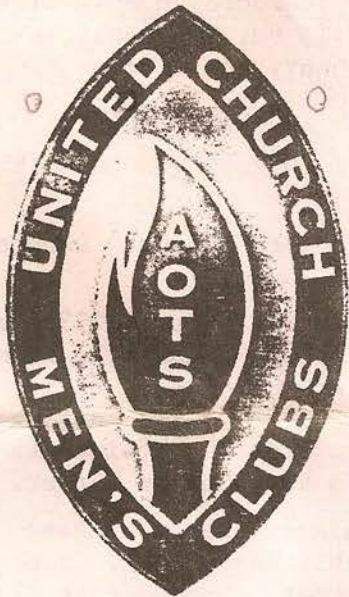
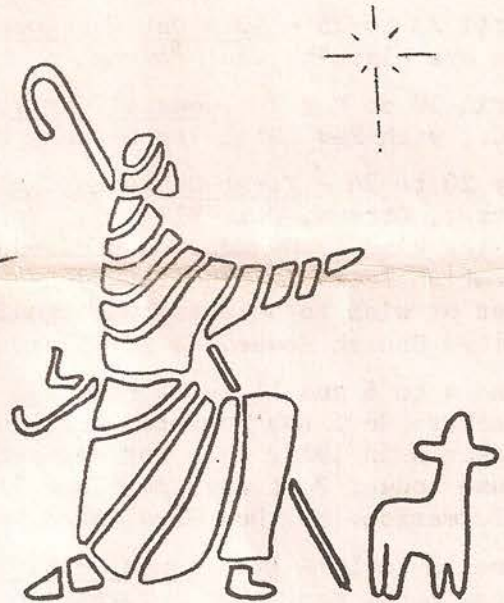


National AOTS Newsletter



Vol. 4, No. 3. November 1981.

Merry Christmas



- In this issue:
- Four new clubs receive charter
 - Calgary Convention: talks, elections
 - Gordon Hall new National President
 - Club News
 - Reports on 1981 men's conferences

AOTS is a movement of United Church men founded in 1923 and dedicated to promoting Christian fellowship, deepening the spiritual life of men, and developing effective programs of Christian service. Clubs are active across Canada, from Vancouver Island to Newfoundland, and in Bermuda, and are united under the National Association. The Newsletter is published by the National Association for the exchange of information between clubs and individual members. It appears three times a year: January, April and October, from the office of the Executive Secretary: G. Allan Smith, 61 Nordin Avenue, Toronto, Ont. M8Z 2B4. The editor is M. M. Wright.

National Association of United Church AOTS Men's Clubs

The United Church of Canada

"I am among you As One That Serves." Luke 22:27.

COMING EVENTS

November 29 - "An Evening With Dr. Bob McClure", sponsored by The Scarborough AOTS Glee Club, assisted by The Metropolitan Silver Band, Sunday evening, 7:15 PM, Metropolitan United Church, Toronto, in support of Dr. McClure's current missionary activities.

February 6, 1982 - Oshawa Presbytery AOTS Rally, St. Stephen's U.C., Oshawa, Ont.

April 23 to 25 - AOTS Ontario Round-Up, Geneva Park, Orillia, Ont. Bay of Quinte AOTS men are planning the program.

April 30 to May 2 - Coastal Christian Men's Conference, Trinity Western College, Langley, B.C., with Rev. Bill Van Druten, Oak Bay U.C., Victoria, B.C.

May 20 to 24 - First Canadian Christian Festival, Ottawa, Ont. Office address: 233 Rue Murray, Ottawa, Ont. K1N 5M9. Telephone: (613)235-1866. An ecumenical event, the first of its kind in Canada. A preliminary program will be available in December and registration forms in January. Contact the above address if you wish to be on the mailing list or wish to help in the organization. Further information can also be obtained from United Church House, 85 St. Clair Ave. East, Toronto, M4T 1M8, c/o Rev. Gordon Turner.

June 4 to 6 and 11 to 13 - United Church Muskoka Conference, 30th Anniversary. Theme speaker: Rev. Bob Mumford, St. George's U.C., Toronto, on "Renewable Resources". Two weekends in 1982, each for Men - Women - Couples - Singles, a new format, June 4 - 6 at Elgin House Lodge, Port Carling, June 11 - 13 at Delawana Inn, Honey Harbour. For registration information: Mr. Don Gard, 5078 Spruce Ave., Burlington, Ont. L7L 1M8.

June 12 to 14 - 17th Annual Riding Mountain Conference of Churchmen, Camp Wannakumbac, Clear Lake, Man. For information contact: Reg Hedley, Box 367, Hamiota, Manitoba.

October 15 to 17 - 28th Banff Men's Conference, Banff Centre. For information contact: Keith Robin, 3008 11th Avenue South, Lethbridge, Alberta, T1K 0L9, (403)327-0458.

→→→→→ July 22 to 24, 1983 - 13th Biennial Convention of The National Association of U.C. AOTS Men's Clubs, on the campus of Memorial University, St. John's, Newfoundland. Plan now for a July vacation in Newfoundland and to attend this meeting - the opportunity of a lifetime.

1985 National AOTS Convention? We are open for invitations!

* * * * *

Some good news: NEW CHARTERS!

1. Shaughnessy U.C., Winnipeg, Manitoba, on May 4, 1981. (See page 12) #790
2. Trinity U.C., Newmarket, Ontario, on April 27, 1981. #791
3. Grace U.C., Sarnia, Ontario, on September 22, 1981. #792
4. Humber Valley U.C., Pasadena, Newfoundland, on September 22, 1981. #793

A personal note: As a faithful reader (??) you will no doubt have noticed that the spring (June) issue was prepared by Al Smith. I am grateful to him for this and express my thanks. It just happened to be a very busy time for me and I had to pass it up --- luckily we have someone like Al willing and able to step in at such a time. Now, here we are into the fall and I am again late, for similar reasons. However, we expect to be back on schedule with the one in January.

The Newsletter is now (see front cover) on a three/year basis rather than the four of previous years. One reason for this is to reduce the work load. However, if we can get better organized we can perhaps return to the previous schedule.

Maurice Wright

12th Biennial Convention, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, August 21 - 23, 1981.

It was a great 12th Biennial. Western --- more specifically, Calgary --- hospitality was everything we were told it would be; Dr. Reynolds' theme address - "In His Service to Care and Share" - gave us the lift we needed, as did also the fine Don Morton / Don Smith / Murray McPherson symposium on "AOTS: Goals for the 80's", and the devotionals of Rev. Don MacMahon; the music was marvelous, courtesy the beautiful voice of Margaret Skarsgard and lively song leadership of Bill VanDruten; and we did a respectable amount of business. We shall long remember Calgary, 1981.

