

CHURCH of GOD

News

New York Area Edition

Volume 2 Number 10

November-December 1965

By Their Fruits

NEW YORK - It was a great day for the members of God's Church when the congregation was assembled to hear the ministers of God lift up their voices like trumpets -- crying aloud, sparing not -- for it was the glorious occasion of the Feast of Trumpets. Not only was there physical and a spiritual feast to be had by all, but there was also a reward given to those who had borne the most fruit.

For the first time in the history of this church area, there was an ordination "en masse" of diligent workers, to the rank of deacon or deaconess. Eleven men and four women from the New York area, Philadelphia and Harrisburg, having proved themselves, were elevated to this rank, automatically assuming the responsibilities inherent within this office.

MR. GEORGE CONTOS

A bachelor of Greek extraction, Mr. George Contos has asserted himself as a leader and a man of many interests and great ability. He has sponsored a number of concerts for our enjoyment, and has given of himself in many other church-related services. His ability to lead has also privileged him to serve in several offices within the Spokesman Clubs, of which he is currently the coordinator. Such experience will be of significant aid in the performance of his duties as a deacon.

MR. EDWARD RUBIN

Mr. Edward Rubin has shown spiritual fortitude in driving down
(Continued on page 6)

MORE MINISTERS ORDAINED

During the recent Festival in the United States, twenty-five men were ordained. Seven of those were in Jekyll Island -- all of whom were ordained to the rank of Local Elder.

The Church of God News presents the three who are in the New York Area District. The Good News will cover the whole twenty five.



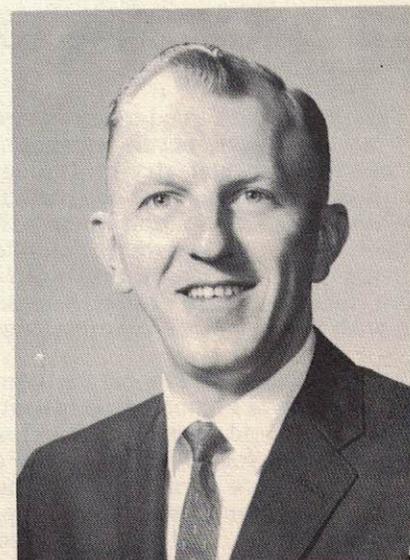
MR. HARRY SCHAER

Mr. Harry Schaer, youngest son of a butcher, was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He attended the University of Pittsburgh in 1940. After one year of studying chemistry he enlisted in the Air Corps, where he served as a 9th Air Force Lieutenant and navigator in the European Theatre during the war. He returned to college in 1946.

Before the spring semester began he learned what H.J. Heinz put
(Continued on page 8)



MR. GRAHAM VERNON



MR. MARTIN NICKEL



CHURCH of GOD News

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 10

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The Beginning

The 1965 Feast of Tabernacles is now history. The last sermonette and sermon have been duly recorded in our notebooks, the last song and the closing prayer is but a ringing echo in our ears. The tent has been taken down, the ministers have left and the brethren have gone home. In every physical sense the Feast is over -- but is it really? Or is it just the beginning?

The seeds of good fruit were sown at the Feast, but as a garden, the seeding is just the beginning. Now those seeds must be cultivated, watered and fed so that they will produce the fruits they were intended to bring forth. Without this cultivation, those seeds will die. And so it is with the Feast of Tabernacles.

We are back on the battle front now, for the world, not Jekyll Island, is the battle field where our battles are going to be fought. Like soldiers in war we were drawn from the front trenches for a rest, to regroup, to gain strength and to be issued new armour so that when we return to the front, we will be able to

fight the battle of overcoming with added zeal and dedication.

The sermonettes, sermons, and the fellowship of brethren in arms are our new ammunition to hurl at our common enemy. But like a weapon in war, it is useless unless we use that weapon. True most of us took notes. We were supposed to -- a soldier in battle wouldn't go back to the front without ammunition. But like a gun without bullets, so are we unless we load-up with the knowledge that God gave us at Jekyll Island. How well we fight will now depend on how well we use that knowledge. Our survival depends on this.

