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LETTERS AND REPORTS

Amsterdam, Holland

Hans Van-Koningsbruggen

Dear Family: Our Leader and his party spent two days here in Holland. Although he is gone physically, he is still with us in spirit.

There have been some big changes after the visit of our Leader and Mother. We now have two blessed couples in Holland. Teddy and Pauline Verheyen and Johan and Elke Van der Stok. In the Center we have four nations altogether, Germany, America, South Africa, and, of course, Holland.

June Darby is no longer with us. She had to go back to England and help the English Family. We enjoyed the nine months she spent with us.

Johan and Elke have established a Center in Utrecht. They found a room with a kitchen. The rent is free if Elke helps with the cleaning. Only students live there. We all pray they will be very successful in the fulfilling of their heavenly mission in that city. We now have three Centers in Holland: Amsterdam, Laren, and Utrecht. The three positions have been set now. Our physical foundation is becoming much better.

We now have a second-hand police truck, bus. There is a table and a light inside the bus and we can teach Principle in the bus. We plan as a group to use this bus for many things.

We now are trying to get a permit for street preaching. Our witnessing is becoming much easier. In the last month we have had over 30 people seem to be more open now. This is a record for Holland. We have given out (by hand) and mailed out almost 1000 handbills in one month.

Everyone here is working very hard to establish our Father's kingdom on earth. We all send our love to each of you. In our True Parents' Name, the Dutch Family.

*

Toronto, Canada

Peter Golding

Greetings from the Frozen North! Just a line of two or three to keep you informed on the situation in Canada. All is well! Alan came back to us about

a week before we moved. It is good to hear his cheery Lancashire accent about the house again! We also have an addition to the Family, Marvi Rorasten, a young lady of Estonian extraction. With a name like Marvi what can we call her but 'Marvellous' which she truly is!

We moved on the 15th of June to our new house. It is a commodious and well-aspected house in the street next to Yorkville Avenue, the hippy centre. The house has been newly decorated and has a good "feel" about it although the rooms are quite small. Vince and Alan worked violently and valiantly to restore order out of chaos after the move, and the house is becoming quite habitable. I have nothing but praise for these noble lads who gave their all to make the place comfortable for me to live in.

We share the house with other tenants: a tribe of large, black ants who inhabit the kitchen.

The date that we moved was exactly one year after Marie and Linna left the States for Canada. How about that for a coincidence?

With the addition of Marvi, the group now numbers seven. We will soon be eight. Bob Duffy, a Canadian expatriate, will soon be arriving in Toronto from England. We have had good reports about him.

Four people are studying with us at present, some of whom are promising. Oh yes, and Penoff the Bulgarian stayed at the Centre for a few days. He liked us but he didn't like our floor (for sleeping on).

We celebrated World Day on June 15th by going to a wonderful Chinese restaurant. Then we went back and had our service, followed by 'entertainment.' The 'entertainment' consisted, among other things, of a melodious rendition of hymns and Family songs by that world-famous trio, the Three Indemnities, (Alan, Vince and I) and a recital by me of the 'Ballad of Sir Patrick Spens' in Scots dialect.

Last month was 'Speak with Authority' month. We endeavored to witness and teach with authority, to be less half-hearted and wishy-washy than we have been. Vince and Alan certainly achieved this aim by speaking to a group of about twenty people in an Anglican church. The subject was 'The Invisible World' and six people were interested in the Principle. These six people will be holding discussion groups about spiritualism and the spirit world as a result of their hearing about Principle.

Vince particularly wished me to mention that when he spoke at the Anglican church he approached them. This may indicate that a more aggressive approach does pay off. These church people were very pleased that he asked them.

We went up to Matt Smith's residence in the countryside near Toronto. The day was brilliant; we had a barbecue picnic, and listened to Matt Smith speaking about our Leader.

We have been holding sessions of practice teaching which have been useful to us, all we have to do is improve! I hope that all goes well with you down there. My best wishes go with you.

