New Zealand: Come Alive in '75

Siegrun Kuhaupt [Pintus] April 1975



Photo date and location unknown

"Come Alive In '75" is at the moment New Zealand's national slogan of encouragement to the people. We could not have thought of a better line ourselves- except perhaps "Come Alive at Number 5" (the center's address). With this "Come Alive" feeling in our hearts we went out to the people to show them the real meaning behind their slogan.

Following our 21-day condition of missioning into the night, new life in the form of brothers and sisters came to our centers. These people were often helped to come to our centers by a seagull called Jonathan, bringing his message of perfection through the world-famous movie, "Jonathan Livingston Seagull." This movie has inspired many people to think more deeply about the concept of perfection and the possibility of achieving it in this age.

After our team action down south even the slow South Island came alive and people were won for the mission. In many ways this month has been a hard struggle to conquer apathy and laziness but the general feeling now is a victorious one. In Dunedin a very moving event took place. Rosie Densham, the Dunedin

leader, introduced herself to the touring Russian Folk Ballet and was invited to meet with them.

She felt a great sadness. Lying over this ballet group and had the desire to talk with the members. Most of the young men and women did not dare talk with her. There was a strong feeling of lack of freedom and censorship in the air. She did manage to talk to one girl alone, however, and this girl was very interested in hearing about Principle and reading the pamphlet. The next day the same girl sneaked up to Rosie again.

Carrying the pamphlet with Rev. Moon's picture in her hand, she said with tears in her eyes "Papa." Although she understood very little English she knew that Rev. Moon meant liberation and freedom. Another young dancer also said he had seen a picture of Rev. Moon in a Moscow newspaper but he would not say anything more. Although Rosie will probably never see that girl again it was good that a Russian girl could already feel that the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.

With great sorrow we watched the violent advance of communism in Vietnam and how the world's leaders are blind to the cry for help in that oppressed nation.

Seeing this situation we wanted to talk with our government to impress upon them the right attitude and path to take. First of all we contacted the youngest Member of Parliament, Mike Moore, an old-world friend of one of our brothers. Two of our boys visited Mr. Moore at parliament a few times and discussed the purpose of the Unification Church and world politics. At first he couldn't see the need for any change and thought that the world was in a good state.

However, in our second meeting we were able to get into a more serious and deep discussion in which we were able to introduce him to our attitude towards world affairs. Mr. Moore asked for some literature to further deepen his understanding of our Church and we were also able to plan further meetings.

While the boys were at Parliament for the first meeting with Mr. Moore, at home we prayed that an opportunity might arise for another meeting with Gerald O'Brien. At the same time we prayed, Mr. O'Brien appeared at the Parliamentary Restaurant and recognized our two boys. Robin Bracefield, Graham Dun and I received an invitation from Mr. O'Brien to meet at Bellamy's, the Minister's Restaurant, the following night. This meeting was our most successful parliamentary meeting ever because this time we could speak plainly and openly about Heavenly Father.

Previous to our meeting, Mr. O'Brien could not see that God had a definite strategy in history but believed in a super-miraculous God. He was very interested to learn about God's heart and love and God's goal for history. We spoke about the present state of the world and the ideal ahead of us and how the ideal can only be actualized by the perfection of each individual. Mr. O'Brien accepted that he himself was one of those individuals. We told him that the formula to achieve perfection is here and we could feel that he understood what we meant. Just as we parted, Mr. O'Brien said he loved to talk to us about God and would arrange to see us again very soon. We could really feel at this moment that his heart had been moved and that when he said he wanted to meet us again he meant it from the very bottom of that heart.

While we were talking with Gerald O'Brien and Mike Moore the other parliamentarians watched in amazement to see Unification Church members sitting in their restaurant day after day. We got a friendly wave from Education Minister Dr. Amos and Minister of Justice Dr. Findlay.

We are now in the process of giving birth to the Freedom Leadership Foundation in New Zealand. Already people have come to us, knowing our anti-communist attitude, asking advice and seeking an anti-communist organization. These people are mainly older refugees from both Russia and Poland.