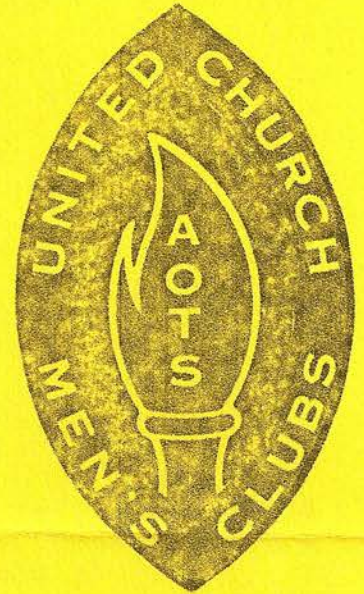


UNITED CHURCH
AOTS
MEN'S CLUBS

NEWS

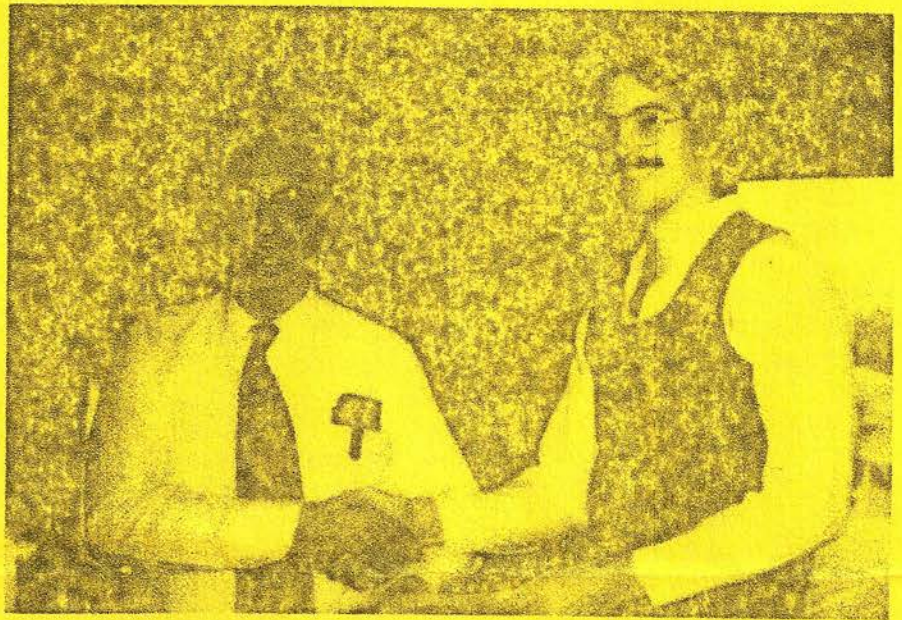


Vol.1, Number 2, December 1978

FIRST SCHOLARSHIP FROM HARRY COLNETT MEMORIAL FUND PRESENTED

Tom Ferguson, AOTS National President presents a cheque to Doug. Tanner on Oct.28,1978,at the Annual Meeting of National Council.

Two \$500. scholarships have been presented this year in support of agriculture in developing countries.



A second scholarship was presented to Ken Ryning on Nov.27,1978 at St.Andrew's Church,Edmonton. At that time Ken spoke to a gathering of Edmonton AOTS Clubs on his experience,this past summer, in Sierra Leone, West Africa, with Crossroads International.

Doug.Tanner,originally from Ayr,Ont. is working on a Master's degree at Guelph. His wife,Mary Ruth, is also working on a Master's degree. They are both interested in Agriculture in developing countries. Doug's interest stems from his participation in the Outreach work of Knox United Church in Ayr. Mary Ruth had first-hand knowledge of the contrast between developed & developing countries in the two years her family lived in Israel & Syria when her father was on the U.N. peace-keeping force.

Ken Ryning was influenced by involvement in Ten Days for world Development, Crossroads International, and living and travelling in Africa.

AOTS News - December 1978

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

May I begin by expressing my sincere appreciation on being invited to assume the Presidency of our National Association, recently vacated by Dave Murphy because of ill health.

Secondly, to express my thanks and gratitude to the members of the National Council who journeyed from all across Canada to attend our recent Annual Meeting at Cedar Glen, Bolton, Ontario. The numbers and the concern of all those who came indicates to me that there is a great dedication to AOTS and men's work abroad in our church and, with some fresh initiatives on the part of our organization at all levels, much could be accomplished to develop the work of AOTS.

If our present membership could be motivated by a sense of "Vocation", that we have a calling and the realization by each member that there is something in the 'core' of him called 'Duty', I believe we could go forward to growth.