*

St. Louis, Missouri

Vivien Burley

Dearest Family: You are often in my thoughts and I miss everyone and the Center life a great deal. We cannot appreciate the privilege of living in a large Center, until we are away or alone, because it is in our life together that the Principle takes form and becomes alive. I see more and more clearly the importance of establishing a strong and pure pattern for our lives: our dedicated work, our prayer life, and our relationships to God and to each other are the strongest witness of the truth that we are offering to all men. I am so very grateful for all the time I have spent at the Washington Center. When I talk to people, I know that I can direct them to a place where they can see the reality of what they hear. I have also been thinking a lot of how it must have been in the early years of the Principle, what great sacrifice and indemnity had to be paid by Miss Kim and the early members in establishing a pattern, to make anyone believe that here, indeed, was a new hope for all. At that time there was nothing to point to. Those who heard had to accept purely on the basis of the word. What great faith this required! Therefore, I feel such gratitude to all the early members, and often find new strength and inspiration through their perseverance and faithfulness.

I have been here almost 2 weeks now and life is settling down into some sort of pattern. As you probably know, I live with Fred and Jacque Stock. Their house is in one of the suburbs of St. Louis, about 20 minutes by car from the Washington University, the largest campus around. There is also a new Community College nearby which is attended mostly by St. Louis residents whereas the University attracts students from all over the country. Up to now, I have done most of my witnessing on these two campuses, both of which have full summer sessions.

Because many students don't have cars, or work at night, it is difficult for them to come to evening lectures. Therefore, I try to teach them right on campus whenever they have time between classes, or on their lunch hours. Many of them study on the grass, and thus it is easy to talk to them. In this way several people have started hearing Principle.

We also have a regular Tuesday night lecture at the Stock's house. This last Tuesday we had our first meeting, to which two people came. One of them had already heard Chapter One on campus, but wanted to hear it again. We also want people other than students to attend these lectures.

Washington University is a more sophisticated, liberal active campus. Many students are atheistic or agnostic and find the concepts of God and good and evil difficult to talk about. There are also a lot of students who use drugs. I get more and more worried about how the drug problem is mushrooming in our cities. We must reach these people quickly before the best minds of America are destroyed. Not only is LSD used widely, but the more powerful drugs are more and more common, and students freely talk about taking them.

Another area I have been trying to witness in is the churches. We heard about a Pentecostal Catholic prayer group, similar to the one we know about in Washington, and went there last Saturday. It was a very good opportunity to meet many seeking people. The meeting was attended by all denominations. It was a very spontaneous group—many offered prayers or started songs and one felt a lot of spirit. Also during the meeting all those who were new had to introduce themselves and tell why they were there. In this way I could know more about whom I might approach. There were quite a few former nuns there, who have only recently left their orders. Several of them I talked to said that they felt that God had pushed them out. They felt they needed to serve Him in a broader way, that their order was too narrow. One former sister invited us to attend another small prayer meeting at a friend's house the following Monday. They have these prayer meetings and discussions in small groups in different people's homes during the week. These prayer meetings have sprung up spontaneously without any formal plan. It was a moving experience. Fred and I went and there were three women: one sister and two former sisters. Each told something of his background, and this resulted in our talking a lot about our group in an indirect, but also strong way. These people all feel very strongly that God is working in new ways and that His Spirit is being poured out to bring people together. Their favorite song is "Spirit of God."

It was wonderful to have Anne here for a few days. She was such a support and together we were able to do twice as much. We spent all yesterday

witnessing, then went to Holy Ground to pray. We were sitting under some trees, singing "Spirit of God," when a boy and girl walked up. We told them about the Principle and they told us to go down the hill, to where a friend of theirs was camping in a thicket of trees, and tell him. We went and found a boy in a hammock, reading the Book of Mormon. We started talking, and taught Chapter One. After that he came home with us and heard up to Chapter Ten. Tonight he came back and heard the rest. He has suffered a lot in his life and has been searching very deeply for a long time. He was very moved by the whole Principle. I pray that he can realize the truth of what he has heard, and put it into action.

I am now working part time two to three days a week for about six hours a day. I do house cleaning for several ladies in the area. This leaves me flexible to earn a little money, but at the same time do the maximum in witnessing and teaching.

We have our family worship service on Sunday evenings and everyone takes turns in leading. Fred is really working hard to establish a routine and disciplined pattern so that the importance of the Principle can be felt more strongly. In our worship service we have been reading sermons from the newsletter, particularly on witnessing. We are also trying to learn some of the songs, many of which are unknown here. After the service we will spend some time reading through the new book. I see more and more the importance of studying and knowing the Principle in every part of one's being. Otherwise, when we talk to people, we don't have the power to speak with authority and conviction. As Miss Kim once said, "We must become the Principle." It is by studying, teaching, witnessing and living it, that it will become part of us.

