

The Bulletin



of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College

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NOVEMBER 18, 1975

Church Administration

The recent change in format providing communication with our Pastors and Associate Pastors via the CAD supplement inserted into each *Bulletin* was a needed link in the total direction, instruction and operation of the church pastorates.

I know that all you readers who will not receive the supplement can readily understand the need for this type of regular communication. Many items of "in-house" detail such as budget reviews, occasional over-expenditure, church problems, Open Forum, instructions on sermon improvement, new church plans (both long and short range), and others are really only of concern to church pastors. Also, occasionally we would like to be able to inform them of some good news which they can announce to the church membership without their thunder being "stolen" away from them by others in their area receiving the information at the same time they do.

I do want to assure our *Bulletin* readers that Mr. Ted Armstrong's letter, all the major division reports and columns and the regular CAD column will continue to appear in the regular *Bulletin*. The supplement is just as I've said — a needed communication for dealing with pastoral details.

The new concept is that the CAD column will be communication from CAD to the general readership of the *Bulletin*. The supplement fills the need of communication between CAD and the church pastors, and OPEN FORUM within the supplement serves as a means of lateral communication between these men.

It occurs to us that you might like to hear just a little about our internal CAD staff operations.

The CAD staff has regular meetings every Wednesday morning. These meetings are attended by the team coordinators, the manager of Ministerial Services, sometimes by me and then others as necessary. These are review and planning meetings. Any unusual developments or trends throughout the Church are discussed. Plans for future implementation, whether dealing with manpower needs, transfers, new churches, Bible Study programs, budget needs plus the varied and sundry other details, are discussed and finalized.

These meetings are interesting and usually quite animated. Sometimes we get the feeling we're dealing with insurmountable obstacles and tasks. Often it seems that about as quickly as we think we have the solution to one problem, two more rear their heads demanding urgent attention.

NOTICE

Previous to Mr. GTA's decision to send deacons and other leading men who give sermons their own copies of the *Bulletin*, we have automatically sent two extra copies of each issue to the church pastors for their deacons to read. In some cases these extra copies will no longer be necessary. (A few pastors with large numbers of deacons were also being sent another 2-4 copies. To simplify our expediting these extra copies, they must be sent in increments of two.) In order to reduce expenses, we would appreciate knowing which pastors no longer need to receive the extra copies. Please notify the managing editor as soon as possible.

Also, please notice the special announcement regarding Holy Day offerings which Richard Rice of Mail Processing would like to have read to each congregation in the United States.

— Managing Editor

At the November 5 staff meeting, a new report — the church circuit analysis report — was reviewed and discussed. It comprises the third and final part of a three-part reporting system which will now be in use. Sounds terribly official, doesn't it? Well, it's not — it's just a report intended to help the CAD team supervisors analyze the various church circuits on a systematic basis. It provides the information to analyze individual church workloads in terms of the number of ministers and the number of families serviced in an area. Also, it enables an analysis of the cost taking into account salaries, hall rentals, ministerial expense and mileage. It also measures a ratio of baptisms for any six month period to the number of member families — which shows net growth rate.

Secondarily, the report helps locate high or low workloads, high or low cost areas, and high or low growth areas. As already mentioned, this is a third part of a three-part reporting system which has taken nearly a year to put in final form. The other two parts of the reporting system are the church and manpower report, and the monthly budget report and analysis which is presented at the monthly budget section of a regular staff meeting. The entire reporting system is computer-generated.

These three reports together form an approach to reporting which we are confident will be successful. The system that we have designed will most effectively bring into the hands of men who actually must make the operating decisions that information which is most necessary to those decisions.

That does it for our major reporting system.

In future columns perhaps we can further take you behind the scenes into the activities of CAD.

— C. Wayne Cole

Financial Affairs

Like the old joke used to go, I have good news and bad news. The bad news is that we are running slightly behind our income budget — although not so far as to be a major problem at this point. The good news is that our expenditures are also running behind so the net result is that we are even in our cash balances. I hope that with some other internal adjustments we can offset whatever shortfall we are experiencing in our income budget.

A recent statistical analysis of our income revealed a very, very interesting and encouraging

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of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College

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trend. I say interesting and encouraging from one major point of view. That is that over the last fiscal year member donations increased by about three quarters of a million dollars over the preceding fiscal year, despite economic pressures, unemployment and defection from the Church. Unfortunately, this increase from the membership was just about offset by a decrease in contributions from donors and coworkers.

One step that Mr. Ted Armstrong is taking to help improve this situation will be to write a letter to all the donors on our mailing list. A donor is technically a person who has made one contribution over a set period of time. These donors are not recipients of the coworker letters and therefore are not being fed with information about the progress of the Work on a regular basis. In order to rectify this, Mr. Armstrong will be sending them what could be considered a "semi-annual" letter making a literature offer and telling them about what the Work is accomplishing. This same letter would also be sent to all Church members and coworkers and should arrive around the fourth week of November.