Men may ask where to begin - where to make a new beginning - Beginning could be done by taking the search seriously, by being sincere in our search; we often turn to God for gifts, the gifts of peace, joy, love, success, and prosperity; but may I suggest our great need is for "God" himself. God has given us much more than we realize, and we are now confronted with the opportunity to look at it, and become fully aware of it - and use it.

In recent years we have heard much about the ministry of the "Laity" and ministry is one of the great concerns of our church at the present moment. But, I believe one of the weaknesses of our church is that the professionals have been allowed - or forced - to do most of the theological thinking and expected to do most of the Christian work.

The Laity is stirring, but not yet fully awake to the full meaning of "Discipleship"; what is happening, as I see it, is a widening and deepening of the Laity's understanding of Christian Responsibility, and I hope that Christian Faith and Theology will be freshly introduced in the great issues of our day through the laity who have the potential to change society.

On the nationwide scene, AOTS has a great challenge facing it, and calling for the best possible efforts in 1979; that is to make our 11th National Biennial Convention as effective and inspiring as possible. We have an energetic and dedicated group in our Convention Committee, but the success that our National Convention must enjoy requires the combined efforts of every AOTS Club and Individual Members all across our church. I believe that much depends on the success of our convention in arriving at the new initiatives needed to strengthen and broaden our National Association.

By the time this message reaches you, it will be in the Holiday Season. May I take this opportunity of expressing my sincerest good wishes to all AOTS men and their families, for a Merry Christmas, and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Yours in the Master's Service,



Thomas W. Ferguson, President

AOTS News - November 1978

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS 1979

CONSTITUTION

National Association of
UNITED CHURCH AOTS MEN'S CLUBS

Amendments

- 35. a) Amendments may originate from the National Constitution Committee, Conference and District AOTS Councils, Local AOTS Men's Clubs and Individual Members of the National Association of UC AOTS MC.
- b) All proposals for Constitution amendment shall be mailed by all originators to the National Constitution Committee with copies to the District and/or Conference AOTS Councils of which the originator is a part.
- c) Any reaction from District and/or Conference AOTS Councils shall reach the National Constitution Committee within 60 days of such mailing.
- d) All proposals for Constitution amendment must be received by the National Constitution Committee at least six months prior to the Biennial Convention at which they are to be presented.
- e) Acting in the interest of all members of the National Association, the National AOTS Council or its Executive upon recommendation from the National Constitution Committee may indicate concurrence or non-concurrence on all proposals for Constitution amendment.
- f) All proposals for Constitution amendment, including any indication of concurrence or non-concurrence, shall be circulated to every Conference and District AOTS Council, local Club and Individual Member of the National Association at least three months and to the Division at least four months prior to the Convention at which they are to be presented.
- g) All proposals for Constitution amendment must be accepted or rejected by a majority vote of the members personally present and entitled to vote, at the National Convention at which they are to be presented.

↔ Do YOU have a proposed
AMENDMENT ?

↔ Send it to - National AOTS
#602 - 70 Baif Blvd.
Richmond Hill, Ont.
L4C 5L2

↔ Note part c.

↔ This means January 1979

↔ Clubs - April 1979

↔ DMC - March 1979

↔ Who will vote for you?

6. Each affiliated United Church AOTS Men's Club, each District and Conference AOTS Council may elect two members as Voting Delegates to represent them at any National Convention. The said delegates and members of the National AOTS Council personally present at the meeting

↔ These are the Decision Makers!

of the Association during such Convention, are the only persons entitled to vote on Constitutional matters at such meetings. All persons registered may attend and take part in the discussion at such meetings, act on committee if appointed thereto, and vote on all matters not affecting its Constitution.

The National Constitution Chairman is Mr. Clare Boyd, Mitchell, Ont.
His Committee members are the members of the National Sub-Executive.

AOTS News
December 1978

A TEXAS TREAT

THE FRESHEST, MOST DELICIOUS ORANGES
AND GRAPEFRUIT THAT YOU WILL EVER EAT!!!

Wilmar Heights United Church Congregation are selling FRESH Texas oranges and grapefruit. This fruit is picked upon receipt of our order, and is shipped directly by refrigerated transport truck to us.

The tentative delivery date is the week of December 15th.

QUANTITY - 40 lb. OR 20 lb. case

ORANGES: 80 to 125 all uniform size. (Probably about 100 per 40 lb. case)

GRAPEFRUIT: 32 to 48 all uniform size. (Probably about 40 per 40 lb. case)

COST: - \$13.00 per 40 lb. case
- \$ 8.00 per 20 lb. case

SUGGESTION - Purchase a 40 lb. case of each fruit, split and mix it with friends, relatives and neighbours. Save us extra handling and save yourself money.

