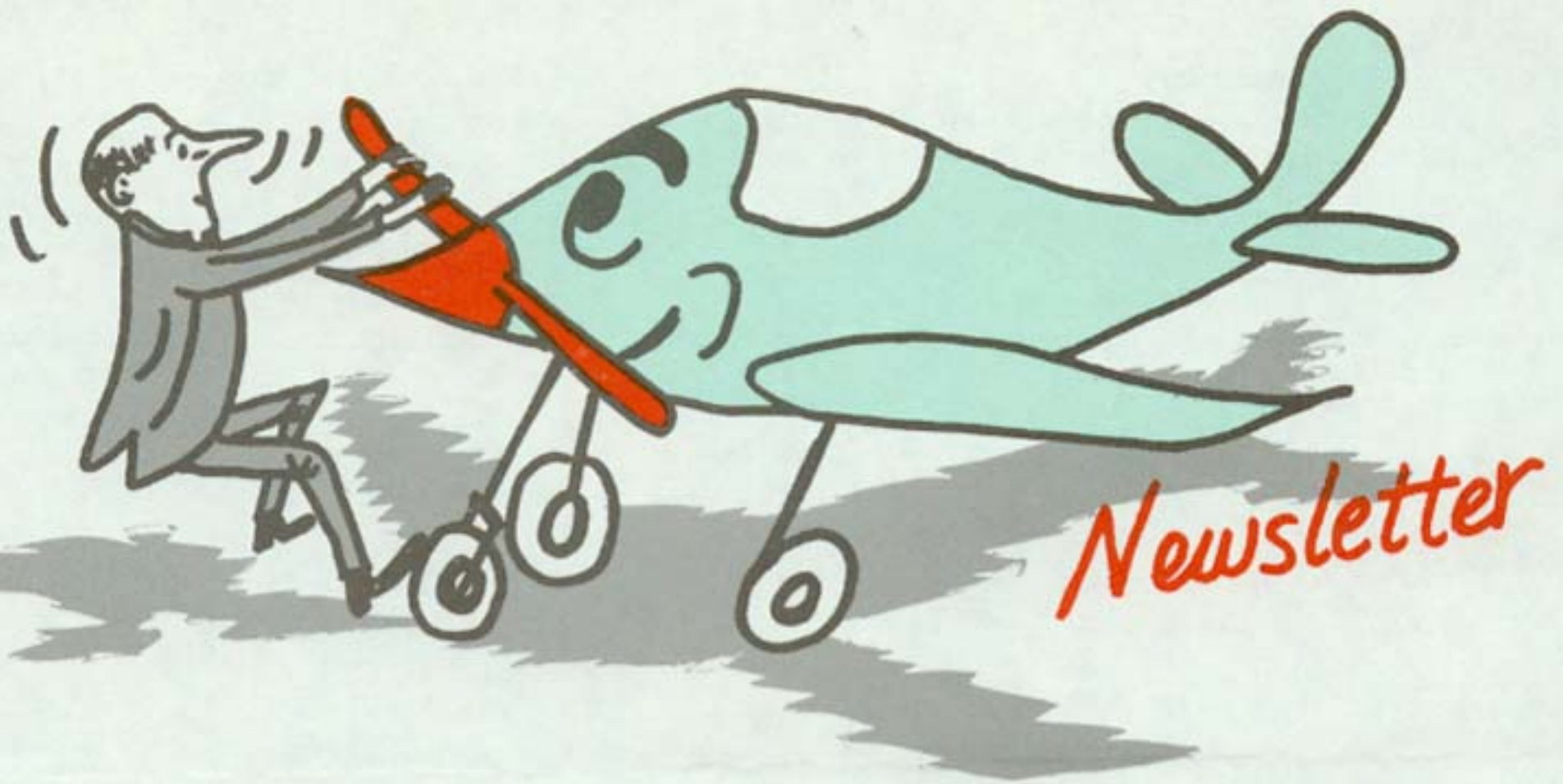


N.A.P.P.



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NO. 2

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Back on July 31 I attended the Presentation Ceremonies of Charlie Teufel's new Bishop... The Most Rev. Francis Bible Schulte. It was a first-class affair from beginning to end. The Installation Ceremonies the next day were just as colorful. Close to 50 bishops were present on August 1. The people in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in West Virginia are to be commended on beautiful Liturgies.

