

Church observes annual holy day with speeches and entertainment

by Mary Slattery taken from notes

New York area family members celebrated the 18th Children's Day, November 1, 1978, with a 7:00 a.m. morning service in the World Mission Center and a 7:30 p.m. entertainment program. Children's Day is one of the four major holy days celebrated in the Unification Church. time, Christians could improve them-

Morning Service

Mr. Ken Sudo, Director of the New York Church, explained the significance of the holy day to members attending pledge service at the World Mission Center. His main point was that Children's Day is a day for children to remember their parents because without them children could not be children.

"We are grateful for our parents, because without them we wouldn't be born. How deep should our admiration be for our parents!" Mr. Sudo said. However, sometimes even though parents may actually be giving a child love, the child cannot always understand and experience it. Mr. Sudo talked about the relationship of children to their parents.

If a child can understand his parents love him, the child will attend his parents and receive their love. One of the best ways for a child to experience parental love is through forgiveness. "When someone is forgiven, he feels new life and freedom," Mr. Sudo said. Forgiveness is a direct love, coming from parents, which causes the child to feel new life and freedom, just like being born again. When his parents.

The same principle applies to God. In order to be His child, one needs to someone understands God, he can shine brightly in the darkness and give light to

all the world. Children are a testimony to their parents, and their light spreads. Millions of people could celebrate Children's Day and every day if the light and love of God would cover the earth.

Throughout history man could never understand himself. Jesus Christ came as an example for man 2,000 years ago and brought the truth to mankind. Since that selves only by having faith in Jesus. Jesus and the Holy Spirit provide spiritual salvation for believing Christians through Pentecost, Without Pentecost, Christians could not be reborn.

Children's Day, was first observed on October 1, 1960. It is the celebration of rebirth symbolizing the opening of the gates to the Kingdom of Heaven for all

To enter the Kingdom of Heaven means to become the sons and daughters of God once more. However, no matter how hard a person may try, he cannot be a child of God without his Parent. Without having a substantial relationship with God, mankind cannot become true sons and daughters.

What does it mean to become a true son or daughter of God? It means that a child should resemble God, his Parent in truth, love and life. "Then God will become so happy with them," Mr. Sudo continued.

True sons and daughters will be ideal brothers and sisters. They will love each other, pray together, laugh and cry together. If they do these things, they will be respected by their other brothers and sisters and will become ideal husbands a child is forgiven, he can obey his parents and wives. Next, when children are born, with joy. In this way, he becomes one with they can become ideal fathers and mothers. If they have nephews and nieces, they can become ideal uncles and aunts. They can become ideal cousins, understand His love as a Parent. When friends, neighbors, grandfathers and grandmothers. All of these relationships stem from being ideal sons and daughters.



At the conclusion of the Children's Day program, Mr. Salonen and Ye-Jin cut the cake. The next holy day will be God's Day, January 1, 1979.

Wherever this kind of person goes, he will bring life and be a source of joy, peace and hope. However, without the victory of Children's Day, this would be impossible.

Rebirth is the only way to solve the problem of sin because blood lineage cannot be exchanged by man's own effort. Even if he sheds tears of repentance or reads the Bible, his sin will not be

Since the time of man's fall, the gates to the Kingdom of Heaven have been closed, and man had no hope of entering them. (Genesis 3:24) This was a tragedy for man because he lost his Parent at that time.

Mr. Sudo said that when he visited Pusan, Korea, a city of many refugees, he visited the site where Father's shack used to stand. Now no trace of the shack remains. Only the well that Father dug is still there. "If you walk up from that place you can see the rock, called tear rock, which is a little bigger than the size of a mattress, where Father used to pray. Father saw the misery of man throughout his own life and used to pray at the rock. He prayed, "Heavenly Father, please give parents to all mankind; they cannot be children without parents." Father's prayer came true nine years later on the first Children's Day in 1960.

Evening Entertainment

After enjoying a delicious steak dinner in the dining room, brothers and sisters from the New York area completely filled the Terrace Room at the World Mission Center for the 7:30 p.m. celebration. The overflow crowd watched the performances on a giant six-foot screen in the Down Home Inn.

Larry Moffitt, the master of ceremonies and comedian, opened the celebration by introducing Jacob's Ladder, a new folk singing trio. The trio, headed by former New Hope Singer International, Lou Fournier, sang "It's Gonna Be a Bright Sunshiny Day." Vicki Sheeran, also a former choir member, and Lisa Patterson, an accomplished guitarist, sang harmony. The group derived its name from the Biblical ladder connecting heaven and

Next, the International Folk Ballet C Team performed a Spanish dance called The Fandango" in traditional costumes which they designed themselves. The C Team has been performing a variety of international dances at various Church functions since Father began the group in January. Georgia Sherman is the director and choreographer. Of the four sisters performing "The Fandango," Chere Glass, Carol Nevin and Susan Herrmann are former MFT members. Carla Mahnken has been with the New York Church for

A theatrical group called The 43rd Street Players performed excerpts from Pipin, an historical play about Charlemagne's son who searched to find meaning in life. Brothers and sisters in the audience particularly applauded the group's dance skit. The Players are directed by Linda Chapman who is currently seeking her Master's degree in (Continued on Page 9)



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Who's new?

Blessed families celebrate new life, A little bit of heaven comes to earth

Below are some of the names of the blessed couples who have recently given birth to new babies. This column will be a regular feature of New Hope News, and any Church member who wishes to announce the birth of his child should send the information to the New Hope News, 4 West 43rd Street, New York, New York

> October 28, 1978 Gerhard and Ulrike Bessell Daniel boy

October 7, 1978 Hiroshi and Machiko Toyoda Tokubumi boy

September 28, 1978 Thomas and Alice Boutte Tierson Kim

September 10, 1978 Edmund and Choong Yul Bolton Sahm Ewee Hammes

August 25, 1978 Keith and Sung Sook Anderson Ke Sung boy

> August 23, 1978 John and Marie Kirkley Sunnie Marie

August 3, 1978 Franz and Setsuko Halmdienst Gloriett girl

August 3, 1978 Gerhard and Nobuko Piemuller Jangsoo boy

July 30, 1978 Shawn and Traudl Byrne Young David boy

July 30, 1978 Cliff and Clare Yasutake Carey Lin girl

July 6, 1978 Mark and Walburga Forrester **Brady Matthew**

July 6, 1978 Yoshihiko and Yasuko Masuda Emi

> July 4, 1978 Bob and Rhonda Schmitt Melinda Lee girl

June 26, 1978 Neil and Rebecca Salonen Naony David boy

June 25, 1978 Glenn and Louise Strait Lenissa Margaret girl

June 13, 1978 Kazuyoshi and Mieko Ikeno Hanako girl

June 13, 1978 Spiro and Leslie Olivas Victor Spiridon

May 30, 1978 Paul and Irene Olivier Godwin Alexander

April 24, 1978 Michael and Chizuko Runyon Cemo girl

April 13, 1978 Michael and Cheryl Warder Omo girl

March 26, 1978 Joseph and Sanai Tully Bumi girl

November 22, 1977 Klaus and Mary Ellen Schick Chiofa Therese girl



Mother gave birth to Young-Jin June 22, 1978

A sister comments on her 'rebirthday'

This letter came from a sister who such a difficult situation anyway; how had works for The News World. The title of this letter is "My Rebirthday."

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Maybe you are like me, often lacking faith and self-confidence but not knowing where to find them. One restless evening I prayed about this and opened the book, A Prophet Speaks Today. In the chapter entitled, "Good and Evil" I read, "As all things develop from an original point, and this world is not the one all mankind desires, we may conclude that our world started from the wrong point. In order to achieve the goal of God, we must correct this. The goal cannot be reached by correcting this resultant world, but by correcting the original point."

The next day my central figure called me for a special project. I had to change many plans in order to be on time. He arrived 11/2 hours late and was completely unprepared for the meeting.

Inside I felt, "How can I unite? He doesn't care about me. He doesn't respect me or God's precious time, etc." Then it dawned on me that, just like Lucifer, I was complaining that I wasn't receiving enough love. I asked God what to do in order to overcome because I really didn't feel loved. I thought, "Why was Lucifer in

God ever expected him to overcome?" I literally demanded God to answer me.

After much prayer and deliberation I saw how totally wrong Lucifer's thinking was. How he had been with God millions of years and knew he shouldn't have betrayed God's trust and violated Eve.

At the time of the fall, how could Lucifer have known what Adam was to become as an adult? How could Lucifer have known Adam was to substantial embodiment of God, inheriting His deep heart? While in an immature state Adam must have seemed so inadequate.

Through my prayer I realized that losing faith in God's Word that His children are great and capable was the original sin. I feel it is essential to overcome this in our own hearts because so often we lack the faith that our leaders will grow up to become like Father. We need to support them, have faith in them, and be confident that they can fulfill their

Father and older leaders in our Church have become beautiful and loving. We must have the patience and faith where

> Sincerely. Arlene Rosenfeld

Regional System sparks new witnessing enthusiasm

The purpose of the regional system, which has been established in the last few months, is to secure co-operation and support in developing constant and consistent workshop plans, patterns and places. In each region a weekend workshop, five-day workshop and 21-day workshop system are being developed. Although twelve regions have been established through America, each of them remains unique and practices its own witnessing methods in order to speedily spread God's Word.