PAYMENT - Payment must be made in advance by cash or cheque.

We will hold your cheque until the fruit is received by you.
Make your cheque payable to:

Wilmar Heights United Church. - Projects

Put your name, address, and phone number on the back of the cheque, also what you are ordering.

QUALITY - This fruit is the best available. Last year's grapefruit were so sweet that they didn't even require sugar. Two oranges yielded a large glass of juice. People that have sold this fruit in the past have had people phoning wanting to buy more!

DELIVERY- You will be notified in person or by phone when the fruit arrives at Wilmar Heights. It can be picked up that day or evening, at the Church. We have no refrigeration facilities, naturally you will want to get it home and into your refrigerator. The growers suggest 40 to 60°F temperature, which will keep the fruit from 40 to 60 days.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Please call me at home if you have any further questions.

Fred Wentzell (757-7684) Sid Bagnall (757-1944)

This is included in the AOTS News as information for Club project chairmen.

AOTS News - December 1978

The National Council of
United Church AOTS Men's Clubs

A Report of the 1978 Annual Meeting

We gathered together -

Twenty eight men representing 78 clubs and scores of men from 12 conferences, met at Cedar Glen (Toronto Conference Retreat Centre), Bolton, Ontario for the weekend of October 27-29. Situated on a branch of the Humber River a few miles N.W. of Kleinburg, Cedar Glen provides an excellent setting for meeting and we enjoyed the privacy as well as the beautiful surroundings.

We planned -

Under the able leadership of Tom Ferguson of Trenton, N. S., and of Al Smith of Richmond Hill, Ont., we planned not only a full agenda for the two days together but for the year to come. Our program chairman, Syd Bagnell (of the Scarborough Glee Club) led us in program planning, Bob Lewis spelled out our financial needs and commitments, and each regional chairman gave us a picture of local plans. Together we sought to clarify the direction for mens' work for the next year.

We listened -

~~Two major speakers~~ provided inspiration for the group and for the clubs we represented. Rev. Bob Duthie of Victoria Ave. Church in Chatham presented ~~two~~ addresses dealing with (1) What it means to belong to AOTS and (2) What is the source of our strength. As an AOTS member who has served congregations in rural Ontario, Regina and Chatham, Bob gave us two excellent talks which pinpointed the frustrations as well as the satisfactions of "one that serves." On Saturday morning we were treated to a unique but moving talk by Cyril Perkins of the Dale Carnegie Organization. Cyril is a "new" Canadian who emigrated from the Barbados and now lives in Toronto. His "power of positive thinking" approach was developed using the objectives of AOTS and success stories drawn from sports and the business world. Not only was Cyril very positive about his religious convictions, he gave us a spirited lecture on Canadian unity.

We discussed -

Following each address we were provided with questions for discussion. Although the time was brief a valuable exchange of information of beliefs took place. In addition President Tom directed our discussion of business and administrative matters in a manner which enabled us to deal with reports from each region and committee.

AOTS News - December 1978
National Council Report Cont'd -

We decided -

As a result of our deliberations the following matters were dealt with:

- (1) the D.A. Foote competition in youth involvement will be continued,
- (2) the Youth Committee report calling for a renewal of efforts to support youth activities was accepted,
- (3) the newsletter is to be produced 4 times per year -- all clubs are requested to forward at least one news item immediately.
- (4) a finance committee is to be established to assist Bob Lewis, our treasurer, to establish policy with respect to:
 - a) fees from clubs
 - b) individual memberships
 - c) the second mile
 - d) executive members travel,
- (5) the 11th Biennial Convention will be held at the University of Toronto on July 26-28, 1979,
- (6) the national president will visit Western Canada from March 24-31, 1979. District Councils are asked to arrange meetings.

We affirmed -

On Sunday morning, Howard Brox, secretary of the Division of Mission led in worship at the communion service. Howard summarized the happenings of the annual meeting and brought into focus our affirmation of the purpose of AOTS as the movement moves into the mainstream of United Church activities among the laity. Through this affirmation he challenged the national association to seek ways:

"To promote Christian fellowship, to deepen the spiritual life of men and to develop an effective program of Christian service."

This report was presented to Manitoba District Council Nov. 6/78.

George Cordell, Man. Rep.

Murray McPherson, Western V.P.

AOTS News - December 1978

Some Members of the National Council as they relaxed over lunch.