There are many things we can do to assure that we'll be back at Jekyll Island next year instead of becoming a battle casualty. Among the many things is the realization that knowledge is useless unless it is put into practice. So make it a point to go over the Feast notes during the long winter just ahead when the battle is the hardest. Meditate on them regularly, pray about them, and on occasion fast. Don't just store those notes away, use them, put them into practice.

If we do this God is going to bless us as we have never been blessed before. We'll be able to withstand the trials, the persecution and Satan the Devil, and we will be back to joyfully attend the 1966

Feast of Tabernacles. Yes brethren, the Feast is physically over but the battle is now in full swing again. The Feast was just the beginning, not the end.

Tomorrow

What is tomorrow?

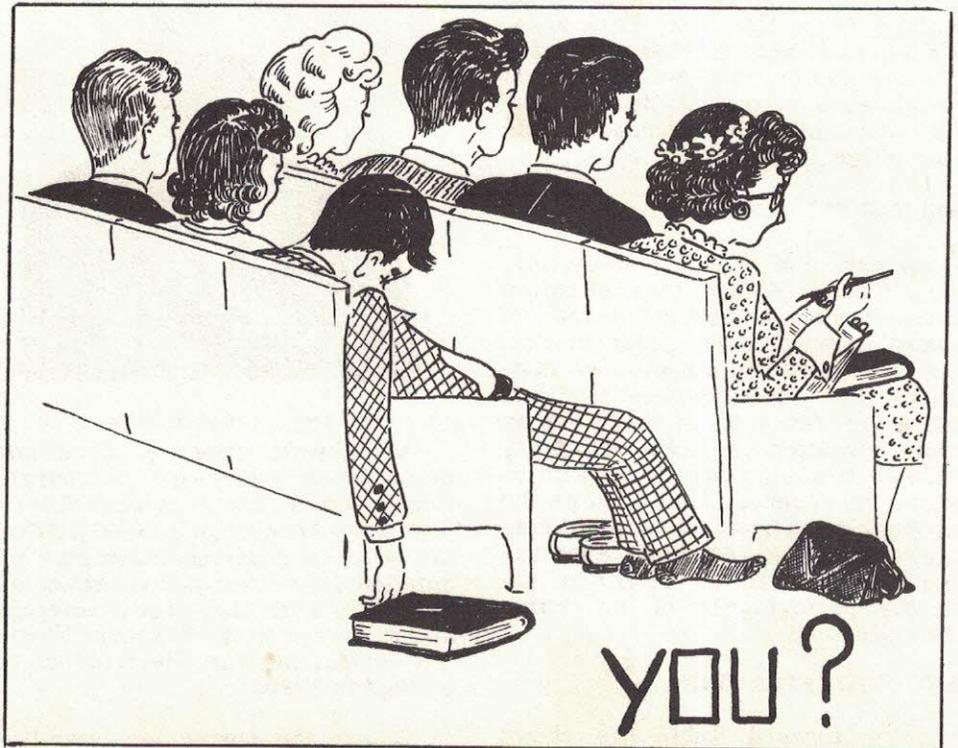
Websters' dictionary defines tomorrow as "The day after this present day". It is the day that follows the one in which we are living - the day we can look forward to and prepare for.

Based on a twenty-four hour time period, it is quick to come and make what was today a "yesterday" and no longer available to us. Tomorrow should be a day preceded by a day of preparation but too often becomes a period of time we have put off until.

Tomorrow can become the fulfillment and reward of today's opportunities or become a today filled with the same habits of procrastination.

What is your tomorrow?

AVERAGE MAN - One who's usually able to detect a rattle in his car more quickly than in his head.





A SIGN OF THE TIMES

WATER POLLUTION - COSTLY CLEANUP

New warnings are being voiced in Congress about the degree to which water pollution has progressed in this country. Drastic measures are needed to speed the cleanup of America's rivers and streams to insure a pure water supply for the future. However, officials assure us that so far this is a losing fight and cite the following examples:

1. Since 1956 federal and local governments have spent a total of 3.1 billion dollars on sewage treatment facilities and still pollution gets worse.
2. The bacteria count in the Cuyahoga river flowing into Lake Erie is four times as high as in a stream of raw sewage.
3. Lake Erie and the Southern end of Lake Michigan are turning into stagnant pools of water without oxygen, incapable of supporting life.
4. In 1956 the commercial catch of blue pike in Lake Erie was 6,855,000 pounds. In 1963 only 200 pounds was caught.
5. The Connecticut River hasn't been safe for swimming for 50 years.
6. Dr. Luther Terry, the retiring head of the Public Health Service stated, "We are by no means sure that at least some viruses are not slipping through our present water-purification and disinfection processes and entering our water mains. Hepatitis may be an example."