Dear Family, I thank you for your support and prayers. It is a constant source of strength to know that in many places, in small and large groups, brothers and sisters are working for this cause: to bring the Father's heart to His children. I am so very grateful for this experience in the field, for it is teaching me a lot about personal responsibility, prayer, and the suffering and loneliness of God. If we think of this, then we will find new strength every day, and a positive joy and determination to conquer our enemy, no matter how difficult. I know that by doing our part, we will bring victory and glory to God.

I send my love to you all, especially Miss Kim and thank you for all your love.

*

Los Angeles, California

Jon Schuhart

To our Family near and far: We send you our deepest love and constant prayers for your continued success of spreading His truth that all may hear and become part of the building of His Great New World.

Here in Los Angeles, our Family is growing at steady rate with more and more people moving into the Center and less and less space for them. We have been constantly looking for a larger home for about five months with little success. Property is very valuable in Los Angeles and is selling at a high price. Also there are only certain areas we can buy in because of the zoning. But we are confident that we will soon find a place that will be adequate for the Father's work. We would greatly appreciate your prayers for our rapid success.

We have been very successful on the campuses with our Unite Club and now that many colleges are out for the summer break we have started other activities to take its place.

We start with the "Family of Man" discussions which take place on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. So far this has proved to be very successful with a great response from the young people, and it has stimulated many inquiries about the Unified Family. These meetings are led by Jon who begins with a talk on the "Universality of Man," which is followed by open discussion of "The Family of Man."

At the end of our discussions we move into the New Life Workshop which has recently made its comeback. It has been over a year since we last held the workshop, but now we have decided to try it again with many new improvements. The project we have decided upon is to do a play which will deal with the course of restoration leading to the present.

We celebrated World Day this year outside amid the creation: morning services were held at the Holy Ground followed by family breakfast in the park. Most people then left for witnessing, returning for dinner. We then shared in discussion and fellowship together giving and feeling the joy and love of this most beautiful day. It is always a great joy to see and feel the excitement which a new member feels on our days of celebration. The expression of their thoughts brings hope to one's heart for their steady growth in understanding our tremendous mission. Their tears are evidence of their realization of God's heartache and sorrow for His children. It is good to know that there are those who understand and feel the heart of the Father and know His truth.

Ray Barlow and Judi Culbertson are preparing to leave on July 3 to a mission to Phoenix, Arizona. They will be opening a new Center there to begin the work of our heavenly Father. We send them off with our prayers and hope for their great success.

Bob and Shirley Spencer and their two children Bob and Jim visited us this month from Denver, Colorado. We were so glad to be able to see them and to discuss and study the Principle further and join our hearts and minds closer together.

We have many new members here in Los Angeles since we last wrote a report. They are: Charles Wright, Allen Goldberg, and Kathie Davis, all of whom are now living in the Center. Mary Gutierrez, James Ulatowsk, Charles Pfaff and Marion Eno live in the Los Angeles area.

We close now giving thanks to our heavenly Father for the life he has given to us. May we return it to him through our service.

*

Barcelona, Spain

Ursula Schuhmann

Dear Family: Today I would like to tell you about those memorable days when I had the privilege of accompanying our Leader's party in Spain.

Upon short notice informing me about the change in the schedule, I left Barcelona for Madrid on March 18 in order to meet our True Parents, who were to come there from Lisbon, several weeks earlier than expected. When their flight number was finally announced I rushed to the customs hall to look for them. The first one I saw was our Mother, heading for a bench inside the hall. Immediately I knocked on the glass wall which separated us and waved until she looked up and smiled at me. I'll never forget that moment! I then shook hands with Mr. Eu and Mr. Kuboki. Our Leader and Mrs. Choi had remained upstairs to make hotel reservations and joined us later. It goes without saying that I was overwhelmed to see them again.

Unfortunately it was raining when we drove to the Hotel Amberes in the heart of the city where we rented three double rooms. In a closeby Chinese restaurant we made some plans and discussed also the situation in Spain. After lunch we saw a film "Grandfather Made in Spain" which reflected some of the problems of the local society.

When we arrived at the Holy Ground in Retiro Park, the bench under our tree was already occupied by a young couple and finally we had to ask them to leave, as we wanted to pray there. Our Leader wrote some words on a piece of bark and handed it to me as a much cherished souvenir.