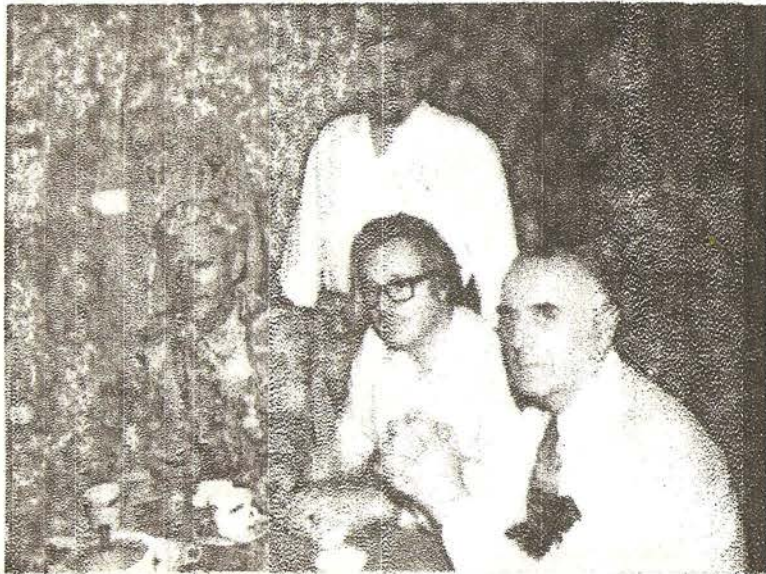


standing-
 Roger Kettle-
 Chatham, Ont.
 Jack Cleave-
 Sarnia, Ont.

seated-
 Jim Dickie-
 Edmonton, Alta.
 Reg Attwell-
 Nanaimo, B.C.
 Jack Durham-Bermuda
 John Aspin-
 Aurora, Ont.

standing-
 Phil Spence-
 Deep River, Ont.
 Malcolm MacDonald-
 Sydney, N.S.

seated-
 Bill Hastings-
 Vancouver, B.C.
 Bob Lewis-Chatham, Ont.
 Tom Ferguson-
 Trenton, N.S.



standing-
 Gord Hall-
 Waterloo, Ont.
 Jack Thompson-
 Ceehrane, Ont.
 Keith MacFayden-
 Scarborough, Ont.
 Bob Whitman-
 Toronto, Ont.

seated-
 Clare Boyd-
 Mitchell, Ont.
 Ross Agar
 Chatham, Ont.



Don't forget! THE D.R. POOLE MEMORIAL AWARDS WILL BE MADE NEXT YEAR

"GIT WITH IT, MAN, GIT WITH IT!!"

REMEMBER-
OUR-

YOUTH

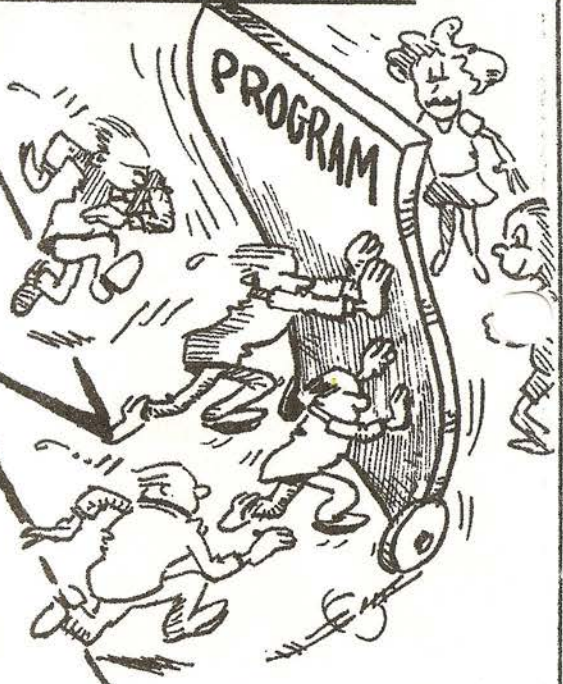
... TO-DAY
ARE THE-

CLUB
LEADERS

- OF
TO-MORROW

IS YOUR CLUB ACTIVELY
PUSHING A PROGRAM FOR
YOUR YOUTH CLUB!?

PROGRAM



AND ARE YOU -
PUSHING "UP" OR "DOWN"
IN YOUR CLUB??

HAS YOUR CLUB APPOINTED
A YOUTH CHAIRMAN-??



IF NOT---DO IT NOW!!

