

New Team Focuses on Commonwealth Games

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Photo date and location unknown

This month saw the establishment of New Zealand's first team. The team, emphasizing both mission and material, was established to cover the Commonwealth Games in Christchurch.

About 50,000 people from all parts of the world gathered in Christchurch for these games. The team worked from seven in the morning until seven at night for a week. In this time they spoke to thousands about the new age and Reverend Moon's mission of introducing this age to the world. One thousand copies of the introduction to Divine Principle, bound in booklet form, were sold to enthusiastic people.

Competition from many other groups was high but the seriousness and the positivity of our team won the favor of the people. As a result of team activities people have visited centers in Wellington, Christchurch and Auckland. We concentrated all our efforts on success for this team and were very pleased with the results.

The most interesting figure to receive a pamphlet was Queen Elizabeth II. Elizabeth, who was in Wellington as part of her Commonwealth Games tour, was given a pamphlet during one of her public appearances. The Duke also saw the pamphlet and seemed a little shocked at the words "A New Age Has Dawned."

Our link with the New Zealand government was strengthened when three young men visited Mr. Gerald O'Brien, a minister of Parliament. Mr. O'Brien has been studying Divine Principle and described what he has read so far as "most interesting." "I have been thinking of divine socialism for a long time. Now it is only to be seen if this ideal world of God can become a reality," said Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien is presently arranging a meeting with New Zealand's Prime Minister Norman Kirk. He is confident that a meeting can be arranged soon.

An American, contacted by a team in Santa Rosa, California, arrived at our Wellington center recently. A retired social worker, Russell Rowley spoke against President Nixon and was of the opinion that President Nixon should be impeached. After studying Principle and reading the American newspaper articles he could soon see the need to stand behind the President. He was very moved by the Unification Church's effort to help America in her time of crisis. Russell will visit the California headquarters on his return to America. He wants to help as much as possible to restore his country and the world. Many people~ especially in Wellington, know about Reverend Moon. While witnessing many people recognize us as followers of Sun Myung Moon.

It gives us great joy to see America moving more and more close to our Heavenly Father. Our prayers are with the 32-city tour -- may the mission meet with all success.

Excerpt from the *Wellington Times*

"Described generally as a kind of Korean John the Baptist, Dr. Moon's gospel is a curious blend of Christianity, Oriental family worship and stern puritan moralism.

"Currently in the United States, Dr. Moon is a big and controversial drawcard where his religion is the newest and certainly most militant.

"Footstomping and fistbanging his message of unification on his One World Crusade 'Day of Hope' tour of 21 American cities, Dr. Moon preaches that it is time to prepare for the Lord of the Second Advent.

"In fiery lectures, he preaches the demise of Old Christianity and hails the marriage of religion and science to form a world-united Christianity."