The following day we hired a car with a driver. Our first stop was at the King's Palace with its large collection of mediaeval armor, especially of King Charles II (who ruled Germany, Spain and Holland as Emperor Charles V at the time of Luther.) At noon we left for Toledo, the former residence of the Spanish kings (about 51 km from Madrid). From a mountain top we had a marvellous view of that ancient town with its many towers and palaces, separated from us by the deep excavation of the Tajo River. The most popular person there with all the tourists was undoubtedly Mr. Kuboki with his Polaroid camera!

As the bullfights were cancelled that day, we headed for a theater to see two Spanish musicals. The climax of next day's sightseeing was the famous Prado Museum with its great paintings of Velazquez, Goya, and El Greco. Then a quick walk through a big department store, back to the hotel, and then off to the airport where our planes were scheduled at about the same time. So I said good-bye to everybody, but fortunately only for a few days, as I was to meet our Parents and their party again in Germany.

*

Berkeley, California

Dan Fefferman

Dear Family: We have finally settled in our new Center! The more we get to know our new physical home, the more we realize what a great blessing Father has given us. Our house is big, warm, bright, and well built—a strong physical base for spiritual expansion. We are now busy with the finishing touches: the girls have been making curtains while the boys have been digging up the old lawn and planting a new one. After many hours of hard work, Roger has succeeded in restoring our doorbell.

There are fourteen of us now living in the Center. The newest addition is Sue Hughes, who moved in shortly after her eighteenth birthday. Most of us are working full time this summer (rather than going to school) in an effort to strengthen the Center's financial foundation.

In addition to our new home, Father has blessed us with a heavy teaching schedule. We have developed a "three-pronged" witnessing campaign aimed

at single working people, black brothers and sisters, and students (witnessing in the shopping centers, ghettos, and on campus, respectively). The three-pronged attack has begun to bear fruit: an increasing number of people have been coming every week to hear the first lecture. Attendance at our on-campus meetings has also been increasing, and we are anticipating the start of our two Free University courses this quarter.

Neil Winterbottom dropped in about two weeks ago with a family he had just finished teaching from Oregon. Neil should be staying with us "about a fortnight" as soon as he returns to Berkeley. Also, Gay Frizzell has returned to California after meeting Principle in Austria. Gay lives quite some distance from Berkeley, but we are looking forward to her being able to spend some time perhaps on weekends with us here at the Center.

It is truly wonderful when one realizes that there are warm people like you throughout the whole world. May the bond of love between us grow stronger and closer as we continue to do Father's work.

Sincerely in the name of the True Parents.

*

Los Angeles, California

Joseph Sheftick

On May 18, I attended a meeting of the Los Angeles Association of Lay People, at which Father Charles Davis spoke. The L.A.A.L. is a branch of the national Catholic lay group in America which is opening its doors to new ideas and concepts about the Church and its ideology.

Mr. Davis, who left the Catholic Church in 1966, stated that the Catholic Church is not the kingdom, and that there is great need for a structural revolution throughout society. He stressed that this must be accomplished outside of the Catholic Church. One must make an active commitment to truth for without truth one cannot know love. Truth and love are mutually dependent because knowledge is gained by participation. Participation must bring about a new religious language. This upheaval to bring about renewal may be inspired by the Holy Spirit. Society he stated has been produced by evil men. The kingdom will come in the future when a higher teaching may come from the unlikely source.

Not all of those present at the meeting, religious and lay people, completely understood Mr. Davis' message that the Catholic Church is no longer the answer.

*

Laren, Holland

Elke Van der Stok

Before the arrival of our Master in Europe most of the people we had invited to hear the Principle put us off at the last moment with "I cannot come." Yet, after the visit of our Leader in Laren, many people asked us when they could come to hear the Principle. Our contacts are always elder persons; the younger people we advise to visit the Amsterdam-Center of the newly opened Utrecht Center.

Saturday, April 19th, we celebrated Parents Day in the Amsterdam Center. Thursday, April 24th, we had a Center Leaders Meeting in Laren. Sunday evening, May 4th, Gertrude and Peter Koch came to Laren to take leave of Elke and Johan. Gertrude and Peter will move from Essen to Vienna.

Wednesday, May 7th, Elke and Johan Van der Stok started their Utrecht Center in a one room apartment. On May 15th they moved to a two room (room and kitchen) apartment.