The Regional Director is the senior leader or the most successful leader who can give good advice to all on how to develop the best witnessing system for their particular state and who will oversee the development of the workshop system. Also, the Regional Directors host meetings of the state leaders in order to share ideas and solutions to problems.

Practical Application

Reverend C.H. Kwak and Mr. Salonen have visited each region to meet with the state leaders and to visit the workshop sites. At each workshop site, Divine Principle is taught every day so that witnessing members never have to feel without a program for their guests. There are weekend workshops in each region and five-day programs. 21-day programs are now being developed in those regions which do not have them.

Variations

To meet the needs of specific regions, some special techniques have been developed. For example, in the Southwest, Mr. Michael Leone initiated a three-man IOWC which travels to the other states giving programs and witnessing. This team helps to stimulate the work of those brothers and sisters who are too far from the workshop site to come all the time.

Instead of sending inspiration out, like Mr. Leone, Mr. Phillip Burley in the Rocky Mountain Region calls members from other states to Colorado for inspiration. Here the members come to witness for a week or so at a time, experience the larger center, and can return to their own states with a fresh outlook.

Mr. Aiden Barry is the regional director

in New England. He prefers to work directly in each state, witnessing with members and accompanying the state directors to public talks.

In the Gulf Region, Mr. Patrick Hickey's Gulf OWC is a witnessing team which makes a circuit of the states in the Gulf Region. This team is made up of members who have completed three weeks of training. The team life gives these potential members a variety of experiences including lectures in the morning, witnessing in the afternoon and an evening program for their guests at night.

Frontier '78 Update

"In our travels we found that the regional system was very inspiring," commented Mr. Dan Fefferman who has just come back from the third Frontier '78 tour. "We've been to all 50 states, and, particularly after the regional system began to function, we saw a definite increase in the morale of members and in the effectiveness of witnessing programs and workshops."

Dr. William Bergman, Mr. Dan Fefferman and Mr. Bob Sullivan are the National Missions Co-ordinators who have been speaking throughout the country on radio and television, to college classes and at public meetings as part of a total campaign to raise the public image and understanding of the Church. They will begin travelling again as Frontier '78 sweeps the nation in its final tour, a lecture series offering Divine Principle one-day workshops to professors, ministers, media, parents and community

What was the general reaction of the public from the tour? "One of the first things they asked was where have you been?" commented Mr. Sullivan. "They hadn't seen us since the Day of Hope Tour, and a lot of controversy had come about since then."

"Also," Mr. Fefferman added, "because there's a major East coast media establishment affecting New York and Washington, D.C., most people were very happy and anxious to meet with us. When we explained that we wanted to get our side of the story out, they really jumped



Mr. Salonen, Mr. Kamiyama, Rev. Kwak holding Naony David, and Mrs. Salonen pictured at dinner for Regional Directors. Naony is 100 days old here.

at the opportunity and considered us very newsworthy."

Many of the news people in radio, television and newspapers were fair and the bias that has existed against the Church on the East coast did not affect them. In general, the public was concerned mainly with the brainwashing and separation of children from parents allegations. The KCIA issue was not a major issue, but in the Bible-belt, a more frequent issue from Christians was whether or not the Unification Church doctrine was heretical.

There have been hundreds of news articles, radio broadcasts and television appearances which have been 80 to 90 percent positive. "I feel we really made a dent in public opinion. The brainwashing charge still lingers, but one of the greatest things that happened this year is that the deprogramming movement has really been broken. People whom we reach with our words make a dent in that sterotype," Mr. Fefferman said.

Dr. Bergman felt that in a world that is becoming more and more skeptical, if not critical, towards religion and values, the brainwashing controversy hid the real issue. "We're not brainwashed," he would respond, "the real meaning of our Church is a profound religious experience which is behind the nature of the commitment members are making."

When confronted as to why a religion was so involved in making money, Dr. Bergman attempted to explain the motivation behind the work of the Church. "The Church is concerned about substantializing the spiritual ideal on earth. We're interested in fulfilling the meaning of God's Providence in history to actually establish the kingdom on earth. And this means we have to find the means to institutionalize a God-centered way of life. What has been a concept, an ideal, throughout history needs to be implemented in the world."

Sometimes critics attacked Father's lifestyle. "Reverend Moon is the hardest working member in the movement," Dr. Bergman would counter. "Those of us who know him personally are always inspired because of the example he is setting as a

spiritual leader. No one would be following him if he were a hypocrite." Dr. Bergman also found that critics who attacked Father's name weren't willing to consider that the properties don't belong to Father personally, but belong to a movement concerned to be a positive influence on today's society.

"And in terms of the KCIA accusation, I always make it clear that we are not the agents of any government. But we are opposed to Communism, that's the point," Dr. Bergman added. "The basic ideology of Marxism and Leninism teaches that there's no God, that man has no soul or spirit and that progress occurs through violence. As religious-minded people, members of the Unification Church are ideologically opposed to these beliefs."

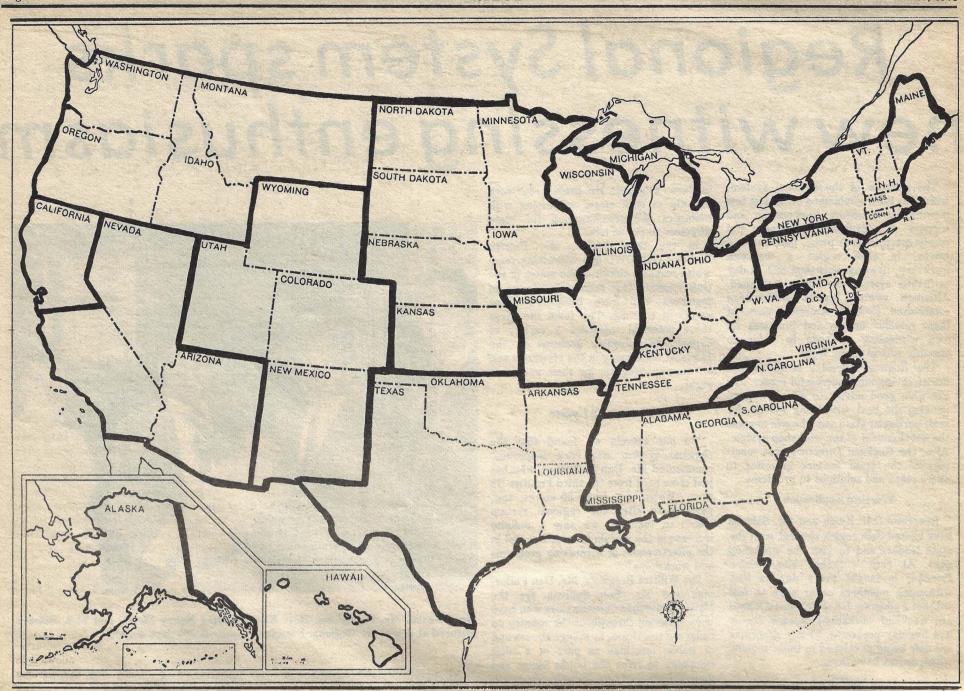
Mr. Sullivan tried to help his listeners understand the Church by focusing on the historic aspect of persecution rather than the immediate controversy. "If you just look at the Unification Church controversy, you can see a whole lesson historically," he said. "When people read an article by Harvard theologian, Harvey Cox, which outlined and explained historic religious persecutions, their attitude toward the Church began to change. They began to see how ridiculous their own feelings were if they were clearly prejudiced. "People were open to that and they changed," he added. "It was a way that we could brush by a lot of the controversy and get right to the beliefs."

Especially among intellectuals and ministers, the National Missions Coordinators found that the brainwashing charges were not taken seriously and that they were much more interested in the theology and organization of the Church. This provided a way for them to explain to the people about *Divine Principle*.

"Just the existence of the seminary has an impact of the theological community throughout the country," Mr. Sullivan said. "The word is not getting out that there's a very substantial theology on which the Church is based. The public's perception is that we have a theology of fund-raising and witnessing, but they fail to see that there's a very beautiful, (Continued on Page 4)



Mr. Salonen [center, facing audience] fields questions on "Mass. Reaction" show in Boston. Throughout the nation, our spokesmen were guests on radio and television shows, using the controversy surrounding the movement as a platform to speak about God's Will to America.



