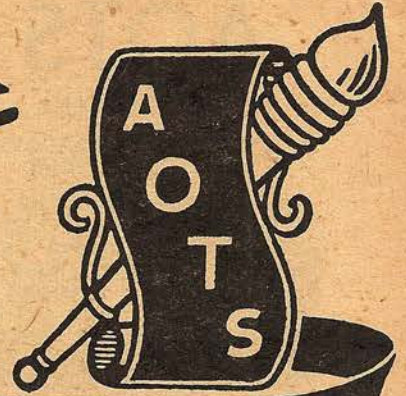




President's LETTER



PRESIDENT: DAVID J. SHERWOOD

EDITOR: ROBERT DUNLOP

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AOTS CLUBS

A Department Of The Board Of Men Of The United Church Of Canada

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President's Message

It is most gratifying to see charter applications coming in and to know that AOTS is rapidly expanding right across our Nation. We welcome all our new clubs and extend the right hand of fellowship to every member.

While we are anxious to have all the new clubs we can, it is most disconcerting to learn that a few of our existing clubs are showing considerable inactivity, and this is causing your National Council some concern.

I would remind you that while each local club is autonomous, it is nevertheless part of a larger organization, and each small part that fails to function properly, disrupts the efficiency of the whole.

IF YOUR CLUB SHOULD FALL WITHIN THIS CATEGORY, I would urge that an effort be made to ascertain the trouble, get your committees working and every man on a committee. Get to work and recapture the vision of Christian Service.

AOTS is a crusade for men—our purpose is to bring them into the fellowship of Christ and his church, where they can render a service. No matter how small the community, church, or club, with good leadership and a will to work there should be no inactive clubs.

Send Your Bylaws To Secretary Phil

Executive Secretary Phil Spence has received a number of requests for sample bylaws from new clubs who would like to help in drafting their own constitutions. If your AOTS group has a set that has proven satisfactory, Secretary Phil would appreciate it if you would send a copy to him which he could pass on to others. The address is Wesley Building, 299 Queen Street West, Toronto 2B, Ontario.

Blenheim Speakers Indicate It's Better To Be Prepared

An enlightened contrast was apparent in two addresses heard in town on two successive nights last week—one to the AOTS Men's Club of Blenheim United Church, the other to an audience of some 400 people under auspices of the same club.

The first speech was given by R. T. Gavin, Regional Co-ordinator of Civil Defence, who revealed that all of Essex and practically all of Kent County would have to be evacuated in a matter of hours to avoid death-dealing "fall-out" in event of an atomic attack on Detroit—one of the key industrial areas of United States. He pointed the finger directly at Soviet Russia as the possible aggressor, quoting chapter and verse from official public statements of communist leaders to back up the statements.

On Tuesday evening, Blenheim's Ernie Warwick, who spent considerable time last fall travelling through Southern Russia — the corn belt — as the guest of the Soviet Minister of Agriculture, reported that the Russian people he talked to appeared friendly, anxious to improve their own living conditions, and quite ready to live in peace if allowed to.

The apparent contraction is quite easily explained, Mr. Gavin was setting forth the declared policy of the Russian government. Mr. Warwick was reporting the attitude of the common people. Both men were right—they were reporting entirely different things.

There is no doubt from repeated reports reaching the west, and from knowledge of people of Russian ancestry living here among us, that the common people of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics have no inborn hatred of us or other democratic nations, and would be glad to be able to devote their efforts to improving their own country, and raising their standards of living. Mr. Warwick said there is enough work in Russia, to bring it any-

where near the level of Canada, to keep every engineer and worker there busy for 50 years at least.

There is just as little doubt from the official acts of the Russian government that it is following a long-projected campaign aimed at the over-throw of democratic governments, and subjection of the "capitalist" and any other states to the soviet rule. World domination has been their declared aim for years. They have used every means of working towards it—boring from within by fifth columnists causing political, economic, inter-racial conflicts, even waging open though undeclared war when it has suited their purpose.

There is even less doubt in the minds of thinking persons as to which group—the common people or the soviet ruling clique—will control the policies and actions of Russia in international affairs.

