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## Lepers Tour Colony In Church's Gift Bus

By DOROTHY MONTGOMERY  
Special Writer

The bus that St. James Episcopal Church parishioners purchased for the Leper Colony in Okinawa has reached its destination. It has taken a long time but has arrived in good shape, and it is busy doing the work for which it was intended.

The Rt. Rev. Harry S. Kennedy, bishop of Honolulu, advised the arrival of the bus in his letter to the Rev. Kenneth H. Gass, rector of St. James.

"I just returned from a five weeks trip visiting Japan, Korea, Okinawa, Taiwan, Viet Nam and Guam. In Okinawa we had a service of dedication for the bus that your congregation gave to the Leper Colony. I will enclose some photographs that may be of some interest to your people.

"IF YOU could see the faces of the children as they poured into the bus for the first ride around the colony, it would have done your heart good. When they came back the rest of the lepers lined up in a queue such as in a city bus station, waiting for their turn to be taken around the colony.

"The director of public health accepted the bus at the presentation where there was much bowing and the keys to the bus were given to him.

"I have inspired your people to bring great joy and light into the lives of these good people. I wish they might be able to write and express the joy in their hearts. I also wish I might be able to describe the enthusiasm I saw in those distorted and disfigured faces. May God bless you and your people for this wonderful gift."

ST. JAMES parishioners have reason to be thankful for their ability to carry out the bus project. It began Sept. 24, 1961, when the Rt. Rev. Harry S. Kennedy stirred up all the parish over the work of the church in the South Pacific. One of the most interesting aspects, pointed out in his sermon, was work among the lepers in Okinawa. In St. James' parish, which lacks nothing in fine facilities, in a community where advantages are within easy reach, his

sermon pointed out how richly blessed we are.

When asked what we could do to help the lepers of Okinawa, Bishop Kennedy retorted, with some reluctance, that a 20 or 30-passenger bus was sorely needed for transportation around the isolated island. Because many can not walk any great distance, they had not been out of the compound for over a year.

DR. GASS organized the Bus Fund, and the parish responded with heart-felt alacrity. In record time the necessary funds were proffered; a second-hand, 26-passenger bus was purchased and renovated for shipment to Okinawa.

Through the kindness of many parishioners, old and young alike, the bus was made ready for its long journey. The bus was shipped to San Diego where it remained until the U.S. Navy through its "Operation Handicap" could secure space on a ship for transportation to Okinawa.

The newspaper wire services picked up the story of the bus, and people from all over the country read about the bus project. One woman from Rochester, N.Y., wrote Dr. Gass, she was selling her house and furnishings and wanted to donate the proceeds to the Okinawa Leper Colony.

"It is like a grain of mustard seed which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in earth; but when it is sown, it grows up, and becomes greater than all branches." — St. Mark 5:31,32.

## Mormons Set Conference of Local Stake

Three leaders of auxiliary organizations, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon), Salt Lake City, will attend a quarterly conference of the Detroit Stake Saturday and Sunday in Bloomfield Hills.

They are Carl J. Christensen, a member of the Sunday School General Board; and Clarence Robinson and Hazel Snow, representing the Young Men's and Young Women's Mutual Improvement Associations of the Church.

General sessions of the conference will be conducted Sunday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. by Stake President Edwin B. Jones of Clawson. Visitors are invited to attend these meetings at 425 N. Woodward.

ELDER Christensen has been dean of the University of Utah School of Mineral Industries since 1956. He has also taught at Brigham Young University and for 17 years was a member of the technical staff of the Bell Telephone Laboratories.

Elder Robinson is a teacher and track coach and is now working on the Athletic Committee of the board. He received his BS degree from Eastern Young University and his MS degree from University of Michigan.

Mrs. Snow has served in the Relief Society, Primary, Sunday School, and MIA auxiliaries. She is a graduate of Utah State University and the mother of three children. Special meetings for Sunday School and MIA leaders will be held Saturday.

## St. Stephen's Ends Season With a Picnic

St. Stephen's Episcopal Churchwomen of Birmingham closed the current season with their annual June picnic Monday.