Arrangements were excellent. From the opening presentation of flags and service of worship and remembrance, at 1:30 PM Friday, to the closing Sunday morning Communion Service everything went without a hitch. We were profusely and generously welcomed by spokesmen for the University, the province, city and several administrative levels of the United Church; meeting facilities were very satisfactory; meals in the University cafeteria were first-rate; and on Saturday evening we were treated, courtesy of the Government of Alberta, to an outdoor roast beef barbecue and barn dance at Rafter 6, a resort ranch about an hour's drive towards Banff. The ladies, of course, shared in this, attending sessions that were of interest and taking part in a fine program of activities organized by Shirley Branton and her committee (there was a program for the young people as well). Home for the weekend was Kananaskis Hall, a high-rise residence on the beautiful campus of the University. For all of this we were indebted to George Waite who, with cochairman Fred Holberton and their splendid committee of 14, put it all together and made it work so well.

Rev. Dr. Alan Reynolds, of Vancouver's Ryerson U.C., delivered the theme address in two parts, which could be subtitled: In His Service "to Care", and "to Share", the latter being the working out of the former. The first part was based on Mark 12: 28 - 31, read for him by Cyril Locke, in which Jesus replies to a question with the familiar statement of the two basic commandments: that we should love God with our whole being, and love our neighbour as ourself. There "had to be two", said Alan, for service to and love of God cannot be separated from service to and love of man --- "this is the uniqueness of Christianity". Noting that in the early days of the church service was to God to the neglect of man and that today it tends to be the reverse, i.e., to man to the neglect of God, which puts emphasis on the "horizontal" to the neglect of the "vertical" dimension of love, he said we need both dimensions, and in them we have the cross. Without the vertical dimension love lacks ultimate meaning and purpose; the "caring" is incomplete.

Continuing with "to Share", Dr. Reynolds noted that there are three types of people in the church today: the social activists, the charismatics, and the evangelicals, each emphasizing a different aspect of "sharing". In fact, he said, we need all three. The justice concerns of the social activists are essential because justice is "the tough element" of love; without justice it is not love. And, on the other hand, justice sought without love is an impractical unreachable goal. The gifts of the spirit, emphasized by charismatics, are important insofar as we become "enablers", i.e., instruments for what God wants, and not him becoming the means for what we want. And, finally, the contribution of the evangelical is necessary because "works" of love should be accompanied by "words" of faith --- for this gives meaning to the works. He said we should speak of Christ wherever we are, for this is "good news", and we should strive to become better equipped to spread it.

Music has always been an essential part of an AOTS gathering. The 12th Biennial was no exception. Soloist Margaret Skarsgard, also of Ryerson U.C., accompanied by pianist Gladys Kennedy, sang for us in the devotionals and at the Sunday morning service, during the theme address, and at the Rafter 6 barbecue. At the latter, very appropriately,

she sang a medley from the musical show Oklahoma. Bill VanDruten, aided by guitarist Bob Bagshaw, presided at the singalongs, teaching us several new numbers, and kept things moving musically on the bus trip to Rafter 6. The Stampede City Chorus, a barber shop choir, was also part of the musical program and sang several selections for us at the Sunday morning service. There was no lack of musical content and variety in this weekend.

"AOTS: Goals for the 80's" comprised three excellent talks: by Don Morton, Duncan AOTS, Don Smith, former executive secretary, and Murray McPherson, national president. Don Morton led off, dealing with the club concept and the importance of the club in the AOTS movement. Without the club "where would be the fellowship?", he asked, describing what can only be done by way of a club, its role in Christian service, and stressing the need to revitalize and reemphasize it as we move ahead. Don Smith, on the other hand, saw lack of spiritual maturity and direction as the problem. Noting that spiritual commitment to Christ is the distinctive feature of AOTS, he said "we cannot have strength on a kindergarten faith". To meet the challenge of our biblical ignorance he urged that AOTS men spearhead the formation of study groups and promote lay access to the schools of theology --- "why not a correspondence course for lay people?". The heart of our aims and dynamic, he said, should be "to deepen the spiritual life of men". Murray McPherson turned to Christian fellowship, and what it means: love, mutual respect, friendliness. Then, touching perhaps a sensitive area, he asked: "Who is our fellow?". Do we invite to our meetings people whom we may see as on the fringe: deviates, labourers, native people, high risers, alcoholics, the unemployed, the handicapped, etc.? This, he said, "is not so easy". But there is a need here. "Let me do it now", he said, "for I shall not pass this way again".

And so it is that the goals for the 80's are none other than the goals we have always had, namely, "to promote Christian fellowship, to deepen the spiritual life of men, and to develop an effective program of Christian service". As we move through the 80's we must make them, more than ever, the real goals of our AOTS program.

On the business side there were several items:

(a) Quite a bit of time was given to discussion of a proposed revision of our constitution prepared by the National Constitution Committee, John Cleave, chairman. The result of this was to approve voting rights for Individual Members and Life Members, subject to a maximum of two votes per pastoral charge, these to be overridden by the two votes of a club if one is active in that charge, and to retain the present name (a change of name dropping the word "Clubs" had been proposed). It was also voted to refer the constitution back to the Committee for further study.

(b) Two awards presentations were made: the D. R. Poole Trophy for youth work (15 entries from 9 conferences), again (4th time!!!!) to Victoria Avenue U.C., Chatham (London Conference), together with a plaque* (conference winners also receiving plaques**), and the David J. Sherwood Memorial Trophy for increase in membership (4 entries), to St. Paul's U.C., Oakville, for a 70% increase (from 30 to 51 in 1980).

* These are plaster castings bearing in relief the heads of a man and young boy and the date of the award. They have been donated over the years by Life Member Wilf Balmer of Toronto, who was chairman of the Youth Committee (1961 - 65) when this award was set up and first presented in 1963. It honours the memory of D. R. Poole, executive secretary 1946 - 56, who came to AOTS with a background in youth work and who promoted it strongly during his term of office. The plaque that goes with the trophy is coated page 5

** B.C. - Duncan U.C., Duncan; Alberta - no entry; Saskatchewan - St. Andrew's U.C., Moose Jaw
Manitoba - Windsor Park U.C., Winnipeg; Manitou - no entry; Bay of Quinte - George Street
U.C., Peterborough; Toronto - Wilmar Heights U.C., Scarborough; Hamilton - St. Paul's U.C.,
Oakville; London - Park Street U.C., Chatham; Montreal-Ottawa - no entry; Maritime - Wilson
U.C., Margaree Centre, N.S.; Newfoundland - Grace U.C., Springdale.

(c) In addition to a formal resolution of thanks to the Convention Committee, the Resolutions Committee (Bill Hastings, chairman) dealt with two resolutions: #1 on church government and #2 on human sexuality. The Committee recommended approval in each case and the convention so voted. [For your information the two resolutions are reprinted on pages 7 and 8.] They will be forwarded to the Secretary of General Council and to the Division of Mission, respectively.

