

KOREA - Denominations - Jehovah's Witnesses.

(1958 Yearbook of Jehovah's Witnesses. Brooklyn, Watchtower Bible Tract Soc. 1957, pp. 194-195)

Korea: Jesus said: "Also in all the nations the good news has to be preached first." (Mark 13:10) That is the way Jehovah's witnesses look at it in Korea. This has been the busiest year they have ever had and they are doing everything they can to reach every nook and corner of their assignment so that the people will learn the truth. The branch servant gives us some very interesting experiences as to the progress of the work.

Growth was the word for 1957 in Korea--growth upward in numbers and depth in maturity, and growth outward as the New World society literally stretched out its bounds to include many, many areas never preached to before. Kingdom Ministry pleaded for workers in unassigned places or assistance where only a little work was being done. Not only was the response wonderful for the special pioneer work, but also some regular pioneers gave up their ties and went to new territories. Even more significant were the congregation publishers who pulled up roots in communities where their families had lived for centuries, sold their homes and moved to areas that had been listed in Kingdom Ministry. We have received no reports of persons who failed to make a go of their assignments, but many are the expressions of happiness in finding the "other sheep" hungering to be fed.

This year again the vacation pioneer work was a key factor in the increase. The number tripled to an average of seventy-six vacation pioneers each month. Several congregations have gotten behind the Kingdom Ministry suggestion that as many as possible try to vacation pioneer during the circuit servant's visit. One unit of eighty publishers in Pusan was able to arrange for twenty-one vacation pioneers during the circuit visit in August. We here are sure that this extensive activity in the vacation pioneer field has been mainly responsible for the upsurge in home Bible studies seen at the end of the year. Studies thus over-

started continue after the vacation pioneer period had ended. Regular pioneer and special pioneer fields have been fattened by these vacation pioneers, as some go on to be regular pioneers. The average number of regular pioneers increased 70%, while the special pioneer average increased more than 100 percent.

After the resolution against Communist persecutors was unanimously adopted, Korea's most popular weekly magazine featured the full text of the resolution, along with the complete introductory article and an article of their own. It was published just a week before Brother Franz' public lecture, so it served a double role for good publicity.

Into the midst of the icy winter came dear Brother Franz, injecting unmeasured warmth and spiritual happiness into the Korean organization. His loving counsel was given in such a way as to endear him to the local brothers. The assembly held then proved what could be done even in Korea's wintry weather. Those turning out for the public meeting numbered 2,254. His counsel to the 147 pioneers present was very effective. All of us in Korea will long remember those cozy evenings of Bible discussion that followed the assembly. Since his and Brother Knorr's visits the Korean publishers many times have expressed that they now feel a personal connection with the governing body.

The work in the unassigned territory this summer has been well supported. The publishers here do not have automobiles for this rural work, but they manage train excursions or chartered buses once or twice a month. If the territory is far and the cost of the bus is too heavy, then two congregations will go together in order to fill up the bus. These excursions were happy occasions. Most congregations found them effective in increasing their magazine distribution. The magazines were distributed in greater numbers this year and it is felt that still more progress in this field will be seen.

1963

Jehovah's Convention Opens In Seoul With 198 Foreigners

The "Everlasting Good News" assembly of Jehovah's Witnesses opened yesterday at Citizens Hall in Seoul as 198 foreign delegates arrived on two separate planes from Tokyo.

An additional 247 foreign delegates and more are scheduled to reach Seoul Monday to join the mammoth meeting which is held in Korea as the last leg of the around-the-world conventions.

Joining the meeting were approximately 3,000 Korean followers of the Jehovah's Witnesses which believe in the prophetic promise of the Holy Bible which "foretold that the Kingdom of God, Jehovah, will bring an end to this wicked system of things at the impending universal war called Armageddon."

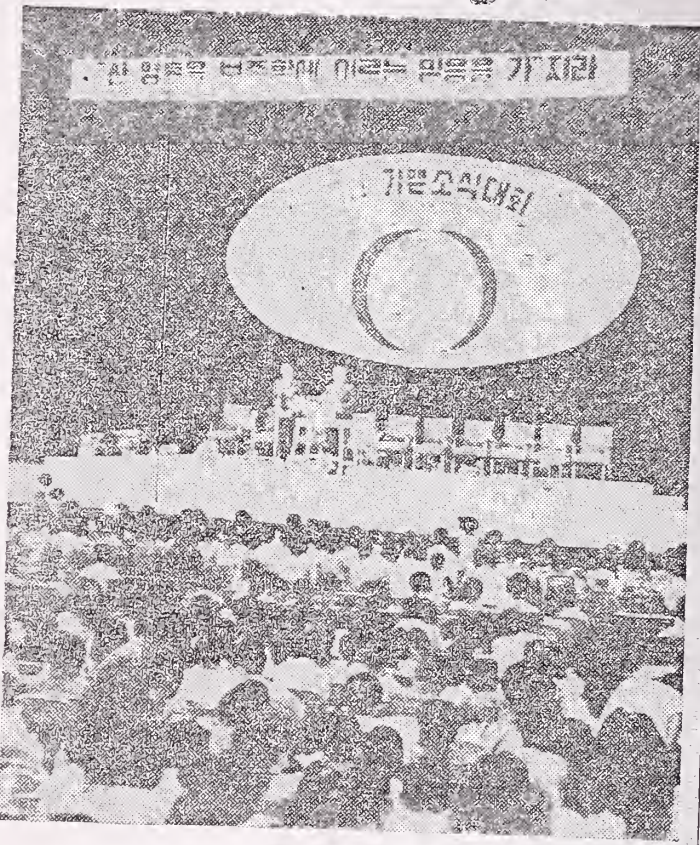
Until Tuesday

The convention authorities said the assembly will continue to Tuesday, and it will have drawn a total of 456 foreign delegates representing the United States, Canada, Germany, Switzerland, England, South Africa, Norway, Greece, France, the Philippines and nine other countries.

At 3:00 p.m. today, according to assembly authorities, N. H. Knorr, president of Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, the head of the foreign delegates, will speak at Citizens Hall on the subject of "When God is King all over the Earth."

"Korea was selected for one of the assembly's sites because of her Bible concern," the assembly authorities said.

The foreign delegates, during



N. H. Knorr, the president of the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, addresses the opening assembly of the "Everlasting Good News" convention of the Jehovah's Witnesses in Seoul. Some 3,000 joined the assembly which will continue until Tuesday.

their four-day stay, will be accommodated at Walker Hill Hotel which will be greeting the first large foreign tourist group in its brief history.

Travel of the foreign delegates is financed by individuals. Before arriving here, they toured Europe, Asia and the United States.

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