With the current drought in the northeast, New York City finds itself forced to tap the Hudson River for 100 million gallons of water a day at a point where it finds the river

polluted by the equivalent of raw sewage from 10 million people.

Officials see no alternative but a really big effort in curbing this pollution. They estimate that 50 billion dollars worth of new sewers and treatment plants are needed to even make a start.

THE SMUT PEDDLERS

A dramatic and significant battle is swirling across the United States today. Fighting on one side are the publishers, distributors and sellers of obscene material -- a business estimated to gross currently more than a billion dollars a year. In the opposite camp are public prosecutors parents, teachers and citizens alarmed at the rising tide of newstand and mail-order pornography and determined to do something about it.

For the peddlers of "smut" it means the right to maintain and expand their markets. Newstands flaunt magazines loaded with suggestive nudity and paperback books filled with detailed portrayals of illicit and abnormal sexual relations. To impressionable youths, this flood of pornography conveys the notion that adultery and perversion are acceptable, and that moral standards are "passe."

NY Area Church Victor Again

JEKYLL ISLAND - The N.Y. Church has again showed its prowess in the art of softball by defeating the Atlanta district for the Jekyll Island Feast of Tabernacles Softball Championship. As a matter of fact, the N.Y. Church and championships seem to go together like, "Baseball and Ballentine".

Once again Mr. Raymond Cole utilized his pitching skill by limiting the opposition to three runs. Supporting Mr. Cole's strong pitching was the equally strong hitting of the New Yorkers, with key hits by Walter Sharp, Anthony Marandola, and John Held which helped compile their total of seven runs.

Post game ceremonies found Mr. Cole, the team representative, receiving the championship plaque amid the cheers of many interested spectators who turned out for an enjoyable afternoon of recreation.

Request Granted



MR. AND MRS. FRED KELLERS AND DAVID

BALTIMORE - The arrival of the Fred Kellers to Baltimore terminated an acute need for assistance to Mr. Guy Engelbart and to the brethren in the Baltimore-Richmond area.

Coming to us from the Pacific Northwest, Mr. Kellers, - a 1963 graduate of Ambassador College, Pasadena; his wife Lucretia, and their 9 month old son David, attended Sabbath services November 13. This resulted in our hearing the first sermonette given in this area. Mr. Kellers was ordained at the Feast of Tabernacles of this year.

A British Visitor

BUFFALO - "Another coal mine" pointed out Mr. Jack Brewster on his drive from Buffalo, New York to Akron, Ohio, September 28th. Mr. Brewster, who visited many of the churches in the United States, thought every chimney and smokestack on every hospital, factory, etc., indicated a coal mine. Mr. Brewster is from Mansfield, England where he had worked in coal mines and more recently owned and operated a bakery business. Though he is totally deaf, Mr. Brewster toured this country alone.

We in the Buffalo-Toronto area were blessed to have this courageous and personable gentleman with us for the Feast of Trumpets. Mr. Brewster attended the Feast of Tabernacles in Squaw Valley and then returned to his home in England

REMEMBER WHEN?





**Here
and
There!!**

NEWARK - We warmly welcome Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nickel and family to the New Jersey area. They are now residing in Westwood.

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NEWARK - The Newark congregation has increased recently. We extend our welcome to Mrs. Wesley Stokes and family, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard DiGeronimo and family and Mr. Clyde Bastian and his son, Stephen.

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NEWARK - Mrs. Ralph Medino, Mrs. Gerald Backhus and Mrs. Angelo Mininni are three ladies-in-waiting.

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HARRISBURG - The Harrisburg Church was overjoyed to welcome fifteen new faces to services on the Sabbath of November 6th. These all were here for the first time and we certainly hope this is just the beginning of our newest surge of growth in Harrisburg.