Finally, there was the election of the National Council for 1981-83. In the report of the Nominating Committee (Tom Ferguson, chairman) two candidates were named for the office of president: Keith MacFayden and Malcolm MacDonald (central and eastern vice-presidents, respectively). A third nomination, that of Gordon Hall (chairman of the Finance Committee), came from the floor. In the election for this office Gordon Hall won on the first ballot. Other offices were filled by acclamation. The results were as follows:

Officers

Honorary President	Dr. Robert McClure	Toronto, Ontario
President	L. Gordon Hall	Waterloo, Ontario
Vice-President:		
Eastern	Cyril Locke	Springdale, Newfoundland
Central	Ross Agar	Chatham, Ontario
Western	Jim Dickie	Edmonton, Alberta
Treasurer	Robert Lewis	Amherstburg, Ontario

Chairman of Standing Committees

Communications	Dr. Fred Holberton	Edmonton, Alberta
Constitution	John C. Cleave	Sarnia, Ontario
Finance	Ernie Orpin	Winnipeg, Manitoba
International	Oliver Binns	Bermuda
Leadership Development	R. W. (Ray) Silzer	Regina, Saskatchewan
Long Range Planning	-	-
Membership	Robert S. Pratt	Merlin, Ontario
Program	Don G. Smith	Mississauga, Ontario
Projects	Frank Lewis	Mississauga, Ontario
Spiritual Life	Reg Attwell	Nanaimo, British Columbia
Youth Work	J. W. (Bill) Sefton	Markham, Ontario
Archivist	Dr. Wm. G. Hastings	Vancouver, British Columbia
Chairman, 1983 Convention	Mel Rowe	Manuels, Newfoundland
Liaison, Division of Mission	Alan Staig	Toronto, Ontario
Past President	Dr. Murray McPherson	Winnipeg, Manitoba

The 12th Biennial will hold pleasant memories for us. Unhappily, numbers were lower than expected due to the July mail strike and the communication problems this created. Official registration was 97 men, 71 ladies, and 12 young people. This was our second meeting in Calgary, the first being in June 1954, at Central U.C., as the 2nd national convention of the National Association of AOTS Clubs (i.e., before the union of AOTS and UC Men under our present organization and name and the first of the present series of biennial meetings at Canadian Keswick in September, 1959) though the 5th Biennial was in nearby Banff in August, 1967. In 1983 we assemble in St. John's, Newfoundland, on the campus of Memorial University, July 22-24, the men of the Topsail club (12 miles west of St. John's), under Mel Rowe as chairman, being our hosts. Plan to attend.

* ... with gold metal leaf; those to conference winners are coated with a bronze lacquer. The biennial preparation of these plaques, involving as it does a change of mold to accommodate the change in date, is estimated to cost about \$400. We are much indebted to Wilf for this very generous contribution to the support of youth work in AOTS.

A Message From the President

The new president of our National Association, for the period 1981-83, is Gordon Hall, of Waterloo, Ontario, member of the St. James-Rosemount U.C. AOTS Men's Club in Kitchener, Ontario. Gordon has long been active in AOTS affairs. During the past six years he has been a member of the National Council, in 1979-81 as chairman of the Finance Committee, and in 1975-79 as Hamilton Conference AOTS President. Though he lives in Waterloo and is a member of First U.C. there, his AOTS affiliation is with the St. James-Rosemount club because it is the nearest one for him. He served as its president for two years, in 1976 and 1977. At First U.C., however, Gordon has been successful in bringing together a group of men who meet as a prayer fellowship at breakfast. Gordon is one of those who came into the United Church with the union of the United Church and the Evangelical United Brethren (January 1, 1968), a union which some say was the best thing ever to happen to the United Church. In any case, because of it we have Gordon Hall as our new president.

Gordon has the following message for us:

"Greetings to all AOTS club members across the Church.

For the next two years it is my hope that AOTS will become much more meaningful as we unitedly strive to make our association a way of life for United Church men that no other way could possibly transcend.

Each of us has within us the desire to be part of or belong to that which is top drawer. Well, AOTS certainly is all of that. It has stood the test of time, over fifty years, and still is a viable way for men to become fully involved in their respective areas and also on a national level.

As your new president it is my intention that through my efforts, along with the efforts of every vice-president, every committee chairman, every conference president and appointed member-at-large, the work involved in making AOTS the motivating force it must become, as it seeks to promote and become the channel through which the Love of God as demonstrated in His Son usward, is engaged in by all clubs and all men of the Church.

At this point I would like to pay tribute to a man who has carried the AOTS banner very high and with a great deal of dignity. Murray McPherson has been a great example as our National President and I believe I speak for all AOTS men across Canada when I say a hearty thank you for a job of leadership well done. We pray God will richly bless you Murray in the new tasks you accept on behalf of the men's organization.

In drawing my few words of greeting to a close I would ask that we men of the AOTS will unitedly look to Christ for our leadership and pray together that we shall anticipate and attempt great things in the immediate future and be not daunted by memories of past failures. Trust God to lead us out and so I would challenge each man, committee, club, individual member and executive member to throw themselves unreservedly into the business of 'Being As One That Serves' for Jesus Christ our great example and leader.

Yours in His Service As One That Serves, L. Gordon Hall, National AOTS President."

My apologies for not having a picture of Gordon; I promise there will be one in the next issue.

Also in the next issue, "Christians With Secular Power", the talk given by Mark Gibbs, eminent British Christian layman, when he spoke to Toronto Conference men on March 2, 1981, in Toronto. A very interesting talk; for lack of space, and other reasons, we regret it has not been possible to bring it to you sooner.

The following are the two resolutions dealt with at the Calgary convention (see page 5).

1. Resolution on Church Government

Whereas in recent years The United Church of Canada, as an institution, has become involved in a number of controversial social and political questions;

And whereas this activity has given rise to much dissension within the Church;

And whereas this activity is seen as and, indeed, is represented as being in the name of the people of the Church, and, moreover, is funded by the people of the Church through their gifts to the Mission and Service Fund;

And whereas the authority for this activity is General Council;

And whereas General Council is an assembly of United Church people comprising, by allocation, 50% clergy delegates and 50% lay delegates;

And whereas such an assembly, by its composition, is unrepresentative of the people of the Church, because the clergy comprise much less than and the laity much more than 50% of the people;

And whereas the clergy delegates to General Council, though elected at the Conference level, are initially members of Presbytery solely because they are of the ordained ministry, and so are not elected thereto by the members of the local Church;

And whereas the lay delegates to General Council are elected by the members of Conference rather than by the members of the local Churches of the Conference; indeed, the members of the local Church, as a body, do not participate directly in the election of any representatives beyond the level of the local congregation: not to Presbytery, not to Conference, and, as stated, not to General Council;

And whereas General Council, therefore, both by the composition of its membership and by the process of election of its membership, cannot be regarded as a democratically constituted body, within the commonly accepted meaning of this term, and hence cannot be regarded as qualified to speak for the people of the Church on controversial social and political questions;

Now therefore be it resolved that:

This 12th Biennial Convention of the National Association of United Church AOTS Men's Clubs, viewing with deep concern the lack of proper democratic representation for the people of the Church in the present form of government of the United Church of Canada, and believing such representation to be a basic right of membership in the Church, calls on the Executive of General Council to form a committee to study this matter and, in due course, recommend to the Executive and to General Council a form of government that would be fully democratic and give to the people of the Church direct and proper democratic representation in the decision- and policy-making processes of the Church at all levels of organization;

And asks, further, that this study be initiated promptly and be pursued with diligence and urgency;

And further, that the committee report on the progress of its work to the Executive within one year from the date of its formation, and semi-annually thereafter;

And further, that the Executive release the substance of these interim reports, as they are received, to the people of the Church, using as one means for this release The United Church Observer;

And further, that the committee make a final report in 1984, first to the Executive of General Council and then to the 30th General Council.