Members gathered beside the pool at the home of Mrs. Robert Boynton, 1273 Yorkshir, for a swim and a cooperative luncheon. There was no business meeting since the picnic is traditionally a social affair.

When the Episcopal Churchwomen meet Sept. 16 to inaugurate their fall series of meetings, Mrs. Robert Montgomery, 1911 Greenwood Road, will preside as the new president.

OTHER OFFICERS of the annual meeting, include Mrs. Edwin Cox, 889 Liverpool, as president-elect.

## Christian Women Plan Luncheon

Complexion care and make-up will be demonstrated by Nina Noble of the Merle Norman Studio, Birmingham as a special feature of the last Christian Women's Club luncheon of the season, at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday at Devon Gables.

Mrs. Harold MacDonald, 1261 Club Drive, Bloomfield Hills, will be the model.

Guest soloists will be soprano Joann Birkquist, senior at North Park College, Chicago, a voice major in music education; Miss Birkquist had the lead in the school presentation of "Amahl and the Night Visitors," the "Marriage of Figaro" and "Hansel and Gretel" as well as oratorio work in the Chicago and Detroit areas.

DR. DONALD BROWN, dentist of Orchard Lake will be the guest speaker. Dr. Brown is listed in "Who's Who in Education" and is on the Board of Directors of Wade Wenger, an international service business.

He is a member of the Royal Society of Health and the Association of Anesthetists. He was formerly attached to the Korean Military Advisory Group.

He is the chairman of the Board of Directors of the Detroit Bible College and on the Financial Board of Directors of the Voice of Christian Youth.

Those interested in attending this luncheon may make reservations by contacting Mrs. George Ahl, 7088 Pinewood Court.

Mrs. James Searls, 3524 Tothill, recording secretary; Mrs. Arnold McGraw of Pontiac, corresponding secretary.

Mrs. William B. Heaton, 2730 Charnwood Drive, treasurer; Mrs. Roger Blackwood, 2580 Charnwood Drive, historian; and Mrs. Thomas Roberts, 820 S. Reading Road, United Thank Offering custodian.

MRS. ELIZABETH Hutton, 4853 Beach Road, retiring president, is the new president of the Woodward Convocation of Episcopal Churchwomen of the Diocese of Michigan. Appointed to that post by the Rt. Rev. Richard S. Enrich, bishop of Michigan, Mrs. Hutton was installed as convocation president at the annual meeting of the diocesan ECW last month in Bay City.

Woodward Convocation is composed of 12 parishes in Birmingham, Royal Oak, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Madison Heights, Clawson and Detroit. The Rev. Canon John M. Shuffelt of St. John's Episcopal Church Royal Oak is dean of the convocation.

## Country Day To Hold New Kindergarten

Detroit Country Day School, 22305 W. 13 Mile Road, Birmingham, will expand its curriculum to include a junior kindergarten in September.

Hours will be from 10:30 a.m. to

B'HAM ECCENTRIC Thursday, June 6, 1963 Page 7-B

2 p.m. Applicants must be at least three and a half years old on Sept. 1.

THE PROGRAM will include educational games, art work, music experience, stories, block building and other activities, directed by Mrs. Nancy Stefan. An equipment room adjacent to a new indoor and outdoor play area will be completed this summer.

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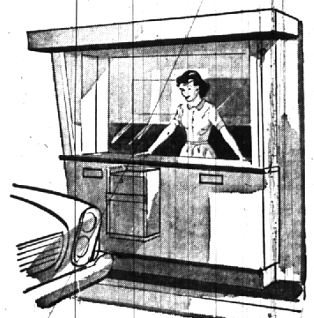
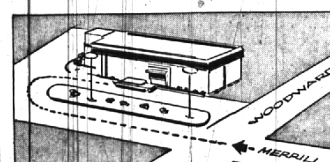
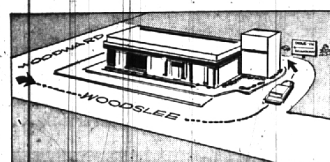
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