IOWC in France holds events in Paris and Lyon and prepares for one in Bordeaux

Mark Palmer March 23, 1976



Bordeaux, France

At the time of writing our brothers and sisters are preparing for the final festival of our crusade in France. After the two great victories of Paris and Lyon, Mr. Blanchard comes to give the citizens of Bordeaux a chance to hear the word of God for today, and to liberate and gather together those seeking the truth.

Bordeaux is not a city that one can categorize as it has many faces. To some people Bordeaux may seem like a backwater of France, old and solemn, with a heavy spirit. To others it may seem like the perfect nursery for God's children with many people seeking love and goodness. Neither view is wrong because the spiritual world is very changeable. Some days it seems that Bordeaux will be the very last place in France to be restored, while another day it may seem the Kingdom of Heaven will come from around the next street corner.

The festival here will not be like the previous two. Communist aggression is not strong and we expect a high atmosphere with many positive open-minded people present. After the mayor and many other influential people refused to host our festival Heavenly Father guided us to the most expensive and well-established hotel in the city -- le Grand Hotel de Bordeaux. The hotel was built in 1780 and sits boldly in the main square of the town. We have taken for the evening the two ballrooms and all the adjoining rooms. We shall be able to host about 400 people. The surroundings are of the highest standard, with beautifully designed ceilings, lavish cornice.,, large mirrors and glowing chandeliers. In this environment we have the opportunity of feeling a deep family spirit and unity with the guests.

The family has reached the stage now where we do not have to try very hard to attract publicity and so this festival is aiming for more long-lasting results, in the form of new family members to leave behind in France. We approach the 26th March with absolute confidence knowing that the foundation Heavenly Father is looking for is one of complete faith, and that indemnity must be paid in order to bring about another breakthrough in France. If the Paris festival can be compared to Madison Square Garden, then Lyon must have been Yankee Stadium and Bordeaux can be compared to Washington Monument!

Keeping everyone posted with news from around the nations is a little difficult as each day something new happens. For example, Mr. Johann Hinterleitner starts a new fundraising team in Toulouse while Mr. Alain Mac Leod's record-breaking team moves to Bordeaux. Mr. Manfred Litchner takes over one of the Belgium-based teams in Liege and Mr. Ovind Haugen leads the other one in Bruxelles. The fundraisers are breaking through each day and are experiencing how with God behind them there is no limit to success. They sell beautiful cards. Another idea soon to be introduced is of photograph cards; this is an enterprise originating from the Swedish family. Whatever happens our Heavenly Father is forever showing us a new way to fulfill our goal.