

THE HANDSHAKE

Official Organ of UC-AOTS-MC-District Council,

Executive Secretary, Dudley McLeod

Office: AOTS, c/o Y.M.C.A., 955 Burrard St., Vancouver, B.C.

MAY, 1964

Bob Browning, Editor

COMMITTEE OF UNITED CHURCH MEN

Even after all the speeches on this phase of Church organization we are asked "what does it mean?" Once and for good we issue the following in hopes that it will answer the questions.

It is taken from the United Church Manual.

"There shall be a Committee in each Pastoral Charge to be known as the Committee of United Church Men.

Its membership shall comprise:

A Chairman appointed by the OFFICIAL BOARD who shall be the representative of the Pastoral Charge to Presbytery United Church Men.

One representative appointed by the Men's Club or Men's Association where such exists.

In multi-point Charges, one representative appointed by each Congregation on the Pastoral Charge, or

In a Charge comprising one Congregation a representative appointed by one or more of the following organizations:

The Session;

The Committee of Stewards;

The Missionary and Maintenance Committee;

The Christian Education Committee;

Additional members as may be desired.

The purpose of the Committee of United Church Men shall be to unite all men in the Congregation in a co-ordinated for the cause of Christ and to assist and encourage them in making an effective Christian witness in the Church and the world.

The function of the Committee of United Church Men in the Pastoral Charge shall be:

To deepen the spiritual life of men through worship, Bible study and discussion of their Christian witness in their community, at their work, and in their homes.

to develop a greater knowledge of the Church, its nature and mission.

To provide opportunities for fellowship.

To promote the organization of a Men's Club or Men's Association.

To co-operate with other Boards and Committees of the Congregation in furthering all phases of its life and work including the Christian Education programme for children, youth and adults; developing Christian Stewardship; effective lay leadership; the promotion of Congregational retreats and the sale and use of literature.

To co-operate with Conference and Presbytery United Church Men and promote attendance at such events as Men's Conferences, Workshops, Rallies, and Schools for Elders and Stewards.

To report to the Official Board, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, and to Presbytery United Church Men."

FROM THE PRESIDENT--- Nelson Ball

Your Executive is going to ask every member for his individual assistance this year:-

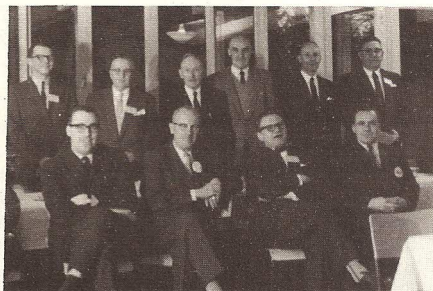
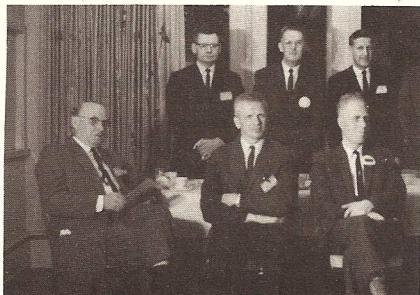
To encourage interest, programs on Club and District level will be suggested. Club visitations, membership drives, along with other ideas will be announced later.

Because.....

1. We must have good programs to encourage attendance.
 2. We need more members to carry out our purpose--and
 3. We are committed to raise \$3,000 for Camp Fircom this year.
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And speaking of VISITATION -- one of the Clubs which has always shown a willingness to go along with anything worth while is KITSILANO who sat down to a very fine supper at HIGHLANDS. President Don Lovely reports that Highlands, while not active as a group in Camp Fircom has two men who have done wonders for the Camp. Ken Ker designed the sewage disposal unit and assisted in its construction. Elwood Hugo spent a week of his vacation period running a tractor. In exchange for its use he overhauled the tractor. In addition he has given 60 hours of his spare time working and goodness knows how many days in organizing.

President Fred Turner of Kitsilano feels that inter club visits such as he enjoyed are worth a lot to any club. The last meeting of Highlands was taken up with building a fence around the Church property. Sponsoring of a choir concert netted \$200 for the Church Building Fund.



Kitsilano and Highlands Clubs enjoy a great night.

A YEAR OF PROGRESS

The Vancouver Annual Meeting in April marks the end of one operational year, and the beginning of another, at which time it seems fitting to assess the accomplishments of 1963-64.

The rumours of revision in the set-up of Men's Work caused some mixed feelings throughout the Clubs and we were anxiously awaiting the outcome of the National Convention in Halifax. However, apart from changes in titles of Higher Courts, very little change is noticeable. District Council, now the Men's Club Committee of Presbytery Men, remains unchanged. We continue to thrive in our own well-tryed and capable manner.

The District Council (MCC) met monthly with an average attendance of 24. Seventeen of 21 Clubs attended at least two meetings. Two others were there once. The three not represented are dormant Clubs. This is encouraging, and shows a healthy interest in the wider work of AOTS. The club meetings were lively, and the men evinced a desire to fully participate in the District program.

Our focal point has been Camp Fircom, \$5000 being our goal, as well as volunteer labour. So far we have climbed to \$2000 which gives us a wonderful start for the coming year--\$3000 to come. Bob Harvey and Ralph Jones will not let us forget.

All who are interested are invited to Visit the Camp on Visitors' days: June 26, July 6, 16 & 24 and August 3, 13 & 21. Boat leaves Gore Ave. Wharf at 9:00 a.m. Fare - \$1.50.

The Club that shuts itself within its own four walls soon loses contact and becomes an island unto itself. It has a hard time to maintain interest and soon wearies. Therefore, we are delighted at the marked upsurge in inter-club visiting this past year. Some Clubs have set themselves a regular schedule of visits. Others have held combined meetings. Many efforts have been made to interest independent Clubs and Churches without Clubs. In line with the Ecumenical movement within the Churches, there have been several interchanges with Anglican Clubs. Well done! and may these visits increase. Nelson Ball and George Hurst were delegated for this part of AOTS Committee work.

All in all, the year has been one of true effort. The Clubs have carried on their activities with interest and vigor. A few Clubs might have strengthened their position through better programing, but looking back over the past seven years as Secretary we realize that this problem has always been with us. It is probably less acute today.

For the healthy condition of the Clubs today we must give credit-- first to the Club Officers, then to the District Committee Chairmen, and especially to the inspiring and tireless leadership of President Bob Browning. He has kept all of us on our toes by his gentle prodding and constant oversight of every phase of the work. We would like him to know that his has been a job well done.

One glaring shortcoming has been Club programing. For years the great concern has been the low quality of hastily prepared programmes. Nothing will tire men quicker than unrelated entertainment. This is available any night in their armchairs over TV. They need something to challenge their thinking in the Christian and Church way of life in their Community with plenty of membership participation. Another great asset is genuine fellowship.

No one has been more concerned about all this than our new Chairman, Nelson Ball and he plans to give this problem top priority in his term of office. We wish him success with our promise of full co-operation. It's all yours, Nelson--go to it, and with God's blessing we shall succeed.

--Dudley McLeod.

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NARAMATA ROUND-UP TIME IS ON! THE WAY

As usual, it will be Labor Day weekend.
Chairman Bill Hastings has the program
all prepared and promises something of
interest to all men—something different.

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE COMING SOON
BUT PLAN NOW