The Regions and Regional Directors are New England, Aidan Barry: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Upstate New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine; New York City, Ken Sudo; Mid Atlantic, David Hose: Washington, D.C., Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, North Carolina; South, Thomas Azar: Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi; Gulf, Patrick Hickey: Houston, Texas; Austin, Texas; Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma; Great Lakes, Richard Buessing:

Ohio, West Virginia, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee; Midwest, Ron Pepper: Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri; Great Plains, Kenji Ohnuki: South Dakota, Minnestoa, Iowa, North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas; Rocky Mountain, Philip Burley: Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico; Southwest, Michael Leone: Southern California, Hawaii, Nevada, Arizona; Northern California, Dr. and Mrs. Mose Durst; Northwest, Tom McDevitt: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Alaska

Frontier '78 brings leadership, support, combines efforts with Regional System

(Continued from Page 3)
systematic, challenging theology for
Christianity."

In one case, a reporter told Mr. Sullivan that just reading the Sontag book

completely changed him. He said, "I don't know what's happening in the Unification Church, but I think historically it's big...I'd always hoped to be alive at the time of Jesus Christ, and just maybe I



Mr. Salonen takes the opportunity of television news coverage of an anti-pornography rally in Houston to explain Unification Church view of the family and the value of God-centered love.

am."

Mr. Sullivan described the change in the academic community as the real light at the end of the tunnel. He feels that members of the Church have been going through a lot of persecution and controversy. Historically, before a change in attitude occurs towards a new religious group, these symptons always appear.

"The average person still has questions about the Church and probably will for some time, but there are a lot of people who are genuinely open and a lot of people in the academic community who are really excited about the theology, so I think there is a lot of hope," he said.

"More and more people are becoming interested in what's really important. The controversy on the more sensational, exterior issues is creating a healthy interest in *Divine Principle*," Mr. Fefferman added.

"As time has gone on, the atmosphere has changed," Dr. Bergman agreed. "At first people were asking us about controversial issues, but now they're asking, "Well, why are people accusing you of these things, or why is there so much controversy? More and more people are asking the basic question, Who is Reverend Sun Myung Moon?"

Dr. Bergman answers, "Reverend Moon is making the best peace and providing the best example; that's the reason we are inspired to follow him. Our hope is that God's work can be done."

Plans for a final tour

As a result of Frontier '78, the team made a number of friends and established working relationships with the media. Professors and ministers are willing to understand what the Church teaches, and some of the ministers are thinking in terms of possible co-operation.

In order to help these interested people know the Church more deeply, the tour will travel to at least the 12 regional centers and teach a one-day seminar introducing professors and ministers to the *Divine Principle*. This wrap-up tour is also geared toward strengthening and reinforcing the regional system.



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Blessed Wives offer guidance, inspiration through testimony about marriage and the ideal

Mrs. Nora Spurgin has a Master's degee in Social Work and has worked four years as a psychiatric social worker since joining the Church. As an itinerary worker, she has travelled throughout the United States, advising and counselling members. Last year she travelled to Asia as an itinerary worker visiting the foreign missionaries.

Mr. and Mrs. Spurgin were blessed in 1970 in the 777 couples blessing. Presently Mr. Spurgin is completing his Ph.D. at Union Theological Seminary in New York. The Spurgins have three children.

"In marriage, God is looking for people who balance each other out. That doesn't mean your mate will be perfect when you start out, but it does mean that through God's love, each couple has the potential for wholeness, totality and, therefore, for fulfillment.

"Personally, the kind of men I feel most comfortable around are men like my husband. I'm a very outgoing, external, horizontal person, whereas my husband is vertical and serious. I like to be around that kind of person because I respect them.

'When my husband and I were first married, we were quite different. I could see how we balanced each other out. As an itinerary worker, I often would observe a situation at a center, call him and say, 'Oh, this and this and this is happening. I'm very good at observing things. I could evaluate situations, but my problem was in making a clear decision about what to do. Soon I often found myself telling him about many situations, and right off the bat, he would say, 'They should do this and this and that.' It was suddenly so clear! But for me, somehow I would always see all the pros and cons and couldn't quite figure out what kind of advice to give. My husband had a certain quality that I didn't have; he observed situations with a clear direction, whereas when I saw too much. I made this discovery about the way we operated together at the beginning of our relationship.

"Now that our marriage is older, we no longer need to do that. It no longer happens that I call him, describe something, and get his answer because actually I can think now when situations occur, 'What would he do?' I can think like he thinks because I know him so well. And I know the same thing is true with him, that he can think like I think because he knows me so well. After a certain time you pick up the traits of your partner, and it just makes you a bigger person. So, therefore, to be an opposite may be of greater value than to be very much alike.

"Once Mrs. Choi commented about trinity couples and mentioned that it is better to have three couples that are very different, because if the six different people come to love each other, the number of people they can embrace is much larger.

"The same is true of a couple or even an individual. If anyone can embrace a large number of people, he broadens the scope of his love. This may be even easier for a person in the long run than loving someone who is very similar to himself.

"My feeling about the blessing is that one should not look for the perfect mate, but expect to make the perfect marriage. It's quite different. A big problem in

marriage today is that people are looking for the perfect mate. Then when things don't work out, they feel as if they made some mistake in not finding their perfect spouse. In such a case, a divorce usually follows, and they go out looking again for the perfect mate. After going through several marriages, maybe only then they realize that the perfect mate isn't to be found. Marriage is made through give-and-take, through struggles, and the trials and errors that the couple goes through together in order to make the perfect marriage.

"I have a lot of faith in Father's advice in marriage because I really believe that the problem in any marriage is faith. If people loose their faith, they don't have that common ground anymore that binds them together, and they don't have a reason to work on their marriage anymore. If the loose their faith, they start becoming selfish and start looking for their own personal needs to be met all the time. When we start focusing on our own personal needs, we become a much less ideal mate for the other person, and we become very hard to live with. So, I think that in marriages where people have lost their faith, they should recognize that the problem is in their faith and begin to

"In terms of advising people about the engagement, my opinion is that you reach a certain point where you can't grow in certain areas without marriage. Your life becomes a little stifled if you don't have a partner with whom to have an intimate relationship. Many brothers and sisters feel, 'I'm not ready yet,' but my feeling is that in most cases you aren't going to be that much more ready at a later date.

A lot of things that have to be worked

out, need to be worked out in marriage. They will actually be worked out faster there. When an individual starts working on the kinks in his own personality, it's usually because he's confronted with them daily as he sees them mirrored in his spouse. Especially emotionally, people reach a standstill in their growth until they have the experience of marriage. If you're relatively mature, or even if you aren't, you have a chance to mature as a single person when you're confronted with an intimate relationship.

"I find in blessed couples that there is a certain maturity that comes with marriage and having children. It just doesn't exist before that. A person may be 50 years old, but if he hasn't experienced marriage, there's a certain maturity lacking in him. He may pride himself in being very youthful, but there's something that is not quite as mellow about him. In order to deal with a lot of different things, it just takes the maturity of having had an intimate relationship. A person kind of mellows out and becomes much more sensitive to people's feelings than he was previously.

"I'm really grateful to be one of the older blessed couples and be able to have had the time to develop a certain maturity that a lot of members who are single don't have yet. On the other hand, we'll always be the pioneers. When later blessed couples are saying, 'Now I know what they've been through,' we'll always be going through something else."

Mrs. Pauline Verheyen, one of the first American members, found the Unification Church in 1960 through Dr. Young Oon Kim in Oregon. She is a housewife and mother of two and was a business supervisor for three years. An early pioneer of Berkeley and Sacramento, Mrs. Verheyen was chosen by Father to be the itinerary worker for American centers in 1965. Mr. and Mrs. Verheyen were blessed in 1969 in Essen, Germany and are one of the 43 blessed couples. Mr. Verheyen was the national leader of Holland and is presently preparing to do itinerary work in America.

"From my own experience of almost 10 years as a blessed member, I encourage upcoming candidates to have faith. It's easy to look at externals but if you only do that, I think you'll be very disappointed when you are confronted by a real man or woman. Father has given us the principles upon which our Church is based, and we can live our lives by them. It's very important to trust God, although I know that it isn't easy in the beginning.

"Satan wants to destroy God's ideal families; he has his own idea of family. This is a real tug of war. I've counselled many people, and it seems that just before the blessing there is tremendous testing and temptation put in front of a candidate. Satan does it, but I think God allows it in order to allow the individual to overcome so that God can trust him.

"A person may have many important missions in the Church, but if his own family circle is not good, his whole mission is not good. Missions are external, they are something each of us does, but love is internal and is the central point of the family. God's pure love is a magnetic love which holds His family together in the midst of the world. All members go through many difficult situations and tests in order to make a blessed family of God. The attitude of the person going through these tests determines his success or (Continued on Page 8)



Father speaks to blessing candidates in England. Mother looks on as Col. Pak translates. "Even God needs someone to love and someone to be loved by. Without love, without the ideal the world of existence would not make any sense; it would be an absolutely pitch-dark, dead world."

Father speaks on the blessing

Father speaks about the blessing:



"Love and the ideal together brought you into this world. No two lives can be united without love; husband and wife cannot become one without love. Love is the only power that can bring two loves into one, and the ideal emerges when this love is consummated. That is the place where each one of you was born." Father speaks on the blessing

Father gave the following sermon to Church members gathered at Belvedere over a year and a half ago. Although the time of the blessing is particularly for those members who are eligible, it is also a time of internal preparation for all brothers and sisters in the Unification Church.