2. Re Study on Human Sexuality by the Division of Mission of the United Church

Whereas the Division of Mission in Canada (DMC) of the United Church of Canada has, through a study committee, investigated a host of societal problems related to human sexuality and has reported to General Council in a study entitled: "In God's Image ... Male and Female", and

Whereas this report (a study document) contains a number of statements such as:

"there is no reason in principle why mature, self-accepting homosexuals should not be ordained or commissioned" (page 98), and

"sexual intercourse outside the marriage does not always point to a competing in-depth relationship threatening the spouse's place, nor even to a major dissatisfaction within the marriage" (page 66)

some of which, unfortunately, have been widely accepted, and some, as well, are causing grave concern among many church members, and

Whereas the press and other media have seen fit to publicize some of the statements in a manner which would lead one to believe that they are or will become part of the official policy of our church, and in so doing have tended to direct concern to specific areas of the report, and

Whereas the DMC has urged congregations and church groups to study the report and the problems giving rise to the DMC study,

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED THAT this convention urge each AOTS men's group (and other groups) to arrange for group study of the total report, and further, that the group opinions be made known to the National AOTS Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the views expressed by the clubs and groups be forwarded by the National AOTS Council to the DMC.

* * * * *

I N M E M O R I A M

Carl Breen, Scarborough, Ont., president of Kingston Road UC AOTS MC, November 23, 1980, at age 69.

Dick Smith, Ottawa, Ont., until 1979 member of St. Paul's UC AOTS MC, Stirling, Ont., in March 1981.

Fred D. Saunderson, London, Ont., Metropolitan U.C., Life Member, National AOTS President 1961-63, on May 4, 1981, in his 75th year.

Orville Grant, Peterborough, Ont., charter member of George Street UC AOTS MC, on May 18, 1981, at age 69.

Clarence Albert Boyd, Mitchell, Ont., Life Member, member of Thamesview UC AOTS MC, chairman of National Constitution Committee 1975-79, charter member of Mount Dennis UC AOTS MC, Toronto, on July 16, 1981, in his early 70's.

Allister A. Clarke, Winnipeg, Man., Gordon King U.C., member of Manitoba District Council, on September 6, 1981, at age 49.

John Flett, Victoria, B.C., member of Fairfield UC AOTS MC, on September 7, 1981, in his 95th year.

Frank Lewis, Mississauga, Ont., Sheridan U.C., president of Manitoba District Council 1979-80, chairman of National AOTS Projects Committee 1981-83, on September 12, 1981, in his 55th year. Frank had moved to Mississauga in April, 1981.

J. Allan Gellatly, King City, Ont., lifetime member of King City U.C., charter member of the KTL (King/Teston/Laskay) AOTS MC, on October 31, 1981, in his late 70's.

CLUB NEWS

Because I was unable to prepare the April newsletter (see page 2) the club news to that point could not be reported. Since then there has, of course, been more and we now have a package that is over an inch thick! So some of what follows will be early '81 news, but still of interest. Please keep your news (messages, letters, etc.) coming. As in the past it should be sent to Executive Secretary G. Allan Smith, who is now at (please note the change of address): 61 Nordin Avenue, Toronto, Ont. M8Z 2B4.

British Columbia Conference

Brechin U.C., Nanaimo (#48). From the 1980 annual report: \$1434 donated in support of various community and church activities, constructed shelving and portable room dividers for use of the Church School and supplied summer church grounds maintenance. The major fund-raising activities were: the sale of firewood, 28 cords of alder at \$55/cord, from which they netted \$1000; the sale of nuts, grossing \$1845. Some 1981 fund raising: a record \$266 from a spring flea market and \$140 from one in September, pancake lunch - \$51, and spring plant sale - \$71. Certainly no lack of variety here. Recent donations: \$150 to the AOTS Second Mile Fund, a TV for their "Boat People" family, and \$400 to send the CGIT leaders to Naramata (Brechin claims the second largest CGIT in Canada). 32 members.

Chemainus-Ladysmith (#769). A very interesting program at the February meeting, Reg Gates, Nanaimo President of "Ten Days for World Development", speaking about the work of this interdenominational organization. Founded in 1973 by Anglican Church Primate Ted Scott, its purpose is to inform Canadians on the plight of poverty stricken and oppressed peoples of Third World countries. Six Duncan men were present as visitors and to assist in the installation of the 1981 executive. The new president is Ernie Jackson.

The March meeting brought out 13 newcomers for a "new members night", Reg Atwell (National Chairman, Spiritual Life Committee) the guest speaker. Further evidence of the mutual support that operates among the Island clubs was shown by the presence of 6 past District Council presidents and 2 past B.C. Conference presidents. The result was 5 new members (plus 7 possibles), bringing the roster to 17 by mid year. In April the topic was Haiti, in June the West Coast Mission, and in September China. The club is "enthusiastically" supporting David Hooper (son of Eev. Lloyd Hooper) in Ghana.

Lake Cowichan U.C., Lake Cowichan (#317). Despite a small membership of 6 this club functions well and spirits are high. The January meeting featured a talk on the life and people of Haiti, and in April one on "Wild Edibles", reported as "first class and distinctly unusual". At the latter 10 guests from other Island clubs boosted attendance to 27. Donations reported included: \$75 to Scouts, \$35 to a Music Festival award, \$100 to Camp Pringle, as well as \$100 to the Thomas Crosby V. And 50% of the membership were at the B.C. Round-Up!

Duncan U.C., Duncan (#16), a series of notes from Don Morton. The club ended 1980 with 70 active and 5 honorary members (those who, for reasons of health, are unable to continue in an active role), including 18 past presidents, 6 of whom have also served as District Council president and 2 of these have served as B.C. Conference president. And every man is assigned to one of the 14 committees! 1980 donations (including \$500 to the M & S Fund and \$1000 to the Church) amounted to \$5279, the largest being \$2055 to the Intermediate Care Society, plus \$370 to the AOTS Second Mile Fund. A very fine record of achievement --- on top of the leading role played by the Duncan club in promoting AOTS activity on the Island and elsewhere in B.C. through their club visitation program.

1981 opened with "Burns Night", January 24th, 220 present to celebrate the 222nd birthday of Robert Burns, complete with an eloquent tribute to Burns, piping in of the haggis and 12 waiters, and Scottish music and dancing. 45 men shared in the total effort of the

evening. Then on February 26th, their 30th anniversary meeting (the first was on February 15, 1951, 27 attending). Four charter members were present, including Don Morton, the first secretary (and what an energetic and faithful member he has been over these 30 years). In October: the Father, Son and Daughter Night, 80 sitting down to dinner. Coming up, a "Variety Concert", November 25th.