BAPTISMS

BALTIMORE - Mr. James Anderson, Mr. Arnold C. Ball, Mrs. Gladys Barrick, Mrs. Josephine Brodie, Mr. King Finlay, Mrs. Louise Hill, Mrs. Brinnie Whitehurst.

HARRISBURG - Mr. Charles Armstrong.

BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Roosa, Baltimore, Boy - born October 12, 1965.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kuver, Buffalo Girl - born October 8, 1965.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Pirwitz, Buffalo, Girl - born October 20, 1965.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kalinowski, Newark, Girl - born September 6, 1965.

Mr. and Mrs. William Jackson, Newark, Boy - born October 15, 1965

MARRIAGES

Miss Marie Collins was united to Mr. George Sumner on September 19, 1965, in Richmond. Mr. Guy Engelbart performed the ceremony.

Oh My Achin' Back

"Insurance Companies report a growing number of claims from motorists for non-existent or exaggerated injuries or fake auto accidents," report the insurance trade journals and periodicals. The articles go on, "An ailing back or persistent headaches, which are difficult to prove are common false claims."

People are out to "make a buck" at the expense of the insurance companies - and at the expense of all honest and careful drivers whose own rates must be raised to pay for these false claims.

What can we do to keep our rates at the lowest possible? How can we be certain to pay only one fair share of insurance claim costs? What procedure should we follow if we have an accident? Hardware Mutuals, nationwide auto insurers give this advice.

1. Keep calm - Be courteous - Do not argue.

2. Prevent the accident from getting worse. Turn off ignition. Put out flags or flares, or have someone warn approaching vehicles. Move off the road as soon as possible.

3. Aid the injured. See that the injured get medical attention as soon as possible. However, don't obligate yourself for medical or other expense beyond first aid.

4. Get and record all the facts. Obtain description and license numbers of all cars and the names and addresses of all persons involved. Get the names and addresses of as many witnesses as possible.

5. Give your name and address to the operators of the other vehicles to the injured or to a police officer before you leave the scene. Do not express an opinion as to who was at fault, and do not talk about the accident or give any statements or reports to anyone other than the police, the owner of your vehicle, or your own insurance adjuster. Be sure to comply with accident reporting requirements of your state and locality.

Naturally, avoiding accidents is the best way to keep auto insurance rates down. The next best thing is to follow these rules and give your auto insurance carrier every break possible in the favorable settlement of a claim.

BALTIMORE - Among the ladies-in-waiting is Mrs. Mary Ervin.

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BALTIMORE - We were very pleased that the parents of Mr. Guy Engelbart could visit the Baltimore Church. They were on their way home from attending the Feast in England.

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RICHMOND - September 8 was a day of both happiness and sadness for Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Jones. They had the blessing of seeing, Sylvia, the third of their children off to Ambassador College -- this time in England.

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TORONTO - Toronto brethren welcomed Mr. Douglas Cox during his stay here enroute to the office in Vancouver.

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TORONTO - We were pleased to have Mr. Jack Brewster from England observe the Feast of Trumpets in Toronto.

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TORONTO - Four ladies - in-waiting are reported. They are: Mrs. D. Peace, Mrs. A. Watters, Mrs. H. Matthews and Mrs. D. Degennaro.

By Their Fruits

(Continued from page 1)

from Connecticut at least twice each week to be with the brethren as well as to serve. He is married and the father of three. One daughter is married to Mr. Prather, Ambassador College Chorale director. The other daughter recently left for Bricket Wood, England to study there. His son attends a design school. Mr. Rubin has served in various offices in the Spokesman Club, is a member of the chorale and is serving in many other capacities.

MR. HENRY SIMMETH

Mr. Henry Simmeth has been active in God's Church for several years. One of his most recent responsibilities has been that of handling the finances for this local area. Mr. Simmeth resides with his wife and son in River Vale, New Jersey. They will be attending the soon-coming Paterson Church where he will be the head deacon.

MR. GERALD BACKHUS

Though in the church for a relatively short time, Mr. Gerald Backhus has shown by his zeal and accomplishments that he is qualified to assume the office of deacon. With his ordination he has been given the responsibility of head deacon of the Newark Church where he attends with his wife.

