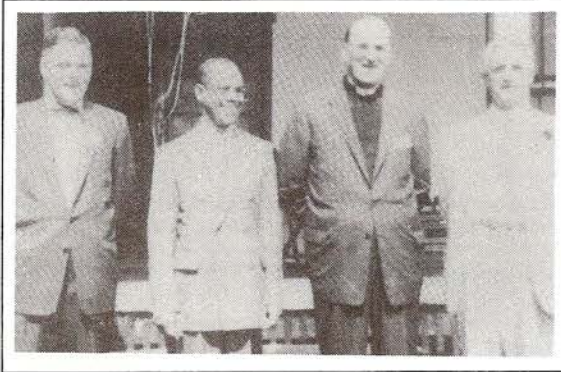
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Now!





### The Stanhope Story

The four men in the photograph below were front row and centre at the first Stanhope Conference some 35 years ago. That's Allison Mackinnon on the left the founder of the Conference. Next to him is Ralston Young better known as "Red Cap 42" who gave inspiring leadership in christian meetings held in a railway coach on Track 13 at the Grand Central Railway Station, N.Y. He was also known for his Christian Witness in his daily work as a porter where it is said he learned to help



carry passengers burdens as well as their bags. On the far right is Dr. Douglas Wilson the then editor of the religious page of the Montreal Star. These two men spoke to the theme "Going My Way". Standing between Ralston and Douglas is Dr. J.S. Banwell of P.E.I. who conducted Communion and gave the closing message on Sunday Morning.

Allison, who served as Associate Secretary of the Board of Men for the Maritimes found his inspiration for this event at the Men's weekend Conference at Elgin House Ont.

He was the first chairman of what has been called the "Grandfather Conference of the Maritimes". The idea spread over this area in the form of Men's Conferences and later the Men's Biennial Festival of Faith. Similar events sprang up at the Congregation and Presbytery level.

The genius of these gatherings lies in the discovery by men that like their brothers they struggled with the same problems and weaknesses. Sharing becomes the key to a

stronger faith. This is yet another example of a world wide sharing of christian faith amongst men from all walks of life and faiths. It is a strong feature in AOTS, as attested to by our National President's report. Also you will see in the Column Prayers N Bibles that there is a searching for this sharing amongst our political leaders in Canada and throughout the world. Stanhope and other similar gatherings have given us the inspiration to share. Lets demonstrate our faith by joining that mens, gathering in your area.

### Youth Public Speaking Contest

Parents and friends gathered on Saturday afternoon April 21 to hear and encourage the finalists. This event was originally sponsored by the United Church men of P.E.I. and was for boys only. Now it includes Junior, Intermediate and Senior Boys and Girls. The United Church Women of the Island are now co-sponsors.

Our Chairman for this year, Barry Cudmore, is the third generation of a family active in United Church Men's events. Barry's father Clayton and grandfather Leonard are well known for their support of the Stanhope Conference and other men's events over the past years.

Willard Proud reporting

### 7th Annual Retreat

This well attended midwinter event saw our reporter Willard Proud and a support group of nine brothers from P.E.I. brave the stormy waters of Northumberland Strait. Their destination was the retreat at Sussex, New Brunswick held on Feb. 22-25 1990.

Rev. Brian DeLong of Loreville South Bay N.B. chose as his theme "Put on the whole Armour of God". The Chaplain for the weekend was Rev. Boyce Martin of Keswick Bridge, N.B. Soloist was the Rev. Paul Thompson, Pastor of Grace Memorial Baptist of Fredericton, N.B.

