

THE CONTEXT AND CHALLENGE OF MISSION:

**Report on a Survey of
Local Seventh-day Adventist Congregations
in the South-West Pacific**

SUMMARY

The survey which forms the basis of this report was conducted by the Growth and Nurture Taskforce, a committee set up to find ways of dealing with the challenge of the rapidly changing structure of the Church in the island countries of the South-West Pacific.

To study the church it chose to survey congregations and to examine characteristics of their members, their ministers and their ministry. The form of the survey means that it gives us a unique body of data to examine some of the differences between congregations. It provides a basis to reflect on the ways in which that should influence our ministry within them and outreach from them.

The factor dominating nearly all others is the age of those attending church services. In many of the churches in excess of 60 percent are under 21 and for many missions more than 60 percent are under 21 years for the whole mission territory.

These young people have higher educational levels than those older, and many are progressing to college level courses. The church needs to develop means of strengthening the spiritual and values education for the high proportion in non-Adventist institutions. It also needs to find ways of effectively encouraging those who move away from home for education. Low levels of literacy are however still a major problem and programs to increase literacy could be a great benefit to many members.

The relative educational levels of members and ministers need to be watched in this situation and appropriate policies to keep them matched are required.

The survey emphasised the great disparity between different areas in levels of economic development, the extent of market oriented activity and of employment on wages. These have obvious effects on the church.

Several questions related to alternative concepts of involvement in the church. Attendance gave one set of numbers, membership another. The estimates of the membership and the attendance obtained bracket the official estimates of the membership. If however the primary interest is in net growth the large numbers of apostasies and missing members highlights what is perhaps the most significant problem of the church in these countries.

The survey highlights and quantifies many features of the church in these countries and provides a basis for a review and reconsideration of the strategies being adopted. It will only have been worthwhile if that review is pursued and it helps the Church to find more effective ways to show forth Jesus Christ in these communities.

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Preface

During the preparation of this brief report I have felt like one who should be listening and observing, not writing. The task of analysing this survey involved analysis of questions answered by persons in a cultural and linguistic environment which I have never experienced first hand. The issues picked out for emphasis will therefore have a bias towards things which would be important if they were observed in environments with which I am familiar. This has dictated that there be less interpretive comment than there would be in a report on a survey of the same issues in contexts that have been experienced by the author. To obtain the most from the survey those with direct knowledge of the Unions studied must bring their detailed knowledge to that interpretive task.

In what follows there are several comments in a form which might be expected in an independent review. The report attempts to extract some of the most significant features from the data obtained. It is also important to learn from the experience of this survey and to avoid some of the problems which have made it difficult to obtain precise results from it.

The study was a bold attempt to gain some new insights into the structure of the church and its challenges in the Union Missions. It has confirmed some intuitively held views and provided a new quantitative dimension to others. Most important it provides a framework which can help focus discussion and analysis of what is the best way to pursue the work to which the church is called.

This report is the culmination of the work of many both at the Division, in the Union Missions, in the Local Missions and in the local congregations. It is their efforts which made it possible. It has been a privilege to work with the material at this stage. It now falls to others to reflect on it and to consider ways in which it can inform their view of the most effective strategies in the ministry of expanding the Kingdom of Christ.

L.F. Jackson
May, 1989

INTRODUCTORY NOTES

The Initiation and Conduct of the Survey

The concept of the survey was a part of the Terms of Reference of the Growth and Nurture Task Force Committee which held its first meeting February 19, 1986. At that meeting a range of information required was listed. At the second meeting on May 21, 1986 a range of questions was elaborated and further refinement of the forms used was to be undertaken in consultation with those who would be responsible for preparation of computer input. At their third meeting the Committee recorded that there had been further consultation which led to refinement of the questions (in fact a whole page of new ones were added), and a design suitable for data preparation agreed.

The survey was to be conducted in early 1987. It was 'designed to assist in both short and long range strategic planning in major aspects of the program of each local and union mission'.

Execution of the survey took longer than anticipated, and it was not until early 1988 that all of the responses obtained were available as a computer file. A preliminary report was prepared for verbal presentation at the Division Executive Committee meetings in May 1988.

The difficulties of good survey work are well known. Business enterprises generally get professional polling organisations to conduct surveys for them, but often even these surveys are subject to important qualifications when reviewed by independent experts. Some of the difficulties with this survey are outlined in the Appendices. Because of these difficulties the conclusions in the report are frequently stated in general terms rather than the specific quantitative form which could be obtained with more careful design and execution.

The Concept of Mission

The Mission which we have taken up as followers of Jesus Christ involves a many-faceted challenge. For the church leader there is the challenge to 'feed my sheep', a symbol suggesting dependence, while at the same time seeking to bring them 'to mature manhood'¹, emphasizing a formed character and independence of decision and action. For all there is to be an internal dimension to mission 'when each part (of the church) is working properly, makes bodily growth and upbuilds itself in love'² and an external dimension in which there is the charge to 'go and proclaim the kingdom of God'³

These features of mission must be kept in mind while thinking about the implications of the data collected in this survey of 1151 congregations.

¹ Eph 4.13

² Eph 4.16

³ Lk 9.60

They give a picture of a few aspects of the body of people that form the church. In scriptural terms the church should grow and upbuild itself in love. That image is one of courage, for it is not merely a picture of a challenge, but with each part working properly it also describes the resources available for the task. The challenge for the church leader is to help provide that nurture and encouragement which will enable each part to achieve its potential as a resource for mission and to fulfil its role in the body of Christ.

The numbers in this report represent people who have a place in the Church which neither the reader nor the author can fill. The members involved must find their own unique ways of fulfilling the tasks Christ gives them with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Others can only play a supportive part. This report aims to provide some information which will help leaders and members of the church fill that supportive role, and enable them to help others find their specific mission.

Societies and a Church in Change.

In Towards 2000⁴ the impact of secularization on the role and mission of the church in Australia and New Zealand is analysed. There are perhaps even more rapid changes associated with an earlier stage of the same process of secularization taking place throughout the South-West Pacific. The societies of this region are in the midst of rapid social and economic change. Within that process the church itself is an agent for change and for many it facilitates additional social mobility. It is an important part of the process.

Change provides opportunities for both good and evil and it is often during a process of change that the warfare between good and evil becomes sharply focused. In wars between nations careful analysis of both tactical and strategic information can play a vital part in determining the outcome. In the war between good and evil the church cannot afford to be less concerned with efficiency than leaders in warfare between nations. Like them it should carefully design the information it collects and modify its activities to increase their effectiveness.

Alternative Forms of Statistical Enquiry

There are many different types of statistical enquiry which can be used to study problems and issues arising in church administration and development. If there is a need to study detailed interrelationships between variables then a survey of individuals is likely to be necessary. For example, to study the educational attainments of church members by age groups a survey of individuals would be the best means of obtaining the data.

For other purposes a survey of groups of individuals is appropriate. In most national censuses there are two forms used. One is for individuals and the

⁴ Alf Birch, Strategic Planning Coordinator. Toward 2000: SDA Mission to the Secularized Societies of Australia and New Zealand. Seventh-day Adventist Church, South Pacific Division.

other for the household. In our context the congregation is a central unit and this survey sought to look at congregations. While the survey collected information about individuals the primary units in the survey are the congregations. It is not clear if those originally designing the survey were primarily interested in the characteristics of congregations - but that is what it is easiest to obtain with this data. We can examine a classification of congregations by the age structure of their members, by organizational status, or by some other characteristic.

When studying individuals or entities such as congregations there is usually also the choice of conducting a census, aiming at getting responses from all members of the target population, or a sample. This choice is generally based on technical conditions for measurement efficiency and cost minimisation. Information is expensive and it is important to obtain estimates to a required accuracy at as low a cost as possible. Because of the cost of obtaining accurate information from each of the units and fully checking it, it would have been preferable to use a sample instead of a census in this exercise.

The focus on the differences between churches implicit in the design of this survey is one insufficiently emphasized. It is often easiest to think of material or programs available to every church, but just as individuals differ so do churches and congregations. To illustrate this consider just two characteristics, the size of congregation, and the proportion under a given age. In Figure 1 the pattern of responses to these two characteristics is displayed for all congregations in the survey. Note that some did not respond to one or both of the questions. They are represented by squares on the axes. For those that did respond we get information about their structure. There is an enormous difference between a church of 150 members with less than 15 percent under 21 and a church of the same size with over 85 percent under 21. This diagram illustrates the range of size and age structure of the congregations. It adds a dimension to planning for the needs of these congregations if these two measurable factors are explicitly considered.

While a company or a church may have a strong unity of purpose it is very difficult to express in statistical terms their 'common beliefs' and the relationship between those and their actions. Because of this a survey at the level of congregations therefore focuses on their demographic, economic or social character. The remainder of this report looks at some ways in which the survey throws light on these features of the congregations.

THE AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ATTENDEES

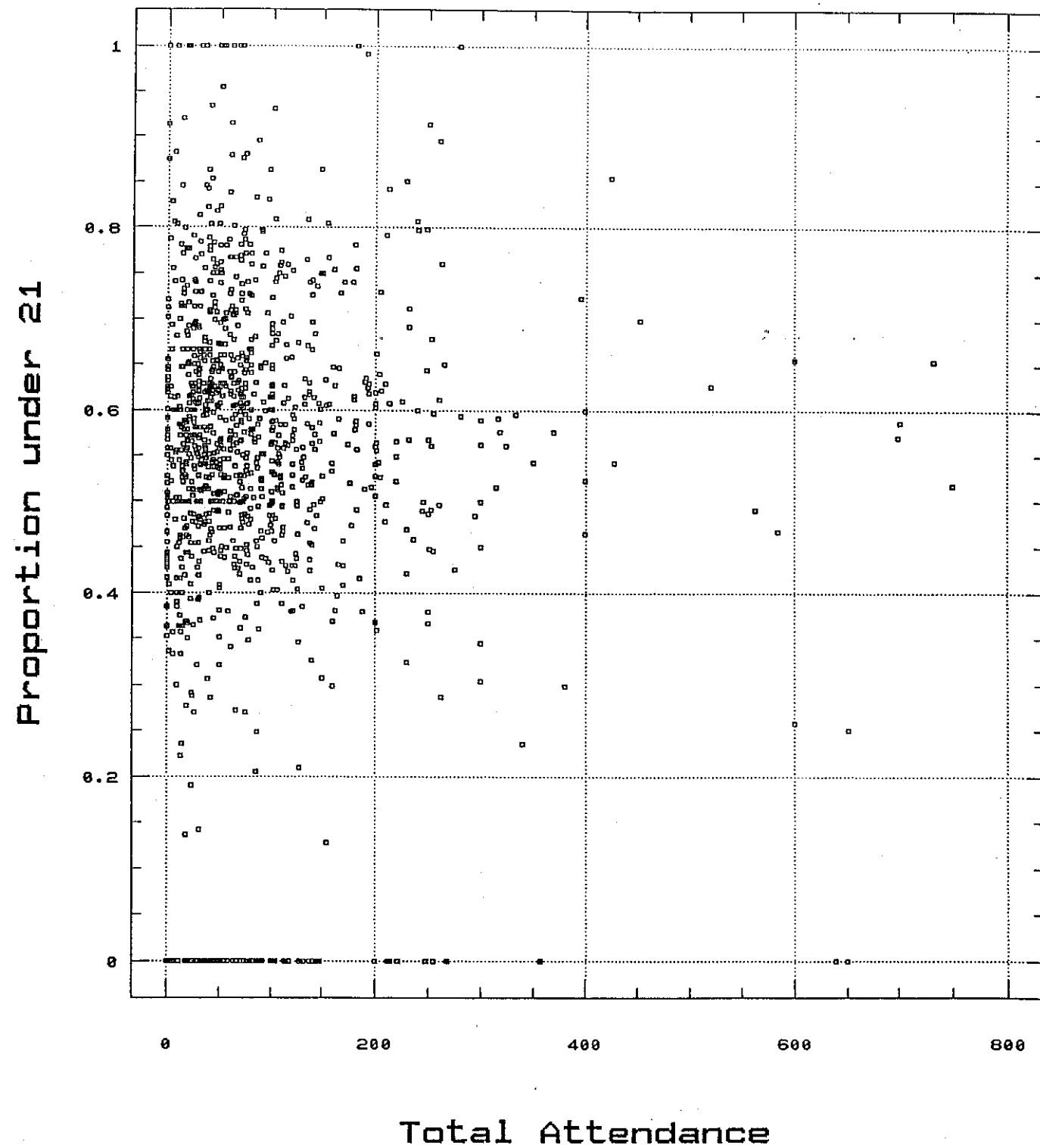
The countries of the South-West Pacific have young populations and the Church attendees reflect this feature of society.