Polmer

AOTS News - December 1978

SOME PERSONAL & MEMBERSHIP ITEMS

In Memoriam:- Trinity AOTS, North Bay, Ont. reports the loss of two of their charter members - James Ernest Cleminson died Jan.31,1978. He was a past president of the club. William D. McLean died Sept.12. Both men were 74.

St. Andrew's AOTS, Moosejaw records the passing of a former member, Mr. Doug. Wilson.

Fairfields AOTS, Victoria, B.C. records the loss of two of their members, B.C. Bracewell, and Bob Godfrey, both of whom passed away earlier this year. They had been particularly helpful in some of the special activities of the club.

George St. AOTS, Peterborough, Ont. reports the dedication of Emberson Square in memory of Frank Emberson.

Best Wishes to several men who have been or still are on the sick list. Monty Griffin, Faith AOTS, Toronto has been in Toronto General Hospital and is presently taking treatment at Princess Margaret Hospital.

St. Andrew's AOTS, Moosejaw reports that Max Ballard is out & around again and Jack Siddeley and Jim Roe were in hospital.

Fairfield AOTS, Victoria report that Les Jarvis is recuperating from an operation at Victoria Gen. Hospital.

Past National President, Dave Murphy, had another sojourn in hospital this Fall for a gall-bladder operation.

Bruce Fowler, George St. AOTS, Peterborough has recently been in hospital with a heart problem.

Ross Adams, National Membership Chairman, has been in hospital and is still on medical treatment.

Congatulations - Several clubs are celebrating anniversaries of 20 years and more. We include three here.

Thamesview, Fullerton, Ont., had 57 men out on Nov.22. Of the original 33 charter members, 18 were out to celebrate the 20th anniversary. Also present were men from Exeter and St. Mary's. Exeter had sponsored them and they had sponsored St. Mary's. An anniversary cake, decorated with an AOTS crest was cut by the first president, Bryce Skinner. St. Paul's AOTS, Oakville, Ont., observed their 20th anniversary on October 20. 10 Past Presidents were included in the 36 members and guests present.

Esquimalt AOTS, Victoria, celebrated their 24th on October 10. They honoured their charter president and secretary, Alan Crouch and Fred White. Their speaker was Don Morton who had presented the original charter to the club.

New Ground - A new AOTS Club at Don Mills Church in Toronto will receive its charter on January 15, 1979. The club President, Clarence Cloke is a former member of Red Lake AOTS in North-Western Ontario. Regina District Council reports that the Rosemount men have had some meetings and interest is high to get a club going.

The men of Melrose Church, Hamilton, Ont., have had one meeting with the thought of starting a men's club.

Many other churches across the country are showing an interest and asking for information & material on forming a men's club.

Individual Members - Robert Heaney, PEI, is a great promoter for our Individual memberships. He recently sent in 1979 dues for 12 members. 5 of them were for new members. Thanks Robert.

AOTS News-Dec./78



St. Matthew's A. O. T. S.

* LEWISPORTE- NEWFOUNDLAND *

A.O.T.S. MEN'S FELLOWSHIP CAMP

LOON BAY, 1978

The 23rd Annual Men's Fellowship Camp, promoted and planned by the A.O.T.S. Club of St. Matthew's of Lewisporte, and held at Loon Bay on September 22, - 24, was just a tremendous weekend of sharing.

The sing-a-longs within, and without, the camp's chapel were occasions one would have to be a part of, otherwise, it would be extremely difficult to express in so many words, this inspiring and uplifting message of song.

At the morning, or evening gatherings, or yet again, in the late, late evening; as the mingling of voices float across the stillness of the camp grounds and surrounding area, is in truth, a moment to haunt one's memory for a long time to come.

The speaker for this year's camp, the Rev. A. John Roberts, of Edgewood United Church, Halifax, took as his theme address, "Living the Life," a very appropriate subject for the camp, as well as the age. Some 100 men registered for this rally from all over the Terra Nova Presbytery, but due to many unforeseen happenings, the actual attendance was held to 80.

The sermon on Sunday morning from Lewisporte's St. Matthew's was also delivered by Rev. Roberts and to a capacity crowd. His topic, "Would Jesus Go to Church Today," was well received.

The choir under the direction of Mr. Cyril Hicks was made up of some 30 men from the camp, who in their casual attire, and their mixed and dynamic voices, was the crowning success to the 23rd Men's Fellowship Rally of Loon Bay of '78.

J.C. Northcott
Secretary

AOTS News - December 1978

FROM THE ARCHIVES - Dr. Bill Hastings

As you know, come January 1979 we enter the 56th year of the AOTS movement. Historically, 56 years do not qualify us as having Archival status. History, however, has taught us that to-day's news belongs in the Archives to-morrow.