On the 28th of September we had a very unusual celebration in our church. In a previous parish in which I had served I had the privilege of officiating at the marriages of all six children in one family. All are still married. The marriages add up to 120 years. The oldest girl and her husband celebrated their Silver Jubilee. I invited the entire family to come with their spouses and children for a special Mass and dinner at St Margaret Mary in Moon Township. All told, over one hundred family members, relatives and friends came. It was a gala affair. It was wonderful to see so many people still happy in their marriages.

You might remember that in a newsletter months ago I mentioned that Bishop Anthony Bevilacqua had merged six parishes into one in a neighborhood that was losing parishioners because of unemployment and a general exodus of young people. How are they doing? My Assistant tells me they are doing fine. The parish was given a new name and two new priests were brought in. One of the churches was selected as the parish church. The others are in the process of being sold or leased. The parish is now in good financial condition, the church has been air conditioned, the Masses are crowded and buses are used to bring older parishioners to Mass and meetings and the children to CCD classes. The future looks promising.

A new, up-to-date video ground school geared to help pilots pass the Commerical-Instrument written exam is now on the market for \$229. I have asked Mel to order this so that some of our members can obtain these ratings or spend some time in review during the fall and winter months. All we ask is that the people who take them use them as soon as they are received and pass them on to the next person in line.

By the time you receive this newsletter our 23rd annual convention will be less than nine months away. Plan to be with us in New Mexico. Bob Kirsch is making plans for a convention you will not want to miss.

A Happy Thanksgiving to all.

John Domka



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- It's Las Cruces, N.M.



For Sun & Fun

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BOONE & SCENIC VALLEY RAILROAD