The contrast with Australia

In Figure 2 a population pyramid is used to illustrate the proportions of attendees at various ages for Papua New Guinea Union Mission. So far as I know no comparable data exists for Australia and New Zealand. However we do have an age distribution from the census report of church adherents

Plot of Proportion under 21
Vs Total Attendance

(X 1000)



Population Pyramid for SDA's Australia and Papua New Guinea

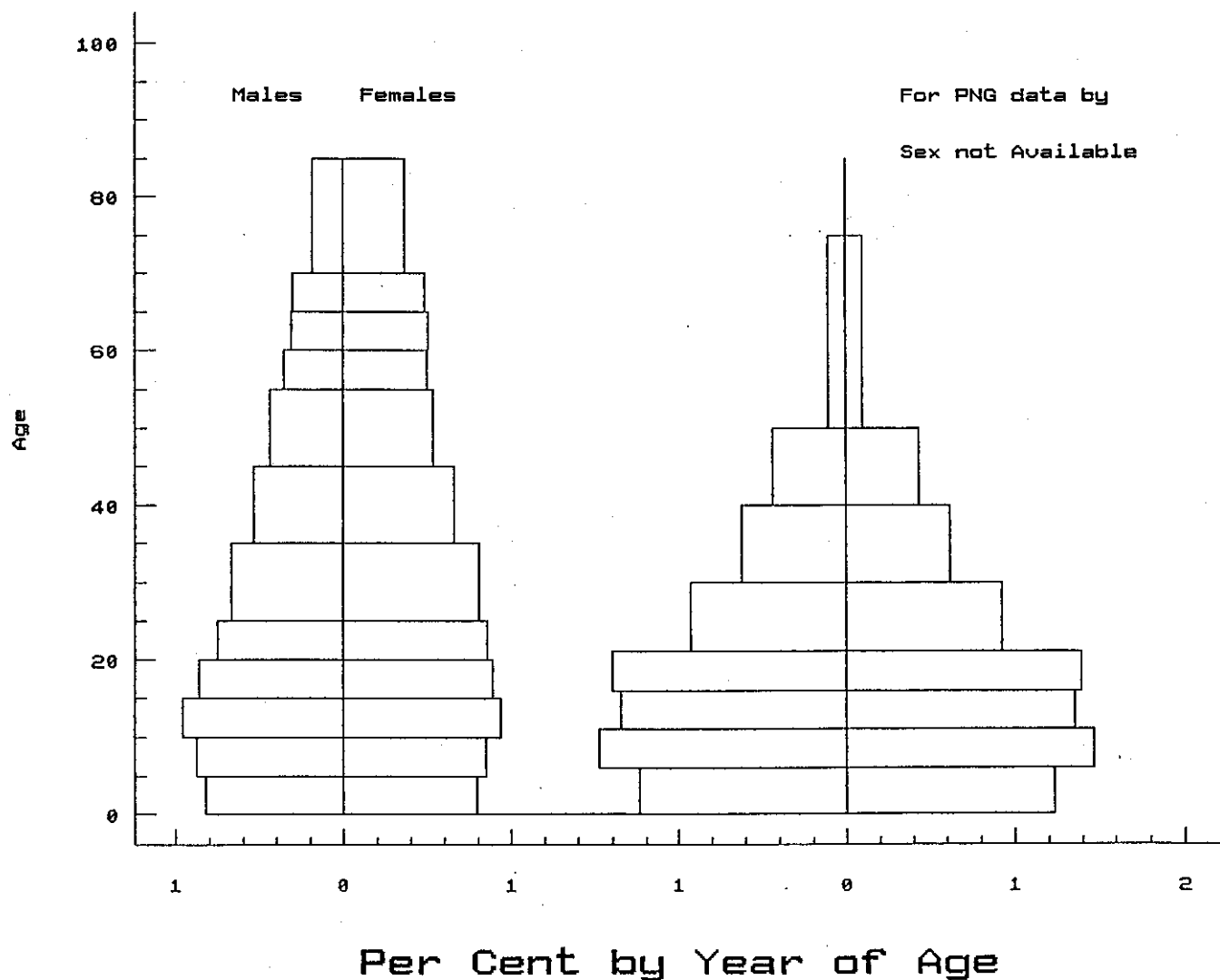


Figure 2

by males and females and that is given for comparison. The different age structure in the two countries is clear and the high proportion of young attendees is perhaps the single most significant feature of the church in the three Union Missions. The area of the two pyramids is the same. For Papua New Guinea all of the weight in the upper age groups in Australia is transferred into the groups under 21. That makes a radical difference to the whole structure of the church.

In PNG no mission had less than 51 percent of attendees under 21 and four missions had in excess of 60 percent under 21. Perhaps the greatest challenge of the church is to provide an environment which will maintain and develop Christianity in these young attendees as they mature.

Ministry for the Church by the Young

Historically at least in New Zealand there is an example of a Church which harnessed its youth and gave them positions of leadership and responsibility. The Salvation Army came to New Zealand at about the same time as Seventh-day Adventists. The enthusiasm of its young leaders (one of them just 21 years old when he arrived) meant that within five years it had become a very significant force within the colony and it had approached membership levels before the end of the nineteenth century which Adventists have only reached today. Perhaps if we gave an educated, energetic and consecrated 21 year old 12 months of training and complete responsibility for a significant area we would see similar results!

The church's traditional structures are not well adapted to giving young people real responsibility but the challenge of the age structure of the church in PNG may need some radical solutions. In western societies it is often true that young people can only be reached by young people. It is tempting to think about the impact if we could find new ways of having some full time young people ministering to young people in the PNG context.

In the circumstances it faces the church should consider using some of its young people who have completed a degree programme, giving them a year of specialised training and using them in ministry.

EDUCATION

The Education Gap

In nearly all countries there is a secular trend towards increasing levels of education. The young are more highly educated than their parents. This is accentuated in countries like PNG. Even today a large number get little education. One source states that on a national basis in 1986 only 58 percent of primary age children were at school with 34 percent in the highland provinces. Unfortunately the survey does not permit us to make direct comparisons with these figures.

Education and literacy are two of the central factors in any strategic thinking about the church and this section examines some aspects of both as revealed by the survey.

Literacy

Literacy Levels

One measure of education is literacy. The reading ability of the membership is central to many programmes of the church and to their ability to grow from reading of the scriptures. It may even be the case that in these societies programmes which develop literacy could be as significant for the members of the church as programmes used in countries like Australia and New Zealand to promote a vegetarian diet, to stop smoking, or to reduce stress⁵.

The literacy of the membership modifies the tools available to them in preparing for and fulfilling their own mission and modifies the church's ability to assist them.

In 1980 on a national basis it was estimated that among those 10 or over 22 per cent were literate in English in PNG and a similar percentage were literate in Pidgin, while the number literate in both was not stated in the sources available. The total percentage illiterate was however given as 67 percent. It is difficult to construct figures comparable with these for this survey. There were difficulties with the accuracy and interpretation of the data for the single question which related to literacy and perhaps more effort should have been devoted to this in the survey in view of its importance for many church activities.

Because of the importance of this topic the responses were analysed to obtain some view of the literacy of members. If the basis of the calculations is the attendance then a very conservative and downward biased estimate is that at least 33 percent of attendees are literate in at least one language. If the basis of the calculations is the baptised membership an estimate of 47 percent is obtained. This should not be interpreted as implying that the baptised membership have a substantially higher literacy rate than other attendees though that may be true. The difficulty lies in knowing how those filling out the questionnaire interpreted the question and obtained their information. Given the way in which the estimates were constructed it is only possible to be confident that the actual ratio is at least 33 percent. It may be considerably higher on average, and it is substantially higher in the non-highland missions.

Other evidence on literacy may perhaps be obtained from the questions on number of years of schooling given in Table 13 of the appendices.

The Languages Used

In the section above dealing with literacy the range of languages used in the Union Missions was mentioned. Table 1 gives the number of readers for the most widely read languages.

⁵ See also G. Oosterwal, *Mission: Possible*. Nashville, Tennessee. 1972. Southern Publishing Company. p.61.

Table 1 Languages in Order of Readership Number

English	24233
Pidgin	13816
Fijian	5722
Samoan	2739
French	2560
Marove	2336
Tahitian	2070
Local Languages	7279

Table 26 in the Appendices gives a detailed list of the languages which members of the congregations were reported as able to read, together with the numbers able to do so. This table is useful as giving an indication of the relative size of various language groups and literacy in some of the smaller language groups. There are a number of important policy issues in this area and the present data is only a first guide to them.

One interesting question is what is the smallest set of languages necessary to enable someone in every congregation to read the material? 931 congregations reported the numbers of literate persons for some language. Of these 813 contained persons able to read English, a further 92 contained persons able to read Pidgin (of which some could probably also read English), and the remainder contained persons able to read French. 571 congregations reported persons able to read Pidgin and it is clearly the main second language for many members. Of these 478 reported they also had members able to read English. A total of 66 congregations had members able to read French. Some of the 'Local Language' groups may be quite large, but others will be very small and it is impossible to tell how many of them use other languages listed.

Percentages by Education Level Attained

It is not possible to separate out the educational level and age of members or attendees. However Table 13 in the appendices does give a picture of the numbers of years of schooling for the church congregations. The table presents the proportion who have had *at most* 3, 6, 10 or 11 years of schooling. This cumulative method of presentation may be unfamiliar to some, but is helpful because it gives a guide to the proportion which may have difficulty with material presented at any particular level. It also enables easy calculation of the proportion of those with more education than a particular level, by taking one less the tabulated figure.

The Need for Additional Data

These figures should include those still at school, and do include many senior members who had little opportunity for education. This means they do not represent the pattern of educational level attained by young adult members of the church.

In a strategic analysis the present pattern of educational attainment among young Seventh-day Adventists would be extremely helpful. It would require a survey of individuals rather than groups such as congregations or churches.

Because of the levels of education and literacy, any such survey would need to take full account of what has been learned about taking surveys in developing countries. It would almost certainly require carefully trained interviewers.

How are Adventist Young People being Educated?

Detailed questions were asked in the survey about the nature of educational institutions being attended by children from each congregation. A summary of the responses is given in Table 15 in the Appendices. A comparison of these figures with data provided by the Education Secretary of the PNG Union Mission shows a number of identifiable gaps in the responses and some which seem implausible and are probably due to misinterpretation of the question. However the broad pattern of the results poses a number of strategic issues which need to be addressed.

In many of the adventist families in the unions it is impossible to find the fees necessary for attending an Adventist school. This places additional responsibility on the family and the local church in Christian education of their youth. Some suggestions are given by Oosterwal⁶ but more than suggestions are needed.

Tables 2 and 3 give a summary of this data across all of the missions. In Tables 4 and 5 details are given for the PNG Union Mission alone.

Table 2 Attendance at Educational Institutions

	Day SDA	NSDA	SDA	Boarding NSDA	
Primary	5618	10749	1847	999	19213
Secondary	436	1511	1156	1221	4324
College	158	241	380	260	1039
Totals	6212	12501	3383	2480	24576
Total Day/Board	18713		5863		

⁶Op. cit. p.60.

Table 3 Educational Enrolments by Level

	SDA	NSDA	Total
Primary	7465	11748	19213
Secondary	1592	2732	4324
College	538	501	1039
Total	9595	14981	24576

Table 4 Attendance at Educational Institutions PNG

	Day SDA	NSDA	SDA	Boarding NSDA	Total
Primary	2161	6954	1059	601	10775
Secondary	198	690	568	871	2327
College	54	35	141	141	371
Totals	2413	7679	1768	1613	13473
Total Day/Board	10092		3381		

Table 5 Educational Enrolments by Level - PNG

	SDA	NSDA	Total
Primary	3220	7555	10775
Secondary	766	1561	2327
College	195	176	371
Total	4181	9292	13473

The educational program of the church has been a very significant part of its work in the Union Missions. However the data above should help assess some of the challenges which it poses. It is unrealistic to concentrate all education of Adventist young people in Adventist institutions, and the

importance of Adventist enrolments in non-Adventist institutions is highlighted in the above figures. In PNG this proportion is relatively higher than in the other unions. Across the three Unions the proportion of students in SDA institutions at all levels is 39 percent. In PNG the percentage in Adventist institutions increases with the level but averages only 31 percent. However the proportion of Adventist students at college level in PNG is almost certainly overstated.

The figures understate the numbers in educational institutions, and this is likely to be at least as large as the understatement in the rolls which is discussed later.

This data should highlight the need to think about the total educational services to Adventist youth, to consider ways of meeting the needs of the large group in secular institutions and to re-evaluate the directions and objectives of educational outlays which the church makes.

On being 'Away for Education'

One of the major problems in the region is the mobility of young people especially for education or work. A movement away from a village or home is often associated with a reduction or even break in many traditional social links and links with the Church may readily be lost at the same time if the person is away at a non-Adventist institution. Table 16 in the Appendices gives an indication of the numbers affected. Since this is a temporary status, the total numbers involved quickly become very large as additional persons enter or leave this group.

Steps to demonstrate a caring, but not domineering, concern for these young people could help them integrate Christianity and the changes in their lives.

Education and Ministry

While questions were asked in this survey about the education of the Minister the responses are perhaps more useful for examining the policy of the Mission committees in appointing pastors than in examining the qualifications of the field staff in these unions. A better method of doing that would be to use administrative records. With large numbers of members obtaining some college education it is imperative that the ministerial staff be able to understand, communicate with and help these members who go in to professional positions in the community.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT OF CHURCH MEMBERS

The question on the means of economic support requested information by families and asked for a response on the prime means of economic support. There were many non-responses and it may have been a difficult question for many to answer. Nevertheless the patterns in the responses are interesting and plausible.