Under the circumstances, while the West must continue to hold out the hand of friendship to the Russian people, and to hope that in the long run the people will become the government of their country, it is folly not to be prepared for the lightning atomic war that can be unleashed by Russian communist leaders at any time they decide such action would profit them.

Show Appreciation For PP's Efforts

Past President's pins are now available for presentation to club, district, provincial groups as required. The pins are similar to the present lapel pin given to each member but have a gold wreath completely encircling the AOTS emblem.

The cost of the pin is very reasonable (\$1.25) each, and may be purchased at national office, Wesley Bldg., 266 Queen St., West, Toronto 2B, Ont.

AOTS At Work Across Canada

ALBERTA

OUTLINES PRESBYTERY FUNCTIONS

CARDSTON—The annual meeting of Chief Mountain AOTS Club was held in St. Andrew's United Church, when the following officers were elected for the coming year; President Tom Boal, Vice-President David Carlson, Secretary-treasurer L. J. Bourne, district councillor Roy Johnson. The officers were installed by Frank Peterson of Taber, past president district council of AOTS clubs.

The gratitude of the club was extended to Clinton Brown, retiring president, for his leadership during the club's first year of activities and also for the much-needed membership register that he presented to the club.

Guest speaker for the evening was the Rev. George D. Young of Taber, chairman of Southern Alberta Presbytery. Mr. Young outlined the functions of Presbytery, the district court of the United Church. He stressed the importance of each congregation in sending enthusiastic delegates to Presbytery meetings. The speaker concluded his address by giving his views of General Council which he attended at Windsor, Ontario, last fall.

YOUTH REPORT ON PARLIAMENT

RED DEER—Three local youths who attended the Tuxis parliament in Lethbridge, Dec. 26 to 31, last year gave a report on its findings at Gaetz Memorial Church on Sunday.

Jim Foster, Ray Mitten, and Jack Thubron also spoke at the supper meeting of the AOTS on Wednesday evening. The AOTS sponsored the trip for them.

TEST PROVES FORGIVENESS BEST

VERMILION—The value of a probationary period for the first offenders was discussed by Mr. A. Hosking of Vegreville when he addressed a well-attended meeting of the AOTS club of the United Church on Friday evening last. The address was given following a supper in the church hall. Mr. Hosking was accompanied by Mr. Fedoruk of the Vegreville teaching staff.

A test was recently carried out in Toronto when magistrates instead of giving the customary 90 days in jail for many offences placed the offender on probation. One year later 85 of them had given no trouble whatever, nine had been in trouble once more, six twice, and one was really bad with five offences. The 85 who had been saved from a prison term and set on the right path was adequate proof that probation was the correct method of dealing with first offenders.

Mr. Hosking was introduced by D. C. Folk and thanked jointly by Lloyd Seath and Rev. C. W. MacKay. G. Rampling, the club president was chairman.

ATTEND CLUB'S ANNIVERSARY

TABOR—President Dr. W. Gordon Chipperfield and five members of the Taber AOTS club of Know United Church attended the first anniversary

of the Brooks club which was formed under the Tabor club's sponsorship one year ago. Good progress was reported by the visitors.

Attending along with the president were C. Mason Dynes of Lethbridge District Council, N. Stuart Boyle, William R. Broadfoot and Taber club secretary Harry Dennis.

INSTALL OFFICERS JOINTLY

LETHBRIDGE—Executive officers of the Southminster and McKillop United Church AOTS clubs were installed at a joint ceremony in Southminster hall.

Installed as officers of the Southminster club were President Ray Rolfe, Vice-Presidents Fred Schwass and Rus-

The Open Book

As each of us, as individual members of our great organization from coast to coast, come to reading this small portion of the Letter, may we bow our heads in silent meditation to ask the One and Only for strength and courage to give more of ourselves to the work there is to do in our Church and community.

"God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son." surely, a few hours a week spent in His service is not too much to ask of any man who has the belief in the God of all things. Anyone can talk at work about what they believe, go to church on Sunday singing the hymns and listen to the message that is offered from the pulpit, or go to club meeting and have a good dinner put on with the sweat and efforts of a group of ladies, BUT it takes a real Christian to get behind the efforts of your committee chairman and officers and really spread good fellowship and Christian endeavour in your community.

sell Greeno, Secretary George Rogers, Treasurer Lorne Benoint and Ralph Tenant, district councillor.

