

Canadian Family Report for August 1972

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Way of the World Correspondent to Canada



Sun Myung Moon circa 1965

What do you write about a month that has been full of rich and rewarding experiences? A month of constant activity here in Toronto that is giving positive results in many areas?

It is so difficult to express these deep feelings of growth and fulfillment in words, on paper, yet I want to share with all my brothers and sisters the joy the past month has brought to us here in Canada.

August unfolded with a long weekend retreat at Mr. Ranniste's farm near Peterborough, Ontario. Twenty persons participated, old, young, and "nearly" members and those who had heard the conclusion of the Principle. It came at an ideal time when members were ready and needing some spiritual food and an opportunity to slow down the outer activity... a necessary balance. We had the opportunity to again be in awe of the beauty and serenity of unspoiled creation. The program for the weekend was coordinated by the teaching department and included many highlights of an intense spiritual nature. Early morning prayer walks through a misty meadow down to a lake, through fields of daisies and wild grasses (and some friendly yet slightly bashful cattle); principled games of "Seekers and Finders" and "Trust" involved members and non-members on an imaginary search for spiritual children that proved to be more than just a game. One "near-member" was found that day... and we rejoiced in gaining a new brother in David Foster, a 21-year old friend of Glen Moorehouse. He is now living in the center, a "home" that is

gradually filling and expanding and nearly overflowing. Once more we begin the search for a larger center but that is difficult in Toronto because of zoning laws and prices. We know that we need much guidance in obtaining a larger center and we pray that Father will lead us soon.

We had three consecutive Saturday and Sunday lecture series in Queen's Park. Alan Wilding, Ed Alleyne and Anne Ranniste lectured on the topics, "Mission of Jesus, What is. Evil, and Spiritual Phenomena and You", respectively. The results were encouraging. About 40 people came to the lectures, some staying for the entire talk and returning to the center later on.

A poster campaign was another project that was received with mixed feelings by owners of construction sites and the public.

Another Open House was a tremendous success. Mr. Denney of the "Jesus to the Communist World Mission" spoke on the work of the mission and showed a film of Reverend J. Wurmbrand, founder of the organization. A capacity audience filled the center and the punch bowl was exhausted quickly. We had the opportunity to experience on film the suffering and agony of Reverend Wurmbrand as he was imprisoned for 14 Years under the Soviet Communists... The film itself was moving, touching both our hearts and our eyes, deepening our love for our Christian brothers and sisters.

The first publication of the Toronto family was printed this month, in the form of New Life, the first issue of a (hopefully) monthly magazine advertising the Unification Church in Toronto. Being the Publication Director, I find it difficult to say much about the magazine except the forthcoming issues will be much easier to develop after the initial "indemnity" stage is over. and my technical training at university this fall in Journalism will aid matters a good deal.

We welcomed a new sister this month. Christina Zenon, who found the Principle "the most comprehensive philosophy," she has ever encountered. Chris is mother of two active pre-teen children and is a fantastic gourmet cook. We thank Father for sending us such a beautiful new sister.

Bruce Casino sent a press release to one of the major radio stations in Toronto advertising our lectures in the Toronto parks. The result? A 22 minute interview on a Sunday morning talk show. Vince Walsh and Bruce spoke on our activities, membership and goals here in Toronto as well as a history of the movement, our first interview of its kind in the history of the Canadian movement. Keep up the good work Bruce! And we thank our Father for such opportunities to reach out to the people of Toronto.