Primary Means of Economic Support

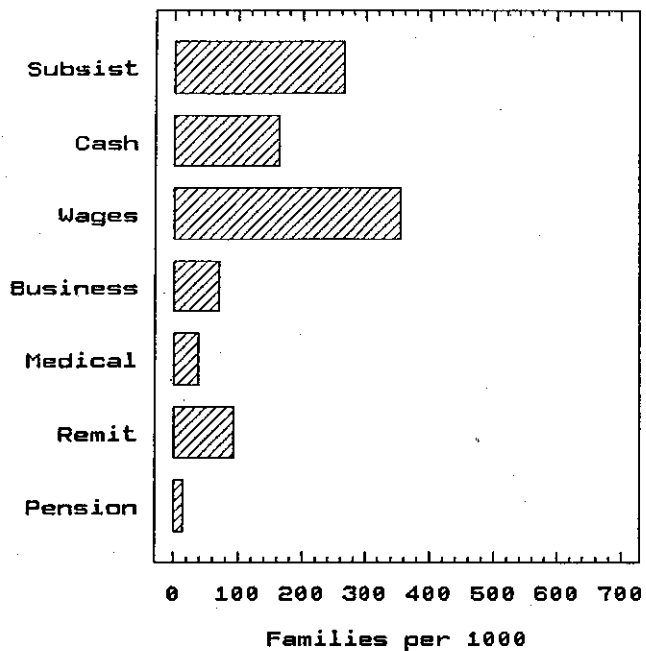


Figure 3(a) Central Papua

Primary Means of Economic Support

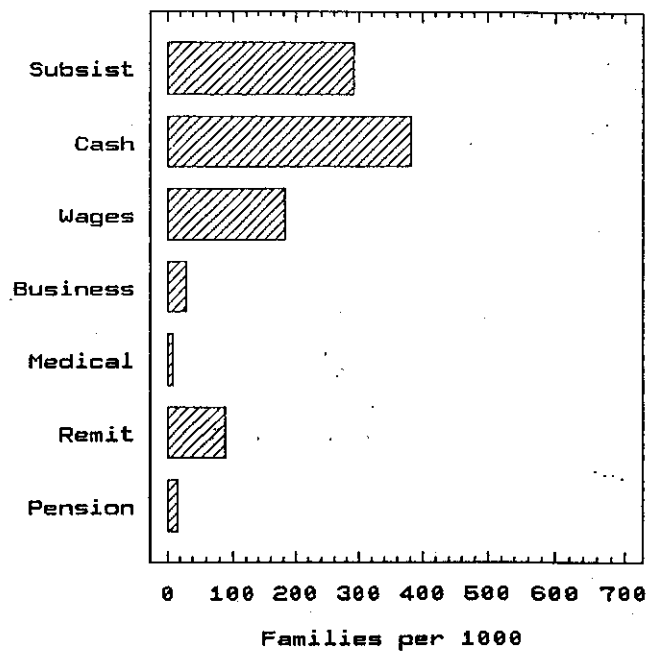


Figure 3(b) Eastern Highlands

Primary Means of Economic Support

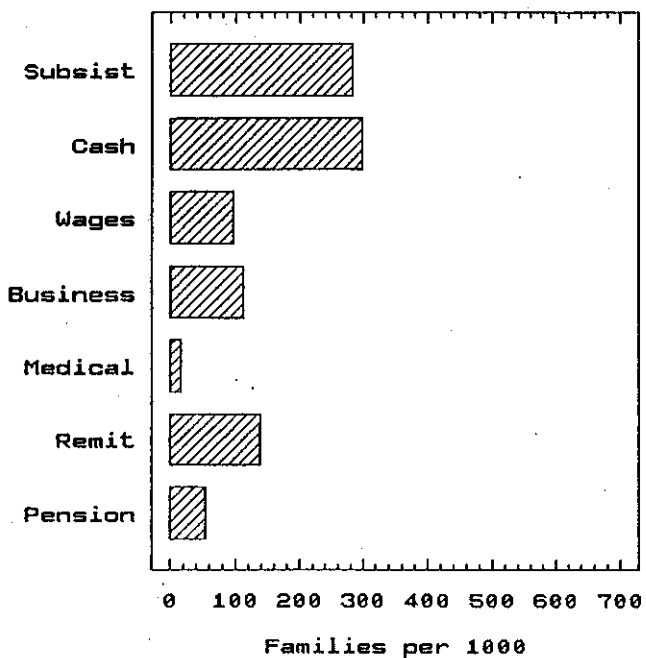


Figure 3(c) Madang Manus

Primary Means of Economic Support

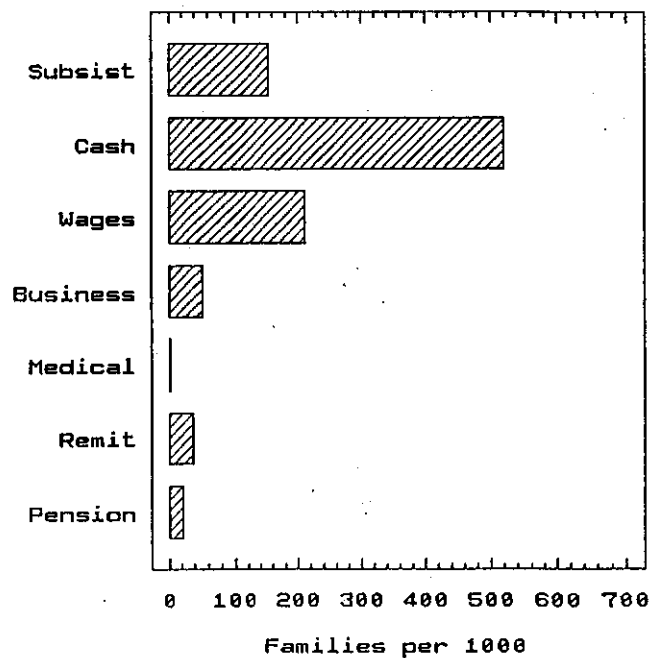


Figure 3(d) Morobe

Primary Means of Economic Support

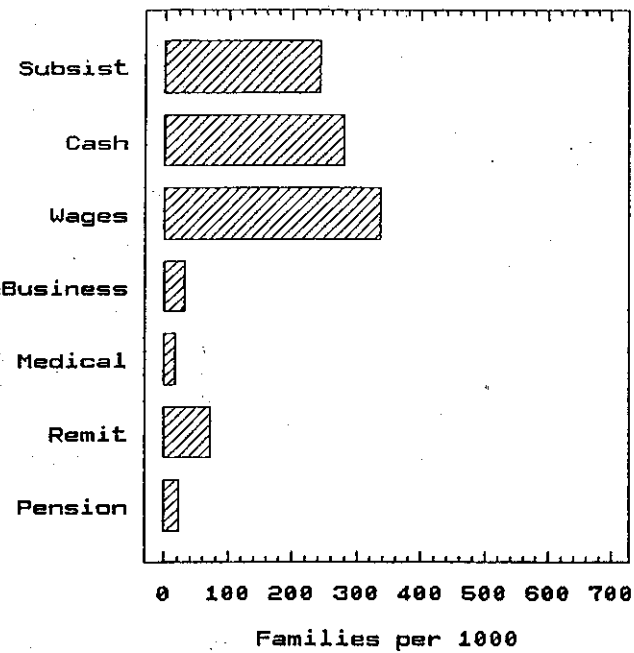


Figure 3(e) New Brit/New Ireland

Primary Means of Economic Support

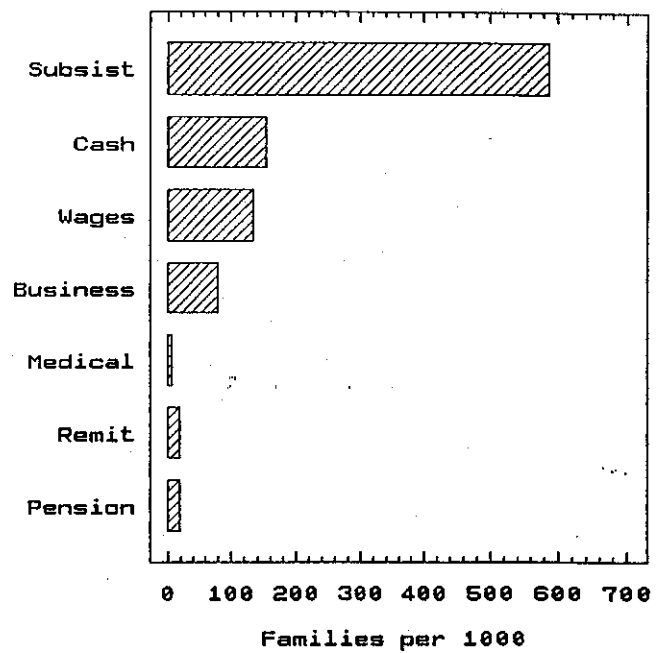


Figure 3(f) NE Papua

Primary Means of Economic Support

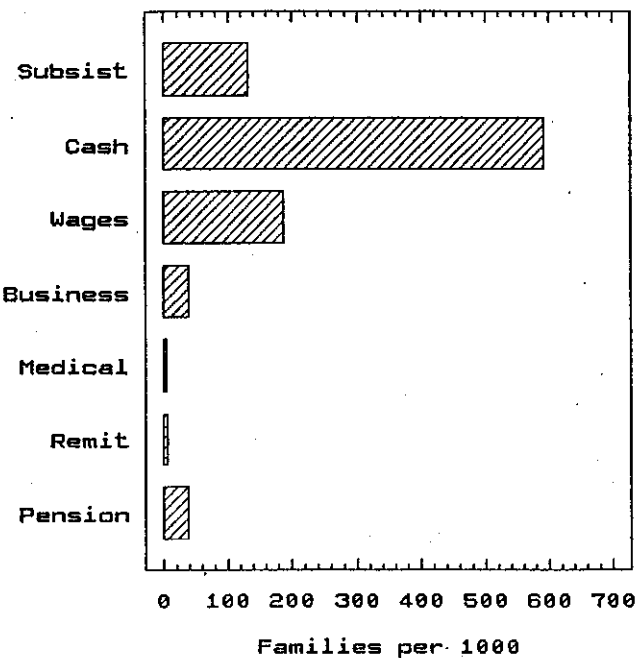


Figure 3(g) North Solomons

Primary Means of Economic Support

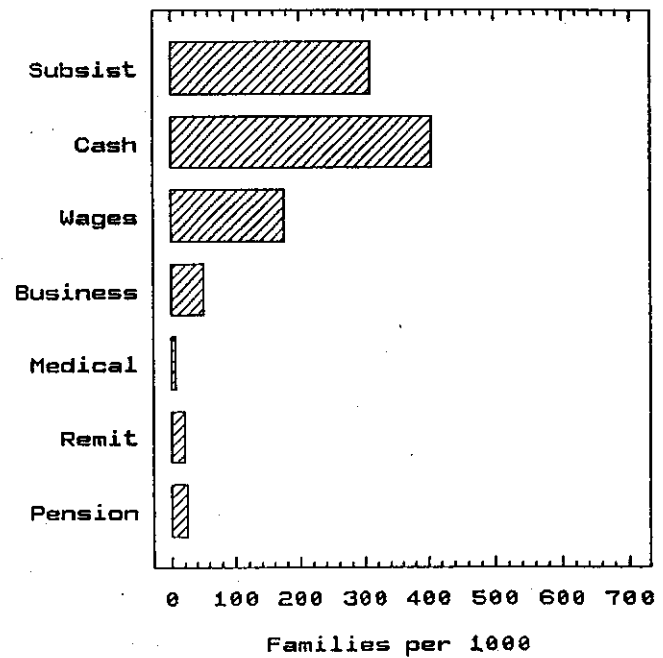


Figure 3(h) Sepik

Primary Means of Economic Support

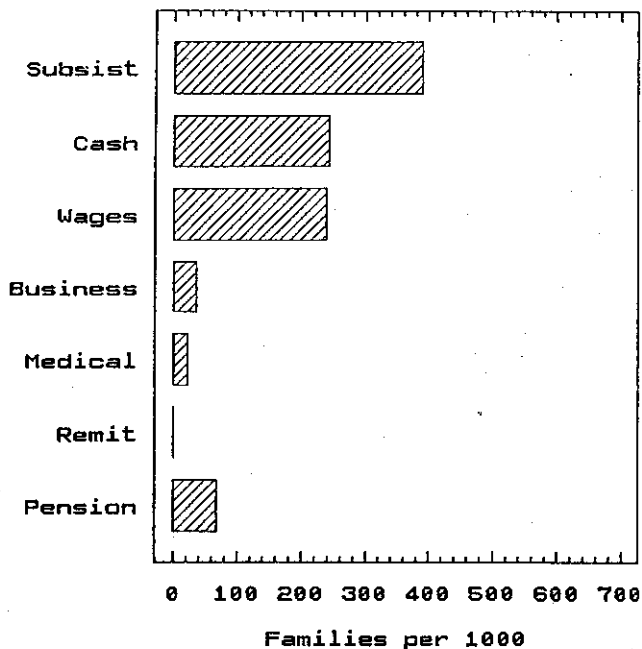


Figure 3(i) SW Papua

Primary Means of Economic Support

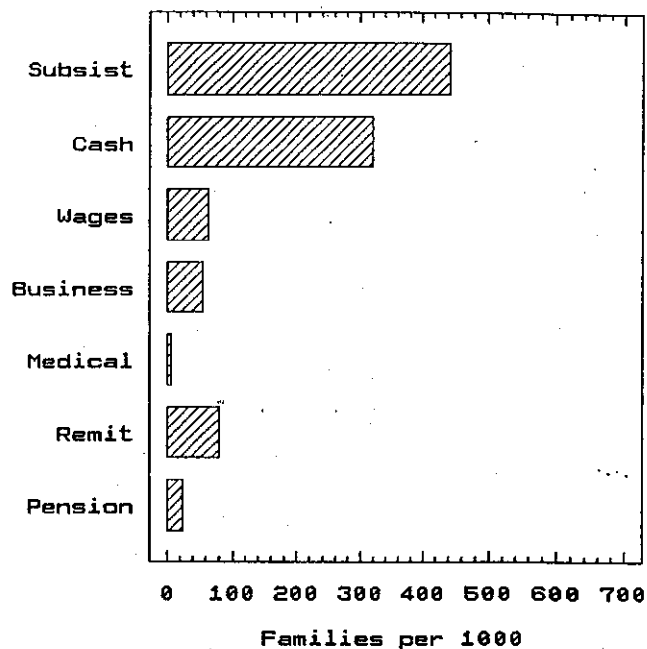


Figure 3(j) Western Highlands

Primary Means of Economic Support