Other events of interest: in March, the Annual Pancake Brunch, involving 40 men and earning \$341 for the club; also in March, the initiation into membership of Brian Christian --- all the way from Chatham, Ontario! In May, the 27th Annual Spring Tea raising a record \$441; June, the 4th Annual Garage Sale, the men (all 48 taking part!) clearing a record \$2100, the ladies' section (clothing, jewelry, baked goods, etc.) \$600; also in June, the 19th Annual Fun Fair, 250 attending for games and food at the Owens' farm; and in September, the 15th Annual Autumn AOTS Brunch (41 men helping), returning a profit of \$225. Donations reported to date: \$1500 to the Church, \$2200 to rewire the Church hall, and \$400 for obtaining a series of films ("Focus on the Family") for showing at the Church.

Centennial U.C., Victoria (#362), a brief note by a well-known Island scribe reporting on the January meeting when they saw the very interesting and illuminating film "Lotomania" (see November 1980 Newsletter, page 7), the National Film Board production on the lottery phenomenon in this country (well worth seeing). Some later topics: a talk on the War Amps Society, and one on "Aims and Aspirations of the Committee for an Independent Canada", the latter by Peter Pollen, former mayor of Victoria. Projects: spring plant sale, annual "Trolley Tea" in August, and a fall rummage sale. Membership 32; Gordon Taylor president.

Esquimalt U.C., Victoria (#33), from news reports in District Council minutes. Carrying on a busy program of meetings and interclub visits via the Travelling Gavel. A Pancake Night in March, proceeds to the Thomas Crosby V Fund, a Family Pot Luck Supper in May, and assorted repair projects around the Church in the fall. Donations included \$130 to the organ fund, \$50 each to CGIT and Explorers. The October meeting was Past Presidents' Night, 9 of them present to recall the club's early history.

Fairfield U.C., Victoria (#685), editor Ted Belt's fine newsletter for February to November. 86 attended the "Valentine Ladies Night" to hear "An Evening With the Victoria Conservatory of Music", a program of vocal and piano music by 5 young students of Winifred Scott, one, Monica Pfau, a Canadian Gold Medalist. A highlight of the evening was the presentation of a past president's pin to retiring president Fred Nichols --- the actual pin, incidently, that had been presented to the late Harry Colnett when he retired as president of the Bellefair club in Toronto about 35 years ago (he later served as president of Fairfield as well). The presentation was made by Lily Colnett.

Other events: in March, a salute to "International Year of Disabled Persons", which, as you know, is 1981; May, "Operation Eyesight Universal", by Dr. Jack Cruise who served on behalf of Rotary in the Cambodian refugee camps in Thailand; and in October, an illustrated talk on "My Nine Days in Russia" --- certainly a varied and interesting program. Ahead; Rummage Sale on October 31st, and Annual Candy-Cane Tea, December 12th. Membership now 50!

Gordon U.C., Victoria (#757), the March to May newsletters. Meeting topics included, for February the B.C. Heart Foundation, March the work of a chaplain in the services, in April a report by their local Church-sponsored youth groups, the CGIT and Beavers, and in May the Annual Ladies Night. The club has a system of fines, administered by a "fine-master", with all proceeds going to the B.C. Diabetic Fund. E. Crockford is the new president.

Oak Bay U.C., Victoria (#404). 1980 donations included \$600 to divinity students and missionary workers, \$300 to Church library, \$312 to a Church sound system. February speaker was David Durantes, a missionary from the head-hunter regions of the North Phillipines, 43 hearing a "wonderful message", said Duncan visitor Don Morton. Don himself was the guest speaker in September, when Lake Cowichan brought the Travelling Gavel.

Collingwood U.C., Vancouver (#446). The annual meeting in April heard Don Morton (Duncan) speaking on "Ventures in Fellowship", a talk covering unusual aspects of AOTS in many clubs, and saw Dr. Bill Hastings (national president, 1973-75) install the newly elected officers. Len Jarvis is the new president.

Langley U.C., Langley (#397). Secretary Ron Pardoe reports a busy program of meetings, with slide presentations on China, Oberammergau, the Holy Land, and Tanzania, plus a talk on the Big Brother movement. The club undertook to redecorate a house purchased by the Church (next door) for future needs (now renting), purchased an electric typewriter for the Church office, and continued its support for two foster children. One activity, possibly unique, is the formation of a young men's club which cooperates fully with AOTS and to which AOTS will look for future members. Leadership for this came from Ross Leckie, husband of Rev. Jean Leckie, assistant minister. Although the Leckies moved to Toronto in September, Jean becoming a member of the group responsible for Youth, Young Adult, and Recreational Ministries at UC House, the new club carries on.

Alberta Conference

St. James U.C., Edmonton (#458), several letter reports from secretary George Robertson. The club has been holding regular monthly meetings. In March the talk was on the visit of a local couple to the Holy Land, in April on home gardening. In October they welcomed as guest speaker their new minister, Rev. Robert Taylor from Toronto. Planned for November is Ladies Night with Hon. L. Ralph Steinhauer, former Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta, as their guest. The club is looking ahead to a fall fair and nut sales for fund raising. The president is Cormie Robbins.

In other Alberta news, a spring rally for men of the Edmonton area was held at St. James on Saturday, May 2nd, 30 men attending. Rev. Albert Baldeo of St. James spoke on "the elephant in our parlor", referring to events in our past which we never discuss but which remain with us. Also on the agenda was a discussion of the Banff conferences. The understanding has been that the 1981 meeting would be the last to be held in the chalets of the Banff Centre for Continuing Education (because the facilities were to be used, in future, for education programs in October) but in a recent note George reports that there has been a reprieve, at least until after 1983.

Saskatchewan Conference

The minutes of the Regina District Council, January to October, are the source of the following news.

The 1981 Spring Rally was held in Regina, April 3rd, the Lakeview club (#315) hosting the event. Alan Staig (Division of Mission, Toronto) was guest speaker, 115 men attending from Regina, Moose Jaw, Yellow Grass and other points. Other Lakeview news: a Ladies Night in January, 85 members and wives meeting at the Plains Health Centre for dinner and for a talk and demonstration of the C.A.T. Scanner. A talk on the Athabasca Sand Dunes was heard in February.

In other news, the fathers and sons of the Wascana club (Regina, #142) were reported to be involved in a solar home project, and at the March meeting the club heard a talk on "Crime Protection for Senior Citizens". The news from Wesley (Regina, #354) was of a talk on church government by Rev. Bud Harper, in January, and in February one on the Constitution by John Whyte, advisor to the Premier of Saskatchewan on Constitutional matters. Also a mention of renewed interest in AOTS at Westminster U.C., Regina, 28 men attending an informal meeting in January and proposing to meet monthly.

In May the Council awarded seven \$100 scholarships to students planning to enter the ministry. Saskatchewan is to host the 1982 Banff Conference, October 15-17, under Glen Stinson as general chairman.