In general, Gieta is studying Principle and tells other lady friends about it. Erik Jan tries to make contacts in the Army in Assen, and Mrs. B. Luning put the chapters 8 to 12 (revision) on stencil and took the last issue of Chapter One to her home to put it on stencil. Furthermore regularly ladies visited Moes by day to hear parts of the Principle.

*

Washington, D. C.

Hillie Smith

Dear Family: Jim Cowin and Hal McKenzie from Philadelphia have joined us in Washington temporarily. In six weeks Jim returns to Philadelphia, and in a week or so, Hal will leave for Hartford, Connecticut to work with John Harries for a while. We were all very happy to meet Philip's family who were visiting from California. Philip's sister, Rita, stayed with us after the rest of his family left, and we have all enjoyed getting to know her. Galen and Patty Pumphrey's son, Richard Parks came to Washington for several weeks and brought us news of the Denver Center, and Maria Pasdher is here for the entire summer until she returns to City College of New York in the fall. Sandy Hinton, a brother from St. Louis is also visiting.

The Family is teaching through the Free University three nights a week at the University of Maryland summer session. This continues to be a successful project. Through the campus work a new Center has opened in College Park,

Maryland, near the University! Barry and Marilyn Cohen, Carolyn Libertini and John Fitzpatrick are working there. (Monsay!)

Last night (July 9) we were happily surprised to hear from Pat and Glo Sheerin who came to Washington unexpectedly from Lowell, Massachusetts. (Pat has just returned from Vietnam). We are truly grateful to Father that three of our brothers have returned safely from V.N. (The others are David Flores and Ernie Stewart)

Recently a most successful training session was held at headquarters. Many new, nearly new, and older members attended. We received deep inspiration, especially from a "Teach-in" which was held Saturday night after the prayer meeting. Chapter 12 was selected for practice teaching, and each section of the chapter was taught by a different member. It was great to hear the conclusion again in such a large group of Father's Family!

I think it is easy to get discouraged about the work we are doing when we realize how many people have yet to be reached. But, on the other hand, we have reason to be most encouraged when even one person comes to know Father through the Principle. One person's life is so valuable to Father and may be so important to His work that what seems a small accomplishment becomes a great one. I sometimes recall my own life before I found the Family and realize what a total transformation has occurred in my feelings, attitudes, and actions. Then I know that even one person's coming is no small thing, that a life has actually been retrieved from Satan and has become an instrument through which Father can work. Our grateful prayers are with you, Family-in-the-field! One by one Father's entire Family is coming home, thanks to His love and tireless effort. In this month, which marks the founding of this nation, we join you in special prayer for our country, asking Father to preserve her life and the freedom which makes it possible for us to work so aggressively and openly for Him.

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ARTICLES

A Sermon

Carroll Ann Dobrotka

"Nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known."

Let's use this quote from Matthew as a starting point to speak of growth. Look first at growth in the natural world: a seed is hidden in the moist dark soil. Warmed by the sun and nourished by the rain, a tiny sprout forms and feeds upon nourishment within the seed. Eventually, this sprout thrusts forth from the seed as a shoot. With continued rain and sunshine the shoot matures into a tulip or crocus or poison ivy or oak tree. The plant eventually reproduces of its kind and then physically passes completely away into the soil. Nothing has been wasted, every part of the plant tissue has played a constructive part; whether, in its own growth and development, or, after its death, in nourishing the soil.

Granted, our own character growth is more complicated than the automatic growth of natural life. But I think we can make two important observations about natural growth which are also applicable to our own character growth: (1) that growth is an inside out process, a thrusting outward of what is inside, (2) that growth is meant to use all of the organism; the organism is meant to consume itself, so to speak, in its growth and functioning so as to waste nothing.

To see what these two observations mean more fully, let's look at growth in the satanic world and in Principle.

Most of us have experienced some degree of emotional deprivation. I have very few memories of warmth or love or of anything at all concerning my parents till about age ten. I do recall the desperate frustration of wanting to hug some living thing, of hugging my cats too tightly and having them leap away from me.

My deepest intuition told me that this emotional distance was not right and that one day the gap would be closed. One day I would be united in love with real parents and real brothers and sisters in true love. I knew that this was to be the exact opposite of everything I then had experienced. I knew a world of absolute perfect love did exist.