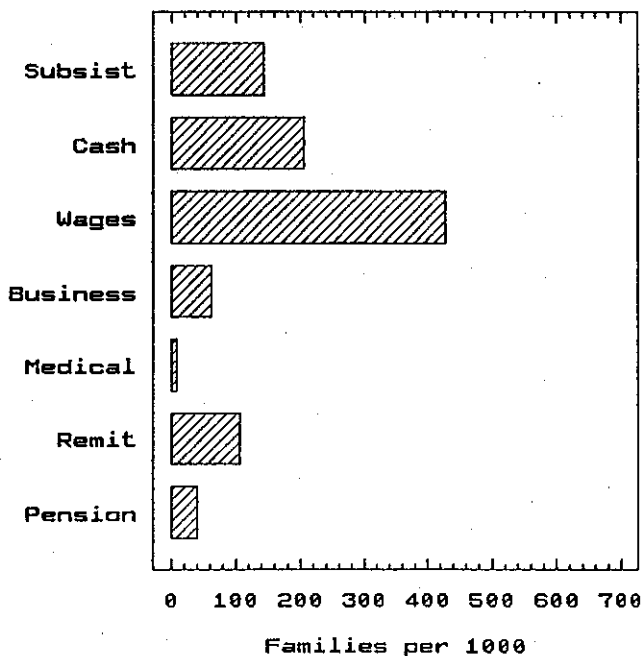


Figure 3(k) Rarotonga

Primary Means of Economic Support

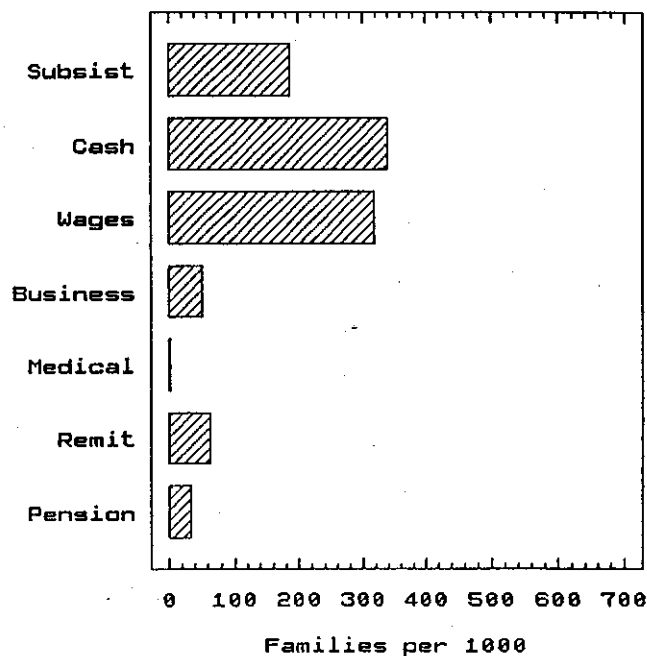


Figure 3(l) Fiji

Primary Means of Economic Support

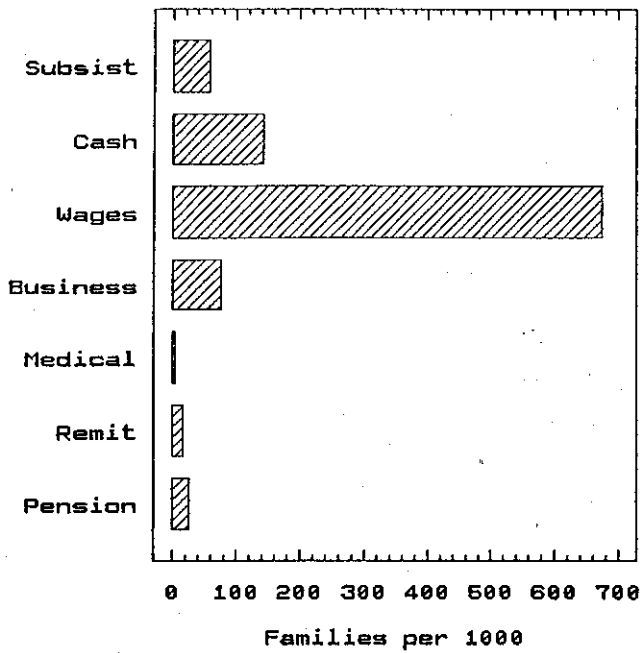


Figure 3(m) French Polynesia

Primary Means of Economic Support

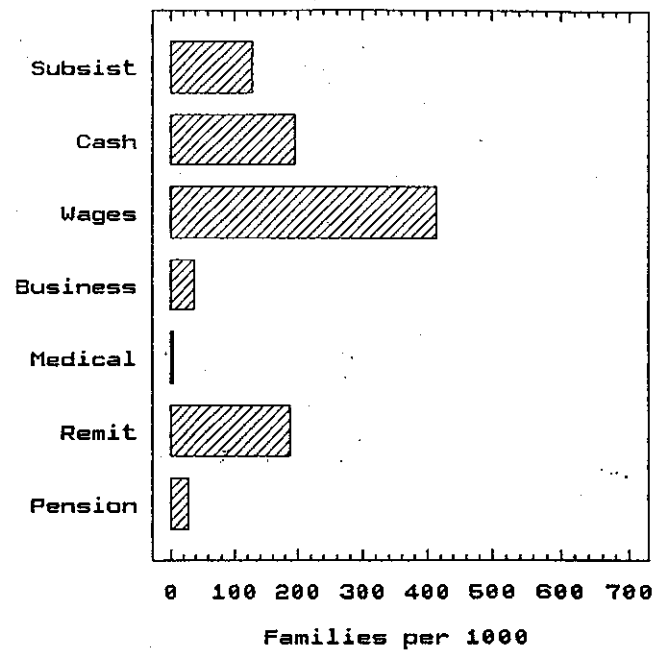


Figure 3(n) Samoa

Primary Means of Economic Support

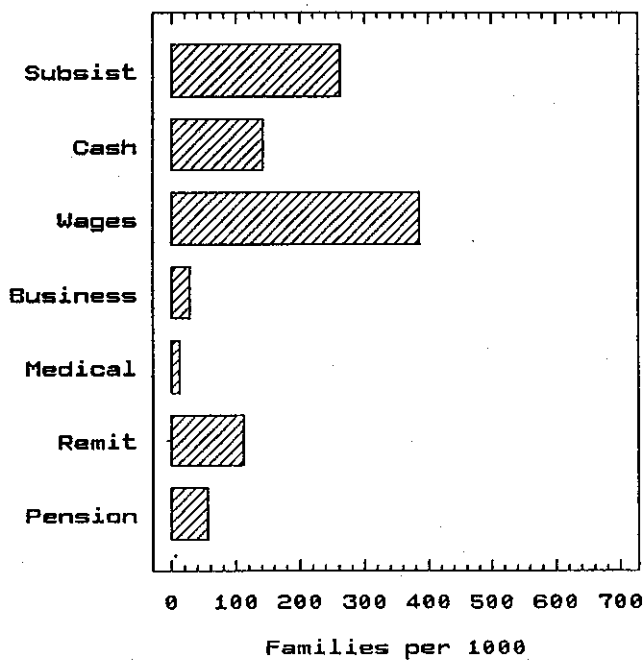


Figure 3(o) Tonga and Niue

Primary Means of Economic Support

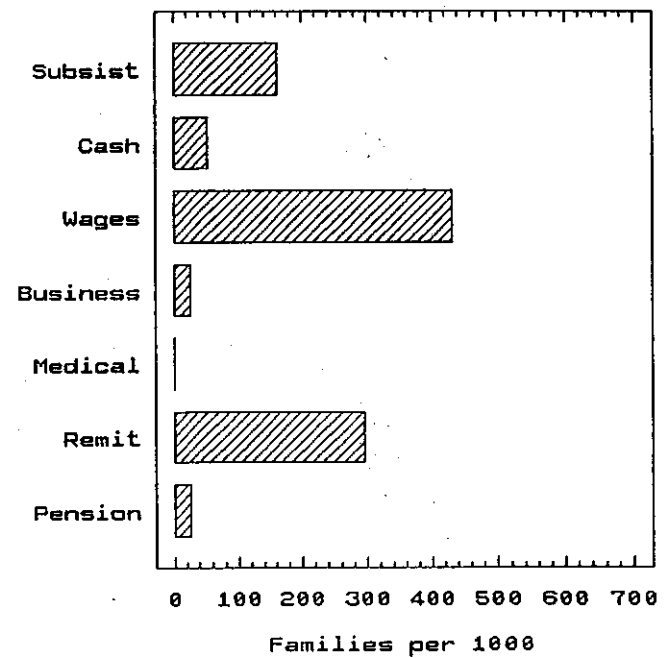


Figure 3(p) Tuvalu

Primary Means of Economic Support

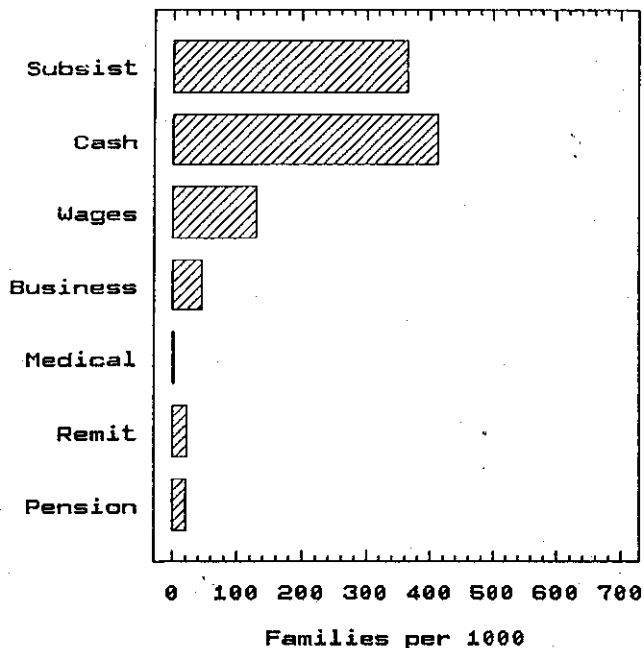


Figure 3(q) Vanuatu

Primary Means of Economic Support

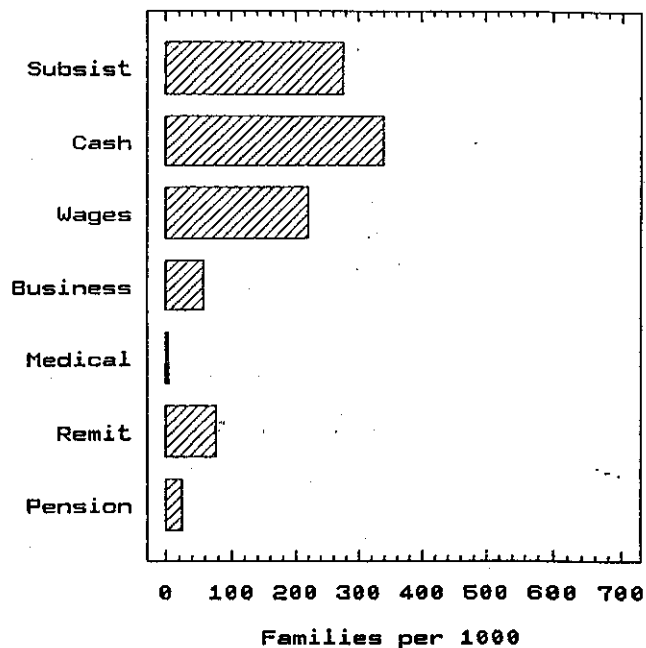


Figure 3(r) Solomons

Primary Means of Economic Support

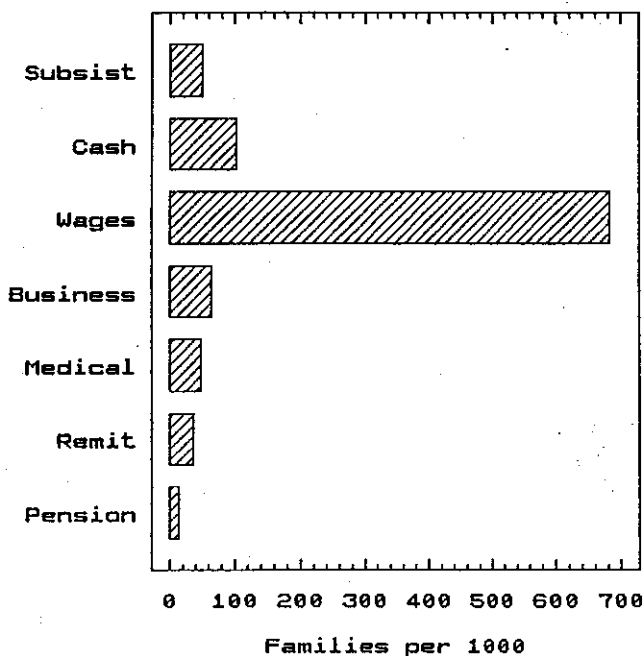


Figure 3(s) New Caledonia

Primary Means of Economic Support

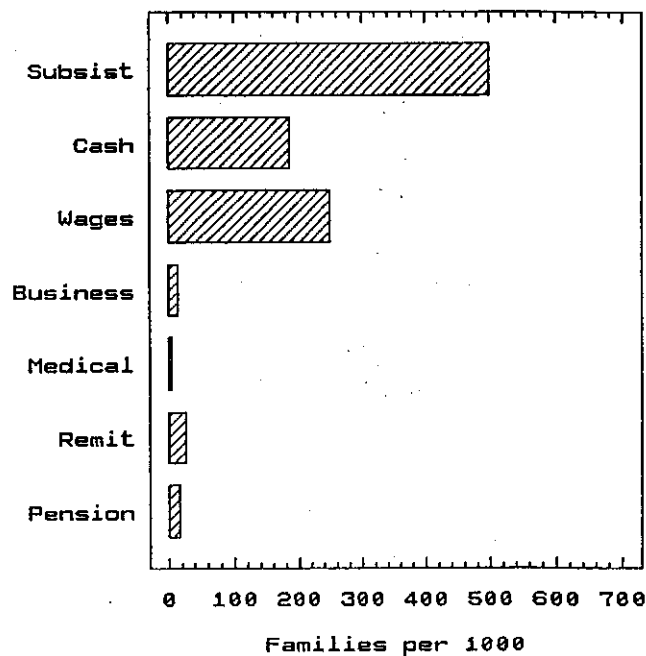


Figure 3(t) Kiribati

The question asked:

How many families in your church are primarily supported in one of the following ways?