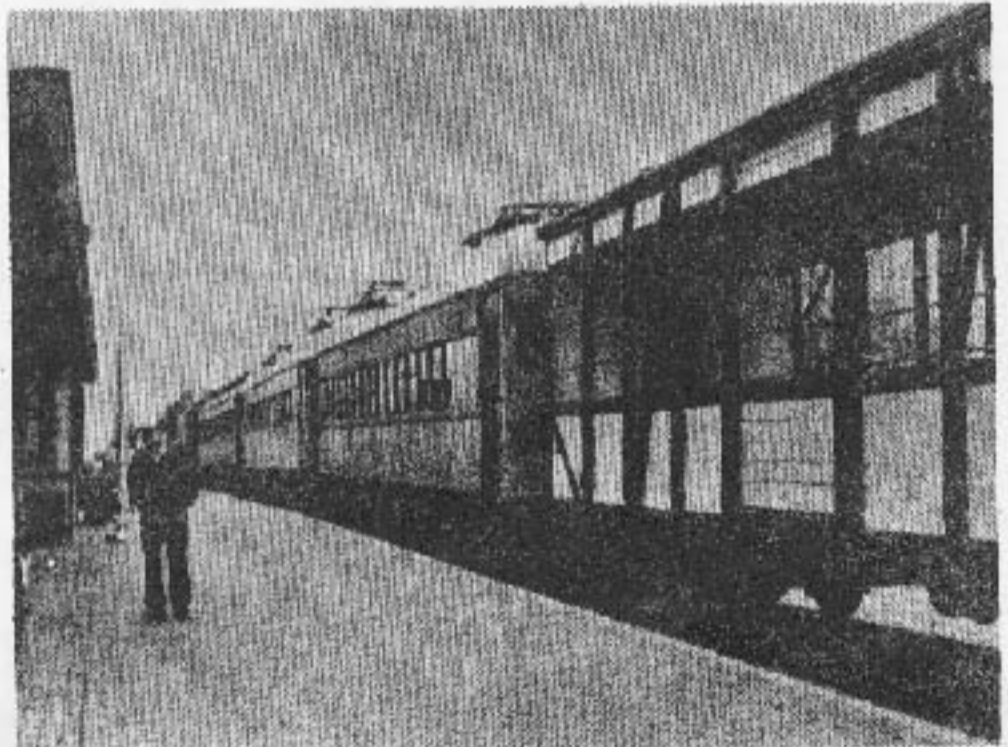
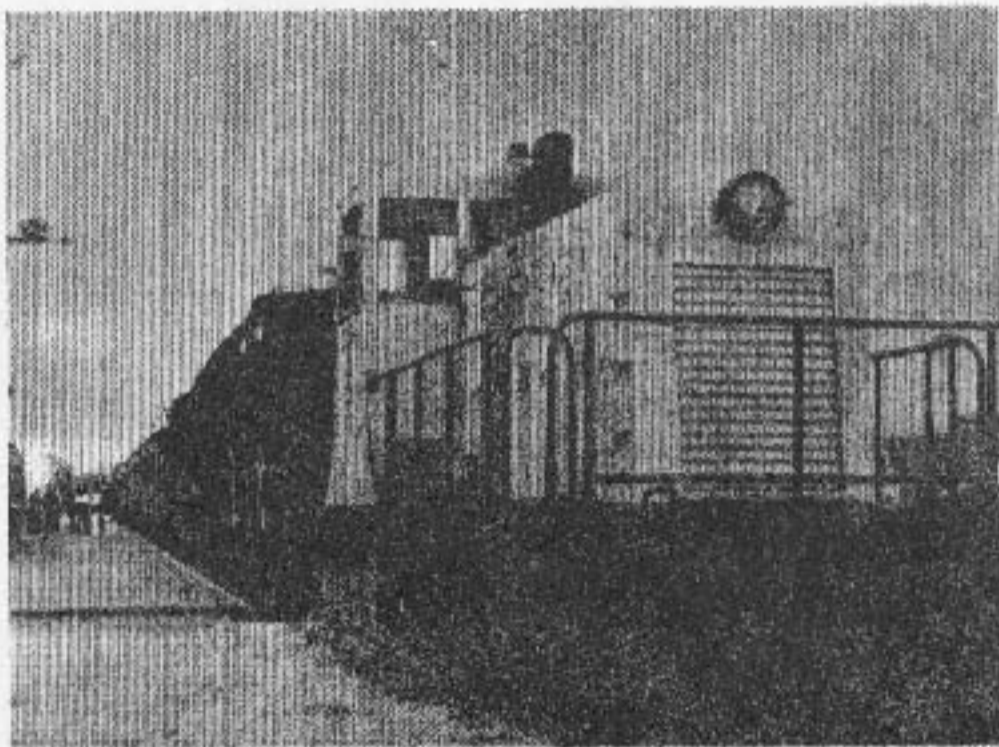
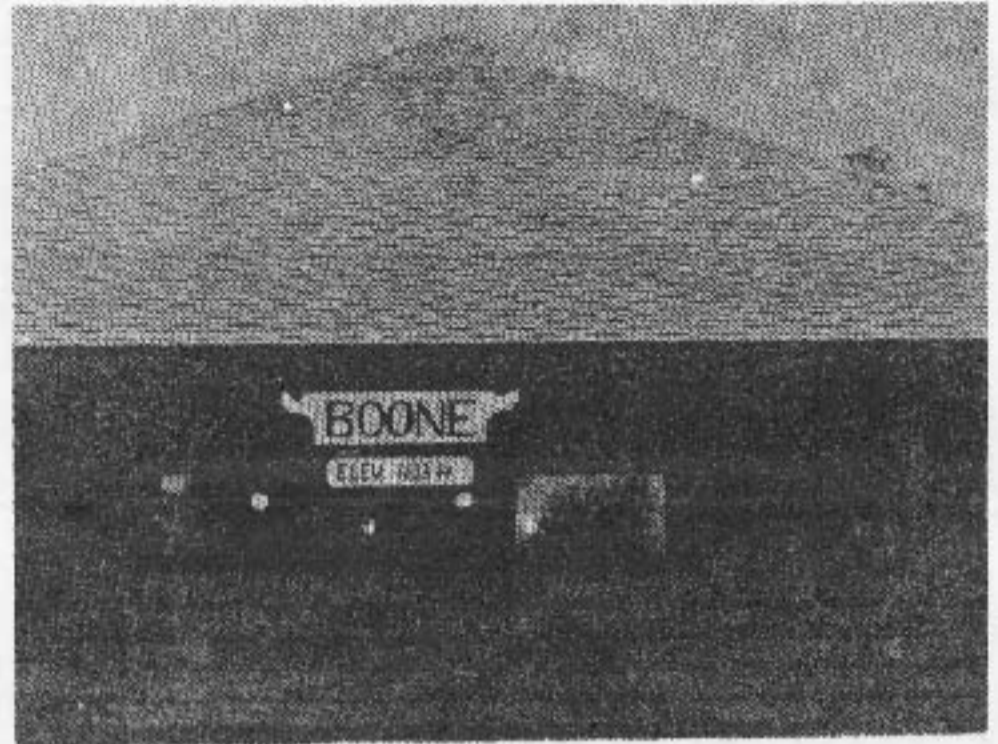
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On Monday, October 7, the Midwest Region of NAPP had its Fall Meeting in Boone, Iowa. 20 members from Iowa and Illinois flew in in 8 planes and a couple of cars. (Presumably the cars did not attain enough speed to become airborne).