Manitoba Conference

Again, it is the minutes of the monthly meetings of the Manitoba District Council, February to November, by secretary Mel Johnston, that is our source of news on the individual clubs. Though a bit skimpy it is clear that clubs in the Winnipeg area are busy: Knox (#195), Grey Street (#454), Silver Heights/St. James-Assiniboia (#770), Westworth (#69), Windsor Park (#783), and the newly chartered Shaughnessy club (#790), and to the west of Winnipeg, Minnedosa (125 miles, #89) and Carberry (100 miles, #675). Thus, by February Knox's Radio Fund had reached \$1422, this funding a service of taping and distributing church sermons to shut-ins; two clubs, Knox and Westworth, are studying the U.C.'s report on human sexuality ("In God's Image ... Male and Female") and they plan to share their findings with the other clubs. Several fund-raising activities are reported, e.g., pancake suppers, meat sales, and an auction sale (Windsor Park raising \$2700 by one), as well as donations to the church, to McClure's Special Fund, to local youth groups, and other (Canadian Bible Society).

The Council itself is an active body, holding monthly dinner meetings, usually at Knox, with an attendance of about 30. Some activities: sold (in 1980) 4200 boxes of nuts to raise \$735, and they will be selling nuts again this fall; donations to Scouts (\$150), Girl Guides (\$100) and other organizations, including one to the Cancer Society in memory of Frank Lewis (see page 8). Five men visited First U.C., Dryden, Ontario, on February 22 "for Christian fellowship" with the Dryden men's club (not affiliated with AOTS) and to conduct the Sunday service. This was done again in a visit to Gunton and Teulon (about 35 miles north of Winnipeg) on May 31st. The Council's March meeting was held in Carberry, with 40 men in attendance. W. J. "Pat" Hendy is 1981 president, succeeding Frank Lewis at the February meeting.

A notable event was the chartering of the new Shaughnessy club on May 4th, this being combined with a regular meeting of the Council. More than 50 men were present. Formed in November, 1980, and sponsored by St. James-Assiniboia, the new club, with 20 members was off to a good start. They have been meeting on a monthly basis since January and have already set themselves a fund-raising target of \$2100 to support the work they want to do. Two very interesting meeting topics: one on acupuncture, by Dr. Man, Research Director of the Acupuncture Research Foundation of Manitoba, and one on the work of the International Garrison Diversion Study Board. And the club members help with a weekly worship service at a senior citizens home. The president is Harold G. Pritchard.

Bay of Quinte Conference

George Street U.C., Peterborough (#390), Larry Seili's interesting newsletter Harambee, February to October. Some of the topics at the monthly dinner meetings: "Speech Therapy for Children", "Alcoholics Anonymous", and "The Serving Ministry", the latter on the work of the Salvation Army. Two Ladies Nights were held, one in February and one in June, the second one a boat cruise down "our own great Otonabee River" (a stream flowing through Peterborough that is part of the Trent Canal system and the famous lift locks). Members also participated fully in the February Laity Sunday and in an April work party at the conference's Camp Quin-Mo-Lac. The collection and sale of waste newspaper continues, proceeds going to the support of the Boy Scouts and church hockey, and there was a fund-raising pancake supper in March.

Bridge Street U.C., Belleville (#118). Received a brief summary of 1980 activities plus those to March of this year. The item of most interest is the high level of interclub visitation, some of it based on the Travelling Cross. Thus, the clubs at Holloway U.C. (Belleville, #353), Hope Township (Port Hope, #766), and Westminster U.C. (Belleville, #640) are mentioned frequently in this regard. The president is Ernest Anderson.

St. Paul's U.C., Stirling (#235), Harold Hagerman's clear informative newsletter, February to October. Some topics at the monthly dinner meetings: in March, a talk on Camp Quin-Mo-Lac (and later a donation of \$500 to the Camp), April, Ladies Night, a musical evening with 125 present, and in May, a slide presentation on life in modern Iraq, 40 attending including men of St. James the Minor. A piece of good news: 6 new members in January, and 2 in February! Other events: pancake breakfast in February, the proceeds of \$357 being donated to the Boy Scouts Jamboree Fund; annual barbecue in early June and auction sale and Strawberry Social later in the month. Incidentally, the great success of the pancake breakfast is possibly due to their clever form of organization. They set up the following operating divisions, each reporting directly to the president: "batter sloppers", "pancake floppers", "sausage friars", "silent servers", and "ticket scalpers". This produced a healthy spirit of competition among the workers, keeping costs down and giving better service to the customer. Hmm! May be worth a try.

Toronto Conference

Bellefair U.C., Toronto (#558), Harry Wolfrain's newsletter for March, April and November. The club donated two slush mats, at \$160 each, for protection of the newly refinished Church vestibule floor, took charge of Laity Sunday, May 24th, and have undertaken to support a foster child, a 7-year old boy in Ecuador. For fund raising they again sold maple syrup in the spring and savings bonds in the fall. In October they enjoyed a visit to the Wilmar Heights club.

Kingston Road U.C., Toronto (#299), a brief note in March from Bud Maxwell reporting 1980 activities: operated a 4-team men's bowling league, sponsored a pee wee boys team in minor hockey, member Ross Plumley serving as manager. Fund raising was primarily by sale of maple syrup, netting \$660, and donations, mainly to the Church, totalled \$765. Painting the Church halls was a project for the winter months. A blow to the club last November was the death of their president Carl Breen. John Robinson is 1981 president.

Mount Dennis U.C., Toronto (#63), a brief note from Gordon Mowat reporting, for January to March, several interesting meeting topics: work in the Toronto police force, a talk on China, and one on the Canadian Railway Museum.

Hamilton Conference

St. Paul's U.C., Oakville (#103). A high point was the winning of the David Sherwood Memorial Trophy for achieving a 70% increase in membership in 1980, from 31 to 51 members, the highest in the club's history. They also won the D.R. Poole Trophy for youth work in Hamilton Conference. Five members attended the Calgary convention and nine the November 7th Hamilton Conference rally in Cainsville. Nut sales have begun, with a target of 504 boxes at \$5 each, and members raised \$535 from the sale of home-made crafts at the recent fall bazaar.

London Conference

Victoria Avenue U.C., Chatham (#188), newsletters for February, March and October, which now take the form of the minutes of the monthly executive meetings --- one way to keep members informed. A successful nut sale last winter, grossing \$2570. Ladies Night in March, a dinner and musical evening. The club donated \$300 to the CGIT to support attendance at spring and fall rallies, and contributed financial support to summer campers.

Park Street U.C., Chatham (#775), the February newsletter plus items from the 1980 report. A busy year reported. Fund raising via a pancake supper, roast beef dinner (\$480), and sale of popcorn supported an extensive youth program. This year the target is \$1150

for Camp Kenesserie, for the young people attending the Camp, and for Scouts and other youth activities. Fun events planned for this year include a pancake supper in March, Ladies Night in April and golf tourney in June.

Tilbury-Quinn, Tilbury (#788). Like the fellows at Langley (see page 11) it appears that this club is also giving support to a youth group which may in time become a source of members for AOTS. It is led by an AOTS member and his wife, and is interdenominational. The group conducted two church services in October and shared in a breakfast meeting with the AOTS. March 1st was a special occasion when, for the first time, they received the "Travelling Cross". The presentation was made by North Kent (Thamesville, #789), also a new club, and witnessed by 32 men from five other visiting clubs, with 53 present in all.