So I set about finding it and preparing for it. First I defined what was wrong with life and love based upon my observations of my family and then I made a tentative definition of this.

Then came a period between 1960-1967 of intense inner struggle and wild exterior experimentation in all areas. I was forging my system for attaining perfection. By 1967 I had the essentials of a philosophy for which I was willing to die, because I'd experienced it and I believed in it from having experienced it.

I've always believed in an absolute system of principles which operated within any system, from physics to the history of art and which, when followed, would lead to harmony, balance and absolute integration with universal energy.

My system had three main points:

1. Two polarized energy sources. These I called male and female but they had a much broader application than simply in masculinity or femininity.
2. These two energy sources must interact. This action I called interaction, interpenetration or give and take.
3. Sustained growth and development. This period of growth contained three stages and three cycles within each stage, all leading toward attainment of harmony.

The point is not what I had but what I was unable to do with it. In 1967 and 1968 I began trying to share my ideas. I met with failure after utter failure. Not because of the ideas but because of me, my lack of emotional ability to convey them. I could state them rationally but I couldn't live them and couldn't help anyone else to live them.

I had to accept that I was nowhere near perfection, that I had only a perfection of mind, a construct, which wasn't even perfection, but was a domination of mind over feelings. This fact came across particularly with two people whom I cared about, yet who couldn't comprehend my ideas because of my bewildering confusion of statements, actions, and suppressed feelings.

For the first time I prayed to a God of feeling not just to universal creative energy for guidance. I said, I'm failing because only rationality or confused, suppressed feeling comes out of me. I can't reach across to another with a pure feeling and I'm failing further because so much of my energy goes toward suppression, that there is little left to reach out, even if I could.

My answer was a telephone call 1½ days later about Principle. After struggle I joined. Now we can talk about growth in Principle. To appreciate it fully we must see it against its opposite.

Once in Principle, changes begin for all of us. Immediately my mind shut off, I felt it was still alive but had just been frozen to -529 degrees below zero. Now, released from their suppression, the embryonic feelings began rising. Sometimes I felt like a just-opened bottle of ginger ale, all effervescence. Other times I felt fire works exploding inside. Still other times I experienced the budding, and then blooming of a very fragrant blossom.

For the first time in my life I was actually feeling feelings rather than just thinking them. I felt rather than thought that, now, for the first time, it was truly possible to grow from the inside out, to thrust out all that had been controlled and suppressed because it didn't fit in with perfection. Now by letting these things out we can grow beyond them. Exposure. Anything which is not admitted freely can't be cleansed, cured and restored. For the first time I began telling the truth of the Matthew quote. Through this constant exposure and growing beyond then, the second point will be fulfilled. The organism will consume itself without waste in purposeful activity.

Yet here is the big challenge for all of us: what kind of activity, centered upon whom? Experiencing ourselves changing, deepening, learning to feel or learning to think is very powerful. It is too easy to become caught in this experience and remain centered upon ourselves. We must constantly recall that these changes, freedoms have not been given for ourselves alone but for God and for our fellow men. The changes are nothing unless we can show them and their cause: Principle.

How to do this. Use the growth idea of thrusting out. Thrust out from yourself all that is not of God, as well as all that can potentially be developed for God. We must thrust out into new patterns of activity. If you usually witness with a group, go by yourself; if you've never witnessed to adults, try to do it. If you had a thought about a new form of witnessing, but were waiting for one of the older members to suggest it, dare to try it yourself. When we get infected with negativity, before we start talking, we must stop and think about what this indicates. Usually the presence of negativity indicates a malfunction in ourselves, a slippage of our center. We must refocus our attention on God and then redirect the negative energy into positive action.

There is a scientific principle that says that dissolution is faster the more surfaces are exposed. An ice cube will eventually dissolve in water, but broken up, it will dissolve much faster.

It is the same with us. The more we thrust outward, the more surfaces we have exposed, the greater will be our growth. From this outthrust will

follow complete usage of all the energy within us. In these ways Father's desire and our own will be done.

Yesterday I had an illustration of this. I had to drive a long distance to pick up some photographic equipment. The weather was overcast the entire trip up. Part of the time the rain was beating on the windshield so hard I could barely see the hood of the car. Only the lights of the cars ahead were visible. The return trip was the same. Three-quarters of the way home, the sun began to come out a bit. In childlike joy, I stretched out my hand, and said aloud, "See how lovely the light is, how it illuminates the edges of the islands and causes the colors to stand out. And it's especially lovely coming after all the rain." Immediately I had the powerful sensation of absolute joyous exultation. The sun not just shone but absolutely smiled, radiantly beautiful, out of the sky. The atmosphere recalled that about a small child or a young man who had just created something and was smiling in joy and delight: "See what I can do."

