

## True Parents' Birthday Celebration in Korea

Hal McKenzie  
February 8, 1973



*At least 1,300 people jam auditorium at training center.*

The main hall of Sootaek-Ri Training Center was jam-packed again for our Parents' Birthday celebration on Feb. 8.

The celebration was graced by the presence of 394 blessed wives, newly returned from the field after three years of sacrificial service.

The cultural night lasted from 8:00 to 11:00 PM. People were packed onto the linoleum floor, jamming the entranceways and peering into the windows -- at least 1,300 people must have been there. Some of the skits had the audience roaring with laughter: one depicted the antics of a blessed couple's fathers in law, who just happen to be old-time enemies; and one very talented Family comedian did a sidesplitting pantomime of a poor church leader's day.



*Seoul Western Family performs.*

Singing, guitar playing, and choral groups also livened the evening, particularly a chorus of blessed children, all decked out in colorful traditional Korean costumes. Near the end of the evening Hal McKenzie sent the audience roaring again with his valiant attempt to recite a lengthy speech in Korean, hastily memorized that day. "Even though our Parents are not in Korea, we celebrate and serve them with the same heart as if they were here", he attempted to say. Afterwards six members of the Seoul Western Family sang some Western Family and folk songs. The evening ended at 11:00 PM, in time for the people to get home before the curfew.