It will also be sent in January to all regular readers of the PT. They also will receive a booklet

(Continued on page 532)

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91123

Herbert W. Armstrong
President and Pastor

Garner Ted Armstrong
Executive Vice-President

November 17, 1975

To all ministers and key supervisory personnel in God's Work:

Greetings in Jesus' name!

It's good to be back at Headquarters and embroiled in the fast-paced activities in God's Work once again--though, of course, we very deeply appreciated and much enjoyed the opportunity for the brief respite up in Colorado following the Kansas City campaign.

My father is presently in Jamaica for a week-long series of meetings with the leaders of the country to be followed by a campaign.

We had a very fine month of October--one of the best in a long time--but the good month was not sufficient to offset the cumulative deficits we were building, so that we're still a very slight minus under on the year-to-date as I write.

There is a very SERIOUS situation in Canada I wanted to mention to you which I wish you would convey to all of your members (those in the United States and elsewhere around the world who may not be aware of it), and urge them to PRAY for the Canadian Work!

Perhaps you know there is a mail strike in Canada which has been going on for more than a month now! It is said there is little likelihood of a settlement until after Easter! Incredibly, this is the sixteenth strike in the postal department within the last seven years in Canada, during which the postal department has been idle for sixteen months!

This has so deeply cut into the Canadian Work that Mr. Wilson has had to lay off 22 out of 32 employees in our Canadian office! One of the major newspapers in Vancouver says it costs up to one-third more to live in Canada in comparison to the United States, and that the most particularly costly areas are Vancouver and Toronto. The unemployment figure in Newfoundland stands at 19 percent and at nine percent in British Columbia, while the national figure is 7.2 percent.

Despite these severest of handicaps, the brethren in Canada are doing a great job! Their donations are actually up a little above average, which has held the Work up in Canada and brought us up to a one percent minus where we were five percent minus just after the Feast.

The Canadian postal workers are demanding a 70 percent increase in spite of a national limit of eight percent set by Trudeau five to six weeks ago!

Meanwhile the brethren in Canada are supporting the Work by having their tithes and offerings collected in the local churches and air freighted out to Vancouver for processing! But we need to realize that this postal strike is crippling the Work in a very serious way, for it means that monies that would be routinely and normally coming in will NEVER be received! Thousands of co-workers and donors who might routinely be sending a contribution from time to time through the mails will not think of setting those contributions aside and sending them in a big lump sum once the postal strike is over! This has been our experience for more than 40 years in God's Work, and it is simple human nature. Therefore I urge you to fully inform all your congregations of this crisis in Canada which is seriously afflicting God's Work, and ask that they pray that the postal strike would be settled very quickly, and that God's Work will receive the blessings it needs to continue growing in the nation of Canada.

ON THE SUBJECT OF YOUTH: In looking over the statistics supplied me by John Robinson of the Worldwide News, I was amazed to see the fantastic number of young people we have in God's Church--and wanted to pass on to you what I feel is a vitally important factor of which we all need to be aware. Do you realize that we have over EIGHT THOUSAND young people between the ages of 10 and 13 in God's Church today in the United States and Canada? The two top age groups for God's Church are presently in the very late 20s to early and mid-30s (young couples with children) and the 10-to-13 age group! These interesting demographics were compiled as a result of John's desire to find what is a significant cross-section of the people served by the Worldwide News! It serves to underwrite all the more the most urgent necessity for creating viable programs for our young people in God's Church; for enthusiastic response and participation on the part of all of you for the new YOU programs; and I believe it means a far greater responsibility on the ministry as a whole to pay a great deal closer attention to the problems and trials of young pre-teens and those just going through the stages of puberty! As never before, we must realize there is a VAST potential for God's Church right in our midst--representing the largest single number of "prospective members" to be found anywhere -- the children of our brethren!

I will be urging that our Plain Truth, Good News and booklet writers come up with articles and information that can be very helpful toward this age group, zeroing in on the particular problems and challenges they, at their age levels, must face.

As I have done periodically, let me urge any and all of you fellows and/or your wives or other qualified and talented members of the congregation who have serious thoughts along these lines to supply us with articles which could be published in our magazines or the newspaper aimed at these particular age groups.

The peer pressure at that age (puberty and early teens) is, as you all know, enormous. I think we need to view this as a struggle for the control of young people's minds--realizing that the siren song of drugs, crime, gangland activities, and all the assorted pulls and tugs of human nature in this violent world at this time are taking a terrible toll on most young people!

You, whether local pastor, assistant, deacon or elder, can do your part!

As I have done in the past, let me again remind any and all of you who feel qualified to supply us with whatever written materials in the form of articles or short stories for either the Worldwide News or any of the other publications which you feel would be instructive and helpful to young people of this age, please do so!

Incidentally, Wayne Cole asked me the other day if it wouldn't be a good idea to ask all of you fellows in the field to avoid instituting any further youth instructional programs for the Sabbath until we have had an opportunity (and I believe this will happen quite speedily and not drag on for months!) to fully evaluate all the fine suggestions we have already received and give you some additional guidelines from Headquarters.