Your National Council has decided that we gather our History and place it under one roof. With this accomplished, it is then planned to take from these records memories that will please the present and inspire the future. Future AOTS men can accept these records as a challenge. Those of us who helped make this history might pause and feel that our generation gave it a good try.

With the decision to gather our past records and to file them in the Archives, the National Council had then to seek out and find a willing Archivist. May I introduce myself, Bill Hastings, as that person. It falls right in line with my major hobby, Genealogy, which has many devotees, some of whom I am sure will read this article. Plan to help me. Feel free to mail me any material from which our history is made. Those records are only gathering dust in your basement and could be lost forever once they leave your custody.

Let me share with you something from my basement dated November 1940. The publication is the original "Handshake" described on the front page as the "Official Organ of the Central Council of AOTS Clubs". Note that there is no B.C. in the title. At that time the AOTS movement had not spread past the B.C. borders. The article, though dated Nov. 1940, carries the spirit of AOTS and could be applied to-day. GIL LISTER, CHAIRMAN, INTER CLUB AND EXTENSION SPEAKS --

"At the Annual Convention last Spring the Central Council came into being. The main purpose to which it owes its birth is that we may better serve the clubs outside the Greater Vancouver Area.

Although we find most men busy with their everyday tasks and other clubs and organizations, we feel that the church must hold its rightful place in the Community life. To do this, it must have some organization other than church boards, through which not only the members of the congregation may express their views, but all men in the Community that wish to serve in the advancement of the better things of life".

The article goes on with ways and means to achieve this goal of spreading the word. From here the AOTS clubs spread throughout B.C. and then throughout this great land of ours. Nothing has changed. We are still busy with many other things but we still know that there is that need in the lives of all men to serve in a Christ-centred movement like AOTS.

As AOTS men you must be interested in AOTS History. Have you read "The First Half Century Of United Church AOTS Clubs" by W. Jack Banks? Copies are still available from our Exec. Secretary Al Smith. May I suggest you buy a copy and present it to a friend who is no longer active in AOTS but would love to relive some of the good old days.

editor's note-Bill's address is - 803 Younette Dr., West Vancouver, B.C.

V7T 1T1

AOTS News - December 1978

THE SCARBOROUGH AOTS GLEE CLUB CELEBRATE 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

The high vaulted ceilings of magnificent Timothy Eaton Memorial Church resounded with hymns of thanksgiving on the evening of Oct. 22/78 when the Scarborough AOTS Glee Club marked 20 years of Christian Service in Song. More than 1200 worshippers attended the celebration and raised voices with the Glee Club for the singing of many great old hymns. Friends from near and far made an effort to be present to congratulate the Leader, Sid Bagnall, the choristers, accompanist, Mrs. Ruth Butt, soloist, Mrs. Bette Davis, and Business Manager, Lorne Thornley, who have served the organization so faithfully and well.

Presiding at the mighty organ was Mel McGrath who worked harmoniously with Ruth Butt at the piano and Ivan McWhirter on percussion. To mark the occasion, Berkely Studios were on hand to tape the service in hopes that a permanent record could be made on an L.P. Record.

Commencing the order of service was an impressive proclamation sung by the Glee Club from the balcony at the rear of the church, after which the men processed the long aisle to the chancel and took up position facing the congregation.

The Call to Worship and Prayer of Invocation were given by Rev. Harold Frid of Zion-Wexford United Church.

Anthems such as "Go not far from me O Lord" and "With a voice of Singing" were interspersed with Scripture read by Lorne Thornley, the Pastoral prayer by Rev. Lucyk and a collection of fine old hymns sung with enthusiasm by all present. The choir's soloist, Mrs. Bette Davis, presented the solo, "The Voice in the Wilderness". Rev. Lucyk, Minister of TEM Church warmly welcomed those attending.

Rev. E.J. Kersey, of Hamilton Conference, and long-time friend of the Glee Club, being the former minister of Wilmar Heights U.C. where the choir has practised weekly over the years, spoke with feeling of the contribution made by the men of the choir. He paid tribute and gave thanks for the years of service in song which the men and women performing had unselfishly offered. Along with reminiscences of happy events, Ted made special mention of former members who had died and were remembered with esteem.

The program would not have been complete without the rousing Glee Club rendition of the Battle Hymn of the Republic and the choir recessed to "Lead on O King Eternal".