The gathering spot was Sacred Heart Rectory where Fr. Jim McAlpin proved a most gracious host. For a non-flyer he did extremely well.

The featured event of this particular gathering was to take the 1:45 train ride over the Des Moines river valley. The railroad passes over the highest single track interurban bridge in the U.S.

The railroad was abandoned several years ago and so a local group decided to keep 5 miles of it for scenic train rides. With 5 paid employees and a host of senior citizen volunteers they are providing a beautiful excursion for thousands each year.



Joe Teafoe from Freeport, IL is shown at left preparing to board one of the 1920's vintage cars.

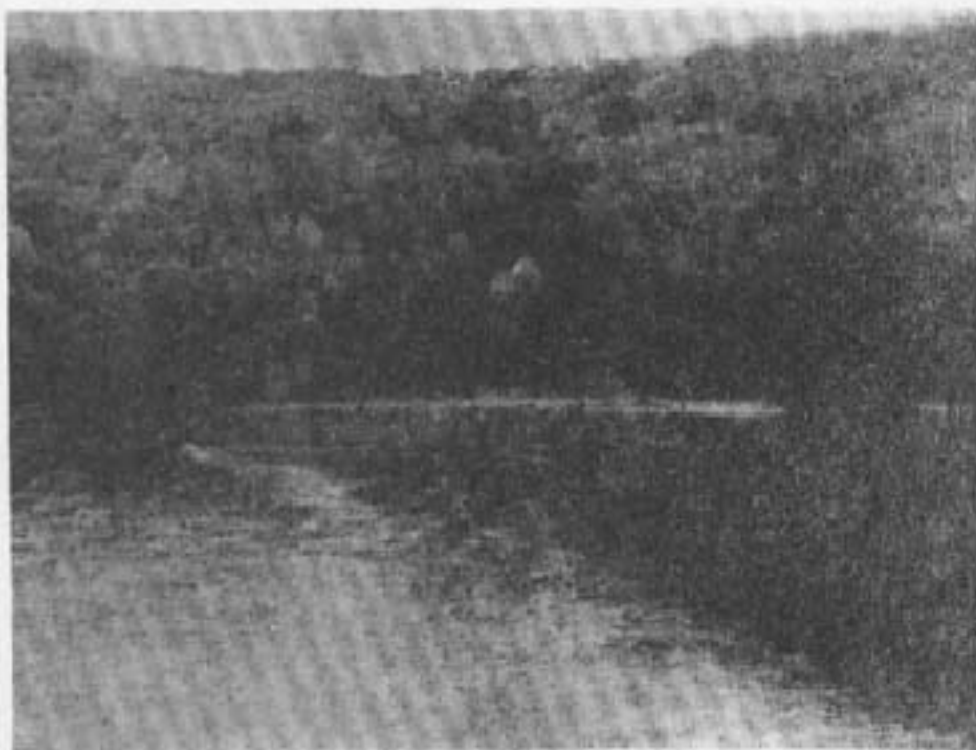
The following were in attendance at the gathering: Ben Bauer, John Brickley, Steve Ebel, John Friederick, Dick Funke, Dave Hogan, Ev Hemann, John Hemann, Mel Hemann, Art Kleve, Gene Murray, Frank Nemmers, Jack Paisley, George Remm, Phil Schmitt, Joe Teafoe, John Vakulskas, and Hank Weckerle. Guests were Harry Linnenbrink and Phil Ryan. Whoops! I forgot John Herzog.

