

".....the old order has gone, and a new order has already begun." The publication of this newsletter heralds the appearance of a new order and the disappearance of the old order. "Apologia" and Members' letters will now no longer have separate existences. This newsletter is intended to replace them by combining their functions.

Apologia got its name from the Greek word meaning "defence", which is used in 1 Peter 5:15. Here Peter says, "... hold the Lord Christ in reverence in your heart, always being ready to conduct your defence before everyone who asks you for a rational explanation for the hope that is in you..." "Not only is it possible to offer a rational defence of the Christian faith, but it is the responsibility of every Christian to give such an account of his faith. There is no place in the New Testament for the intellectual laziness which seems to be common amongst many Christians: "Either you have faith or you don't - that's all there is to it;" or "I find belief in God satisfying, but I can't give you any reason for my (or you) believing in God."

The Gospel is often referred to in the New Testament as the "word of truth" (see Eph. 1:13, Col 1:5) "the New Testament most definitely presents the Christian faith as a matter of concrete, cognitive truth. Whether one looks at Christ's demands, or at the explicit creedal affirmations of the apostles (1 Cor 15 :1-4) one sees that Christianity is not primarily a matter of feeling or even of action, but a religion of factual belief - factual belief which, only because of its objective truth, yields

genuine religious experience and meaningful social action. .. non factual religion is of course not capable of factual defence; but Christianity, grounded in the fact of God's entry into human history in the person of Christ, is the factual and defensible religion par excellence" I

May I suggest in this connection three points of central importance in our thinking about the Gospel, the word of truth, whose communication to man has been entrusted to us (II Cor 5:18)

The truth of the gospel:

(a) derives from the one with whom the Gospel is concerned - Jesus Christ. Truth came through him - Jn 1:17. "God who gave to our forefathers many different glimpses of the truth in the words of the prophets, has now, at the end of the present age, given us the truth in his son." (Heb 1:1)  
 Truth is in him - Eph 4:21  
 He is the truth Jn 14:6 "He is both the first principle and the upholding principle of the whole scheme of creation (Col 1:17).

(b) is communicated by the spirit of God.  
 He is the spirit of truth - Jn 14:17, 15:26  
 His job as the Spirit of Truth is to communicate the truth to man - Jn 14:26, 16:15.

(c) is within the reach of man - to understand, to obey and to use.  
 Men may understand it Jn 8:2, II Jn 1.  
 Understanding and accepting the truth is an essential element in conversion - I Thess 2:13. Jas 1:18  
 Faith is not a blind leap in the dark.  
 They must obey it - Gal 5:7.  
 They must be able to use it properly II Tim 2:15.

So let us continue to share in the results of our thinking, by means of this newsletter, so that we may all be more effective in our communication of the word of truth to our fellows.

A. Chapple.

41...Montgomery: "The Place of Reason", Feb 1966. HIS page 10. See also his articles in HIS Dec. 64 - March, 65).

#### EDITORIAL

This is the first issue of the new form of Apologia. It has been felt, by members of EU, that the methods of intra-union communication we have used in the past leave much to be desired. It is hoped that with a regular monthly newsletter the ordinary members can be encouraged to write articles or letters to the editor on points they feel could be of benefit to the whole union.

The topics raised might be comment on our public addresses, criticisms of the program generally, comment on the activities of other club clubs etc. Also we hope to get the committee members to justify their existence by putting their thoughts down.

This issue is designed to enable us to register Apologia for bulk postage with the G.P.O. Several issues must be produced for their consideration. The advantages of registration are that it can be posted at a fraction of the normal cost and that it must be produced regularly.

Jonathan Nelson.

TALENT SURVEY

All members of E.U. are requested to fill in the following form and give to Kim Sadlier as soon as possible. Members are assured that all information will be kept confidential.

NAME.....

ADDRESS(Term Address)..... phone{  
Home..... phone{

DATE OF BIRTH.....19....

- (a) Have you had any poster painting experience?
- (b) Have you had any positions of Christian responsibility ie....
  - { I) I.S.C.F. leadership....
  - { II) Sunday School teaching....
  - { III) Youth Group leadership.....
  - { IV) Lay reader.....

OTHERS

- (c) Can you play a musical instrument?.....
- (d) Have you a motor vehicle?.....
  - Can you acquire a motor vehicle?.....
- (e) Can you type?

- (f) Have you had any experience in producing magazines?
- (g) Have you had any experience in Asian Student activities.
- (h) Have you had any experience as a librarian.
- (i) Have you had any experience in cooking for large numbers.
- (j) Have you any experience in drama.
- (k) Have you had any experience in leading Bible Study groups.
- (l) Is anyone interested in becoming the editor of Apologia?

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It has been hinted several times in this edition that this is your magazine. That means that we ought to start thinking ourselves, and not leave it to those of greater academic standing (who are mostly to busy anyway). Any contributions to Apologia can be given to any committee member ; but they must be written on lined paper and double spaced and with a minimum of garbage ie. do your own editing.

HOW ABOUT IT ?



## THE STEWARDSHIP OF MONEY.

This is a booklet by F. Mitchell, who was active in mission work and was also a business man in England. It is available from bookshops in town for 2/6.

Stewardship is the sort of topic which is normally regarded as too boring to touch. Therefore some Christians never really understand why they are giving week after week.

## Why Should We Give (Chapter I)

a) Because we ourselves and all we have are God's. Jesus is the saviour - but he is also Saviour and Lord. When we take of the benefits of Christ's cross and passion we are at the same time committed to His rule; in all parts of life.

b) Because God Commands it.

This is seen in such verses as II Cor 13:7. "As you abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in your love towards us see that you abound in this grace also.

c) Because God gave His son for us.

This argument is explained in Paul's letter II Cor 8 & 9. God's love is expressed by giving his son to meet our need; we should express our love in return by giving to His needy ones, as to H.

d) Because of its affect on our spiritual development.

Failing to give can easily stunt spiritual growth. We feel such a warning as "Ye can not serve God and Mammon" is a bit harsh for us - but we will be getting more money later on and so should cultivate right attitudes to it now.

J. Nelson

29/5/1966

## THE WISE WOMAN FROM THE EAST

She is coming:-

The I.V.F. staff worker, Miss Pat Connole a graduate in French Honours from Adelaide Uni is coming to Perth for the first two weeks of 2nd term. What for?

The function of a staff worker is to assist the I.V.F. groups in any way possible - not to run the show, but share with the members of the E.U. in the furthering of the aims. Being Christian graduates means that they have already faced situations in which we are involved; while being full time Christian workers and not full time Christian students means that they have very much more time to discuss problems of the Christian faith, share in the fellowship with Christians, assist students in their task to "make disciples of all nations" (in this case Uni students) as well as witnessing themselves to the saving power of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

What will she do?

Pat will want to meet and get to know as many of us as possible during her short stay. She will be staying in St. Catherines College, which could mean many useful contacts with girls. There has been a seminar planned at which Pat will speak on Friday JUNE 10th, for girls (males will be charges an admission fee). The topic is "The Role of the Christian Woman." For those of the appropriate sex do keep this in mind. Finally, let us pray for Pat that God may use her, while here, in the way that He sees fit.

Ellen Higgins

A General Meeting in May decided to send a delegate to the Winter Committee of the I.V.F. He will be our President Alan Chapple.

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