Steve Dubetz was installed as president of the McKillop club. Other officers are Alfred Bartlett, vice-president; Lenard Cave, secretary; R. K. Downy, treasurer; and Lloyd Sadler, district councillor.

The ceremony was conducted by the executive of the Southern Alberta District Council with President Frank Peterson of Taber in charge.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ryerson Shows Christmas Spirit

VANCOUVER—Ryerson AOTS club of Vancouver (No. 1 club where the movement started) had a very successful project at Christmas when 110 hampers were delivered as follows: 54 to needy families and 56 to elderly folk at the United Church Fairhaven Home.

In addition a quantity of canned goods was delivered to the United Church Home for Girls at Burnaby B.C. and a large quantity of toys to First United Church, Vancouver, for its hampers. A total of \$648.86 was expended.

This club also participated in the sale of nuts at Christmas for the first time and sold a total of 2,016 boxes with a net profit of \$691.00. Of this \$50.00 was paid to the C.G.I.T. and \$50.00 to the Scouts who assisted the members of the club and 10% of the net profit was donated to the AOTS District Council to help with its expenses.

Kelowna Visits Rutland

RUTLAND—Fifteen members of the Kelowna AOTS were in attendance at the annual meeting of the Rutland group in the church hall the last week of January.

A report of the year's activities was given by S. Kornze, retiring president indicating a busy year for the club. The financial statement proved gratifying, as presented by A. Taylor. Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: President Bob Fitzpatrick, Vice-president W. D. Quigley, Secretary Ewryn Cross, Treasurer Art Geen, Convener of Works Committee Art Taylor, Membership Steve Kornze, Program K. Slater.

Entertainment then followed and included Wayne Pretty, member of the Canadian Olympic eight, a vocal quartette from the Kelowna AOTS, namely Messrs. Hughes, Hardle, Hubbell and Campbell with F. Marriage at the piano, Billy Murray rendered a number of Scottish and Irish airs.

Show Appreciation For Help

RICHMOND—The January meeting of the Richmond AOTS was held in the United Church hall with 12 members in attendance.

The report on the nut drive and sale of Christmas wreaths was very gratifying and appreciation was expressed for the help given on their behalf by the local paper, radio and the support of the citizens of Richmond.

Working committees for 1957 were appointed. Installation of 1957 officers was postponed until a later date due to the temporary illness of Mr. R. Windram who was to have acted as installing officer.

A box social was planned for February.

Learn About Scout Movement

SHAWNIGAN-MILL BAY—The Shawnigan-Mill Bay AOTS Club met for the first time at the new Shawnigan church on Thursday evening. The guest speaker was Mr. C. J. Curtis of Shawnigan Lake Boys' School.

He showed some excellent pictures of the Boy Scout World Jamboree at Niagara and gave a running commentary which was most enlightening to those who knew little of the Scout movement. He briefly outlined the Scout organization and explained the purpose of the jamboree and the great wealth

of fellowship and education which it provided.

Mr. F. A. Hollobon presided and Mr. T. Hobbs led a lively sing-song. Visitors included Messrs. E. Jackson and O. M. Samuelson.

SASKATCHEWAN

ANOTHER CLUB CHARTERED

MELVILLE—Twelve members of the Melville AOTS club traveled to Saltcoats the latter part of January to take part in the installation of officers in the Saltcoats club.

Melville members were introduced by President Merve Hilworth, while district council president Percy Willis presented the charter and a gavel, which was made by Russ Ford. Officers were installed by Kirk Reynolds. Alex Richter was local chairman in the absence of Bob Peasby, who was curling.

The Melville AOTS choir with Ed Rustan, banjoist, and Merve Hilworth, cornetist, presented a musical program. Blessings and benediction were pronounced by Rev. J. Morland.

Supper was served in the church parlor.

PUT 'EM RIGHT TO WORK

KINDERSLEY—Officers of the Kindersley AOTS club for 1957 were elected at a recent meeting and installed at once by the past president, Jim Hamilton of Eaton. The new slate is comprised of: A. L. Hamilton, president; C. J. Martin, vice-president; Q. O. Von Kister, secretary; W. Brown, treasurer; and H. B. Quickfall, district councillor.