Due to the extremely dry summer in Iowa this year the "turning leaves" were not as colorful as usual. However, there was enough color to make the trip a very beautiful one.

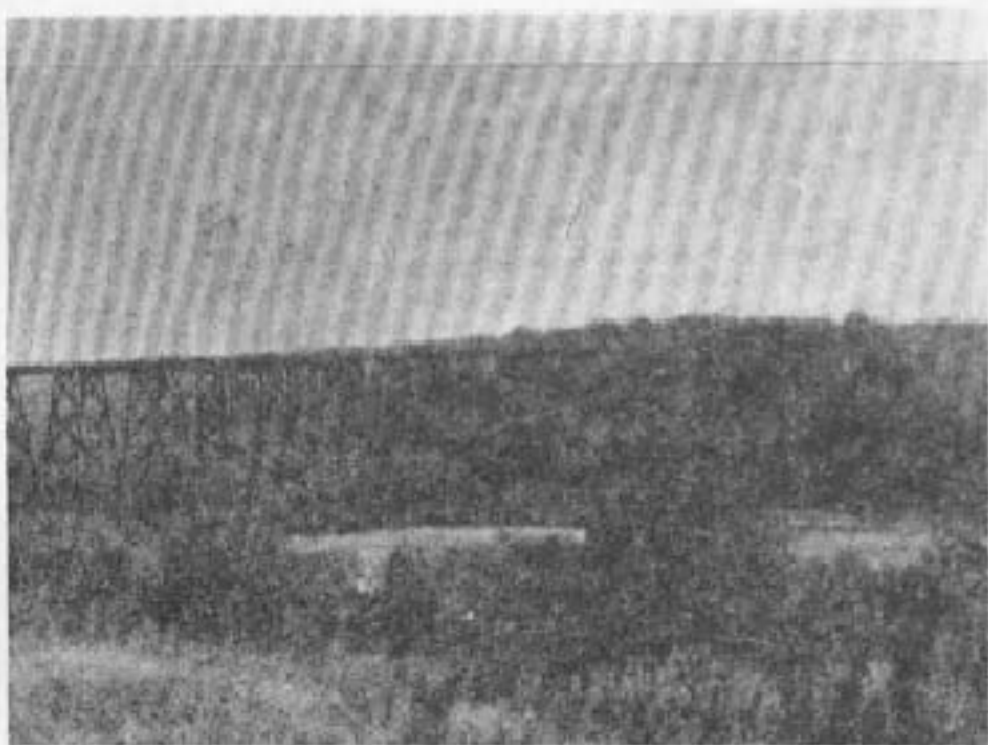
Monday was a good day for the excursion as the numbers were small and so gave ample room for us all.



John Vakulskas and Ben Bauer are all ears as the guide points out the local scenery.



Somehow, black and white just doesn't catch the beauty from the high bridge.