1. Farmers or traditional gardeners who have no cash crops
2. Farmers or gardeners who have some cash crops
3. Working for wages (Rural or city)
4. Own a business
5. Doctors or medical people working for themselves and charging for their services?
6. Receiving money from members of the family or relatives who are working away from home in another place?
7. On a pension from a government job or some other kind of pension.

The different levels of economic development

The responses show enormous differences in the economic structure of different missions. The data were converted to a common base of number of households with each form of support per 1000 households and have been graphed for each mission. This simple graphical form gives an immediate picture of the relative significance of each form of support in terms of numbers of households affected. However there is likely to be a large difference in the economic position of households in some of the groups and thus it does not give a full picture of the economic resources available to members. The graphs are included as Figure 3 (a)-3 (l).

The different congregations clearly range from those which are almost entirely subsistence farmers, to those almost entirely wage-earners or business and professional people. Marx maintained that the conditions of the economic life of a society has a great influence on the way its people think and respond to situations around them and this often provides insight into behaviour often difficult to explain in other ways. If this view is true, we could expect both economic and behavioural difference in churches associated with their position along a scale from subsistence farming to a complete monetary economy.

HOW DO YOU DEFINE 'THE CHURCH'?

Members and Attendees

In the survey various terms were used to refer to the entity being surveyed. The commonest term was the congregation, a term which presumably refers to those who attend. One question sought the number of persons who usually attend Sabbath preaching service. The group of non-baptised people attending were also tallied. In both cases children were to be included. The 'congregation' approach was used in questions on the age distribution, education (where it was extended to children at boarding institutions and could have lead to double counting), and total amount of schooling.

The congregation may be thought of in terms of those currently attending, or as a continuing entity of changing composition which is a point of

reference for individuals even when they move away. There may be a sense in which a person is a 'long term member' of a congregation even though they are currently away from it. The difficulty with this is that persons who are away may no longer identify with the congregation from which they have come. This has important implications for strategies for dealing with students, migrant workers, and others who have moved to an urban area. Should they be regarded as members in their new location and every effort made to involve them fully in church activities wherever they are?.

A second approach is to look at the baptised members. The number of baptised members for the church or congregation was requested. The non-attending spouses and children of baptised members were the subject of some questions indicating a sense in which they are perceived as related to the church though they are clearly not included in either the 'congregation' or 'member' approach to defining the church. The member concept appears again in questions about those on the roll who are studying or working away from the area, and in questions on literacy and outreach.

Concern about the adequacy of church statistics of membership was one of the factors behind the survey. Broadly the data suggests that the official membership numbers lie between the estimates obtained from the survey for the 'membership' basis and the higher estimates obtained using the 'congregation' basis as a concept of the church. The method of conducting the survey may have biased the estimates by giving inadequate weight to members on the Mission as distinct from local rolls but this seems unlikely to account for a difference as large as observed. It is not possible to construct a satisfactory measure of the statistical reliability of the estimate of the roll from the survey, but it is likely that the officially reported membership is rather larger than the total of the baptised membership as perceived by local church officers.

In the Appendices, Table 1 gives the numbers of churches, companies and others reporting in the survey, and the numbers of churches in the appropriate Statistical Report. Table 2 provides detail of the numbers of members by the same categories. Table 3 suggests the use of the number of churches in the survey and the official reports to provide a ratio to adjust the survey totals. Some areas showed very disappointing response rates. Table 4 applies the ratio from Table 3 to provide an estimate of the membership. At 81 percent of the official figure the estimate suggests that the official number is too high, but is not seriously inconsistent with the actual situation.

Table 5 shows that the attendance is estimated at 8 percent above the official roll numbers. A number above the official roll would be expected because children and non-members attending are included, and Seventh-day Adventists characteristically have high attendance rates. Table 6 gives the non-baptised persons attending and provides a comparison with the reported membership. To find the non-baptised persons attending as a percentage of attendance it is necessary to combine data from Table 5 and Table 6. For some missions it exceeds fifty percent.

Net Growth: Baptisms and Apostasy.

Unfortunately the questions on baptism were not sufficiently precise to use for analysis of church growth and it is difficult to assess how best to use them. They asked:

How many baptisms did you have ..In 1984?
In 1985?

When a large church responds with the answer one in both years the ambiguity becomes obvious. It is necessary to be precise about whether the response should be the number of persons baptised or the number of occasions when baptisms were conducted. Given this ambiguity it is encouraging to find the survey baptisms adjusted using the ratio from Table 3 as close as they are to the official figures. The adjusted survey values are given in Table 10.

However one feature of the number of baptisms was not expected. They are much more concentrated than membership. A very high proportion of baptisms occur in a relatively small proportion of the congregations. Can the conditions which have generated these foci of growth be identified? If they can, can the lessons learned be applied elsewhere? Figure 4 shows how the baptisms are much more concentrated than the membership with a high proportion of baptisms occurring in a few churches.

With apostacies the confusion of events and numbers is not likely and many churches reported significant numbers of missing members or apostacies. Table 11 gives the actual survey totals and the official statistics and shows a large discrepancy. If an adjustment was made similar to that for membership or baptisms the discrepancy between the reported and actual apostacies and missing members would be much greater. Table 12 gives details of the both reported baptisms and apostacies. To retain comparability in Table 12 no adjustment for different response rates has been made. It is a much less satisfactory picture than the official returns. The levels of apostacy and missing members are clearly very serious

It would be most valuable to know the main ages at which this apostasy and loss of members occurs. If a study of this problem was carefully designed it might enable identification of some of the main sources of apostacy and suggest some strategies to minimise it.

Hand Churches

A question on hand churches was added at a late stage in preparation of the survey. The survey responses were given in Table 23 in the Appendices. The attendance at these churches was probably not included in the counts of attendance and to the extent that this occurred the estimates in Table 5 of the Appendices underestimate the church attendance. Baptised members should have been included in the membership count of the church caring for the hand church so there should not be the same undercounting of the membership.

In view of the emphasis given to the hand church strategy, a careful study of the number, nature and growth of hand churches could help planning for