### Old West comes to Far East.

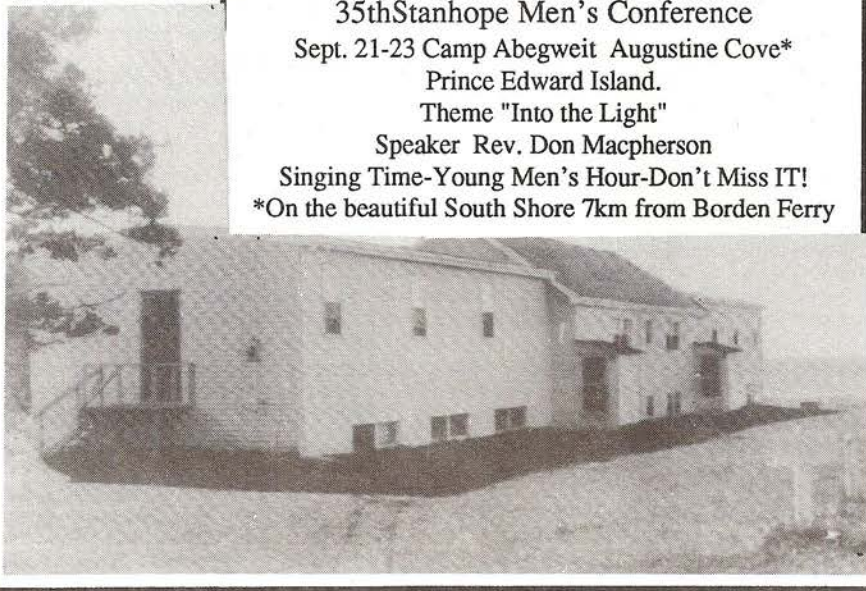
The locale was the "Circle Square Ranch" an all season retreat centre. Situated on a two acre site on Snider Mountain, this setting made for an enjoyable atmosphere of the snow falling outside with the fires crackling inside.

The men were loath to leave this annual spiritual event and its most pleasant surroundings. The program this year was dedicated to one of the founding brothers, the late Jack Scribner, who passed away Nov. 9 1989. We were reminded of a verse used by Jack's minister, Rev. Douglas Woods, at the time of the funeral:

"Oh may all who come behind us find as faithful,  
May the fire of Jack's devotion light our way  
May the foot prints that he leaves, lead us to believe  
And the life he lived inspire us to obey"

35th Stanhope Men's Conference  
Sept. 21-23 Camp Abegweit Augustine Cove\*  
Prince Edward Island.  
Theme "Into the Light"

Speaker Rev. Don Macpherson  
Singing Time-Young Men's Hour-Don't Miss IT!  
\*On the beautiful South Shore 7km from Borden Ferry





**Duncan United Church and the AOTS Men's Club** gave a warm welcome to Dr. Peter J. Newbery on the occasion of Mission Sunday on May 20th, 1990. A group of AOTS men met with the Doctor at the home of Art Mann the night before and were greatly impressed through the

informal discussion on the many matters relating to the work of the United Church hospitals and the varied talents and personal experiences of the Doctor.

### Dr. Peter At Both Services

At the services on Sunday, Dr. Newbery spoke of the need for trained personnel at the hospitals and clinics, also the importance of spiritual happiness and medical benefits created by a healthy mind towards a healthy body.

Ernie Stafford, Past National President, presented a cheque for \$2500.00 to Dr. Newbery on behalf of the National Association of United Church AOTS Men's Clubs, to be used, at the discretion of the doctor, for the benefit of students in training for the medical profession.

Following a pot luck luncheon served after the 11 A.M. service, many of the congregation enjoyed picture slides and more accounts of the work and services provided, from Dr. Newbery.

Ernie Stafford Reporting.



Dental Clinic Hazelton B.C. Equipment above purchased by AOTS

## Hamilton Conference

Howard visted St. Paul's, Oakville, First United Cambridge, and Erin Mills. Reports that all were well attended.

### St Pauls

Installed officers for 1990  
 President----- Garry Davis  
 Vice-Pres-- Walter Macdonald  
 Sec.----- Robert Kidney  
 Treasurer--- Maurice Wright

## St Paul's (Cont)

Held Ladies Night March 17 entitled "A Nite in London" 163 attended with AOTS preparing the entire dinner . Good Friday Breakfast for congregation 135 came.

### First United Cambridge

Pancake Supper for congregation Mar.3 large turnout. Regular March Breakfast Meeting Sunday March 11, 8.A.M. Speker was a local high school student the club had sponsored to at-

tended a youth cultural seminar in Ottawa. Annual Ladies Night on Sat. March 10th in the form of a Dinner and-Dance. Helped to purchase new uniforms local Beavers and Guides.

Howard attended Hamilton Conference on behalf of AOTS.

## Outstanding Survey By Howard

I have sent out a letter to virtually all United Church Pastoral Charges in Hamilton Conference in an attempt to rekindle interest in AOTS and/or Men's clubs and work. Enclosed was a copy of "You were asking about AOTS" and a returnable questionnaire to establish what Men's clubs are active, their size, how often they meet and their projects. Also asked what interest there is forming an AOTS club or reactivating a defunct or struggling club? To date there has been a mixed response. Nothing from 5 of the presbyteries yet four clubs in the ST Katherine area are interested in holding informational meetings. There is hope I can be instrumental in getting one club started in three presbyteries in the fall. A rally in these Presbyteries in the fall would seem the best route.