We must recall this image of radiant smiling sun to speed our growth and our work so that this sun may soon smile on the whole world.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

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TESTIMONIES

Joseph Sheftick

Los Angeles, California

I have just started my eighth month with the Family and am entering a stage of deeper understanding and comprehension of the Principle. After joining the Family I felt as if I were a fountain of knowledge, that there wasn't any question I couldn't answer especially those relating to God, man and human history. Shortly thereafter and much to my surprise, I found myself struggling mentally to answer those same questions. Then everything seemed to be a struggle no matter what I undertook, mental, physical, or emotional. My practice as a chiropractor terminated only after a few months leaving no new occupational prospects. I was turned down at one job after another, even for temporary work.

A month of searching resulted in my taking a job driving a taxi at night through the streets of L.A. Just at that time there was an epidemic of cab robberies. Night after night I was exposed to the lowest realms of our city's environment and inhabitants. Before me were people with mutilated and degraded physical bodies; people with minds that were sick with thoughts of hostility and distrust; and hearts were filled with despair, loneliness and hopelessness. Here were children of darkness, not of light. I knew that this could not be Father's world and I began to feel our Father's heart and how sorrowful it must be. At times I cried at the sight of my fellow brothers and sisters and hated more the evil one who is responsible for this situation. My job with the cab company lasted for approximately three months and during this time I was able to witness to many people about the Family.

As I saw these effects in the physical world about me, I was undergoing a transformation within. At times I felt as if I were someone else, as if I were losing and gaining identities. As personality masks were being ripped away from my face, others would immediately spring into their places. I realized that I was leading my life the way I thought other people wanted me or expected me to. To express myself was so difficult. When I spoke I couldn't remember what I said, my mind and my body seemed to be rebelling against my very wishes and desires. Doubts filled my mind concerning Leader, Principle, Family, God: was this a reality or was I making up a world of fantasy based upon what others were telling me? For eight days I fasted and on the eighth night, I went to Holy Ground for an answer, to obtain relief and a confirmation of God's existence. After praying and meditating for some time, I began to let go. I became emotional, angry, doubting in my prayers. I questioned God's existence, His Son, the Principle. I hated God, was angry with God, afraid of

God, hated Lucifer and his transgression: I was angry with everything. What I was expecting to happen didn't and I became quiet. Then I knew that I must start from the beginning to re-make myself and prove the reality of God, His Son, the Principle, within the totality of my being. No more make believe, no more living a false life based on what others want. Later with the help of Jon and Sandy I began to realize that I was not angry at, neither did I hate our Father, nor was it He that I was condemning, but rather the god of this world, Satan. Since that evening I have not been the same. Some of the problems still exist, but now they are exciting challenges which I know will end in final victory. Other events have occurred which have deepened my understanding of Principle and my dedication to it and to our True Parents and Family. My love for all three deepens every day. I am becoming more aware of the Father's heart and how He feels. I love our Father and I am grateful for all with which He has blessed me. My love and gratitude shall be His for all eternity.

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Norbert Boland

Amsterdam, Holland

Dear Brothers and Sisters: Now it is my turn to tell you something about my life, and how I got into the Principle which I accepted in the beginning of 1969.

I was born in Lenzen, Mecklenburg, Germany. My mother went to Holland in 1945 and my father stayed in Germany. My mother re-married a Dutchman, a good man but not a real strong personality.

My mother studied so very much. She had no time for my life. For that reason there was much trouble between my mother and father. I was very much alone, and spent a lot of time outside the home. I went to friends' places, dancing rooms, school feasts, cafes, and played billiards.

Even though I had many friends I did not have real joy in my life. After a time I did not like my friends any longer. They were becoming like strangers to me, in spite of the fact they had been my friends for many years.

I searched for new and deeper contacts, for persons who could share real joy and love with each other. But I could not find this in people. Everything was without a purpose.

I searched for inspiration in Christian religions. I went to several churches but the people who believed in such religions seemed to be dead. There was no real joy in their faces. I could not believe in a kingdom of heaven on this earth.