The Editor

"The blessing in our Church has a very special meaning. You know through the Divine Principle that Adam and Eve, the forefathers of mankind, fell. The fall was their deviation from their original position, and they fell down into an unprincipled realm far from their original state. Because of the fall of man, human history started from a position of sorrow and tears and could not reach a position of happiness and blessing. Then where can the blessing start?

The history of the blessing must begin with Adam and Eve, because two positions are needed to consummate the blessing: the giver of the blessing and the receiver of the blessing. A blessing without God has no meaning; it can only be received centered on Him. When God gives His blessing, He receives it back again in glory. In that way the blessing belongs to God as well as to men.

What is the content of this blessing? The blessing is not only a reward, but also the most supreme form of giving between God and man. In the secular world, the word blessing is used in many ways. For example, if a person becomes rich, he might call it a blessing, or if parents have good sons and daughters, someone might comment that they have a real blessing.

The blessing is life, love and the ideal

The supreme blessing, given to both men and women, is life itself, springing from the origin of love. Life and love are not separate, but there must be one life and one love originating from God. In other words, life and love are united in oneness in God, and on the foundation of this unity the ideal can come about.

Love will not be ignited unless a circuit can be formed. Similarly, electricity cannot be activated until a circuit is completed. For example, a positive charge is manifested only in conjunction with a

negative charge. Man has the potential to and literature to express a yearning for love inside of him, but it will not blossom until it is activated.

Man also has an ideal, but it will not be seen until it is stimulated. If someone dances alone without anyone even watching, the dancer must be a little crazy. However, should he have only a little puppy to dance with, his actions would make sense because he has something to which he can express the joy of give and take. Unless a circuit is formed between subject and object, the dancer is considered crazy. Even though Almighty God has all power and dominion over creation, He needs to find an object in order to form a circuit of reciprocal give and take; otherwise no energy or activity can be meaningful.

Man is just the same. For example, if I were talking alone without listeners. I would be crazy. Listeners stimulate a speaker, and he stimulates them. Can God, even though He is omniscient, omnipresent and omnipotent, generate love all by Himself? He does indeed possess the potential for love, the seed of love, but although the origin and base for love are within God Himself, unless an object responds to His love and forms a circuit for that love, it will not be activated.

Imagine God being all by Himself in this universe. If He is shouting out, "Boy, it's a joyful day, and I'm really excited," He would be considered crazy too. This is the greatest part of the Principle: even God needs an object, someone to love and someone to be loved by. Without love, without the ideal, the world of existence would not make any sense because it would be an absolutely pitch-dark, dead world.

Consider man. Why does he sing? Singing, the expression of joy and hope, can be divided into three categories: expressing a longing for joy, expressing joy itself, and expressing sorrow over the lack of joy. In all three categories there is a subject and an object which make the song meaningful. When someone talks about joy, he automatically is talking about someone else besides himself. The subject-object relationship is a prerequi-

Throughout history man created art

joy, joy itself, or sorrow. Man needs someone besides himself.

Truth is eternal, unchanging and unique

Truth has three qualifications: it is eternal, unchanging and unique. Truth will never tarnish. Even in this secular world, the things man normally considers treasures are materials or precious stones that will not change in color, tone or quality and will not decay. Treasures then have a certain unique and eternal quality. For instance, people consider diamonds to be precious because they are harder than rock and have a unique shine which only diamonds can radiate. Diamonds have a unique, unchanging, and eternal quality. Gold is also considered precious because it will not rust or tarnish; its quality remains. A pearl also has a special kind of shine and uniqueness.

Is man true, or is he fake and artificial? This is a very serious question.

Hell is where all the fake and untruthful things are gathered together. People in hell are fighting and struggling all the time; consequently there is no unity, no beauty or harmony there. Then what is heaven? The unchanging world where words and actions will not change is heaven. God's Principle abides there because it will not change, even after millions and billions of years.

There are two kinds of men and women, true ones and fake ones. Although men and women have their own individual pride and dignity and may think that they have everything necessary to be the royalty of this universe, their quality will be decided upon as God looks deep into their hearts.

Man's value will be decided by whether he is eternal, unchanging and unique. There are a million different kinds of people and levels of accomplishment, and neither men nor women are all the same.

Man must be unchanging

Think of whether man's actions from day to day are unchanging. If he stands upon the Principle, then his actions have quality and value. For example, the teacher who has unchanging conviction is respected, regardless of whether he is criticized or not. Parental love toward children must be unchanging. Could a parent say, "I loved you yesterday, but I don't love you today. I don't want you?" Is that the love of a parent?

Look at American society today, particularly at the lives of the young people. Many deadly trends such as drugs and free sex demonstrate the corruption of human nature. Look, on the other hand, at the Unification Church. We want to re-create our members as true men, acceptable in the sight of God. The truth shines out in the past, present, and future to women, men, senior citizens, and young people everywhere.

A new movement of truth must come

A new movement of truth must come which can bring man back to his true, original quality, and which can shine up his rusty spots. That movement is none other than the Unification Church. Once the truth touches a man, no one can stifle or remove it. When the truth comes into man it cleanses him by judging all his foreign elements, moving them out, and by preserving him in purity.

Man, even in the fallen world, has a dormant desire for unchanging truth embedded deep in his innermost heart. Even though he may lead a very extreme and carnal life, once the truth touches him, that sleeping desire will be awakened and immediately ignited. The cleansing process will begin, and he will start a new life of internal discipline and good habits. The world will witness his new life well up from inside and grow. This revolution of man is completely possible with absolute truth and will happen quite instantly. Even though he may not recognize it right away, once the truth touches him, this kind of revolution will automatically begin in his heart.

What is true love

Truth is eternal, unchanging, and unique, and its core, the central point of truth, is what everybody likes, true love. What is true love then? To understand this, one needs to look into the unchanging quality of love in this world.

The love between parents and children is closer to the qualification of the truth, that is, unchanging and everlasting, than the love between husband and wife. The love going from parent to child is much closer to the quality of truth than the love going from the child to the parent, because it is the trunk line of love, the central point which does not change from age to age. In order to become a recipient of this unchanging love of the parent, the child should also become a person who give unchanging love. His love will be manifested in the form of obedience to his parents, then the parents and the child can be united.

True love cannot be found through money or organization, but through obedience to and harmony with parents. Distrust and division are the opposite of harmony and unity and make it impossible to create a base of love. The most important truth in this universe is that God is the parent of mankind, and that Adam and Eve were the children of God, but this most important relationship did not come alive for humanity. In order to have true love come into being, God's children must become obedient and unite with Him. This is a prerequisite to fulfilling the love of God and the love of man. Once man becomes one with God by obedience, God becomes his and he becomes God's. This happens through the explosive power of love.

God wants to be the Parent of mankind

Where does parental love originate? Is man born with it? Does he learn it somehow, or it is automatic? Parental love must have some universal origin. Parents came from parents, and their parents came from grandparents. There must be a

'Even God needs someone to love'

starting point somewhere. Beautiful human nature was created and given because man is a resultant being; man is not the cause of the universe. Since he has certain innate natures as a resultant being, he must have some origin or cause. Man is a mirror image of that cause.

It is a well accepted, scientific fact that there can be no result without a cause. Every being, every instinct, and every human nature, has a universal first cause which we call God. God wants to be the Parent of mankind. This is the reality that no one can deny. This principle persists in the universe. Parental love toward children is built-in, and because of it, there is hope of restoration even after the fall.

Therefore, any true religion always touches this basic principle of parental love, and any religion which teaches parental love will become a superior religion. Such a religion recognizes God as the one common Parent of mankind, and recognizes that man, as the child of God, is trying to restore his innate, original relationship with his Parent. Religion is merely God's effort to restore man back to that relationship. It is impossible for philosophy, money, power or knowledge to bring oneness or create the ideal world.

In human history, saints who came to save mankind did not rely on money, power, or knowledge; they always came to bring unity to the world by centering upon the love of God. They attempted to crystallize man's recognition of the one Supreme Being as his universal Parent and tried to unite mankind with the love of that Supreme Being. That has been the effort of all the saints of history.

What kind of God is He? God would like to establish Himself as the loving Parent of all men. What He would cherish most is the kind of man He could call His son, one who could be just like Himself in trying to love mankind as his brothers and sisters. This is the wish of parents the world over. Even more than having their children bring many gifts and much love to them, parents want to see their children loving their brothers and sisters in beautiful harmony. Parents are grieved to see their children quarreling among each other.

If a parent had several children who loved each other, gave gifts to each other, embraced each other, and really helped each other, would he look at that complain, "Why do you children love each other more than you love me?" God is the same. He wants mankind to love each other as brothers and sisters.