AND ANOTHER CLUB FORMED

SUTHERLAND—At a recent meeting in Sutherland, an AOTS club was formed with Merve Whittles named president, Art Garney as vice-president; Ken Varley, treasurer and Frank Gore, secretary. Council representative will be William Parker. Supper meetings will be held the first Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

MANITOBA

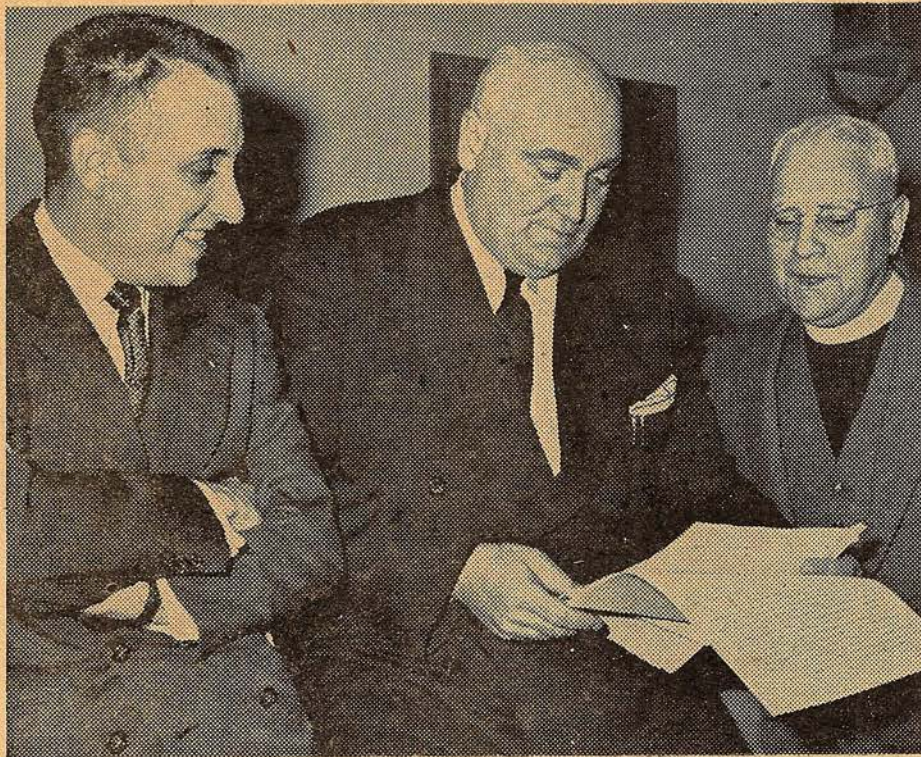
IT'S HAPPENING ALL OVER

STURGEON CREEK—A supper meeting of the AOTS of Sturgeon Creek United Church was held in the church hall Tues., Jan. 8. Installation of officers and presentation of the gavel were conducted by Brock Coleman, district president. Art Sykes made the presentation of Charter of Membership in the National Association of AOTS clubs.

Officers installed were: honorary president, Rev. W. Conly; president, Joe Thompson; vice-president, Don McClellan; secretary, Ira Moore; treasurer, Robert Harvey. Chairman of the membership committee is Alf Drayson. The next supper meeting will be held February 12.

URGES SUPPORT FOR CAMP

TRANSCONA—At the annual election of officers meeting held Tuesday, January 8, at the Bamboo Rooms of the Oxford Grill, Johnnie Cochrane was the unanimous choice of his fellow members for their president. Others elected were: vice-president, Jack Scott; secretary, Wm. Emslie; treasurer, Tom Cable Jr.; re-elected for another term to



MANY HEAR ADDRESS—The Blenheim United Church auditorium was packed recently to hear an interesting account of a European tour by Mr. E. M. Warwick. He is shown above, centre, checking over his notes with Mr. Jack Kerr, left, recently installed president of the A.O.T.S. Club, sponsors of Mr. Warwick's address, and Rev. James C. Eastcott, right, church pastor.

—Cut Courtesy Chatham Daily News

district council, Fraser Henderson. Honorary President is Rev. Murray S. Thompson. Mr. Tully of the district council installed the officers.

