Twenty Austrians Prepare for American Mission

Julie Mittermuller [Hess] September 1973



Photo date and location unknown

We are glad to report that in Austria one of our long dreams has been realized. In spite of big financial problems, we set up a print shop. We hope that our printing machine will help greatly in supplying many people with pamphlets and booklets about the Divine Principle and information on the danger of Communism. We are still being heavily attacked by the official Catholic Church, which distributes special pamphlets against us. Counteracting these attacks, we shall try to fulfill the role of a good Abel in dealing with Christian groups. We always get new encouragement when we meet people who, although they belong to some group, have already noticed that the church has lost much of its inner strength and are longing for a strong living relationship with a living

God which they can't find in their group, though they try hard.

We have to pray for them, understand them, and love them. Since a deep understanding of the Divine Principle gives us such a clear light on many Bible passages, we are well armed for the confrontation with the church.

In July, three trainees came back from Belvedere and brought us the new study guide by President Young Whi Kim. We have held several training courses for family members at our new headquarters; already many brothers and sisters have had the chance to study the Divine Principle thoroughly and take tests. At the moment about 20 members are preparing for their departure to America in the middle of September, trying hard to become stronger fighters from day to day. All the Austrian family has joined in a prayer condition for the American mission and all the important events there. We now know very clearly that only our sacrifices can save America and the world. This was also the main topic at the European conference in Holland, in the wonderful "Glory House." Peter, Gertrud, and Goon Koch and twelve other members of the Austrian family stayed there from August 10-14, and the rich give and take with brothers and sisters from many different countries gave us a very strong determination to be successful for our Heavenly Father. One of my personal experiences at the conference was a deep longing for unity such as I had never felt before.

All the Austrian centers have started a 40-day condition with the goal of doubling the number of their members, and we hope that soon we can report good results. During the summer months we found fine brothers and sisters and some parents heard the conclusion. For all of them the weekend workshops at our farmhouse were a great help, and we thank Father for this wonderful place.

The missionaries from Denmark, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Turkey stayed with us for some time, and two brothers from Denmark, a Belgian couple with two daughters, found in Denmark, two boys from the Belgian family, and a brother from Luxembourg came to participate in a training course and gain the experience of living Principle in a larger family. We pray for small and big victories of all the brothers and sisters all over the world.

"Whatever we do, wherever we go, we are all in one embrace. When we roll the clouds of dark away, we will see His shining face."