Howard Wills Reporting

Eds Note: This project is the measure of the man who is conducting it. Other Conference Presidents please copy.

### The Perfect Church

I think that I shall never see  
 A church that's all it ought to be:  
 A church whose members never stray  
 Beyond the straight and narrow way:  
 A Church that has no empty pews;  
 Whose preacher never has the "blues"  
 A church whose deacons always "deak"  
 And none is proud and all are meek;  
 Where gossips never peddle lies,  
 Or make complaints or criticize;  
 Where all are always sweet and kind,  
 And all to other faults are blind,  
 Such perfect churches there may be,  
 But none of them are known to me.  
 But, still, We'll work and pray'  
 And Plan to Make This One  
 The Best We can.



# Manitou Visit

## Setting the Scene.

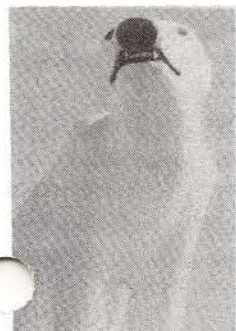
To visit the six clubs in this Conference

he has to cover 2000 kilometres over a period of a week. In this case the mode of transportation was a pick up truck complete with driver Jack Thompson the regional AOTS Rep. When you hit Mattice there is only 30 Kilometres of road left.

Now get this James Bay lurks some 250 Kilometres across the Tundra. "Brother that's North."

## Hat's Off!

To the AOTS men of North Bay, South



Reg on departure

River Matheson, Kapucasing, Porcupine and Sudbury. A great bunch of Christians in the truest sense of the word. Good samaritans all. A special word of appreciation to the Manitou

Conference Rep. Jack Thompson." A real old nut, first class, unselfish, a real pal. And oh yes thanks for introducing me to "Moose Chili" it was worth the price of admission alone.

## Painful Interlude!

On the night before the last breakfast meeting of the tour Jack and I left the road for an unscheduled stop in a ravine. After an hour of first class pain, the rescue chopper came and landed on the road near us. The paramedics strapped me up tightly in

a body harness and left me for the Road Ambulance, It evacuated Jack and I to the Sudbury General Hospital. It goes without saying that I missed the Saturday Breakfast but I think the whole of the Sudbury Club visited me in the hospital. Charlie Martindale and John Arbuckle were especially kind, visited me often



Reg at S.Porcupine

and saw me off via Air Ontario on Tuesday April 10.

## Epilogue

"As I write some three weeks later, still in some pain, I am still warmed by the welcome I received from these men. They live work, and worship very near the Earth. God's Earth.

G.R.(Reg) Cooper Central Vice President Reporting.

Editors Note. Thanks to Reg and Gil Rashore of North Porcupine the Handshake has been able to bring these northern men to its readers. Lets here from the clubs in more detail. Like an Annual Report with pictures?



## A Gold Bar for the 2nd Mile?

Jack Thompson' looks on in wonder. He and Reg also hit a pulp mill Note the boys from the north (above) bundled up prepared for a cool reception of the visiting AOTS "Brass"?

# Alberta

## Wetaskiwin sets example with 21 men.

While pondering my article on "A Successful Club" I paused to read a letter by Len Larsen of the Wetaskiwin AOTS Club. He tells us of having a summer wind up breakfast starting at 8:A.M. and closing with prayer at 11:30. During this period of time some of the topics discussed were:

The successes of the 1990 fiscal year were found through participating in different church services, the preparation of breakfast for the Sunrise service at Easter and hosting the Alberta AOTS Round Up to mention but a few.

## Projects-Donations

Over the year they held 4 fund raising events which generated approximately \$4000.00. Donations for the year went to 16 separate organizations such as: Youth Conference, Secret Santa, National AOTS, Jim Dickies' Life Membership, Alberta RoundUp, Kamp Kasota(Presbytery Summer Camp for Kids), Palliative Care, Second Mile, National Hospital Fund, Project Plough Shares, The Handshake, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Red Cross, Cancer Society, Wetaskiwin Hospital Foundation, Wetaskiwin Church.

## Meetings

Contained a high degree of sharing and fellowship. They plan to continue being involved in the church, community and national scene during the coming year. In all of their activities meetings etc. the theme is "remembering God".

Len closes his letter by saying "and we gave daily thanks for His many blessings."

Thanks for the example Wetaskiwin and may God continue to bless your club with continuing success.

John Carswell Publishing Chairman.