MR. LEONARD DIGERONIMO

Mr. Leonard DiGeronimo has overcome many difficulties over the years to qualify for the office of deacon. He lives in Teaneck, New Jersey with his wife and five children. He will be assisting with the physical responsibilities in the Paterson Church as assistant head deacon.

MR. LEROY HOPPES

Mr. LeRoy Hoppes of Reading, Pa. is the first deacon of the Harrisburg Church. He has been a member of the Church of God since 1960. Mr. Hoppes is the Harrisburg Associate Editor for the Church of God News and president of the Spokesman Club. His wife is a devoted helpmate and mother. They have two children.

MR. GEORGE EVANS

Mr. George Evans has shown by his sincere desire to help others that his heart is in God's work. This, coupled with his ability, has qualified him for the office of deacon. Mr. Evans lives in Cynwyd, Pa. with his wife and children.

MR. DONALD TRAYNOR

Having been of service in the handling of physical responsibilities since the raising of the Philadelphia Church, Mr. Traynor has demonstrated his qualifications for the office of deacon. In addition to his

other duties, Mr. Traynor will now handle Philadelphia's news contributions to the Church of God News.

MR. CHARLES CARSON

Mr. Charles Carson, baptized in 1963, has been assuming an increasing number of responsibilities. He is a member of the chorale, on the visiting committee and in charge of children's activities. He is married and has five children, two of whom are the wives of local elders, Charles Nickel and Graham Vernon.

MR. ABNER WASHINGTON

An electronic technician employed by the F.A.A. and a Navy veteran, Mr. Washington has been most active since attending his first church service in Akron, Ohio in 1959. He is on the visiting committee and the church representative of the Social Activities Committee. Mr. Washington has also held the office of President of the Spokesman Club twice. He attends the New York P.M. Church with his wife and two children.

MRS. CALVIN MICKENS

The wife of a deacon in God's Church, Mrs. Mickens is a native of the Panama Canal Zone. Mrs. Mickens first heard "The World Tomorrow" broadcast in September 1959 and was baptized in April of 1960. She is the mother of five children and of great assistance to her husband, performing the duties of deaconess long before her ordination.

MRS. MARTIN NICKEL

Mrs. Martin Nickel has been attending services since they first began in this area in 1959. She is a native New Yorker. In the six years as a member of God's Church she has served in many capacities qualifying her for the office of deaconess. She is the mother of three children and has been a great asset to her husband who is also fulfilling an office in the Church of God.

MR. AND MRS. EUGENE REIS

Mr. Reis was one of the four men from New Jersey ordained to the rank of deacon. He has shown by his willingness to help others that he could handle increased responsibilities. He is the assistant

(Continued on page 8)



NEWLY ORDAINED: FIRST ROW (l to r) MRS. GUNTHER NEUMANN, MRS. CALVIN MICKENS, MRS. MARTIN NICKEL, MRS. EUGENE REIS, 2nd ROW; MR. LEROY HOPPES, MR. GEORGE CONTOS, MR. DONALD TRAYNOR, MR. CHARLES CARSON, 3rd ROW; MR. HENRY SIMMETH, MR. GEORGE EVANS, MR. GERALD BACKHUS, MR. EUGENE REIS, MR. EDWARD RUBIN, BACK ROW; MR. ABNER WASHINGTON, MR. LEONARD DIGERONIMO.

Feast of Trumpets In Toronto

TORONTO - Under a canopy of blue skies on the shore of Lake Ontario, the Palais Royale Ballroom hosted the Toronto and Buffalo churches for the Feast of Trumpets. Originally built in 1921 during the "Roaring Twenties" era, the ballroom is well preserved and had much to do with enhancing the atmosphere of the feast.

The day got off to a fine start with Mr. Gary Antion providing the Spiritual food. He held everyone's attention during the morning service by expounding the prophecies of the first coming of Christ, and proving beyond any doubt that Jesus Christ is the Messiah.

No feast would be complete without an abundance of physical food, and once again the women in God's Church proved that they can cook well. Although it was a brisk day some of the heartier brethren ate on the outside pavillion overlooking Lake Ontario.