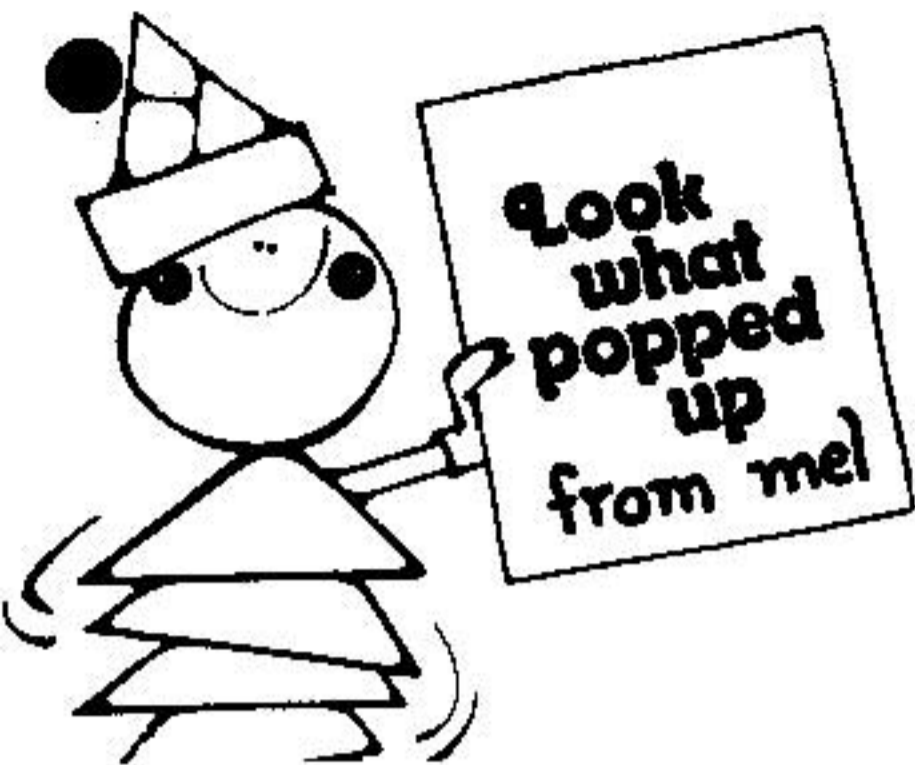
To the south of the single track bridge on which our train ran is the Kate Skelly bridge. This bridge, built at the turn of the century, is the longest two track bridge in the U.S. One of the main lines crossing the U.S. uses the bridge daily as cars, grain and coal make their way across the country.

Our Fall meeting took place on October 7, the Feast of the Rosary. We thought about having a "living flying rosary" but with only eight planes we couldn't even get one decade together.

The members present agreed to accept the invitation of A. J. Engelhardt of Roulette, ND for the Spring meeting.

Presently the gathering is to take place on Monday, May 5. All the particulars will follow in subsequent issues of the newsletter.

For the time being, mark the date.



If all goes as planned we will have available by the time you get this newsletter a new video ground school available for the NAPP membership.

The film strips that we have had for quite a number of years were up-dated several years ago but a lot has changed since that was done. Much of what is contained in them is still very pertinent. However, at our midwest regional meeting we proposed taking advantage of the more recent state of the art.

Ergo, in conjunction with our president, we have ordered a video for instrument/commercial. The particular one I have chosen is put out by VIDEO EDUCATORS CORP. in Greenwood, IN. The material contained on the various videos that are being offered contain the materials that are covered in one of the weekend ground schools offered around the country. It also has a text or study guide that prepares one to take

the written exam. There are about 15 hours of instruction on the tapes. The wonderful thing about the videos is the fact that one can go back and repeat those areas that aren't quite understood at first viewing.

I selected the instrument/commercial from this particular company because it was the only one that I could find that gave that particular combination. For a number of years the instrument and commercial check ride can be given simultaneously if one has a complex airplane for the ride. That means that one has retractable gear and constant speed prop or a plane with constant speed prop and over 200 hp engine. All one need do is pass the two writtens - instrument and commercial - and then the flying preparation and check ride can be done at the same time.

Any member is eligible to use these new video tapes. Contact me to get your name on the list.

2. One of the resolutions passed at this year's convention was to have a new informational brochure made up. If any of you have pictures of yourself (& others) next to a plane, would you please send me a copy so that I might possibly include them in the new one. If at all possible I would like them by the latter part of November at the latest so that we could have the new brochure in the December mailing. A black and white is preferable as it reproduces much better.

3. Bob Kirsch tells me the retreat house in Las Cruces is reserved for the July convention. It'll be a slow paced gathering which a few interesting local features thrown in. Before long we'll be adding the reservation sheet to the newsletter. The important thing now is to mark the dates ... July 8 and 9, 1986.



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Catholicism replaces animism Church grows in New Guinea

(This article by David Schuster appeared in the September 1, 1985 issue of THE WITNESS, paper of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa).

By David Schuster
Witness Staff Writer
1882—Population: unknown.
Catholics: nil.
1982—Population: 3,048,822.
Catholics: 874,501.

DUBUQUE — This year was marked with many 40th anniversary commemorations of the end of World War II. But there is one little-known event left to commemorate — missionaries were allowed back into Papua New Guinea after the war.