Concentration of Membership and of

Baptisms

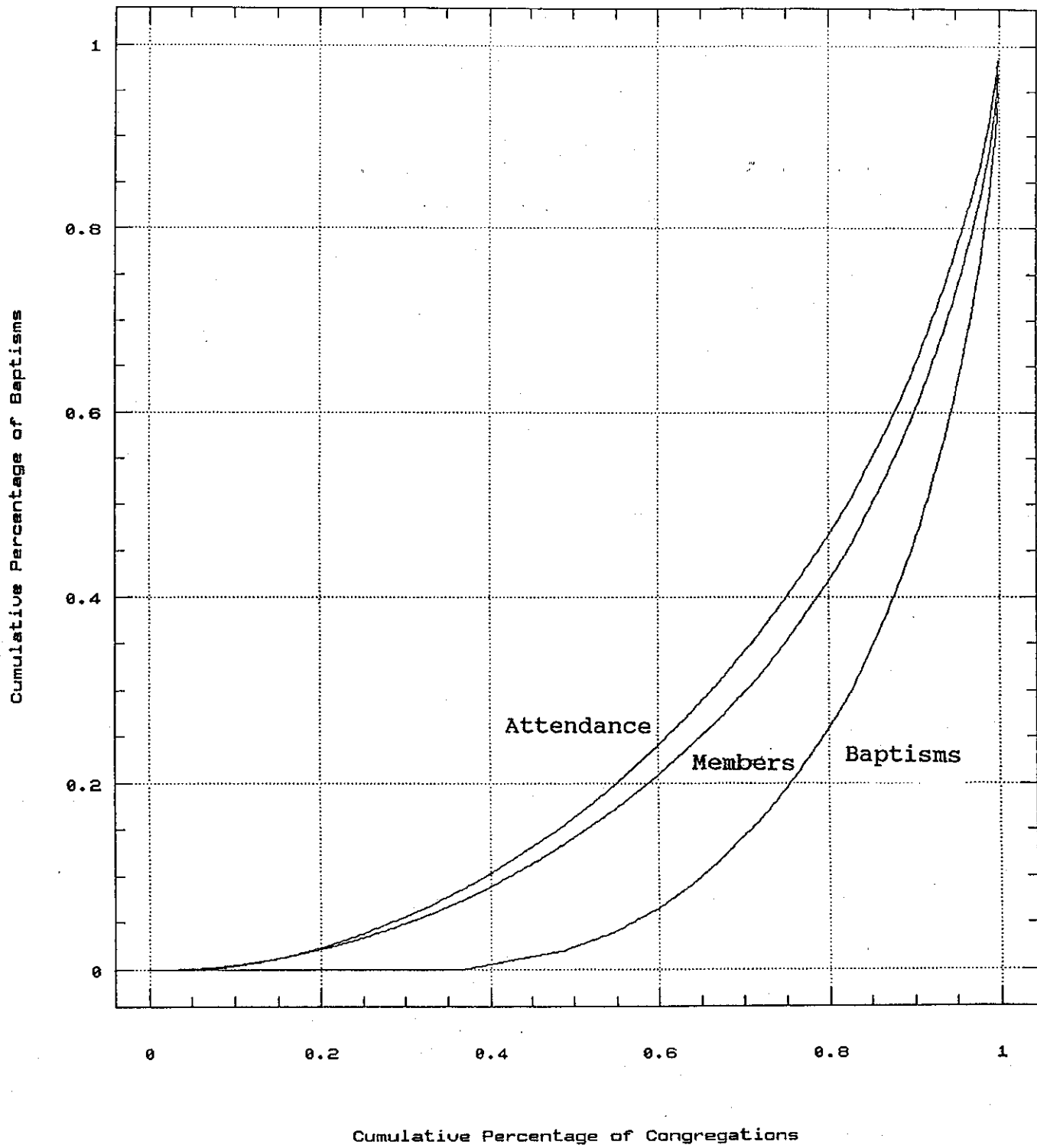


Figure 4

Number of Churches Built

By Type of Materials

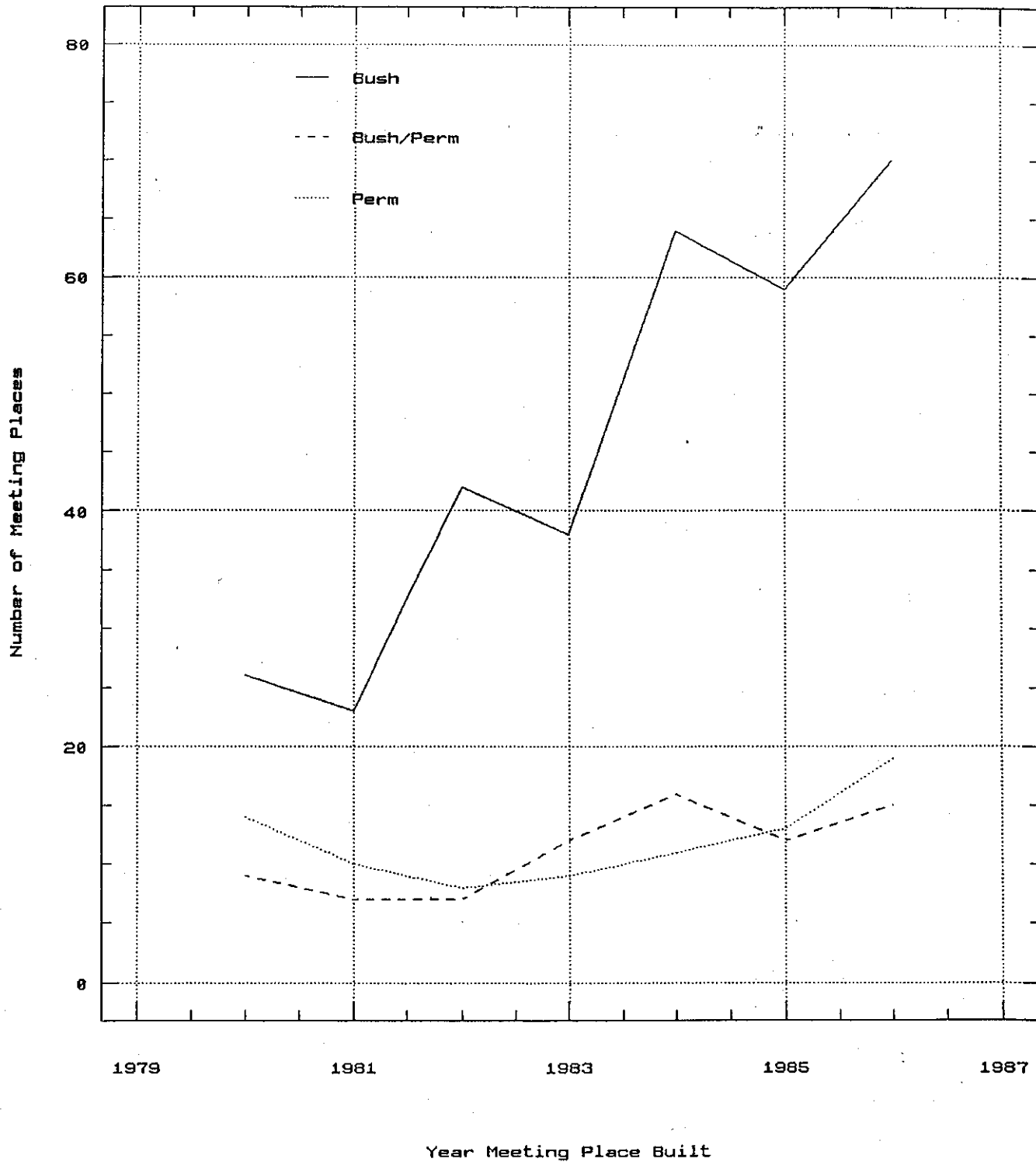


Figure 5

the process of consolidation and maturity. It would also help to clarify the effects which they have on the 'mother' church and their total part in the life of the church.

OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

There were several questions which requested information about outreach programmes. Appendix Table 19 gives details of the percentage of congregations participating in various outreach programmes. Since there was only a Yes/No response the extent and nature of the participation is not known. Street Preaching and Branch Sabbath Schools were both more frequently used and regarded as more successful by congregations in PNG. In PNG Bible Studies, Welfare ministries and Branch Sabbath Schools were fairly consistently regarded as the most effective outreach programmes with Evangelistic Meetings ranked about fourth. In the other unions, Bible Studies and Welfare ministries were generally highly ranked with Evangelistic Meetings and the Appeal for Missions also often ranked well.

THE PHYSICAL FACILITIES.

Several questions asked for information about the nature, care and maintenance of church buildings. Figure 5 shows that the number of meeting houses constructed out of bush materials has been growing more rapidly than those constructed out of permanent materials.

85 percent of congregations reported that they met in their own building. The question on whether the building was in good order or repair gave about 20 per cent of negative responses.

RECOMMENDATIONS

A number of areas where specific action should follow this report have become apparent as the results have been reviewed above.

1. The Division Committee should request an appropriate committee to report on strategic issues and policies to address them in each of the following areas:
 - a. The preponderance of persons under 21 in church organisations.
 - b. The level of literacy and programmes to increase it.
 - c. The spiritual and values development of students in non-Adventist schools and colleges.
 - d. Specific objectives for Adventist Education with a view towards of an overall strategy for development of the church and its members.
 - e. The mobility of members for both education and work.

- f. The large differences in means of economic support of members in different congregations.
- g. The larger church community of attendees and the impact of inclusive and exclusive views of the church.
- h. The levels of apostasy, factors associated with them and policies designed to reduce them.
- i. Means of identifying and assisting foci of growth.
- j. The hand church strategy and the integration of these churches and those attending them into the wider programme of the church including appropriate reporting.
- k. The large differences between congregations and the need to recognise these explicitly in planning and development strategies with the possibility of specific objectives for different types of congregations.

2. That the Division Committee note the need to ensure professional standards in the conduct of surveys including:

- a. The necessity of defining exactly what the objectives are, what information is required for those objectives, and how the information might be used.
- b. Careful specification of the target population.
- c. Review of whether administrative or other records may provide sufficient information without additional data collection.
- d. Consideration of whether a sample or census of the target population is most efficient.
- e. Effective design and control of the field work.
- f. Appropriate consistency checking, editing and processing to ensure a satisfactory data base for analyses required.

APPENDICES

Notes on the Tables.

Table 1

Data for Column 1 are taken from the South Pacific Division Statistical Report for 1986. The survey numbers are those number of congregations reporting in each classification. The data show large differences in the response rate of churches for different missions. The questionnaire form contained many questions and it is clear that in some cases the person responsible found it too difficult and too time consuming to obtain responses for all questions.

Table 2

Summarises the data by cumulating the membership by type of congregation. It suggests there are widely differing practises with respect to churches and companies in different missions. They are probably now sanctioned by custom.

Table 3

This is used to provide a basis for adjusting the survey data to permit comparisons with the official statistics. The percentage in the final column was used to adjust totals obtained in the survey to give an estimate of the total which would have been obtained if all churches had been included.

Table 4

Gives the estimated membership calculated using the survey numbers and the factors listed in Table 3.

Table 5

Presents the same calculation as in Table 4 but using the attendance. In most of the missions the estimated attendance exceeded the number of members on the official rolls.

Table 6

The number of non-baptised persons present included children. Given the young congregations this would lead us to expect a substantial proportion of those present would be non-baptised persons. Table 6 gives us the number of non-baptised as a percentage of the baptised membership. Of course not all baptised members are present so for many missions the non-baptised were a substantial majority of those present at Sabbath meetings.

Table 7

Gives the reported sex balance among those in attendance. It is remarkably uniform and does not show the large proportion of females characteristic of Australia and New Zealand and many other western countries.

Table 8

This table summarises the reported numbers by type of district. More care in defining the district types could have made this more useful.

Table 9

This is based entirely on the South Pacific Division Statistical Report for the two years.

Appendix page 2

Table 10

Provides an estimate of the number of baptisms based on the numbers reported in the survey and adjusted as in Table 3. For comparison it gives the SPD Statistical Report data.

Table 11

Gives data on apostacies reported in the survey and in the SPD Statistical Reports.

Table 12

Gives the survey values of baptisms and apostacies and missing members. No adjustments were made. The data show that the local perception of growth is quite different from that given in the Mission statistical reports.

Table 13

The entry in the column labelled -3 for Eastern Highlands is 0.631 and it tells us that in that mission 63.1 percent of the members had three years of education or less. the entry in the column labelled -6 is 0.842 so 84 percent had six years or less. This means that only 16 percent had more than 6 years of education. By taking the difference between 84 and 63 we find that 21 percent had more than three years of education but not more than six years of education. The highest category distinguished was 12 years of schooling so the one in this column of the table denotes that all members had 12 years or less of schooling. Some may have had further college education but the question did not make provision for this.

Table 14

Uses the information on the ages of those in attendance to form an estimate of the average age. The data on the age distribution are given in Table 18 in a cumulative form.

Table 17

This table expresses the number of families supported in each of the seven different ways listed in the main text. To make the numbers easier to compare they have been converted to numbers of families per thousand families in each of the groups. (In many missions a much smaller number actually gave their means of economic support).

Table 19

In this table and the tables which follow the survey results are reported as a percentage of all reporting units which listed their congregation or at least one person in their congregation as having participated.

The column abbreviations represent

- Appeal for Missions
- Literature distribution
- Street preaching
- Bible studies
- Prison visitation
- Welfare work
- Hospital Visitation
- Evangelistic Meetings
- Vacation Bible Schools
- Branch Sabbath Schools
- Health related projects (incl New Start)
- Temperance (5-day Stop Smoking)
- Other (includes Revelation Seminars)

Table 21

Columns are

- 1 How to engage in personal evangelism using literature
- 2 How to give Bible studies
- 3 How to do welfare work
- 4 How to conduct evangelistic meetings
- 5 How to conduct Vacation Bible Schools
- 6 How to conduct Branch Sabbath Schools
- 7 How to do Health Evangelism
- 8 Family Life Seminars
- 9 New Start (Health and Temperance)
- 10 Maranatha (Soul Winning)
- 11 Revelation Seminars (Evangelism)
- 12 Sharing (Outreach)
- 13 Voice of Youth (Youth Outreach)
- 14 Serving Like Jesus (Christian Living)
- 15 Coordinators Training Workshop (Youth)

Table 22

This gives the proportion of churches which reported that someone had attended a church, sabbath school, youth leader, stewardship or community services training programme in the past two years. The abbreviations are for Elder, Deacon, Deaconess, Treasurer, Clerk, Senior SS, Childrens SS, Adventist Youth, Pathfinders, Adventurers, Stewardship and Community Services.

Table 23

Summarises totals from questions added by the Union Missions.

LayT is the number of lay workers trained in a laymen training school in the last 4 years.

LWork is the number who have received training and are now working as laymen.

BkSl gives the reported number of backsliders.

Bkwk indicates the number of churches working to win them back.

Han is the number of Hand churches cared for by the church.

HanAt is the attendance at these hand churches.

HanB is the number of baptised members in these hand churches.

Marr is the number of couples which have married in the last year.

MChurch is the number who were married in church.

Table 1
Churches, Companies and Reporting Status.

Mission	SPD		SURVEY		
	Ch	Ch	Co	ns	No Memb
Central Papua	76	39	3	1	3
Eastern Highlands	101	61	128	4	9
Madang Manus	37	9	5	1	0
Morobe	15	11	19	0	3
New Brit/New Ireland	60	30	21	0	1
NE Papua	29	16	6	1	1
North Solomons	34	23	8	1	1
Sepik	33	21	31	0	1
SW Papua	20	11	2	1	3
Western Highlands	79	62	144	7	5
Rarotonga	14	11	5	0	0
Fiji	86	47	39	2	1
French Polynesia	19	18	13	0	0
Samoa	18	16	43	0	0
Tonga and Niue	14	13	18	0	0
Tuvalu	2	1	4	0	0
Vanuatu	39	18	21	1	0
Solomons	125	89	54	9	9
New Caledonia	3	4	4	0	0
Kiribati	5	7	9	0	0
Total	809	507	577	28	37

Table 2
Membership by Church or Company

	SPD	Church	Company	ns	Total
Central Papua	12245	5737	330	54	6121
Eastern Highlands	29589	9217	4706	88	14011
Madang Manus	4413	669	78	20	767
Morobe	6484	1995	953	0	2948
New Brit/New Ireland	7915	2901	366	0	3267
NE Papua	2248	972	140	43	1155
North Solomons	4414	1888	176	110	2174
Sepik	5679	2451	1181	0	3632
SW Papua	4471	1285	55	2	1342
Western Highlands	16521	5462	3345	159	8966
Rarotonga	727	693	62	0	755
Fiji	11005	4470	942	55	5467
French Polynesia	2958	1735	370	0	2105
Samoa	4770	1344	1235	0	2579
Tonga and Niue	2985	1208	395	0	1603
Tuvalu	186	62	37	0	99
Vanuatu	5831	1904	732	108	2744
Solomons	13945	7808	1416	154	9378
New Caledonia	324	451	46	0	497
Kiribati	636	294	165	0	459
Total	137346	52546	16730	793	70069

Table 3
Church Numbers in SPD Report and Survey

	SPD	Surv	%
Central Papua	76	39	195
Eastern Highlands	101	61	166
Madang Manus	37	9	411
Morobe	15	11	136
New Brit/New Ireland	60	30	200
NE Papua	29	16	181
North Solomons	34	23	148
Sepik	33	21	157
SW Papua	20	11	182
Western Highlands	79	62	127
Rarotonga	14	11	127
Fiji	86	47	183
French Polynesia	19	18	106
Samoa	18	16	113
Tonga and Niue	14	13	108
Tuvalu	2	1	200
Vanuatu	39	18	217
Solomons	125	89	140
New Caledonia	3	4	75
Kiribati	5	7	71
Total	809	507	160

Table 4
Surveyed and Estimated Membership

	SPD	Survey	Estimate
Central Papua	12245	6121	11928
Eastern Highlands	29589	14011	23198
Madang Manus	4413	767	3153
Morobe	6484	2948	4020
New Brit/New Ireland	7915	3267	6534
NE Papua	2248	1155	2093
North Solomons	4414	2174	3213
Sepik	5679	3632	5707
SW Papua	4471	1342	2440
Western Highlands	16521	8966	11424
Rarotonga	727	755	960
Fiji	11005	5467	10003
French Polynesia	2958	2105	2221
Samoa	4770	2579	2901
Tonga and Niue	2985	1603	1726
Tuvalu	186	99	198
Vanuatu	5831	2744	5945
Solomons	13945	9378	13171
New Caledonia	324	497	372
Kiribati	636	459	327
Total	137346	70069	111534

Table 5
Survey Attendance and Estimated Attendance

	Survey	Factor	Est Att	SPD Roll
Central Papua	6459	195	12586	12245
Eastern Highlands	20637	166	34169	29589
Madang Manus	1091	411	4485	4413
Morobe	3516	136	4794	6484
New Brit/New Ireland	4263	200	8526	7915
NE Papua	1463	181	2651	2248
North Solomons	2853	148	4217	4414
Sepik	4623	157	7264	5679
SW Papua	1138	182	2069	4471
Western Highlands	15849	127	20194	16521
Rarotonga	1044	127	1328	727
Fiji	6309	183	11544	11005
French Polynesia	2852	106	3010	2958
Samoa	3802	113	4277	4770
Tonga and Niue	1068	108	1150	2985
Tuvalu	225	200	450	186
Vanuatu	2882	217	6244	5831
Solomons	12869	140	18074	13945
New Caledonia	440	75	330	324
Kiribati	764	71	545	636
Total	94147	3243	147907	137346