In order to restore the fallen world, man must live up to God's expectation and position himself as God's son or daughter, trying to live up to God's expectation, loving his brothers and sisters horizontally. Through this action he can be recognized by God as His child.

With parental heart, man has a messianic role

If someone becomes a man or woman who feels precisely as God feels, he is not only loving his own brothers and sisters, but also elevating himself to the position of parent of mankind; he wants to take care of them and really give them the blessings of God. If someone feels that way, regardless of his nationality or race, he is in a messianic role. That kind of man must emerge to show mankind how to become that kind of person.

Many saints in history came to earth proclaiming the truth of the love of God for humanity. They loved humanity as their brothers and sisters, but there has not yet been one saint who has proclaimed to the world, "I love you not only as your brother; I love you as your parent, your living father." The only one in history who came with this concept, this conviction, was Jesus Christ; Jesus came as the father of mankind.

Think of Jesus at his crucifixion on the



"Love energizes and creates an abundance of life; it is active and moving every moment of the day and night, penetrating everywhere. A child is first conceived in the love of his parents, and participates in their lives as a manifestation or blossom of their love."

Father speaks on the blessing

cross. The Israelites and Roman soldiers were laughing and scornful of him, even piercing him with a spear. Yet instead of cursing them, Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Only the father of mankind could have embraced such sinners with such a parental prayer. Parental love is capable of forgiving the enemy who intends to kill the parent. Even as an enemy is aiming his weapon, a person with parental love can still extend his hand in blessing and forgiveness. Only a person with parental love is capable of doing that which is precisely what God feels and how God acts.

The person who can start a movement which can live up to the noble standard of God's love will be the moving force to unite all the races, religions and nations because that is the cause that God is pursuing. That man will not be working alone, the power of God will be acting through him.

Communism cannot make such a world possible, nor can any philosophy in the democratic world. Only a religious crusade focusing upon the central parental love of God could bring about the unity of mankind. This is evidenced in human history by all the cultural spheres centered upon religious movements. It was always a new religious movement that brought a new culture. That is the pattern of human history.

Characteristics of the true religion

The true religion can bring God down as the Parent of mankind and raise mankind up as the children of God, stimulating brotherly love in human society. That religion will bring about one world, one family of man, one family of God, which is the central characteristic of the true religion. Evaluating Buddhism, Islam and Christianity from this principle, they each have their own light of truth, but Christianity is the highest.

At the heart of Christianity is the relationship between the bridgegroom and bride. The Christian churches are to prepare themselves in the position of bride. When the Messiah comes again, he will be a living bridggroom, with all humanity as his true bride.

As the new Christianity, we must go beyond Adam and Eve The new Christianity must be the

highest form of religion, perfectly fitting the criteria of God's true religion. Centering upon God in absolute obedience, it should bring unity between God and men in reality here on earth. As restored Adam and Eve, the new Christianity must go beyond their level of fulfillment in order to restore their failure. Members of the new Christianity should make themselves superior in obedience, in trust, and in love.

In order to have a superior position to Adam one must deeply understand Adam's failure. Self-centeredness became a very important part of Adam's life and ultimately brought the fall. To reverse the fall, one must disregard himself and live only for God.

The world of self-centered families, societies and nations will crumble eventually. This is certain because everything starts from God and ends with God. The Unification Church proclaims that human beings are all brothers and sisters with no racial or national boundaries between them. Jesus wanted to bring all mankind into one brotherhood; now it can be lived. The new Christianity should even rise one step higher to the position of parents toward humanity.

Throughout an individual's whole life, he will never forget his first experience of love with a man or woman. By the same token, how can he forget his first love with God? In the Unification Church, members have experienced the deepest love between God and man. No one can forget that.

Only love can create perfect unity

However, the vertical unity between God and man alone is not sufficient. Mankind needs to have horizontal unity, man to man and husband to wife, as well as the unity of life, love, and the ideal. Where will that unity begin? Life alone cannot create perfect unity, nor can an ideal alone create perfect unity. Only love can create perfect horizontal unity. Then which comes first? Did man come from love or did he come from life? The universal origin can be either life or love.

God's creation of the universe was for one purpose, to fulfill the love of God. Love is the key word, because the meaning of the world that God created will not be fulfilled only by life, or by His ideal, but by love.

When one is truly in love, he is happy to be completely consumed and completely dominated by that love. The more that love dominates him, the happier he is. Out of the fulfillment of love comes the ideal, and when the ideal blossoms, it will consume the rest of the world and more.

Love energizes and creates an abundance of life; it is active and moving every moment of the day and night, penetrating everywhere. A child, first conceived by the love of his parents, participates in their lives as a manifestation or blossom of their love. Love and the ideal together brought him into the world. Without it, no two lives can be united. For example, husband and wife cannot become one without love. Love is the only power that can bring two lives into one, and the ideal emerges when this love is consummated. That is the place where each human being was born.

Because he truly manifests the love, life and ideal of his parents, the son is part of them. Can he separate himself from them? Anyone trying to separate children from their parents is an enemy of God because God's purpose is to light a spark of love and ideal between parents and children. Children are inseparable from parents.

When men and women who are inseparable from the love of their parents vertically unite into that same kind of love as husband and wife, their relationship as husband and wife should also be inseparable. This reality actually shows that God's ideal is for the parents, children, and husband and wife to live together in one home as a family. Family members want to be wherever the father or mother go because they want to be together as a basic family unit.

If God and Adam had become one, and Adam and Eve had become one, then automatically God, Adam, and Eve would have been one in life, love and ideal. This was the original, intended purpose of creation.

Do American women, after being blessed and having families, like to invite in-laws and parents to be part of their happiness? It is common in America that wives do not want to bother with in-laws when they get married. The Unification Church brings a new tradition, contrary to what some Americans have been practicing. Is that an easy task?

(Continued on Page 12)

Blessed Wives offer guidance

(Continued from Page 5)

failure. If he thanks Heavenly Father for everything and has a good attitude, it's okay. But if he becomes completely bogged down under the tests and has a complaining heart, he's going to run into trouble. Each member should have a good attitude toward his mate because everyone has a good side.

"Another important point is, that fighting is not necessarily evil. Sometimes fighting is bringing the other person out. It can be a good therapy to have a loud talk or a good argument with your mate. If a couple is not close, they will only say good morning to each other. Relationships usually begin this way. Later, when they're really close, they can say what they feel.

"In the world outside of our Church, couples kiss each other at the door and show their love for each other in many external ways. But in blessed families within our Church, couples are bound by a real spiritual base. Even if one of them goes 1,000 miles away, his partner remains with him in spirit. They can rely on each other. The wife doesn't have to hang on, saying, 'Oh, don't leave me.' The wife can say, 'Please go, go Father's way; I am very proud of you; your success is my success.' They will be a happy couple.

"In a sense, husbands and wives are very free to trust each other, and trusting and respecting a person is very important. How can love grow if they're always mistrusting each other? Candidates who have lead a dedicated life of faith and service to God for three or four years in the Church will probably be faithful in marriage. The foundation they have made is very good. Qualified candidates who become blessed members can go all around the world because their spouses are trustworthy. The blessed couples serve God and man and trust each other. They do God's will, and they're happy.

'I really am happy for the couples who will be coming up in the future. I just hope they really understand what they're doing and that they understand the value of the

When a couple has a family, each child has his own personality, his own habits and his own ways. Each child is unique, and the parents love each one differently. This is how God must feel about everyone. He loves each person personally. It's just between Him and the individual. Blessed couples can feel how God, the Parent, feels after they have children. The principle is really true that everyone should marry, have children, and experience the three kinds of love coming from

"Candidates should remember that conditions before the blessing in order to qualify are good, but they are not eternal. It is important that a candidate go into the blessing with the idea of really wanting to make his marriage center on God's love and not on a horizontal base. Keep a vertical love of God, and the whole family will be drawn into that love like in a circle. If the whole spiritual and physical family is united in this way, it will be a very beautiful oneness. Families will have a very wonderful give and take with so much energy.

'Young members who are qualified for the blessing should remember the growth period after the blessing. It is important because the blessing occurs only at the top of the growth stage. As Rev. Kwak says, a person is not really born yet until after the blessing, and everything that he does after the blessing is very significant. It's all part of growth.

"If a member has been in the Church a long time, he may find that he just can't grow anymore until after he's blessed. But with growth, there's always pain. When a child grows, he experiences not only physical pain, but emotional pain while maturing. After marriage it isn't all heaven. Couples may find that sometimes



Brothers and sisters take part in the engagement ceremony in England on September 15. "The blessing is given to both men and women. The supreme blessing that they could receive is life itself, springing from the same origin as love. When we talk about life and love we are not talking about them separately; there must be one life and one love that originates from God. In other words, life and love are united in oneness in God. On the foundation of such life and such love the ideal can come about.'

Father speaks on the blessing

they feel more like they're in hell than in and, therefore, forget the goals they both is presently head of the National Parents' words, bring heaven to hell, then there isn't any hell anymore, it's all heaven.

