

1982

THE HANDSHAKE

Sponsored by the B.C. AOTS-UCM Council and directed to all Men in the B.C. Conference of the United Church of Canada. Editor Bill Hastings.



PRESIDENT TOM REPRESENTS B.C. MEN AT GENERAL COUNCIL

Our hard working and much travelled Tom Murray has been on the go on our behalf. His portfolio covers both AOTS and UCM. He and his Presbytery representatives are the only official members for men in the Courts of our Church. Tom found General Council to be better "the second time around". We have space for only a few quotes from his report to the Handshake. He relates that "all of the commissioners were invited to spend a weekend with a Francophone Catholic family". This was a moving experience culminating in the attendance of Mass followed by a feast in his honour with several catholic families sharing in the latter. The official proceedings began with a dinner at McGill University. "500 of us paraded down University Ave. and along Sherbrooke to Notre Dame Cathedral." White gloved police secured the streets for us and called out "God Bless You" as we passed. Tom came up with a very astute observation. "The priest spoke beautiful French and passable English. Our Moderator and ministers spoke beautiful English and nearly passable French. We were warmly welcomed as Christian Brethren and felt at home in French speaking Canada." The proceedings and the reports thereof have been well documented and distributed but we would like to share petition number 25 with you. The subject was Adultery Yes, or No? Try this one on for size. It said in part "Fidelity does require sexual exclusivity and that marriage must not include secondary relationships of emotional intimacy and potential genital expression". The frustrations of one young commissioner were expressed in his question: "Doesn't that mean sleeping around?" To give Tom the last word. We're against that. To that we say "AMEN".

NOTICE OF MEETING

The 50th Annual Christmas Party is on once again. The date is December 8th, the place is Collinwood United, the time 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., the program good food, great fellowship and, of course, we will be in fine voice to sing those Christmas Carols. Plan to come. You can reserve a place by phoning Nelson Ball at 731-3606. Oh yes! Don't forget a pair of socks to be sent to First United.

A CLUB PROFILE

The Men's Club of Knox United, Prince George, B.C. continues to shine like a beacon in the northern interior of B.C. Full of the Spirit of our Lord, they continue to run an annual retreat for the men of the region. This active group has formed the nucleus of the planning committee for past Banff Men's Conferences. Oh yes, they retired on their own the Church debt of \$65,000. They continue to support the brotherhood of the men of the United Church by inviting men like Alan Staig of the DMC and our President, Tom Murphy, to participate in their Annual Retreat. They also keep in touch with the clubs across Canada through a donation to the AOTS National organization. Well done fellows! Keep up the good work.