Table 6
Membership and Non-Baptised Attendance

	Membership	Non-Bapt	Percent
Central Papua	6121	2698	44
Eastern Highlands	14011	11193	80
Madang Manus	767	670	87
Morobe	2948	1989	67
New Brit/New Ireland	3267	1881	58
NE Papua	1155	826	72
North Solomons	2174	1339	62
Sepik	3632	2802	77
SW Papua	1342	421	31
Western Highlands	8966	10417	116
Rarotonga	755	346	46
Fiji	5467	2864	52
French Polynesia	2105	1078	51
Samoa	2579	1794	70
Tonga and Niue	1603	507	32
Tuvalu	99	144	145
Vanuatu	2744	1866	68
Solomons	9378	6429	69
New Caledonia	497	310	62
Kiribati	459	531	116

Table 7

Male and Female Attendance and Males as a Percent
of the Total Attendance

	Male	Female	Male Percent
Central Papua	3314	3368	50
Eastern Highlands	10815	10568	51
Madang Manus	529	562	48
Morobe	1957	1969	50
New Brit/New Ireland	2281	2152	51
NE Papua	712	751	49
North Solomons	1465	1388	51
Sepik	2228	2395	48
SW Papua	599	625	49
Western Highlands	7955	7993	50
Rarotonga	487	557	47
Fiji	3014	3295	48
French Polynesia	1311	1541	46
Samoa	1826	1976	48
Tonga and Niue	544	524	51
Tuvalu	123	102	55
Vanuatu	1430	1452	50
Solomons	6447	6537	50
New Caledonia	203	237	46
Kiribati	352	412	46
Total	47592	48404	50

Table 8

Attendance by Type of District

	City	Village	Town	Suburb	ns	Total
Central Papua	705	4883	0	934	160	6682
Eastern Highlands	709	19678	700	296	0	21383
Madang Manus	0	1033	58	0	0	1091
Morobe	1473	1613	326	347	167	3926
New Brit/New Ireland	0	3320	1100	13	0	4433
NE Papua	0	1004	220	46	193	1463
North Solomons	0	2659	194	0	0	2853
Sepik	0	4075	498	50	0	4623
SW Papua	0	812	280	132	0	1224
Western Highlands	0	14752	932	138	126	15948
Rarotonga	0	918	126	0	0	1044
Fiji	792	3943	569	963	42	6309
French Polynesia	989	1025	279	479	80	2852
Samoa	87	3001	400	191	123	3802
Tonga and Niue	140	522	267	86	53	1068
Tuvalu	0	225	0	0	0	225
Vanuatu	0	2862	0	20	0	2882
Solomons	383	10475	1383	397	346	12984
New Caledonia	335	105	0	0	0	440
Kiribati	0	615	83	66	0	764
Total	5613	77520	7415	4158	1290	95996

Table 9
Growth in SPD Membership Statistics 1981-1986

	1986	1981	Percent	Est. Roll
Central Papua	12245	10378	118	11928
Eastern Highlands	29589	16083	184	23199
Madang Manus	4413	3166	139	3153
Morobe	6484	2723	238	4020
New Brit/New Ireland	7915	6644	119	6534
NE Papua	2248	1611	140	2093
North Solomons	4414	3157	140	3214
Sepik	5679	4147	137	5707
SW Papua	4471	3204	140	2440
Western Highlands	16521	11577	143	11424
Rarotonga	727	595	122	961
Fiji	11005	7813	141	10003
French Polynesia	2958	2258	131	2222
Samoa	4770	3577	133	2901
Tonga and Niue	2985	2445	122	1726
Tuvalu	186	151	123	198
Vanuatu	5831	4581	127	5945
Solomons	13945	11869	117	13171
New Caledonia	324	375	86	373
Kiribati	636	517	123	328
Not specified	0	0	100	47

Table 10
Changes by Baptism
Survey numbers adjusted by factors from Table 3

	1984		1985	
	Survey	SPD	Survey	SPD
Central Papua	458	534	450	558
Eastern Highlands	2404	2560	3674	3716
Madang Manus	70	243	90	235
Morobe	756	746	704	561
New Brit/New Ireland	352	311	458	558
NE Papua	94	110	87	197
North Solomons	107	364	90	261
Sepik	444	397	350	374
SW Papua	703	237	488	286
Western Highlands	1497	1635	1468	1471
Rarotonga	138	118	144	115
Fiji	908	700	996	862
French Polynesia	166	184	303	367
Samoa	376	479	400	331
Tonga and Niue	48	118	41	134
Tuvalu	22	10	4	20
Vanuatu	239	235	280	228
Solomons	599	839	682	648
New Caledonia	44	29	41	2
Kiribati	18	20	38	38
Total	9443	9869	10788	10962

Table 11
Apostacies and Missing Members

Adjusted survey figures.

	1984		1985	
	Survey	SPD	Survey	SPD
Central Papua	285	180	183	25
Eastern Highlands	2332	13	2236	22
Madang Manus	115	6	127	27
Morobe	94	0	180	0
New Brit/New Ireland	218	151	472	965
NE Papua	134	90	92	23
North Solomons	212	19	218	46
Sepik	636	9	380	0
SW Papua	546	0	315	9
Western Highlands	856	46	842	21
Rarotonga	44	18	46	21
Fiji	655	0	655	0
French Polynesia	99	25	160	46
Samoa	251	85	217	25
Tonga and Niue	103	17	114	21
Tuvalu	4	0	16	2
Vanuatu	171	0	165	4
Solomons	494	189	427	98
New Caledonia	21	25	13	66
Kiribati	20	0	37	5
Totals	7292	873	7734	1426

Table 12
Apostacies, Missing Members and Net Gain

	Baptisms		Apos or Miss		Net Change	
	1984	1985	1984	1985	1984	1985
Central Papua	235	231	146	94	89	137
Eastern Highlands	1448	2213	1405	1347	43	866
Madang Manus	17	22	28	31	-11	-9
Morobe	556	518	69	132	487	386
New Brit/New Ireland	176	229	109	236	67	-7
NE Papua	52	48	74	51	-22	-3
North Solomons	72	61	143	147	-71	-86
Sepik	283	223	405	242	-122	-19
SW Papua	386	268	300	173	86	95
Western Highlands	1179	1156	674	663	505	493
Rarotonga	109	113	35	36	74	77
Fiji	496	544	358	358	138	186
French Polynesia	157	286	93	151	64	135
Samoa	333	354	222	192	111	162
Tonga and Niue	44	38	95	106	-51	-68
Tuvalu	11	2	2	8	9	-6
Vanuatu	110	129	79	76	31	53
Solomons	428	487	353	305	75	182
New Caledonia	59	54	28	17	31	37
Kiribati	25	54	28	52	-3	2

Table 13
Cumulative Proportion of Members by Years of Schooling

	None	-3	-6	-10	11	12
Central Papua	0.282	0.883			0.929	1
Eastern Highlands	0.455	0.631	0.842	0.955	0.972	1
Madang Manus	0.373	0.571	0.842	0.940	0.958	1
Morobe	0.496	0.592	0.802	0.915	0.946	1
New Brit/New Ireland	0.229	0.424	0.696	0.908	0.964	1
NE Papua	0.432	0.596	0.937	0.982	0.993	1
North Solomons	0.133	0.366	0.721	0.894	0.941	1
Sepik	0.414	0.560	0.858	0.958	0.974	1
SW Papua	0.406	0.556	0.711	0.847	0.914	1
Western Highlands	0.673	0.774	0.886	0.943	0.960	1
Rarotonga	0.075	0.176	0.436	0.734	0.869	1
Fiji	0.025	0.141	0.393	0.744	0.883	1
French Polynesia	0.025	0.113	0.311	0.732	0.859	1
Samoa	0.086	0.323	0.557	0.811	0.903	1
Tonga and Niue	0.050	0.152	0.352	0.590	0.723	1
Tuvalu	0.028	0.193	0.528	0.641	0.787	1
Vanuatu	0.262	0.441	0.764	0.910	0.950	1
Solomons	0.214	0.428	0.726	0.923	0.957	1
New Caledonia	0.027	0.075	0.538	0.884	0.967	1
Kiribati	0.219	0.392	0.758	0.935	0.968	1
Total	0	0.08	0.546	0.933	0.973	1

Table 14
Average Age of Membership

	Years
Central Papua	23
Eastern Highlands	20
Madang Manus	23
Morobe	18
New Brit/New Ireland	23
NE Papua	20
North Solomons	23
Sepik	21
SW Papua	22
Western Highlands	23
Rarotonga	24
Fiji	23
French Polynesia	23
Samoa	22
Tonga and Niue	24
Tuvalu	26
Vanuatu	21
Solomons	23
New Caledonia	23
Kiribati	22

Table 15
Numbers in Education by Type of Institution

	Primary				High				College			
	Day		Boarding		Day		Boarding		Day		Boarding	
	SDA	NSDA	SDA	NSDA	SDA	NSDA	SDA	NSDA	SDA	NSDA	SDA	NSDA
Central Papua	282	525	226	97	22	157	114	44	33	2	76	18
Eastern Highla	404	2489	192	172	12	169	208	367	5	8	21	74
Madang Manus	52	71	38	3	2	12	16	2	2	0	1	2
Morobe	76	455	133	72	81	79	20	29	0	3	2	17
New Brit/New I	311	304	69	5	37	53	24	46	1	10	9	3
NE Papua	1	283	11	26	0	33	16	20	0	0	2	0
North Solomons	346	149	115	14	0	10	54	4	1	0	6	1
Sepik	93	831	35	35	0	56	30	87	1	0	6	3
SW Papua	132	112	38	54	21	27	4	66	1	1	7	2
Western Highla	464	1735	202	123	23	94	82	206	10	11	11	21
Rarotonga	155	90	0	2	27	19	0	0	25	47	2	0
Fiji	435	1006	90	89	28	316	58	78	7	18	30	11
French Polynes	244	518	0	15	60	225	13	37	10	10	0	0
Samoa	216	569	8	17	21	150	83	21	41	59	45	3
Tonga and Niue	71	169	0	6	27	19	70	9	12	29	30	8
Tuvalu	14	17	2	3	2	3	0	1	5	3	0	1
Vanuatu	453	208	273	138	0	5	84	25	0	0	22	34
Solomons	1846	850	406	79	62	13	257	135	3	10	102	51
New Caledonia	3	174	2	49	4	66	7	22	0	28	2	5
Kiribati	20	194	7	0	7	5	16	22	1	2	6	6

Table 16
Members Away for Education or Work

	Education	Work	Boarding School	
Central Papua	224	1791	575	0
Eastern Highlands	711	1376	1034	0
Madang Manus	52	127	62	0
Morobe	55	174	273	0
New Brit/New Ireland	263	239	156	0
NE Papua	245	127	75	0
North Solomons	58	103	194	0
Sepik	103	383	196	0
SW Papua	40	197	171	0
Western Highlands	478	652	645	0
Rarotonga	6	36	4	0
Fiji	149	421	356	0
French Polynesia	40	41	65	0
Samoa	113	95	177	0
Tonga and Niue	107	115	123	0
Tuvalu	15	5	7	0
Vanuatu	124	222	576	0
Solomons	410	826	1030	0
New Caledonia	42	89	87	0
Kiribati	37	141	57	0

Table 17
Reported Primary Means of Economic Support
(Numbers of Families)

	Subsist	Cash	Wages	Business	Medic	Remit	Pension
Central Papua	264	165	355	70	39	93	14
Eastern Highlands	292	383	182	30	8	88	17
Madang Manus	282	298	97	113	17	139	55
Morobe	154	520	212	52	2	39	22
New Brit/New Ireland	243	278	337	31	17	72	22
NE Papua	588	154	135	80	7	19	18
North Solomons	132	592	188	39	4	7	38
Sepik	311	407	176	52	7	21	25
SW Papua	390	243	239	37	23	0	69
Western Highlands	445	321	65	57	7	80	24
Rarotonga	145	207	429	62	9	107	41
Fiji	187	341	318	52	3	64	34
French Polynesia	59	142	674	77	4	17	26
Samoa	129	196	415	39	4	189	28
Tonga and Niue	262	142	387	28	13	112	56
Tuvalu	162	54	432	27	0	297	27
Vanuatu	365	413	130	47	2	22	21
Solomons	277	341	220	58	4	76	24
New Caledonia	51	102	683	65	48	37	14
Kiribati	501	186	250	15	4	27	17

Table 18
Cumulative Percentages of Attendance by Age

	6	11	For Persons less than				51	Over 50
	16	21	31	41				
Central Papua	13	28	40	51	69	84	94	100
Eastern Highlands	14	30	46	62	78	89	97	100
Madang Manus	18	33	46	55	70	80	89	100
Morobe	17	32	46	66	85	94	98	100
New Brit/New Ireland	14	27	39	51	72	87	95	100
NE Papua	18	33	48	61	78	88	95	100
North Solomons	15	30	44	53	70	82	92	100
Sepik	16	31	45	61	75	86	96	100
SW Papua	14	27	40	55	73	87	96	100
Western Highlands	15	29	40	52	68	82	93	100
Rarotonga	14	27	42	56	68	78	89	100
Fiji	15	28	41	54	68	81	92	100
French Polynesia	14	29	42	55	70	81	91	100
Samoa	16	31	44	59	72	83	93	100
Tonga and Niue	12	28	39	51	66	81	94	100
Tuvalu	10	20	27	44	69	78	93	100
Vanuatu	18	35	48	58	74	87	93	100
Solomons	17	32	45	55	70	81	91	100
New Caledonia	10	24	37	54	70	84	95	100
Kiribati	20	34	47	57	69	83	91	100