The above statistics, displayed in a Papuan diocesan calendar, attest to the success of Catholic missionaries in this South Pacific country, which is comprised of the eastern half of New Guinea island plus many nearby islands. Almost one-third of the population is now Catholic, and the percentage is increasing, according to one of Papua New Guinea's bishops.

Archbishop Leo Arkfeld, SVD, of Madang is a native of Panama, Iowa, and has been in the South Pacific since Douglas MacArthur suggested that the missions should continue after the war. The archbishop, 73, was in Iowa on a mission appeal and to visit relatives before traveling to Europe for more mission collections.

He was part of a group of 20 missionaries who traveled to Australia a year before Japan surrendered and then entered Papua New Guinea in 1945.

For many of us, these islands are only as close as the pages of National Geographic magazine. But the archbishop spoke of a growing Catholic community where Christian principles are readily accepted.

Papuans are animists or spiritists. They believe that a single spirit, or part of one great spirit, lives in most living things and inanimate objects. For example, a good hunter in New Guinea is not considered skilled in tracking or weaponry. The hunter's skill is in knowing how to deal with the spirits, Archbishop Arkfeld said.

"That's a foundation to build on," he said. "They might believe in one or two gods, but at least they believe."

This foundation makes evangelization rather easy because there are remote similarities between the original Papuan religions and Roman Catholicism, according to the archbishop. "Our religion is also a spiritist religion. There is a great spirit, God, and lesser spirits, the angels and saints," he said.

Evangelization techniques differ among missionaries, but the archbishop said much of it involves drilling and memorization of catechesis. The

people willingly give up cultural practices forbidden by the church, such as polygamy, and within two or three years, the catechumens are ready for baptism.

One boon to the missionaries' efforts was Pope John Paul's visit in 1984, the archbishop said.

But there are still problems for missionaries to overcome. Papua New Guinea is basically a Stone-Age country with no written language, he said. English is the official language, but the common language, including the church's, is a kind of pidgin English, which missionaries are able to learn in six months.

Transportation is not the problem it once was now that more roads have been built, Archbishop Arkfeld said. When he was bishop of Wewak in the 1950s and '60s, missionaries walked or perhaps took a boat. But to reach a new settlement of people, the archbishop, who is a pilot, would first make contact

from the air. A missionary would then walk to the discovered village and announce that a "big bird" would land if the people would clear the land. Six months later, a landing strip would be completed, and the trip that took a week on foot was reduced to a short flight. There are now about 40 airstrips on which the "big birds" can land.

The evangelization of Papua New Guinea has also resulted in increases in vocations and education levels. About 518 priests serve in the 17 dioceses of New Guinea, and 50 of them are native vocations, the archbishop said. Women continue to join diocesan orders, and Madang's Sisters of St. Therese now number 41.

About half of the children attend school through the sixth grade. A third of those go on through eighth grade and a third of those make it through the high school level or higher. It is from the more advanced students that vocations are mainly drawn, he said.

Despite the successes of the Catholic Church in Papua New Guinea, Archbishop Arkfeld says the local church is dependent on missionaries for at least 25 to 30 years.

Other denominations have granted autonomy too soon to their missions, and the people have stopped practicing their new faith. "It's a hot tropical country, and it is easy to just sit in the shade and smoke," he said. "Perseverance is not the best, but that is the same anywhere."

After the Second World War, Papua New Guinea was a colony of Australia, but gained its independence in 1975. Archbishop Arkfeld foresees possible problems with self government, much like those some former colonies are experiencing in Africa. But the church has given the people something to rely on, and many of the country's leaders have gone through the mission school systems, he said. "Christianity has a fair hold, so Christian principles will help guide them."



BISHOPS MEET — Archbishop Leo Arkfeld of Madang, Papua New Guinea (second from left), was in Dubuque Aug. 20 to meet with retired Archbishop James J. Byrne, Archbishop Daniel W. Kucera and Auxiliary Bishop Francis J. Dunn. Archbishop Arkfeld, SVD, is originally from Panama in southwest Iowa and was in the state to visit relatives and to make a mission appeal. (Witness photo by David Schuster)