A time of great reunion was experienced afterwards when the Flora McCrae Hall was the scene of a large reception for friends when the Glee Club Ladies were hostesses for the tea hour attended by some 800 guests, many coming some distance to help mark the occasion.

Phil Spence congratulated the Glee Club and summed up the contribution it had made to AOTS and to the church and community as Christian ambassadors. He singled out Lorne Thornley and presented him with an AOTS Life Membership in the National Association for his outstanding devotion and tireless work both as a member and business manager of the Glee Club since its inception and as a Past President of the National Association of United Church AOTS Men's Clubs.

PROGRAMS & PROJECTS ETC.

Carberry AOTS in Manitoba has as one of its projects a massive barbeque as part of the Carberry Fair. This is a big event in which the AOTS men serve hundreds of persons who attend the annual fair. The men of the church and community co-operate to make it a highlight of the 2-day gathering.

Windsor Park AOTS, a relatively young club in suburban Winnipeg, are piloting an idea of suburban-central core interaction by providing a Christmas concert-party in the core area of central Winnipeg. The leadership and support is coming from Windsor Park and an attempt is being made to develop the self-help concept. The Manitoba AOTS District Council is watching and eager to see what the results will be.

Wilmar Heights AOTS, Scarborough, Ont., and St. Andrew's, Moosejaw, are two clubs that sell Canada Savings Bonds as a Financial project. With many people rolling over earlier series, this was a good year for selling bonds. Rumour has it that Wilmar Heights made over \$1000. on their bond sales this year.

George St. AOTS, Peterborough, sponsored an "Educational Seminar" in November. It was a panel discussion on the topic "Values Education-Family, School and Community".

Fairfield AOTS, Victoria, has contributed \$100, in support of a student, who will be working in India under the auspices of Crossroads International. Lisbeth Vanden Bosch will be working abroad as part of her preparation for a medical career in one of the developing countries.

The Brechin AOTS had Father McConnel & Rev. Lucy speak to them earlier this year on the joint Roman Catholic/United Church being built at Wellington. This same club was fortunate to have access to a quantity of alder trees. After rounding up chainsaws, trucks etc. the trees were cut down and into short lengths and sold without splitting. Most of the orders were received from members of the congregation. One hard day's work resulted in a profit close to \$500.00.

Riverdale Club in Toronto have voted up to \$300. to buy paint to re-decorate the basement walls of the church. It is expected to recruit enough men of the church to do the work.

Sid Bagnall and his Entertainment Committee for the upcoming AOTS National Convention are studying the possibility of compiling a Convention song-book that can also be available for club use.

Rexdale AOTS, Toronto, have an annual pot-luck Christmas Party each December. The catch is that you don't get in without paying up your next years membership dues. They don't have a copyright on the idea so use it, if you so desire. It really works for them.

THE 11th BIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED CHURCH AOTS MEN'S CLUBS should be the focus for all Clubs and Individual Members in 1979. As you should know, it will be held at the University of Toronto, July 27-29, 1979. Rev. Maurice Boyd of London, Ontario will be the guest speaker. Plans are made for the ladies & children as well as the men, so bring the whole family. Publicity and registration forms will be out early in January. See you there.

AOTS News - December 1978

District, Conference & Regional Gatherings -

Peterborough Presbytery were hosted for their AOTS Rally by the Lakefield AOTS. Dr. David Stewart of Trent University gave a presentation of "Renaissance". He brought forth much food for thought, e.g. "Is the school an extension of the home? We must rediscover the good things we have lost sight of. Do you agree that you must lower your standards to ease your conscience? etc."

Hamilton Conference Men held their annual Make It Happen meeting at Wellington Square Church, Burlington. The program (on Project North) was informative and interesting, the discussion stimulating. Unfortunately, the attendance of about 41 was half that of 1977.

The Toronto Conference annual AOTS Fall Rally was hosted by the Mt. Dennis AOTS. The attendance was low here too (46) but the program was well received. Rev. Lorne Walsh, Executive Secretary of Toronto Conference led in a leadership development program on "Lord, Why Me?"

The Tri-County District Council (Essex, Kent, Lambton) of London Conf. held their annual rally at Park St. Church, Chatham, on Nov. 18. The theme was "Canadian Unity". 6 Chatham teachers presented a review from the time of the first settlers to the present, with emphasis on emergence of issues of possible separation by Quebec. Rev. Guy Deschamps, French-English relations officer for the United Church outlined a role for the church in the Canadian Unity debate. About 70 men attended the event.

The Belleville Presbytery annual AOTS Roundup was hosted by Westminster AOTS of Belleville. Nearly 100 men were present for the supper and the evening program on November 18th.