Thamesview U.C., Fullarton (#114), some news clippings from the late Clare Boyd (see page 8) reporting a Ladies Night in April, with a musical program and talk by Rev. Donald Pletsch of Main Street U.C., Mitchell, and a fun gathering in May at a member's summer cottage.

Maritime Conference

Gibson Memorial U.C., Fredericton, N. B. (#350), a brief note in January from the secretary-treasurer M. P. Wetmore with some 1980 news: despite a small membership (12) they held 8 monthly pot-luck dinner meetings and enjoyed a number of interesting speakers. The annual February bean-and-pancake supper netted them \$400, which supported donations to the Scouts, a youth drama group, and to general upkeep of the Church.

Also a note in March from Robert Heaney for the P.E.I. Presbytery Men's Council, with some 1980 news too: sponsored, in August, an auction sale in support of Camp Abeqweit, raising \$3000!!; a very successful Stanhope Conference, with 100 men present to hear Rev. D.I. MacEacheron on "Called to be Saints"; and 65 men were present for the December annual meeting.

Newfoundland Conference

Botwood U.C., Botwood (#23), a letter from Jack Baker reporting a large Father-and-Son banquet in May for Cubs and Beavers, 84 boys and leaders and 66 fathers attending. The boys entertained with songs and skits. The club sponsored this event at a cost of \$133.

St. Paul's U.C., Deer Lake (#778), a letter in March from the secretary Richard Parsons with a brief news round-up: a surprise birthday party for their minister, Rev. Ambrose Newbury, and in March a planning meeting for a men's camp to be held at West Haven Lodge in June.

St. Anthony U.C., St. Anthony (#785), a February letter from Daniel Hodge, president, summarizing 1980 activities: the club adopted two foster children from Israel, which for the year cost \$456 plus birthday and Christmas gifts; a number of jobs were done around the Church (repairs, painting, new cupboards); \$100 donated to the Canadian Bible Society; "Get Well" cards and fruit baskets sent out on about 30 occasions; conducted several services at Interfaith Home and the Hospital Chapel; enjoyed several "family night" suppers during the program of regular monthly meetings. In all, a very fine program for this small group (average 12/meeting).

The Central Newfoundland District Council met at Loon Bay Camp September 19th (during the retreat weekend) at which Jack Baker of Botwood was nominated for the office of AOTS conference president, the office left vacant when Cyril Locke was elected, in Calgary, as

eastern vice-president.

St. Anthony, near the tip of the Great Northern Peninsula, was the locale for the spring meeting of the new Humber Presbytery AOTS District Council (formed May 13/80; Newsletters, September 1980, page 8, February 1981, page 9), May 2-3. For some --- they came from Springdale, La Scie, and Deer Lake --- this meant a 350-mile trip! Cyril Locke, reporting on the meeting, described it as a "thriller". At the time Mrs. Locke was Cyril's counterpart, i.e., UCW conference president, a rather unique situation, and so arrangements had been made for a women's meeting as well. A total of about 100 women and 40 men attended.

The two groups were together for supper Saturday evening and for a fellowship hour later the same evening but separated, of course, for their business meetings. The men discussed their various AOTS problems, the work of the National Association, and the upcoming Calgary convention. On the Sunday morning Cyril Locke preached the sermon, on "Life's Basic Questions", and District Council President Harry Seawart read both scripture lessons.

Describing their reception at St. Anthony, Cyril wrote:

"We were billeted in the homes of the kind and generous people of the community, and shown kindness and love not unlike that discovered by Sir Wilfred Grenfell* when he first visited that community in the early part of the century; a kindness and love which he himself possessed and exuded for the rest of his life in that area, a distinguishing characteristic embedded deep in the hearts of the people, which will never be erased."

He concluded:

"We left St. Anthony for the long, but scenic drive down the Peninsula and home, grateful for having had the experience, and reassured that our respective Callings are of God. We were grateful, too, that when God called, WE ANSWERED."

So ends the news from the clubs and district councils. If it reads like a catalog --- my apologies, but you have a right to know what AOTS is doing. Moreover, the work is important and should not be taken for granted; imagine the void that would be created if it were suddenly to stop! Please continue to send in news of your activities. To make the next newsletter it should be in the mail by January 8th, addressed to Executive Secretary G. Allan Smith, now at 61 Nordin Avenue, Toronto, Ont. M8Z 2B4

* British medical missionary (1865 - 1940) who, beginning in 1892, served the people of Labrador and northern Newfoundland for many years, and who founded the International Grenfell Association, with branches in England, Canada, and the United States, for the support of the work: building hospitals, establishing homes and missions for the people, and organizing industrial projects.

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NOTICE re IN MEMORIAM

The purpose of In Memoriam is to record the passing of AOTS men whoever or wherever they may be. Please feel free to send in the information (to Executive Secretary Al Smith), including at least the following: full name, city of residence, church and/or AOTS affiliation, office held (if any), date of death, and age. Please put the information in type-written form so that it can be accurately read.

It is up to you, of course, whether you choose to bring such information to our attention. One should remember, however, that as a result of conventions, round-ups, etc., our AOTS contacts extend over quite a large area, and such news is likely to be of much wider interest than we may think.

MEN'S RALLIES and ROUND-UPS

Weekend conferences or retreats, some one day, many three days, in length, are a popular feature of men's club activity across the country. As Alan Staig notes in the current issue of EXCHANGE (page 44), they are a time when "friendships are made and reaffirmed, learning takes place, faith is deepened and enthusiasm renewed". There is no question that they make a deep impression on men because many return year after year (the "repeat business" is high!).

We receive reports on most of these events, not all, but space limits what we can say about them. The best answer to this is to note the time and place and plan to be there next year; get the story first-hand!

AOTS B.C. Round-Up, Saturday, March 28, 1981, Duncan U.C., Duncan, B.C.

The Duncan club hosted this highly successful event. It attracted over 100 men representing 22 churches in the B.C. Conference and, with the ladies, there were 150 for the evening roast beef dinner. Theme speaker was Alan Staig (Division of Mission, Ministry With Adults), addressing the topic "The Ministry of Men" under two subtitles: "Motivation and Risk" in the morning session, and "Maintenance of Momentum" in the afternoon. Our reporter described the message as one of "expectation, enthusiasm and encouragement", and in keeping with the opening devotional, presented in the form of a dialogue, by Rev.'s Jim Ware and George Keenleyside. This theme was carried further in the after-dinner talk by Don Morton, a past conference president, under the title "Evaluation".

A highlight of the meeting was the visit of Rev. Oliver Howard, West Coast Marine Mission who came to thank the AOTS clubs of B.C. for their raising of \$3976 to purchase much need radio equipment for the mission boat, Thomas Crosby V. This campaign, started in early November, 1980, with a goal of \$3600, as a project of the Vancouver Island District Council, was completed by March 1st (!), and it attracted support from AOTS clubs throughout the province (Trail, Rossland, Cranbrook, Kelowna, Hope, Langley, St. Giles U.C. and Collingwood U.C. both of Vancouver, South, West, and East Burnaby on the mainland, and Brechin, Centennial, Chemainus-Ladysmith, Duncan, Esquimalt, Fairfield, Gordon, Lake Cowichan, and Oak Bay on the Island), plus a number of donations from individuals and other groups. Certainly a remarkably fine piece of work. And not finished, for the Council has under consideration some kind of further support for the Crosby V.