During that period I discovered yoga and it inspired me very much. I decided to study Eastern religions, but at that point God changed my plans. One evening I met Corrie V. Gelderen in a house especially for people who are living alone. We had a very nice talk. She told me about a new revelation coming from the East. She told me positive things about the future. She had something in herself that I had never met before in other people. I decided to come and hear the chapters to gain more knowledge and to make friends with the other members of the Unified Family. I felt it was very good but I still had so many ideas of my own. I had struggled very hard with it. But they gave me so much love that I really felt the possibility of true brotherhood between all people.

I know it is God's plan to establish a new world without disharmony, hate, frustration, a world where love is the strongest force in man's life.

In the Name of my True Parents I want to give all my love to all my brothers and sisters in the world.

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FAMILY DEPARTMENT

It means very much to receive your monthly news. We share the reports around the dinner table as they come in.

This month, rather than sharing too much statistically, I would like to share some general impressions from observing the reports for the last two months and make timely comments. Every Center seems to be doing its maximum to reach as many people as possible. The reports do not indicate how many people were witnessed to in depth. It's hard to tell if sheer numbers witnessed to reaps automatically a certain number who come; there are so many variables involved. At the same time we might ask if those who return after the first lecture come out of any special reason. Whatever is the case, whether sheer numbers produces a certain percentage of responses or if the conviction with which we witness and teach determines the response, we don't know. If it's the former, then we must increase the number of people we meet. If it's the latter, then we must deepen ourselves.

Undoubtedly, it is the combination of both factors; numbers and conviction. Conviction is the basis for many things we do; if we have conviction, we will sacrifice ourselves to pay the price for new members. If we go out looking for sheer numbers we may miss the grand experience of conscious sacrifice. For example, passing out flyers on a street corner entails little sacrifice and little conviction. Meeting people only when we feel like it does little for our spiritual growth and the sacrificial price needed to restore America is not paid. I don't mean we should be discouraged because there will always be a great gulf between effort and results. Yet it is important to evaluate our work through this report. If we are satisfied; then we haven't realized our real goal.

Whatever we spend of our life now we will profit from later — and in some cases much later. The all-over average of members who were added this month was lower than last month. Our work ebbs and flows, but we all must prayerfully concern ourselves with the tide that comes rolling back in, that each one is larger than the last. I would appreciate any comments on this subject in next month's reports. Through the monthly report we should objectively evaluate our work and keep our movement ever advancing and expanding.

Those who are still young in the Principle must work hard to grow even faster than those who found them so that they can go to new places in time and multiply themselves. Our time is short. The age level of those coming into Principle nowadays is in a word, young — late teens to early twenties

It is significant that while God is calling this age level presently, it is also this age level that is most lost in America. So many young people's lives are directionless, and purposeless. Drug use several years ago was the exception and now it's the rule! In one local county in Maryland statistics show that 90 percent of the high school students in that county have taken or are taking drugs. This is only one of the many problems among America's youth. I am not advocating that we concentrate our efforts on just young people -- though it's from the youth we may fill our ranks, indeed all age levels must fit into God's all over scheme. But, we have a great, great responsibility to save as many young people from destroying themselves as possible. Articles in newspapers, reports on television and in the vast media of America speaking out against the evils are not enough. We are the only ones to be able to offer an absolute solution to their problems. We must parallel the public's concern with ever increased exposure of our solution.

Therefore, a maturity beyond our years is necessary. A sense of responsibility not like that asked of any previous generation in America must become ours.

While we are looked upon by the world as physically young, we have to walk with all the dead seriousness that lies within the Heart of the Father. To meet this seemingly overwhelming challenge we have to grow quickly, very quickly!

This month in Washington we began Saturday night teach-ins (8:30-10:30). Because oftentimes we never get to teach the last chapters we began studying Chapter 12 first and are working backwards. A chapter is assigned each week; anyone may be called upon for any section within the chapter. One person is chosen beforehand to constructively criticize the presentation and what is presented, and another to tell the good points. Questions on the section are asked afterwards. Outside reading for supportive information is assigned. Also books on public speaking are assigned and are reported on at the session. The benefits of such a program are easily observed. All members are participating in the program and are exclaiming their enthusiasm about the benefits.

That's all for this month. May each of you have a victorious month for our Father.

In Him,

Philip Burley

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