President Jack Black chaired the meeting. The business of the club followed with reports on month to month activities over the past year. Mr. Tully spoke on the establishment of a new Christian camp at Bel-Air and solicited the Transcona club's aid in financing this wonderful project.

GET INSIGHT INTO TELEVISION

WINNIPEG—Members of Gordon United AOTS Club and their wives visited CBW-TV studio on a conducted tour Wednesday evening.

With Warren Davis and Phil Haskell conducting two separate groups the various studios and sound rooms were visited. A group in rehearsal for a TV show, recording rooms with the numerous tape recorders, and explanations of the various equipment used in both radio and TV shows, were some of the highlights of the evening.

NEWFOUNDLAND

RELIEVE PARKING PROBLEMS

BURIN—The Burin Evans AOTS Club has completed its cement wall 108'x10'x1½' to enable more parking space around the Church. The club wishes to thank the St. Lawrence Mining Company for the use of their cement mixer, and all who helped complete the wall.

The highlights of January's meeting was a ladies night. A D. R. Poole night was recently held at which Rev. C. D. Evans gave a very enlightening talk on the D. R. Poole fund.

ONTARIO

BRANTFORD—Earl Griffin was installed as president of Sydenham United Church AOTS.

Other installations; honorary president, Norman Kelley; past president, Hadley Perrin; vice-presidents, Jack Finch and Don Disher; secretary, Delbert Butler; treasurer, Earl Allen.

Guest speaker, National President Dave Sherwood spoke on "What does the AOTS mean to You?" He stressed the value of inter-club visits and said that more thought should be given to the organization of new clubs.

PLAN NEW DISTRICT COUNCIL

DRYDEN—Ten members of the Dryden United Church AOTS club travelled to Ear Falls Thursday to attend a meeting of the Red Lake group.

Most of the group arrived early enough to take a trip by bombardier to visit the newly-finished Ontario Hydro remote controlled generating station at Manitou Falls. The tour was conducted by Roy MacDonald, area manager.

Following dinner, Bill Nygren of Dryden gave a moving address on the future of AOTS clubs throughout Canada. He also spoke of the formation of a district council for this area to take in Fort Frances, Red Lake, Dryden, Sioux Lookout, and Atikokan.

START MINISTERIAL FUND

EXETER—At a special business meeting of the AOTS men's club of James St. United Church on Monday evening, it was decided to start a fund for a candidate of the church for the ministry to be used in defraying his education expenses.

It was voted to donate \$100.00 to Go-

Comments From National Committees

FINANCE COMMITTEE

A most hearty vote of thanks goes out to all clubs that responded so generously to the letters of the Finance Committee around the end of last year asking that all outstanding club commitments to the National be fulfilled.

All outstanding accounts of the National Council were settled up to date with the exception of \$750.00 still outstanding on a bank overdraft in Toronto. All clubs are asked to honour the statements sent to club presidents as of December '56 for membership payments to National Council for the year 1957. A budget of \$10,350.00 has been passed by the council for the present year and the help of all clubs is requested in meeting this figure.

Burt Thornley (Chairman)

D. R. POOLE TRUST FUND

The executive is most grateful to all clubs which have contributed to the fund set up to make a monthly allowance to D. R. Poole during his retirement. Quite a number of clubs have not yet taken any part. And as we should like to build up the fund to a point where a guaranteed annuity can be purchased, we hope this reference to the matter will stir up interest in those who have not made any contribution for the fund.

ORGANIZATION & PROJECTS

A recommended "Charge" on installation of officers, initiation and installation and charter night have been circulated to all clubs along with a floor plan layout and agenda for installation ceremony; also a pamphlet on sponsorship of a new AOTS club.

Much time and thought have gone into the procedures recommended and all comments as to the success of the above will be appreciated by your chairman.

Jack Tully (Chairman)
Box 239, West Ferris, Ont.

AOTS At Work

derich Summer School with a possible additional donation later and \$50.00 was given to McKinnon House, London.

"LADS AND DADS" NIGHT

NORTH BAY—The regular meeting of St. Andrew's men's club recently took the form of a father and son evening.

Seventy-five fathers and sons heard Graeme Mount outline his recent attendance at the Ontario's Boy's Parliament. The younger boys enjoyed volleyball and basketball in the gym.

