

New Zealand Report: Auckland center has been swamped with visitors

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Our youngest city, Auckland, met with its first success this month. Response was slow to begin with but during the last few weeks the two girls in Auckland have been swamped with visitors. One visitor accepted after two visits to the center and moved in soon after.

A member from the Wellington-based national headquarters and I made a recent visit to Auckland and found very positive response. We formed a two-man team and worked in the Auckland University campus and surrounding gardens for a whole day. Many eagerly took booklets and wanted to talk for long periods about Reverend Sun Myung Moon and his teachings. The mission in New Zealand reached out onto many new levels this month. Two members and I had a very warm and responsive interview with the wife of New Zealand's Minister of Education Mr. Philip Amos.

We had our sixth meeting with Minister of Parliament Gerald O'Brien. The meeting was initiated essentially to

plan steps toward a meeting with the New Zealand leader, Prime Minister Norman Kirk. Mr. O'Brien said that if we were unable to get an interview with Mr. Kirk then he would personally make inquiries. Mr. O'Brien has helped us greatly on the political front. He is to visit our Wellington center for a meal soon.

Recently we wrote a second letter to New Zealand's Prime Minister. We gave him a more detailed outline of Divine Principle and asked for a 10 to 20 minute meeting with him.

Mr. Kirk replied saying he found our "One Family" ideal very interesting. He wrote that he will be heavily committed in the next month but suggested we contact him again in the near future.

Mr. Kirk is presently touring the Pacific Islands with Mr. Amos. As both men will be together for nearly a month and have both been recently contacted we are sure they will discuss the Unification Church. We plan to contact them both again soon.

Arnold G. Brooker, a longtime contact, paid us a visit a week ago. Mr. Brooker is heading a crusade to end the maltreatment of psychiatric patients.

He is keenly interested in Divine Principle. At a meeting of psychologists recently, Mr. Brooker gave a noted psychologist the Divine Principle book. He often directs people to come to our centers and will now present a Divine Principle Study Guide to his psychologist friends.

Mr. Brooker is continually travelling around New Zealand on his motor-bike meeting Christian and other groups. He promised to leave our address with as many groups as possible.

Professor Geering, a well-known religious author and head of the religious studies department at Victoria

University, Wellington, met with us for a second time recently. He is very interested in Principle but was unable to devote much time to more deep study because of his academic commitments to the university.

He promised to come for an evening at the Wellington center after the Easter break.



Witnessing to a nun

New Zealand has begun to import IL HWA Korean Ginseng tea. Butler and Bracefield IL HWA Importers and Distributors (Butler and Bracefield are both family members) have already ordered substantial amounts of tea for distribution in New Zealand. Health shops and coffee bars have responded with great enthusiasm.

Wellington's most popular coffee bar is enthusiastic to sell the tea by the cup. They want to have a display and sell it as a specialty. The owner of the coffee bar is also our landlord in Wellington. He has had several studies with us and has a good understanding of Principle. He is very keen to help the mission and has offered us jobs in his coffee bar. Once Ginseng tea goes on sale in the coffee bar some of us hope to work there selling the Divine Principle as well as Ginseng.

We have begun to collect flowers for drying and jars for our first granariums. Another form of fundraising here is the sale of home-made greeting cards. The cards are simple to make and are in great demand for their originality. We collect native plants from the surrounding bush, press them and mount them on cards. The cards are being supplied free of cost by a local printing company, so our only cost is strong glue.

We witness every night after finishing our jobs and often spend whole days on the streets. The streets in New Zealand are usually empty by 6:00 p.m., so we start campaigning house-to-house. The response is good and all our centers have been busy teaching at nights. The university campuses in Wellington, Christchurch, and Auckland offer profitable work at all times. Some of our members have jobs at the universities and so are able to talk to students during the day. The Wellington center is situated about 20 yards from the university and as a result we often have students visiting us between classes.

We continue to pray and work for the mission in America. From all the newspaper reports we have been receiving it is clear that America is really being moved by Reverend Moon's words. We follow as closely as possible in America's footsteps.