

News from Keston College

For the first time we were host to our patron, the Archbishop of Canterbury, when he visited Keston College on 4 October. This was an important day in our life, made even more so by the presence from early morning of a camera team, which we commissioned to make a film about our work. With the AGM at the end of the same week, life continued to be hectic here.

We recently launched an important new stage in our information output. From now on the overall title of this output will be Keston Information and News Services, which subdivide into:

- a) Keston telex
- b) Keston News Service
- c) Keston documents
- d) Keston translations.

We are launching the first of these now, with the aim of providing a better service for the media than has been possible in the past. The duplicated *Keston News Service* has been appearing for four years and is widely used, but with the arrival of specialist staff (Miss Mavis King and Miss Barbara Willems) to run our Information Department, we shall be able to make this service more efficient. We hope to introduce the second two services (c and d) in 1979. Each of the above will be available separately on subscription (a new grant has helped us to launch the services, but they must soon become self-supporting from subscriptions).

A further important development is that Mrs Kojevnikov, our archivist, now participates weekly in the religious programmes on the BBC Russian Service.

We have recently welcomed Professor Dimitri Pospelovsky, from the University of Western Ontario, who is spending the first part of his sabbatical year at Keston College, funded by the Canada Council. He is a leading specialist in modern Russian religious philosophy and is already contributing richly to our life.

Many visitors continue to come here, for example Anatoly Levitin,

whom we tried to help while he was still in the Soviet Union and whose important works we are now trying to have published.

My children and I spent our holiday in Romania at the personal invitation of the Patriarch. His staff organized a superb sightseeing tour, covering many parts of the country, from Bucharest in the south to the Soviet border in the north, and including a visit to Transylvania and the Black Sea coast. The children had never been to an Eastern European country before. We stayed in several monasteries and were received by many parish priests as well, and were given an unforgettable picture of the overall vitality of Christian life.

Finally, to end on a sad note, Dr Lucjan Blit, one of our longest-serving and most faithful Council members, died on 10 September. He had been ill for a considerable time, but this in no way inhibited the vigour of his active support for our work, which was most movingly mentioned by Canon Trevor Beeson in the obituary columns of *The Times*. We would like to believe that some part of Lucjan Blit's ideals can be embodied in the work of Keston College.

MICHAEL BOURDEAUX

October, 1978

Keston College Representative in the USA

Mr Alan Scarfe, a senior research staff member of Keston College, is at present in the USA. He is lecturing on Eastern Europe for two quarters at Wheaton College Graduate School, Wheaton, Illinois, and plans to be in the US for the rest of this academic year.

Mr Scarfe's special field of study is the religious situation in Romania. He spent two years in this country before joining the staff of Keston College.

Mr Scarfe who has a MA in theology from Oxford University, is available to preach and to address meetings on the work of Keston College in general and his own area of study in particular. He will be working full-time for Keston College from 1 December 1978 - 1 March 1979 and can be contacted at the College's US office:

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