

Missionary to Guyana Barbara Burrowes [Van Praag] founds Hallelujah Show

Robert Hall
February 1975



Photo date and location unknown

We have just completed our sixth show which, thanks to Heavenly Father, was a success. The show was held at Queens College, one of the best schools of learning in Guyana, and was attended by 350 to 400 persons who were really enthused by the performance.

Among those present were university figures, doctors, and one American pastor who really likes the Unification Church.

The seeds for "Hallelujah Shows" were sown late last year when missionary to Guyana Barbara Burrowes decided to hold "end-of-the-month" concerts at the church headquarters in Georgetown. Sometime later Barbara returned from a visit to England where she was a guest artist with the "New Life Show" now touring Europe. Miss Burrowes, a well-known opera singer (soprano lirica-spinto) worked with the European family members and brought back a new touch for her voice -- gospel singing -- and plans for an adaptation of the "New Life Show" in Guyana.

"Hallelujah" became our theme song. It is a simple tune -- the music inspired by church members and a bit adapted from a Japanese song. With simple dance steps, the girls dressed in pastel dresses and the boys in gold shirts and dark trousers, they depict in song and dance the uniting of the cosmos.

Other items on the program include folk songs done in Creole; two of them, "To Emancipation" and "In The Backyard," were composed by family members. Also on the program were new age songs, gospel and Negro spirituals, Japanese and Korean songs, poetry, skits, and interpretive dancing to "Our Father" and "The Beatitudes." The "Hallelujah Shows," produced by Robert Hall, are in many ways awakening people to what Reverend Moon and the Unification Church are doing for world restoration. Many persons are impressed and want to find out more about the Unification Church. We have plans to take the whole show to different parts of Guyana, and in some places hold small crusades where the Divine Principle lectures can be given.