"Instead of complaining, a blessed member should always be grateful because his spouse will bring him to heaven. These two people are going to grow together to perfection.

'I often think of it like two diamonds. Usually they use one diamond to cut or grind another diamond. A marriage relationship is like two diamonds which must make each other perfect. Love is not an easy thing because it's not cheap. The Kingdom of Heaven is very expensive. If it were a cheap place, joy would not be there, and God could not make His family in the midst of it.

Mrs. Linna Rapkins, a former upper elementary school teacher, has done graduate work in education counselling. She was the first pioneer to Canada and lead a center in Denver with Mr. Rapkins, who just received his Master's degree in Religion and Society from the San Francisco Theological Seminary. The Rapkins were blessed in 1969 in the 43 blessed couples. They have two children.

"Looking at the applications and listening to what the candidates are saying and thinking, make me remember the ideals of my own blessing in 1969. I would advise someone eligible for this upcoming blessing to write down any feelings he has right now. Many members are looking at their upcoming marriage with idealistic expectations and highly principled viewpoints. It's good to have the ideals to go ack to in later years

"Also, I would advise members to remember that the actual marriage is very down to earth. When you are actually living together, you have to deal with the laundry, the split milk, and a routine of doing the same thing everyday. Any human emotions you have problems with now, you're definitely going to find in your own marriage later, and you will have to deal with them. Before they are married, a couple tends to think more in idealistic terms about how they are going to build a heavenly marriage and become wonderful parents for their children. Then when they actually get into it, they can really become bogged down with just the little everyday mundane things. If they become too wrapped up in the everyday things, they might easily forget the ideals

heaven, but, in this case, they can restore share. Of course, that's true of any aspect that point and make it heaven. In other of principled life, even just living the principle as a single person.

When we join the Unification Church, we are looking for truth and a way to build a new world. But when it comes right down to it, the way we are building a new world is by doing everyday things like fundraising, witnessing, cleaning our rooms, etc. Marriage is the same way. I find in my own marriage that sometimes I just get caught up in dealing with our own problems. I forget how I felt at the beginning. So, I guess that the big thing that I am saying is write down your feelings and expectations. Later it may inspire you. Now I am very inspired in my own life by what members are writing because they are beautiful expressions of the ideal.

"Now come the time to think of concrete matters. We should have been thinking of these things before. Some people call in and say, 'Well, I haven't even thought about this. I've been so busy doing my mission. I've never given marriage any thought. I can't handle it right now.

'Sometime in our lives we have to 'handle it.' We know according to the principle that man is supposed to marry in order to return the three types of love to God. And, of course, we all know that there have been Blessings in the past, and there will be more in the future.

"Preparing ourselves for the blessing is the most important part of our work in the Church. This is really the purpose of all our missions before the blessing. Part of it is preparing ourselves spiritually, which we should always do, but we can't ignore the physical side, thinking of blessing in

"At the time of my blessing, I was called to Washington, D.C. Of course, I thought it would all work out and that suddenly I would be engaged to someone in a heavenly partnership. Then, all of a sudden, I was asked, 'Well, who do you think you want to marry?' I hadn't really thought about it! When it came right down to it, there were just people there who knew each other. We knew each others' faults and imperfections, and from those we chose. In the end, my trust for God really came after I saw what happened."

Mrs. Hille Edwards, a former high school English teacher, has a Master's degree in Social Work and has worked in a psychiatric hospital since joining the Church. She has had much experience as an itinerary worker within the Church and

Association for the Church, counselling both members and their parents. The Edwards were blessed in marriage in 1970 and are members of the 777 blessed couples and have two children. Mr. Edwards works in an outside business.

Before my Blessing, I had actually liked one brother in the Church. I worked to direct my energy elsewhere at that time, becoming more involved in my mission in order to forget the feelings of that attraction. I went to another city and worked in a pioneer mission for a year. This happened in 1970.

"The first blessing in America had taken place in 1969, and, if there hadn't been a blessing then, I probably wouldn't have thought about such things. But when the first marriage took place, people started thinking, 'Well, if my former roommate could be blessed, it might even happen to me!' So we picked up some of those ideas, some of those longings, some of those feelings.

"I did get beyond that though by working in a pioneer mission. When the next blessing was to take place I was a candidate. The president called me to his office and asked me if there was anyone I would like to marry. I said 'no, there wasn't anyone.' Then he said, 'Well, what about George Edwards?' who was the person whom I had liked.

"I replied, 'Well, I used to think about him, but I don't anymore.' The president didn't say anything. Then I said, 'Well, I like George,' and he just smiled. I said, Well, I love George, he's my brother.'

"The president said, 'Do you want to know what he said?'

"What? You talked to him?"

" 'Yes,' he said, 'and George is very positive about the whole idea.'

"Of course, neither George nor I had ever said a word to each other about anything like this, but at this point, we thought we had better talk.

"Perhaps candidates are under the illusion that God will choose for them, and it will be almost like a clinical decision where they just have to fill out a form. Even though a person may feel he is big enough to accept whoever it is, I think it is more realistic to feel that God is our Father, and that He wants us to be happy. He wants us to know joy. It is our mission not only to be dedicated to our mate but to bring joy to our home, to know joy with our mates and to give joy to our children.

"As blessed couples, we want to build (Continued on Page 12)

Ye-Jin sings with Sunburst at Children's Day celebration

(Continued from Page 1)

Dramatic Arts.

Sunburst performed a series of songs which its members had written themselves. The first "Feelin' Good," was written by Sheila Baer and Alistair Farrant. "If" was written by Sheila, Jeff Thomas and Kitty Jenkins while they were fundraising. A highlight of the evening came when Jim Clark, introduced as "The Heavenly Humperdink," gave a solo performance of his own "Certain Something." "Fly Away", was written by Scott Avery, the drummer.

In a final surprise performance, Ye-Jin came from the audience and sang with

Sunburst. She sang "Don't Stop Believing" by Olivia Newton-John, "You've Got a Friend" by Carole King and "Evergreen" by Barbara Streisand from the movie, "A Star is Born." As an encore, she performed a Korean pop song, "Nim Gwa Hamgeh", about waiting for a high love to

Conclusion

After the performances, Mr. Neil Salonen, President of the Unification Church of America, wished the members and their guests a happy Children's Day. Developing the topic, "Whose Children are We?", he said the despite all



The International Folk Ballet C Team performed a Spanish dance called "The Fandango" in traditional costumes which they designed themselves. The C Team has been performing a variety of international dances at various Church functions since Father began the group in January.



In a final surprise performance, Ye-Jin came from the audience and sang with Sunburst. She sang "Don't Stop Believing" by Olivia Newton-John, "You've Got a Friend" by Carole King and Evergreen" by Barbara Streisand from the movie, "A Star is Born." Ye-Jin's encore song was a Korean pop song, "Nim Gwa Hamgeh," about waiting for a high love to return.

mankind's modern philosophy and technology, no one has ever been able to create a human life. "The Author of human life is far superior to us," Mr. Salonen said. The miracle of life which comes from God is the source of man's joy. "Whenever a child is born, no matter how terrible and evil the world seems, everyone rejoices because it brings hope.

Mr. Salonen went on to discuss the book, Soul on Fire, by Eldridge Cleaver. Cleaver, a former Communist, relinquished his ties with Marzist-Leninism after he saw the miracle of his child's birth. There was no way he could explain the glory of birth and the meaning of new life in purely scientific terms. Finally, Mr. Salonen urged the audience to think about America's responsibility to God and the

At the conclusion of the program, Mr. Salonen and Ye-Jin cut the Children's Day cake. The next holy day will be God's Day,

New Hope Singers International perform at the Kennedy Center

In a united effort by the entire Performing Art's department, the New Hope Singers International performed under the direction of Mr. Brian Saunders at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 20, 1978. The crowd was estimated at 2,000.

The performance was in conjunction with a benefit sponsored by the "Messengers of Love," a religious group whose objectives are to cultivate brotherhood among all mankind and to promote unity among all nations. They were founded in 1971 by Sister Catherine, whose niece is a member of the New Hope Singers Dance" and "The Penitent Monk." International.

The program began with traditional hymns such as Gabrieli's "Jubilate Deo," and Copland's "The Lark." During the course of the show the choir sang a medley of international folk melodies entitled "Songs Around the World," which included some Broadway numbers and light rock. The finale, a tribute to American history and culture, was a pictoral and choral review of America's growth and development. Mrs. Kathy Novalis and Mr.

One professor of music who attended the show called it "musically outstanding" and the audience applauded their total satisfaction with four standing ovations. The performance at the Kennedy Center is an historical landmark for the Singers who hope to inspire the whole world with God's love through song.

Mr. Brian Saunders, music director of the New Hope Singers International, is a graduate of Ohio State University. Continuing his education, he went Steven Honey were soloists. The Internathrough rigorous training in composition tional Folk Ballet performed "The Fan and conducting under Anton Heiller at the

Vienna Academy of Music and won first prize in the National Composition Contest of Austria in 1971. After returning to the United States, he taught composition at Ohio State University. Mr. Saunders furthered his studies under Robert Shaw and Aaron Copland and became music director of the New Hope Singers International in 1975.