MR. GARY ANTION

The highlight of the day was the ordination of five Deacons - two from Toronto and three from Buffalo. The five surprised men were called to the front and Mr. Antion laid hands on each. They are Mr. Nick DeKoning and Mr. Keith Henderson of Toronto, and Mr. Patrick Regoord, Mr. Norbert Robinson and Mr. Wilbur Smith of Buffalo. We extend our congratu-

lations to these men. As their past fruits have shown their dedication to Christ, we pray that they will continue to rely on Him for strength and faith.



NEWLY ORDAINED FROM BUFFALO:
(1 to r) MR. WILBUR SMITH, MR. NORBERT ROBINSON, MR. PATRICK REGOORD

The afternoon service followed with Mr. Antion bringing out in detail the prophecies of the second coming of Christ and how Christ as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS will establish God's government on this earth.

Big Sandy

BIG SANDY - Growth and improvement was evident in Texas again this year. Big Sandy had once again outgrown its permanent tabernacle building. It had become a combination registration center, business office, dining hall and basketball court -- all in operation simultaneously on a few occasions.

The new Pine Wood Camping Area was an added attraction as were the beautiful resident - staff housing units near Lake Loma. The construction of needed facilities was in progress during our stay, continually adding to the growing campus that is taking shape in East Texas.

The radiant attitudes of the students there were a delight to behold. It wasn't necessary to wonder or ask who were the students -- their carriage and purpose was as evident as their smiles. The ones on the trash detail were literally beaming with happiness even while waist deep in rubbish.

The opportunity to serve was available and those who took advantage of it received the joy and happiness that only comes from serving others.

Feast in Baltimore

BALTIMORE - It was a beautiful fall day, and the temperature was almost perfect as 472 of God's people representing the Richmond, Baltimore and Harrisburg churches poured into the Odenton Fire Hall, Odenton, Maryland, for the morning service.

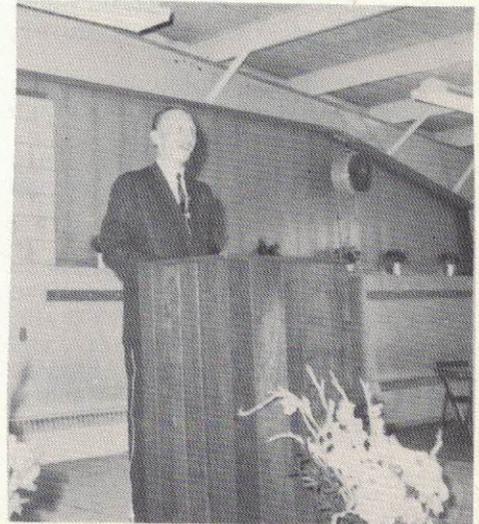
Everyone seemed to be having a good time and enjoying the fellowship with the other brethren they had not seen for some time. All had a beaming smile and vigorous hand shake.

Mr. Guy Engelbart, conducting both morning and afternoon services began the Holy Convocation with a rousing song service. A most inspiring sermon was given to show us what steps we must take to be sure we will be ready for God's Kingdom.

At noon, chairs were moved and tables were set up by a well-organized group, so that all the hungry brethren could partake of the food that was so well-prepared by the ladies. There was such an abundance of food that all were invited to have seconds.

With appetites satisfied everyone was ready for more spiritual food. After a beautiful rendition of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" by the Octet, Mr. Engelbart gave a sermon on what the Feast of Trumpets means for us today.

As the day came to a close the content and happy brethren left for home, already looking forward to a most enjoyable feast next year.



MR. GUY ENGELBART

By Their Fruits

(Continued from page 6)

head deacon of the Newark Church. Mrs. Reis, in assisting her husband as well as fulfilling many additional responsibilities, has demonstrated her qualifications for deaconess. These two newly ordained servants reside in Plainfield, New Jersey with their three children.

MRS. GUNTHER NEUMANN

Last, but not least, we have Mrs. Gunther Neumann, who has shown her ability to be a leader among the women. Her husband is the overall head deacon in the New York area. Being the mother of four children has not prevented her from devoting much time and effort in assisting her husband and many others in the church. The Neumann family resides in Clifton, New Jersey.

Ministers

(Continued from page 1)

into their soup as the assistant to the soup chef at their Pittsburgh plant. He met his wife while attending college and married her in 1948.