## Sakatchewan

From the St. Andrew's Menu: Supporting CGIT's 75th. Ran Camp Capernaum's Annual Spring Supper. \$1500.00 realized. Had a succesful run at "Meals-onWheels". Profits from Pancake and Bake sale were \$538.00.





**National Issues**

The Manitoba Council is developing plans to host the National executive at Westwood Church on the weekend of Oct.26-28. Billets are being solicited by the local clubs, meals are being planned and a hospitality schedule set up. All is looking O.K. for a fine weekend.(No snow is forecast)

**Video Tape**

**"Men and the Church**

**Challenge and Opportunity"**

by Berkley Studios 1989

Viewing Time 35 Minutes

Council executive members received this video which was produced by the Division of Mission in Canada. Several modes of worship, service and fellowship are outlined and demonstrated, i.e. AOTS clubs, Men's study groups, seniors recreational groups and international working parties to developing countries. We believe it is well done and worth studying. AOTS receives a high rating.

**Habitat for Humanity**

The Manitoba Council and several clubs have become involved in "home building" with the Winnipeg Habitat for Humanity group. (Brochures available through Murray McPherson; see his address page 9.

The local group has built and/or refurbished at least 30 homes during the last two years. Gerry Varnes(AOTS Past President) is serving as the local treasurer for Habitat and is busy with a \$200,000 budget. All men who have served "as carpenter for a week" have found it most exciting. One can not avoid excitement when in five days a group of men and women built a new home(1200 sq.ft.) and watched the new family move in on Friday afternoon. We expect that between 30-40 AOTS men will be involved in July as Habitat attempts to build from 12-16 new homes in one week.

**Minnedosa Reports**

The third annual social night was held Jan.19 1990.The second vice President of Toastmasters International, Jack Gillespie was the guest speaker. His theme was on "Being Proud to be a

Canadian".His humorous stories and views of the Canadian scene were enjoyed by some 100 guests.

18 members of the Minnedosa Jazz Band under the capable leadership of Barbara Galbraith entertained with two numbers "Surfing U.S.A." and Watermelon Man" 20 Pathfinders acted as hostesses and served the dinner prepared by the AOTS Men's club.

**37 Anniversary**

Was celebrated on our annual Ladies Night June 6th. . Welcomed were men from AOTS clubs in the area plus members of the Manitoba District Council.

**3rd Mini-Folk-Fun-Fest**

The Club participated in these Mini-Folk Fest Days July 12 though the 15th. Their part was a food booth the proceeds from which are used for club activities. As the name implies it is a fun occasion with many of the club members participating. Out of pocket expenses are only rent for the booth and display area.

Raymond Coxe reporting.

**Clair Bailey Reports**

Manitoba District Council presented an AOTS Display at the Manitoba and North Western Ontario Conference meeting held at Portage La Prairie on May 24-26 1990. This was under the leadership of Murray MacPherson who was assisted by Ed Bob and Clair Bailey. Each visited with delegates while promoting AOTS activities.

Editors Note. May we suggest handing out copies of the Handshake at all such events. A supply of Handshakes will be made available on request. How about those copies that are left on the table after the meeting. Place them in the Narthex> for Sunday. Send them to Presbytery.

**Leadership Recognition**

Twenty-one United Churches in greater Winnipeg sponsored 23 Secretaries at this annual event. It was held in Gordon King United Church on April 2,1990.

District Council President Jim Lawrence welcomed the guests. Each Secretary was introduced by a representative of their Church. Interesting and humorous anecdotes were the order of the day.

Rev. Doug Martindale presented a short dissertation on "How to appreciate our Church Secretaries." He emphasized remuneration, pension plans and verbal appreciation.

Certificates of appreciation were presented by Murray McPherson and Clair Bailey. This evening was a highlight of our "Recognition Series". As chairman I wish to thank Don McKenzie, Ernie Orpin, Rev. Walter Cowan and Murray McPherson for their cooperation. C.T.G.( Clair) Bailey

**40th Anniversary**

Westwood announces its 49th birthday to be celebrated this fall. A special service is planned for Oct 28. As the National Council of AOTS will be meeting at the Church at that time, all are invited to the anniversary service. Reverends Fred McNally and Ian MacDonald will be the anniversary speakers.

All former AOTS members of Westwood are asked to write or phone the Church at 204-489-6974 in order to provide an update of their activities. It is known that 50 or more former AOTS members are living across the country. We would like to hear from each of them in order to include any comments in our anniversary book. Order forms for the book are available.

Murray McPherson reporting



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House, the Gateway to  
Thy Eternal Kingdom"