The business of the meeting included several reports (one from Western Vice-President Jim Dickie) and the election of officers. Tom Murray of Abbotsford was elected president, Ernie Stafford, Duncan, vice-president. The 1982 meeting is slated for Collingwood U.C. in Vancouver.

AOTS Ontario Round-Up, April 10 - 12, 1981, Geneva Park, Orillia, Ont.

This event, attended by 154 men, was reported in the last newsletter.

28th Annual United Church Coastal Christian Men's Conference, May 1 - 3, 1981, Langley, B.C.

We have no report on this. The speaker was Rev. Phil Ross, Esquimalt U.C., on the theme: "Your Faith at Work".

23rd Annual Manitoba Laity Conference, May 1 - 3, 1981, Gull Harbour Resort Hotel, Hecla Island, Manitoba.

The theme of this meeting, "Reaching Out to Others", was addressed by Rev. Eleanor Geib,

of Westworth U.C., Winnipeg, in three excellent talks. Also on the program was a viewing of the preview to "These Things We Share", the United Church's TV special, and a talk on the needs of the native peoples of Manitoba and northwestern Ontario by Rev. Stanley McKay --- all of which was good food for thought and exchange of ideas in the discussion groups. Murray McPherson (now past national president) described it as an outstanding weekend, the best in 23 years. Attendance was 88.

16th Annual Riding Mountain Conference of Churchmen, June 19 - 21, 1981, Camp Wannakumbac, Clear Lake, Manitoba. (Take a second look at that name.)

45 men attended this weekend to hear theme speaker Olaf Friggstad of Frontier, Sask., member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada. His subject: "Walking With God". The musical program featured the Erickson Lutheran Male Choir, Mrs. Viola Burkett director. Clare Bailey described it as a fine weekend "for recharge of faith, peace, and vigour".

The two Manitoba conferences appear to complement one another. Hecla Island is 90 miles north of Winnipeg, in Lake Winnipeg, attracting people from eastern Manitoba and northwestern Ontario, and Clear Lake is 145 northwest of Winnipeg in Riding Mountain National Park, and so attracts those in western Manitoba.

Central Newfoundland Presbytery Council Retreat, September 18 - 20, 1981, Loon Bay Camp.

The Bishop's Falls AOTS club hosted this weekend, 132 men attending. Walter Scott, secretary of the Council, sent the following report:

"The guest speaker for the occasion was Rev. Joe Burton who is currently serving the Bay Roberts charge. Rev. Burton, who is known for his evangelical ministry, had as his theme topic "The Calling and the Command". Group discussions, panel discussions, and sports and recreation were also part of the program.

Loon Bay Camp is now undergoing an extensive demolition and rebuilding program. With only one dormitory available to accommodate about 48 men, some participants had to bring trailers and vans to sleep in. This, however, did not dampen their enthusiasm. Songs of Praise and Prayer continued into the early morning hours. It was a time of great Spiritual revival and many were touched by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Everyone left the Camp, richly blessed by the experience, and with new and renewed commitments to work in the Service of Jesus Christ.

A re-union is already being planned for some time in the early Spring."

27th Annual Banff Conference of United Church Men, October 16 - 18, 1981, Banff, Alberta.

George Robertson, secretary of the St. James club in Edmonton, sent us a report. More than 600 men attended, from B.C., Alberta, and Saskatchewan (for the first time, he said, there was no one from Manitoba). Theme speaker was the Moderator, Dr. Lois Wilson, and her topic: "What In The World Is God Doing?", this leading to a discussion of various world and North American problems. Rev. Silas Cozana of Malawi was an active participant in this discussion, drawing on his experiences in Malawi and other parts of Africa.

Other topics discussed during the weekend, in workshops and discussion groups, were human sexuality and the U.C. report "In God's Image ... Male and Female", Christian response to stress, and the work of Crossroads International. Aiding in the latter were Crossroads representatives from Bangladesh, Ghana, Zambia, and Grenada, as well as Silas Cozana of Malawi.

Men from Calgary, under Bruce Hatfield as chairman, hosted the 1981 meeting. Contrary to an earlier understanding, the Conference will continue to be held in the chalets of

the Banff Centre, at least until 1983, so the locale for this popular event will remain unchanged for a while yet. It had been indicated that the 1982 conference would be in the Banff Springs Hotel in order that the Centre could be used for educational programs in October.

Annual Toronto Conference AOTS Fall Rally, November 1, 1981, Cedar Glen, Bolton, Ont.

This was a Sunday afternoon/evening meeting, 53 men attending. The theme speaker was Rev. Graham Tucker of the King-Bay Chaplaincy, an inter-church ministry to the business community in downtown Toronto. Under the title "Can Christianity Work in Business and Industry?" he discussed the application of Christian love in the work place: caring, fairness, honesty, people showing proper concern for one another, and how this atmosphere could be cultivated through supportive group discussion and better getting to know one's fellow workers. He noted, for example, that the use of Christian principles to deal with human problems in the work place often finds greater acceptance in Japan, a non-Christian society, than here in Canada. The topic was well received and it led to much interesting discussion.

Annual Hamilton Conference U.C. Men Fall Rally, Saturday, November 7, 1981, Cainsville U.C., Brantford, Ont.

Here, too, the subject was related to Christianity in the work place. Dr. W. Clarke MacDonald, secretary to the Committee on the Church & International Affairs, addressed the topic "The Bottom Line is People", pointing out that people are the object of God's love; hence, protection and betterment of people's welfare should be the object of our laws and various social and industrial activities. He deplored the dichotomy that has developed between church and business as a result of the church's justice pursuits, and expressed deep concern over the world's growing nuclear arms capability.

The afternoon speaker was Alan Staig, Division of Mission, and his title "Danger, Men at Work". For Christians, he said, there can be danger and risk in the work place, but that this is something we must accept. He listed several actions we could take to strengthen us and better prepare us to face this situation so that we might be more effective as Christians in the work place.

As you can well imagine these two talks were quite a plateful for the discussion groups. The attendance was 69. Jim Wark of Brantford was elected president for 1982.

* * * * *

"CHRISTIANITY IS CONCERNED WITH THE WHOLE OF LIFE, from falling in love to the way you bring up your children, from the use you make of your money or talents to the way you treat your neighbour, from the mystery of birth to the mystery of death and with everything that happens in between.

The Christian Faith was a way of life long before it became a religion. It still is. You cannot take a certain proportion of life and call that 'religious' - any more than you can give God an hour or two on Sunday and consider the rest of life your own. The way you live, the way you treat others - these are the important things, whether you profess to be a believer or not. For the way in which we behave is an accurate indication of what we really think about God."

The foregoing, a quotation from "For This Day", by J. B. Phillips, was submitted by Reg Attwell, chairman, National Spiritual Life Committee. In connection with the thoughts expressed here he recommends reading Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 25, particularly the closing verses.