Renewal Day at First United Church, Waterloo, Ont. was a community church event for men and women held on Oct. 21. Rev. Gordon Williams and Rev. Larry Marshall provided the inspirational background on the theme "Focus on Christ". Three distinct areas of renewal were discussed - Experiencing Christ, Growth in Christ and Sharing Christ.

The Stanhope Men's Annual Conference (the 23) was held at Abegweit Camp, P.E.I. on Sept. 16 & 17. About 60 men heard Rev. Lester Settle, Truro, N.S. speak on the theme, "The Holy Spirit".

COMING EVENTS

March 11, 1979 - Toronto Conference Jr. Choir Festival at Asbury and West United Church sponsored by the Toronto Conference AOTS Men's Club Council. Sid Bagnall planning chairman for the Festival.

March 31, 1979 - B.C. AOTS Roundup. Gordon AOTS Club, Victoria, will be the host club. A committee of A. Silman, chairman and Dick Wade and Bob Norris will work with the Gordon AOTS in organizing the Roundup.

April 27-29, 1979 - Kamloops-Okanagan Men's Conference will be held at Sorento. Rev. Wes. Maltsaid is the guest speaker. Hank Woodland is chairman of planning.

April 27-29, 1979 - Ontario AOTS Roundup at Geneva Park, Orillia. Mr. Ernie Hollands is the guest speaker on the theme, "Your Christian Outreach". Mr. Hollands is an ex-convict who has spent 25 years of his life in various prisons in Canada and the USA.

May 4-6, 1979 - Coastal Christian Men's Conference at Trinity Western College near Langley, B.C. The Rev. Albert Baldeo, St. James Church, Edmonton, will speak on the theme, "Rise Up, O Men of God". Registrar is Chas. Lucas, 7781 Elwell St., Burnaby, B.C., V5E 1M1.

June 8-10, 1979 - The 27th Annual Muskoka Men's Conference (formerly Keswick-Elgin House). Only one weekend this year compared to two in former years. Speaker is Rev. Bruce MacDougall, Executive-Director of Faith at Work, Canada. Chairman of Planning is Mr. Jack Glenn, Box 254, Winona, Ont., LOR 2L0.

NATIONAL AOTS NEWSLETTER

Here is the second edition of our National AOTS Newsletter. It is nearly a month late on our projected mailing date but hopefully we will do better next time. The mailing target for the next issue is February 15, 1979, so let's get some news in as early as possible in January.

This issue of the Newsletter has been printed in the AOTS National office. The quality may not be the best but the cost will be lower. Our thanks to all those who supplied material even if we didn't make use of it.

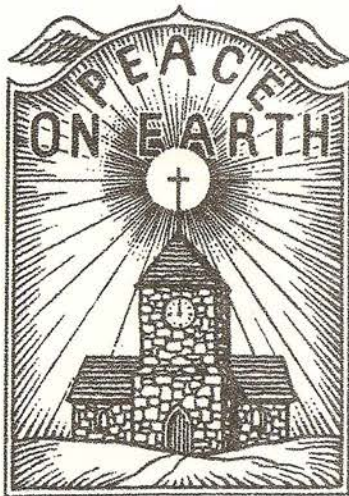
Distribution is a problem. We want everyone that will read the Newsletter to get a copy. But! We don't want the expense of printing and mailing copies that will not be read. You can help us there. We have received very few requests for a change from the 5 copies that were sent to each affiliated club last issue. This time extra copies will be sent to clubs that requested more and to some more isolated clubs. Extra copies will be sent to District Councils and National Council Members for distribution to clubs in their area that wish more. Let us hear from you so the best possible distribution plan can be worked out. We would be interested in knowing the date you receive them. It would give us an idea on delivery time-lag.

Correspondence for the Newsletter or any other AOTS matters should be sent to Al Smith, AOTS Executive Secretary, #602 - 70 Baif Blvd., Richmond Hill, Ont., L4C 5L2. Phone 416-883-4001. Communication re AOTS going to the United Church Division of Mission at 85 St. Clair Ave., East, has to be passed on to me for action and is thus delayed.

SUPPLIES - The price list in the August issue of the Newsletter is still valid except for Past President pins. The price on them is now \$4.50 each.

A new up-dated promotional pamphlet, "You Were Asking About AOTS" is now available free of charge.

Your National Executive brings you "CHRISTMAS GREETINGS".



Kenneth Lane Ross Adams
Robert Wile Alex Darrell
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J. W. Deftor L. Gardout Hau
Sid. Dagnall John Spin
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al Smith