Presently there are three branches of the New Hope Singers International. In addition to the choir in Washington, D.C. there is one in England and another in Chicago.



In a united effort by the entire Performing Art's department, the New Hope Singers International performed under the direction of Mr. Brian Saunders at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., on September 20, 1978. The crowd was estimated at 2,000.

On the frontline:

MFT's Ron Troyer battles in court to secure permission for soliciting, guaranteed by First Amendment

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

from the First Amendment

"It is well settled that the type of activity that the plaintiff [the Unification Church] wishes to engage in---solicitation of funds and distribution of religious literature---is well within the protection of the First Amendment, and that such activities may be regulated only 'with narrow specificity.' It is also well settled that a law seeking to license such activity without narrow, objective and definite standards is patently unconstitutional.

from U.S. District Court Judge, Jefferson Parrish, Louisiana

Most Church members are aware of suits filed against Ted Patrick, deprogrammers, the New York Times and Congressman Fraser. Many, however, do not know of the efforts of the MFT to restore First Amendment rights in cities throughout America. Behind the scenes, in little communities and larger cities, the MFT has been carrying the fight against religious prejudice and censorship in an effort to secure fundraising rights.

A veteran fundraiser and former MFT team captain, Ron Troyer, was appointed MFT Field Co-ordinator for Legal Affairs by Mr. Ryoji Sawamukai in 1976. Since that time Ron has opened up at least 200 cities formerly closed to Church fundraisers by applying principles guaranteed in the First Amendment.

In just 14 months, 62 lawsuits have been filed in Federal courts across the country. Of these suits, 52 have been resolved in the Church's favor while 10 are still pending.

"M.F.T. leaders know what members are going through and what it's like to spend time in jail for no reason. The Church is taking the initiative to file these suits in order to help brothers and sisters feel more comfortable in their missions," Ron said.

The Beginning

When he first started, Ron worked on a regional level in the Midwest. The only city permitting fundraising at that time was Omaha, Nebraska. Minneapolis, Des Moines, Kansas City, St. Louis and Sioux Falls had all denied requests for solicitation permits. Public relations work became imperative because the total population of these cities was almost half the area in the region.

At that time there was no organized system for approaching permission problems. The only other public relations member in America was in Michigan, and it was impossible to reach her by telephone. Ron solicited the help of another brother, and together they set out for St. Louis, their first testing ground.

St. Louis is surrounded by about 90 municipalities, all of which maintain their own sort of licensing law for fundraising. The brothers began telephoning everywhere to find out the necessary steps for securing a permit. About 40 of the 90 municipalities requested advance letters be sent to the town councils for their approval.

One week later, the first answer returned. It read something like: "We would consider it an honor to welcome an organization of your stature into our community, just as long as you leave a list

of names, etc...

"We were elated thinking the following letters would be as cordial as the first," Ron remembers. "The next day nine letters arrived, all warning us that if we so much as set one foot within their city, our members would be arrested." And the rest of the letters were denials.

"Judging by the negative responses of the surrounding communities, we had little hope that the city of St. Louis, itself, would give us a permit," Ron said, "but finally they did." It read, "...as a religious organization you are, of course, aware that your activities are protected under the First Amendment from any restrictions against proselytizing or fundraising activities designed to further your religious expansion." This was the breakthrough they had been looking for.

Formerly, administrative clerks and secretaries who knew little of First Amendment freedoms had refused permission requests. With this breakthrough in St. Louis, Ron went directly to the city attorneys, who had a legal and moral obligation to instruct and advise their cities in proper procedures for handling sensitive issues.

Ron began taking the St. Louis letters to communities which had previously denied Church requests, asking them to reconsider in light of the First Amendment. Remarkably, the cities began responding. Within a week, a new pattern was developed for approaching city governments, and, as enough permits were granted to sustain fundraising, Ron began travelling to other problem cities.

The next stop was Des Moines, Iowa. Prior to his coming, Ron had made four trips from St. Louis to Des Moines in order to attend city council meetings. Each time he was denied. "Because no



Ron Troyer

pattern had been set before me, I felt inclined to experiment until the most successful strategy appeared," Ron related. "During the fifth meeting and after many letters detailing our rights, the City Council of Des Moines reluctantly gave up its ban and allowed the fundraising to begin. This was made possible by an opinion from the city attorney."

Application of Divine Principle

Soon public relations began generating more momentum, and Ron was urged to go to Minneapolis, Minnesota. When he spoke to the city attorney and explained his position, the attorney replied, "Yes, I believe you are right. Our eight-monthold ban on your organization has probably been illegal. I think we can work something out, but give me a day. There are a number of people in our city who dispute your right to exist, let alone fundraise. Please come back tomorrow morning."

When he left the city attorney's office, Ron decided he would eat at a Chinese restaurant. The outer lobby was packed with people waiting for seats, so he decided to wait in line for a single table. Almost 20 minutes later, a waiter approached him and said two gentlemen with room at their table had been watching him stand in line and wondered if he cared to join them for lunch. "This was a highly unusual request," Ron admits, "but I agreed."

"As we waited for our dinner, they asked my reasons for being downtown. I explained my meeting with the city attorney and that I wanted a permit for my Church. When I explained to them what Church I was from, they became quite interested and asked to know more. One man was a Catholic, the other a Morman, and they asked sincere, genuine questions, absent of any hostilities. By the end of the lunch we had become good friends," Ron said.

When he visited the city attorney's office the next day, he was overwhelmed when he heard the city of Minneapolis had decided to allow the Unification Church to resume solitations. As Ron left the office, he recognized two familiar faces from the day before.

"Why didn't you tell me yesterday during lunch that you work in the city attorney's office?" Ron asked.

"Well, you never asked," one of them responded.

The Church had satisfied their requirements, and they saw no reason to block its fundraising. "Instead of walking out of the



Mr. Ryoji Sawamukai and the MFT office staff.

Page 11

office, I ran out, down the hall, into a phone booth, and called headquarters to give them the good news. It was a day I'll never forget," Ron related.

Soon an elaborate system for approaching troublesome cities developed, and news of Ron's victories spread to other regions. Phone calls for assistance poured in as the need for a national meeting of PR members became apparent. After meeting in November 1976, Ron became an itinerary worker, helping public relations members apply the theory he developed in the Midwest. He spent the first half of 1977 visiting all the regions, assisting public relations members in local problems and writing a series of approach books and field manuals. By the late summer of 1977, every city that was willing to rescind their bans without a court battle had done so. Yet a report made in July indicated that over 20 million people were still inaccesible to the Church due to municipal censorships.

Legal Campaign

One of the Church's main objectives had been to avoid any unnecessary litigation. But at this point, in order to protect Father's name, the name of the Church, and to secure the rights entitled to its members, the Church began a legal campaign, filing suits against various major cities throughout the country. At a press conference in Florida, Ron cited some of the reasons for this aggressive action by the Church:

"We have been faithful and patient beyond reason with the selective and biased treatment afforded by West Palm Beach and other communities throughout southern Florida. I want to proclaim in response to flagrant First Amendment violations: our policy of tolerance has terminated.

"It has long been noted by the Supreme Court that in order for a religious organization to remain a going concern, funds are needed, and to capriciously deny this right to solicit is equivalent to denying the organization the right to exist. Obviously the Commission (of West Palm Beach) believes in the First Amendment, provided, however, it does not extend to outsiders or anything 'too controversial' for its tastes. If the First



Mr. Takeru Kamiyama is surrounded by MFT commanders and public relations members.

Amendment was only intended to protect popular causes, its very existence would prove meaningless. The principle of isolationism, which this Commission advocates, is the single greatest deterrent to the development of a new and budding religious organization such as Reverend Moon's Unification Church. These almost unnoticed violations of our rights constitute the classic First Amendment law suit.

"Such arbitrary and discriminatory practices by city officials are not new in American history. On the contrary, religious persecution and censorship has plagued every new religious group as it passed through its birth pangs on its way to prominence and acceptance. The course of the Unification Church thus far has been no exception, and indeed accentuates this even more so. Unless a firm stand is taken in opposition to administrationally

disguised religious preferences, the Unification Church, and any church for that matter, stands to lose their constitutional and God-given rights."

The first case was filed against the city of Phoenix on September 5, 1977 challenging the constitutionality of the city's solicitation ordiance. With only 45 minutes remaining before the trial, the city attorney indicated the city could not stand the challenge, and a settlement was reached out of court. Ron had gone to Phoenix twice in 1976 unsuccessfully attempting to negotiate a permit.

Describing the effect of the Phoenix victory, Ron said, "As long as we attempted to comply with the ordiance, we were subject to their rules, and even if a permit were issued, it could be revoked at any time without warning. Yet this unsurmountable barrier crumbled when

the Church brought action against them in a Federal court. It really showed me that this municipal opposition against our Church was not founded on the law, but rather was founded on bigotry, prejudices, and an unwarranted abuse of power. These cities know the law, but it took something as drastic as court intervention before they would relinquish their prohibition."