HEAR EXPERT ON ELECTRONICS

FORT FRANCIS—The Knox United AOTS Club, at its monthly supper meeting in the church auditorium, heard as guest speaker Bert Wiedenhoef, local television and radio technician. He gave a most interesting talk on the work carried out in the Western Electric testing and standards laboratories in Chicago, where he had worked for a number of years.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACTIVE COMMITTEE MEN?

As I have the privilege of contacting more clubs and reviewing problems with District Councils, the basic necessity in AOTS work for active committee men is continually being underlined. Invariably our better clubs are those where active committees are functioning and our weak sisters are the ones who have gotten away from this standard of operation.

As an AOTS man, you have to determine whether or not you believe in the aims and objects of AOTS. If you do believe in them, then there is only one thing to do and that is to live up to your belief. The first and practical step is to join a committee and having done that, to do the job that committee has undertaken to perform within your church and community.

Remember, 'A' is for ACTIVE. Otherwise you cannot truly be "As one that Serves."

Phil Spence
National Secretary

The Editor's COMMENTS

By ROBERT DUNLOP

As I complete the last bits and pieces before passing the material along to the printer, my mind once more asks the question, "Am I giving what the members want to see in print about the activities of our organization?"

All comments, constructive or otherwise would be most welcome. I receive numerous letters and clippings from all parts of the country and will try to get a word or two back to the various secretaries as time goes on. As each edition of the paper comes off the press, I hope to cover activities of all the clubs from coast to coast. Space will not permit me to include all the notes sent in and I am sure that all will understand.

What about a column listing a number of clubs as to the time and place of meeting? This type of list published would be a great help to any of our members that find traveling a part of their work and have to spend some lonesome evenings on the road where they could be enjoying the fellowship of a club if they knew just where to go. What say?

I understand that the club in New Brunswick is under way again. Would appreciate hearing from them. Also that club up in the Yukon.

* * * *

The human race is divided into two classes—those who go ahead and do something, and those who sit still and enquire, "Why wasn't it done the other way?" which group do you belong to?

1958 AOTS NATIONAL CONVENTION

June 13, 14, and 15, 1958 have been selected as the dates for the Fourth National AOTS Convention to be held in Saskatoon at the University of Saskatchewan. Already the Convention Committee has been at work for several months with early arrangements.

All clubs and councils should immediately begin to consider how they can encourage and assist their representatives to attend.

ED. NOTE—If your club uses a fine procedure for such things as late attenders, speaking out of order, using the term Mr. etc., the funds received from this source would be a help if set aside for Convention expenses.

ANNUAL MEETING OF NATIONAL COUNCIL

The National Council will hold its annual meeting at Sparrow Lake on the fringe of the Muskoka District in Ontario on Thurs. evening, June 6, and Fri., June 7.

This meeting will coincide with the Ontario Roundup to be held on the weekend of June 7 to 9. The location is ideal and a most productive time should be enjoyed by all attending.

(Ed note—If word is received in advance of Roundups being held in District or Provincial Councils, all assistance of this paper will be at your service to advertise the dates.)

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR NATIONAL EXPANSION CHAIRMAN

It is our wish that we may be of the most possible help to you in the expansion of our AOTS program. Will the club and council presidents please forward a monthly report of the promotion activities in your club and district; also any suggestions how that we may be of assistance to you.

W. S. Eyre, Chairman
243 S. Vidal St.,
Sarnia, Ontario.

AOTS At Work

INSTALL OFFICERS AT DANCE

FERRIS—Gordon Lamorie is president of the AOTS of Emmanuel United Church for the current year. He and other officers were installed when the club held its third charter night and dance at the Golden Dragon.

QUEBEC

SECRETARY ADDRESSES VALOIS

VALOIS—A good number of Lake shore communities were represented at the regular monthly meeting of the AOTS club of Valois United Church on Wednesday, Dec. 6, when the guest speaker was Philip H. Spence, executive secretary of AOTS Clubs.

GANANOQUE—Leslie Bowman has succeeded James King as president of the AOTS men's club at Grace United Church.

Inducted into office at the same time were the following officials: first vice-president, Jack Petch; second vice-president, Donald Chapman; third vice-president, Gordon Rombough; treasurer, Gordon Drope; secretary, John Conley.