After receiving his B.A. degree and teaching certificate, Mr. Schaer discovered there was a dearth of history teaching positions. He, therefore, became a salesman -- selling everything from bathroom fixtures and kitchens to mutual funds and insect-a-cutors. His whole family came into contact with "The World Tomorrow" broadcast on a local station in Buffalo, N.Y. in 1954. Shortly after this he was transferred to New Jersey as the district manager for a plumbing manufacturer.

Not satisfied with his position he began to teach in a vocational high school while earning credits at Rutgers University to qualify as a librarian. He served as librarian for 5 years.

At present he is a book salesman contacting schools, libraries and colleges in eastern New York State. After moving eleven times, Mr. and Mrs. Schaer and their three children have settled down in Bergen County, New Jersey.

Mr. Schaer served as head deacon in the New York area for one and one-half years prior to this festival.

Congratulations on your ordination, Mr. Schaer!

MR. MARTIN NICKEL

Mr. Martin Nickel is a born and bred New Yorker. Born in the small Long Island town of Port Washington, he grew up in that section of Queens known as Glendale. As a young boy he was a skating enthusiast and must have had more than a passing fancy for airplanes. Years later he coupled his facility in mathematics and science with his boyhood fancy for airplanes and enrolled at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After four years he was graduated as an Aeronautical Engineer. That June of '57 was a very busy month for him. He graduated, married his wife, Marge, and moved to Baltimore Maryland where he was employed by the Glenn L. Martin Company.

During a Christmas visit back to New York, both he and his wife were "forcibly" introduced to "The World Tomorrow" broadcast. They had gone to pay a strictly social visit to his brother, Mr. Charles Nickel, and his family when his brother announced that he had found a really great radio program which they were just in time to hear. Looking back, it seems they were also handed Bibles to check the veracity of Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong's statements. The broadcast impressed them, but once back in Baltimore "The World Tomorrow" was replaced by "the world today". It was their own world where they awaited the birth of their first child and wondered whether a drastic cutback in government spending would cause Mr. Nickel to lose his job.

In the spring of '58, the Nickels moved back to New York and Mr. Martin Nickel and Mr. Charles Nickel became partners in a food brokerage business -- Nickel Brothers, Assoc. Both men took to regularly listening to "The World Tomorrow" broadcast while working late hours in their office.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Nickel attended the first Sabbath service in New York City in November 1959. Both were baptized one month later. Mr. Nickel has been serving as deacon and Managing Editor of the New York Area Edition of the Church of God News for about one and one half years.

Congratulations, Mr. Nickel!

MR. GRAHAM VERNON

Mr. Graham Vernon was born, raised and educated in England in a small town between Manchester and Liverpool, approximately one hundred miles southeast of where Radio Caroline is anchored off the coast. During his early teen years while still in high school, he was learning to fly as an air cadet -- an adventure which never matured past this point. After high school he attended the City of Liverpool Technical College until migrating to the United States.

Settling down in Morristown, New Jersey with his family, Mr. Vernon began to enjoy the abundant living available in America. This semi-utopia was interrupted two years later by induction into the United States Army. During his stay in the army, he learned some of the intricacies of C.W. Radio Operation. Then, at the expense of the government he was able to see parts of Germany for the rest of his service.

Soon, in the occupations of business life, he found himself engrossed in certain planning stages for the production of the rocket engine to power the X15 Rocket Plane. This engrossment sparked a small interest in astronomy, which in turn led him to realize in some small way the tremendous creation around us. During this period of time he also happened to be captivated by a radio program called "The World Tomorrow".

This interest grew with time until finally, in his quest to find out more he telephoned Pasadena and spoke to one of God's ministers. A few weeks later in 1960 he was visited by Mr. Carlton Smith, the local New York minister. The following week found a very apprehensive young man walking up and down West 43rd Street to spy out the church to see if these people were really what they were supposed to be.

After the first and succeeding meetings, his life became eventful and crammed full of new experiences and blessings, not to mention some of the usual trials.

Mr. Vernon resides with his wife, Elaine, and two sons in Caldwell, New Jersey. Having been a deacon for over a year, Mr. Vernon now assumes the new office of Local Elder.

Congratulations!