News of the success in Phoenix spread. Calls poured in from other regions, requesting legal action in some of their cities. Objective coverage by the media helped the MFT public relations members spread the precedent of the Phoenix case to other cities. Meanwhile, Ron Troyer continues in his work and feels that the efforts of the Church to gain its fundamental rights can be a meeting ground for all religious people.



'The blessing is life, love and ideal'

(Continued from Page 7)

All I am asking of parents is that they give their children a chance. Parents do not have to worry about their sons and daughters because they will soon come back to them as strong, dedicated, obedient children.

Adam and Eve should have manifested God's own love, life and ideal

Because Adam and Eve did not demonstrate their obedience and unite with God, He could not bless them in heavenly matrimony. God's love is at the center of His blessing, and because there was no way for His love to be consummated in them, God had no ways to bless Adam and Eve in heavenly matrimony.

Adam and Eve had no one to teach them in the Garden of Eden this way. They were ignorant of God's Principle. As they were approaching maturity and their sense of love came alive, they entered their teens and came to know love. Individually, a man or woman cannot realize the maturity of love, but together they can come to understand the sensation

As Adam and Eve were growing up their relationships with God were individual ones. In order to complete their separate relationships as one circle, there had to have been a horizontal realization of love. This realization is called the love

Blessed Wives offer guidance

(Continued from Page 8)

the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, so just biting the bullet and bearing the one you marry is not nearly enough. You have to find a way through unity of heart to express joy. Candidates can trust that their marriage will be beautiful if their relationship is on the foundation of both having trusted God. If we marry someone who is trusting God, that point will be a real source of unity for all future years to remember. There are many difficulties to overcome in marriage, but couples can alway come back to that fountain of trust that they felt when they received each other as a gift from God. At the time of the blessing, an individual receives his own person to love, his very own human being. That's a great gift.

"Trust God. Even if you meet the external qualifications and have 10 spiritual children and have been in the Church 15 years, the thing you want to ask yourself is can you be true to God and to your mate? That's what you have to pledge at the time of the blessing. If you can pledge to be faithful to God always, and to be faithful to your mate always and to your future children always then, no matter what storm may come, you have a very good chance to reach the harbor. Because you are determined to go there, and you are determined to take your whole family with you. You are not going to turn around until you arrive.

"No matter what we are doing now, our work is not eternal. Once the Kingdom of God is on earth, there won't even be any witnessing other than our wanting to re-witness to each other about God.

"The thing that is eternal is fatherhood, motherhood, brotherhood, and sisterhood. One day there'll be no more spiritual children at all, just children and parents. We want to learn how to internally prepare to be committed fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, brothers, and sisters.

"Spiritual children are very important because they prepare us for family life. They're like the trial run, and family life is the real thing. God is the center and the source that we can always go back to in order to reconfirm that family life as the

love, life, and ideal are individually perfected, can Adam and Eve's love, life ideal be united horizontally in the love of husband and wife. This would complete a circle as they manifest God's own love, life and ideal on the horizontal level together.

Should love be changing from morning to night? As long as God dwells in love it will be eternal, and the person who embodies it will feel responsible for his surroundings. The blessing of the Unification Church manifests the life, love and ideal of God on the physical, horizontal level. Husband and wife united become the perfect object of God, and a circuit of give and take is created between God and the couple. Here the true, ecstatic joy of God is consumated and is therefore divine and sacred.

However, false love the weapon of Satan, who uses it in impurity and absolute destructiveness. As man becomes true, unchanging, unique; and eternal in the sight of God, he becomes an embodiment of the truth and only then is he eligible to receive the blessing.

Unless you are unchanging, you are not entitled to the blessing

One should not think of his forthcoming blessing in an earthly or secular way because with holy, sacred matrimony comes sacred responsibility. Even if his head is chopped off, he must be able to say to God, "God, I am a true child in your sight. I will not change: I will be eternal; I will be unique." Unless he can pledge that, then in the sight of God, he cannot come to the ceremony of the matrimony of heaven. Only when he has that conviction is he entitled to the blessing. If someone knows the truth it will make him free as he liberates his own ignorance. He must stand firmly in the sight of God and say, "God, my Father in Heaven, look upon me as your son. You can rest in me, and you can trust me; you can depend on me. I am unchanging, eternal and unique; I represent you.'

In the Garden of Eden, God was anticipating the day when Adam and Eve would come forward saying, "God. we are your son and daughter; we will not change." On that day God would have given them His blessing, but God never

of husband and wife. Not until God's saw that day. The Unification Church wants to show that scene to God now. When men and women with that conviction are united into one, they will automatically see God coming down to dwell with them. They need not go up; God will come down.

The power of love will bring God down

The power of love will bring God down, making Him a prisoner in anyone's home. Stronger than life, love unites mind and body, men and women. Through it, God's dwelling will be with them. If God is dwelling with someone who truly becomes God's temple, when God says, "I'm so happy!", his mouth will become God's.

The most significant aspect of the blessing is that not only does one gain a husband or wife, but, more significantly, he will gain God. Husband and wife should hope that in this blessing they become the light of the universe, conquering darkness to become the source of God's joy as His son and daughter. In the same way God will reciprocate and give them sons and daughters in order to share His joy in having children.

The scene of a mother nursing her child is the most beautiful scene in the universe. As she holds that child to her breast, she should feel that she feeds the universe and breathes with it. As she smiles and feeds the baby, she should feel that she is communicating with the universe about her love, ideal and life. She can communicate through her child, who is the visible form of God's love there in her arms.

In the Garden of Eden, if God had blessed Adam and Eve, they may not have had wedding gowns or even beautiful clothes to wear. Perhaps they would have been blessed naked without shame. Had Adam and Eve been blessed, as father and mother, they would have dwelled in a place of beauty. Holding their child together, God would have moved with them wherever they went.

Eve would have praised God and her husband, singing, "My husband is the living, visible form of God. I can live with God." The baby in her arms would have been completely content. Adam, would have praised God and his wife, the manifestation of the love of God, and his

child as the promise of the future.

What about God? When a child is born, grandfather always focuses his attention on the grandchild. Likewise, when Adam and Eve looked at the child, God would have been looking over their shoulders, smiling from ear to ear. Can anyone imagine that scene: Can he become that Adam: Can she become that

Can man become shameless?

Can man become shameless before haven and earth and say to God, "Father, I have no shame in front of You; I can praise You, God, I can praise my husband or wife, and my child.'

This world is a shameful world, where no man has the power of clear conscience to look up to heaven. No man can come before God with this pride. Man must realize his shame because it is the only way he can be justified. No one is worthy or ready to be blessed. Man needs repentance for being unworthy and actually he should cry out and weep before the entire world in a flood of anguished tears. Through repentance he should win the mercy and sympathy of God. That is the only way he can be eligible for the

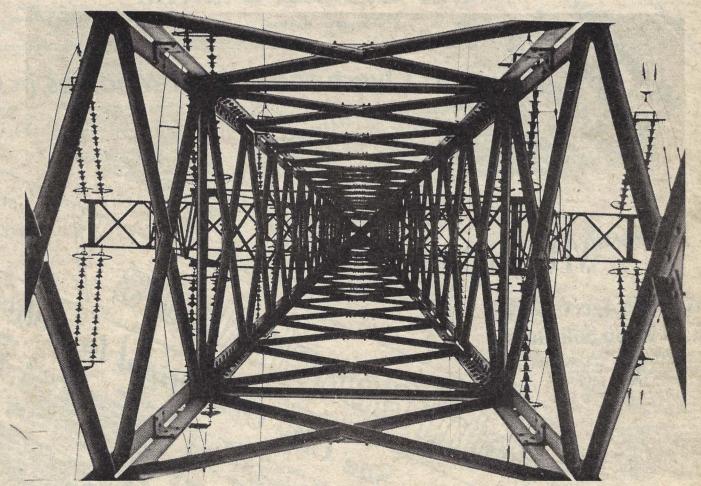
The blessing is the most precious thing and in order to be qualified for it, one should understand the truth and live it. Only repentance can cleanse someone. He should repent before the nation, his parents, himself, and above all, before

Unless he is liberated by repentance, he cannot feel true freedom or the joy of liberation. At the point of liberation, the blessing comes. Once someone tastes that liberation, the joy of giving up his sin and of cleansing himself, then no matter if it is night or day he will feel total, incredible

The Communists might conquer the free world by force, but as long as they cannot conquer the love of God, they will never conquer humanity.

Truly, the blessing of God will come to someone who is responsible for all the sufferings and sins of the world. May God bless everyone.

Thank-you.



"Where does parental love originate? Are we born with it? Do we learn it somehow, or is it automatic? It must have some universal origin. We know that this beautiful human nature was created and given because we are resultant being; we ourselves are not the cause of the universe." Father speaks on the blessing