Table 19

Percentage of Units offering Outreach Programmes

	AFM	Lit	StP	Bib	PVi	Wel	Hos	EvM	VBS	BSS	Hea	5DP	Oth
Central Papua	48	48	37	70	22	74	52	57	17	50	30	22	11
Eastern Highlands	28	43	60	79	16	44	41	60	13	86	44	34	20
Madang Manus	20	27	40	73	0	67	33	53	13	53	27	13	33
Morobe	48	55	61	85	39	82	55	55	21	70	48	36	15
New Brit/New Ireland	58	44	44	83	23	75	56	56	10	58	33	17	12
NE Papua	29	17	25	75	25	79	46	33	0	54	8	4	13
North Solomons	73	48	55	64	12	97	61	45	9	52	42	15	21
Sepik	26	28	43	64	13	51	34	42	9	64	26	19	2
SW Papua	53	53	24	65	12	59	29	29	6	59	24	24	6
Western Highlands	26	43	76	83	30	60	61	53	15	81	48	39	10
Rarotonga	88	94	6	88	25	69	88	56	6	19	25	13	13
Fiji	69	48	11	79	19	88	39	69	7	36	16	8	10
French Polynesia	90	65	0	90	13	74	58	71	6	19	32	42	3
Samoa	88	54	8	81	31	71	63	75	10	37	12	27	3
Tonga and Niue	100	68	10	90	45	97	52	52	16	35	19	13	0
Tuvalu	20	20	20	100	20	40	40	60	0	20	0	0	40
Vanuatu	3	20	3	70	0	78	13	28	0	43	3	0	28
Solomons	50	65	8	71	14	76	42	33	4	34	12	6	13
New Caledonia	100	25	13	63	13	100	13	0	38	0	0	75	0
Kiribati	19	63	19	75	6	63	13	19	6	31	6	13	19

Table 20

Outreach Programmes considered Most successful
(Percentage of Responding Units)

	AFM	Lit	StP	Bib	PVi	Wel	Hos	EvM	VBS	BSS	Hea	5DP	Oth
Central Papua	30	30	22	63	13	63	33	52	15	43	17	13	7
Eastern Highlands	18	33	44	68	22	37	30	50	18	72	28	26	10
Madang Manus	27	33	27	60	0	53	20	53	13	53	13	7	13
Morobe	27	36	30	48	12	64	33	27	9	52	36	12	3
New Brit/New Ireland	31	33	27	62	17	50	31	25	8	48	19	13	4
NE Papua	13	13	25	67	13	75	17	17	0	46	8	8	4
North Solomons	27	6	21	36	6	70	27	21	0	30	12	6	18
Sepik	4	15	26	55	9	32	19	23	4	49	17	8	0
SW Papua	29	41	18	53	12	59	24	24	6	53	12	12	0
Western Highlands	21	26	59	71	28	58	47	40	20	68	37	23	4
Rarotonga	56	63	0	63	19	56	69	38	13	13	13	13	13
Fiji	34	12	3	51	11	63	6	60	3	21	8	2	11
French Polynesia	65	48	0	48	3	52	29	39	0	10	13	13	3
Samoa	80	31	5	75	29	53	44	59	7	20	12	24	0
Tonga and Niue	65	23	6	71	13	61	13	23	6	16	3	6	6
Tuvalu	0	20	0	100	20	40	20	60	0	0	0	0	20
Vanuatu	3	10	5	58	0	53	0	28	3	28	3	3	18
Solomons	24	37	7	60	7	61	21	19	1	29	9	1	9
New Caledonia	100	25	0	13	0	88	0	0	38	0	0	38	0
Kiribati	19	31	6	63	0	31	6	6	0	19	0	0	6

Table 21
Outreach Training Programmes Members Have Attended.
From Question 43 (Survey P.9)
(Percentage of Responding Units)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	PE	BS	We	EM	VB	BS	He	FL	NS	Ma	RS	Sh	VY	SJ	YT
Central Papua	26	48	57	43	13	50	35	24	22	46	24	52	48	30	48
Eastern Highlands	18	66	41	59	22	70	40	37	30	34	18	38	50	41	38
Madang Manus	13	33	20	20	7	33	20	13	7	0	7	27	20	7	13
Morobe	36	55	55	52	15	52	30	12	15	24	9	30	33	24	48
New Brit/New Ireland	23	63	58	42	8	56	23	21	17	17	33	35	33	29	31
NE Papua	17	38	50	21	13	50	8	4	4	25	8	25	38	17	46
North Solomons	9	64	85	52	9	61	36	21	45	30	18	15	45	24	58
Sepik	23	66	43	40	9	68	25	15	9	17	26	32	43	25	28
SW Papua	35	65	41	18	6	41	24	24	18	18	12	24	24	24	24
Western Highlands	18	50	53	43	5	53	32	37	20	22	17	21	28	35	26
Rarotonga	31	63	44	44	13	13	31	13	25	25	13	25	44	31	31
Fiji	28	58	60	44	13	39	21	7	11	58	19	22	46	10	9
French Polynesia	23	58	48	39	3	19	10	13	19	10	0	0	26	0	0
Samoa	44	81	69	61	14	49	15	24	15	56	10	41	68	29	25
Tonga and Niue	16	26	42	23	3	16	10	10	0	65	0	6	23	10	6
Tuvalu	20	60	40	60	20	40	0	20	40	0	0	20	20	0	0
Vanuatu	18	63	58	10	0	45	3	3	0	3	3	10	28	10	25
Solomons	37	61	55	24	4	41	17	7	8	52	14	22	42	7	16
New Caledonia	63	25	13	13	0	0	0	63	0	63	0	13	0	0	0
Kiribati	13	63	44	19	0	6	6	6	0	6	6	6	6	6	6

Table 22
Leadership Training Programmes Attended
Percentage of Units with Training

	El	Dn	Ds	Tr	Cl	SS	SC	AY	Pf	Ad	St	CS
Central Papua	72	65	63	59	59	74	59	59	37	35	35	59
Eastern Highlands	41	44	40	43	34	50	48	40	13	9	18	27
Madang Manus	13	13	13	7	13	27	27	40	20	27	47	20
Morobe	36	36	33	33	39	39	48	61	33	18	12	45
New Brit/New Ireland	65	65	62	62	58	60	56	67	52	50	48	42
NE Papua	50	38	38	38	33	71	58	42	29	21	29	42
North Solomons	42	39	39	36	33	58	36	64	39	30	45	61
Sepik	36	28	25	26	19	49	40	58	28	26	8	36
SW Papua	59	47	47	29	35	59	47	65	24	24	35	47
Western Highlands	39	44	42	30	28	35	38	28	11	6	11	35
Rarotonga	25	25	25	19	25	44	50	50	50	13	25	25
Fiji	42	35	34	38	29	61	56	55	56	9	63	51
French Polynesia	74	58	55	52	45	45	48	52	61	23	32	23
Samoa	37	39	29	36	25	64	76	66	54	24	63	53
Tonga and Niue	13	16	13	13	13	35	35	26	13	0	42	23
Tuvalu	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	40	40	40	0	0
Vanuatu	15	5	3	5	5	43	40	43	33	20	15	18
Solomons	39	35	32	42	31	40	42	40	17	7	18	27
New Caledonia	0	13	0	0	0	25	13	13	0	13	0	0
Kiribati	6	6	6	13	13	6	0	6	6	0	13	31

Table 23
Summary of Various Other Measures
 (See Survey Page 10)
Totals of survey Response by Mission

	LayT	LWork	BkSl	Bkwk	Han	HanAt	HanB	Marr	MChurch
Central Papua	41	101	223	12	166	608	413	53	14
Eastern Highlands	285	210	1377	101	315	8431	5162	519	32
Madang Manus	17	21	222	8	12	326	210	24	3
Morobe	83	33	576	14	27	746	440	56	5
New Brit/New Ireland	101	79	367	31	50	621	571	58	30
NE Papua	30	24	195	13	24	144	142	96	0
North Solomons	19	66	176	17	21	182	175	37	9
Sepik	129	74	778	33	124	766	607	175	16
SW Papua	99	8	148	11	63	182	129	32	11
Western Highlands	188	140	1301	92	516	4262	4373	421	56
Rarotonga	22	23	27	8	1	32	36	108	29
Fiji	22	37	800	66	189	1266	878	120	64
French Polynesia	49	29	295	20	46	92	103	78	17
Samoa	137	184	390	49	227	582	401	78	83
Tonga and Niue	23	14	52	17	17	351	109	13	62
Tuvalu	3	3	154	3	5	50	169	7	3
Vanuatu	16	70	184	0	23	34	39	33	14
Solomons	103	309	606	70	1456	1922	1170	353	138
New Caledonia	61	36	49	4	3	5	12	1	1
Kiribati	18	14	48	6	13	7	116	22	3

Table 24
Backsliders as a reported proportion of Membership

Central Papua	.04
Eastern Highlands	.10
Madang Manus	.29
Morobe	.20
New Brit/New Ireland	.11
NE Papua	.17
North Solomons	.08
Sepik	.21
SW Papua	.11
Western Highlands	.15
Rarotonga	.04
Fiji	.15
French Polynesia	.14
Samoa	.15
Tonga and Niue	.03
Tuvalu	1.56
Vanuatu	.07
Solomons	.06
New Caledonia	.10
Kiribati	.10

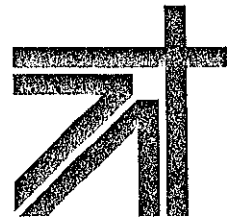
Table 25
Stewardship Plan and Programme

	No		Yes	
Central Papua	21	0	0	25
Eastern Highlands	109	0	0	93
Madang Manus	8	0	0	7
Morobe	21	0	0	12
New Brit/New Ireland	21	0	0	31
NE Papua	17	0	0	7
North Solomons	19	0	0	14
Sepik	45	0	0	8
SW Papua	6	0	0	11
Western Highlands	133	0	0	85
Rarotonga	7	0	0	9
Fiji	25	0	0	64
French Polynesia	10	0	0	21
Samoa	17	0	0	42
Tonga and Niue	11	0	0	20
Tuvalu	3	0	0	2
Vanuatu	38	0	0	2
Solomons	125	0	0	36
New Caledonia	8	0	0	0
Kiribati	15	0	0	1

Table 26

LANGUAGES FOR WHICH CONGREGATIONS HAVE LITERATE MEMBERS
AS REPORTED IN SURVEY OF LOCAL CONGREGATIONS

Language	Number of Readers	Language	Number of Readers
1 BAEGU	4	34 MAHU	2
2 BELLONESE	0	35 MAKIRA	174
3 BESLAMA	1579	36 MALAITA	0
4 CHINESE	5	37 MALAU	21
5 CHOISEUL LANGUAGES	70	38 MARE	77
6 COOK ISLANDS MAORI	1572	39 MAROVE	2336
7 DOVELE	0	40 MARVO	51
8 ENGA	185	41 MOTALAVA	18
9 ENGLISH	24233	42 MOTU	1348
10 FATALEKA	7	43 MT BOSAVI	7
11 FIJIAN	5722	44 MUTU	4
12 FRENCH	2560	45 NIUEAN	2
13 GADO	21	46 PIDGIN ENGLISH	13816
14 GAHUKU	46	47 RAROGA	0
15 GELA	5	48 ROTUMAN	49
16 GHANOGA	0	49 ROVIANA	273
17 GILBERTESE	60	50 SAMOAN	2739
18 HINDI	403	51 SAMOA	138
19 HULI	250	52 SAMSON	35
20 KOIO	10	53 SOLOMON	49
21 KOLOBANGARA	57	54 TAHITIAN	2070
22 KOTAE	6	55 TALIBI	4
23 KUANUA	5	56 TALO	8
24 KUIO	39	57 TASIMAURI	11
25 KWARAAE LANGUAGES	82	58 TOBAITA	116
26 LAKE KUTUBU	1	59 TONGAN	1381
27 LANGALANGA	86	60 TUVALUAN	117
28 LAURU	494	61 UGHELE	292
29 LAU LANGUAGES	152	62 ULAWA	37
30 LENGU	265	63 VELLA	38
31 LIFOU	9	64 WINSAU	2
32 LOCAL LANGUAGE	7279	65 NOT SPECIFIED	65
33 LOKURU	78		



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June 13, 1989

Dr C R Taylor
Global Strategy Coordinator

Elder R J Kloosterhuis
General Vice-President

General Conference of SDA
6840 Eastern Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20012
U S AMERICA

Dear Charles and Bob

THE CONTEXT AND CHALLENGE OF MISSION

I thought you would be interested in the final report on the demographic survey conducted throughout our three union missions. We feel this survey will serve as a significant indicator as we approach Global Strategy in the mission lands of the South Pacific.

I look forward with much pleasure to the next meeting of the Global Strategy Committee in July of this year.

With sincere Christian greetings.

Your brother in Christ

M G Townend
GLOBAL STRATEGY COORDINATOR

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