Please be assured we are giving this every priority, and there will be no foot-dragging on the subject whatsoever.

Again, on the subject of INCOME, a recent report from Frank Brown and Ben Chapman reveals that while the brethren are doing MORE than ever before; are truly responding in a very fine way in holding up our hands in the conduct of God's Work through their tithes and offerings--and are even INCREASING the size of their offerings, we have been experiencing a steady drain in the number of co-workers and especially DONORS!

On the subject of expenditures, a point of interest regarding the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation: A just-completed study to compare costs of the Foundation for the '75-'76 fiscal year (concerts, humanitarian projects established by Mr. Armstrong around the world, and the launching of our new magazine HUMAN POTENTIAL) with the costs previously incurred by the conduct of fewer worldwide projects and many fewer concerts and no magazine for the '74-'75 fiscal year are very revealing!

It now appears that God's Work will have spent no more (and perhaps even less) in fiscal 1975-76 than we did in the comparable preceding year--while accomplishing infinitely more! Though seemingly paradoxical, this is due to the doubly efficient use of the same funds since, for example, much of the money coming in for the concert series is allocated to those charitable, educational and humanitarian projects previously sponsored by the Church or the College. So I want all of you to know that not only is the AICF producing "good works" in the sense of achieving its stated humanitarian,

and cultural objectives pointing to the spiritual dimension in man (as well as giving God's Work very fine publicity and community relations), but also in a meaningful way, since the AICF is underwriting various worldwide activities previously supported directly by the Work, thus indirectly reducing some of these financial responsibilities.

I hope you will take what I'm about to say to heart--and thoroughly inform all of your congregations of the situation! I have written what I hope will be a very effective letter to go out over the course of the next month or so in several mailings (stylized for different purposes, not only for testing separate pieces of literature, but also because of the clogging of the mails during the Christmas season) which we hope and pray will cause a large number of new donors to become actively involved in God's Work! Hopefully, since this letter will also be mailed to all of those who have been donors in the past but are not now "active," it will have an effect on at least some few of them as well.

However, fellows, I do not believe the Work of God is going to go either forward or backward merely based upon the "crowd psychology" used in writing such letters! I have never believed this--and have always believed and understood that God's Work is going to be either blessed or denied God's blessing based directly upon our personal spiritual condition and the spiritual condition of the Church as a whole! If we are a praying Church, a studying Church, a Church which is truly hungering and thirsting after righteousness, then God's blessing will be upon us! The income received here at Headquarters, I have always thought, is precisely that amount of income God WANTS us to have based upon our spiritual condition and capabilities and the scope of the work He has set before us! I don't want to adopt the fatalistic point of view that if the money is in a slump, God intends it, since I see the example of Moses who called upon the children of Israel to GIVE for the Tabernacle, and the example of the Apostle Paul who continually urged the Corinthian church to overcome their own reluctance toward him and other apostles in the giving of generous tithes and offerings for the support of Christ's ministry and God's Work! However, I do not believe any letter or series of letters, booklets, magazines or articles of any type or description is going to be successful in providing additional income for God's Work without the dimension of sincere and believing prayer and solid FAITH!

Since James says we are to show our faith "by our works," I know it is not a matter of empty, but of active, WORKING faith. Therefore I believe the COMBINATION of every conceivable effort on our part, PLUS believing in fervent prayer on the part of all the brethren and the ministry, is what WILL result in additional blessings for God's Work!

You will be receiving the letter in due time--but I wanted to mention it in the pages of the Bulletin so you could ask the brethren to pray fervently that God will BLESS this letter and will cause ten of thousands of human beings to respond, from the heart, and to help God's Work in every way they can!

Back in the very early years when we had to wait up to two weeks and more to even receive a \$100 check to go to the local Pasadena post office to load up our postal meter so we could mail out a handful of booklets or magazines, all of us in the tiny group then in God's Work were literally praying while we worked that God would bless every piece of literature, every booklet, every magazine that went out! I can remember the many hundreds of hours spent in the tiny little office of that day wrapping, tying, and mailing small bundles of Plain Truths and literally being in an attitude of prayer, praying from time to time as I reached for each bundle that God would bless every word which was going out from Headquarters! I believe if we can recapture that attitude of praying fervently that God will BLESS every word of His which He says will not return to Him unfruitful, then God will shower us with His blessings.

I am hoping you can all catch the picture of getting your local congregations, no matter how remote and how seemingly distant from Headquarters, deeply involved and committed into the Work of God flowing out FROM Headquarters!

I have just recently bitten off a gigantic chunk of radio stations which we had not budgeted for, mounting up into the hundreds and hundreds of thousands of dollars per year of additional radio contracts which are nowhere represented in any budget allocations--and I am doing so ON FAITH, knowing that the more of our local brethren who can hear daily radio (and I am getting back into the Gospel series and hoping to begin giving stronger spiritual broadcasts which will literally "feed" part of the flock, as well as be a witness and a warning to the world), and I feel that this additional direct contact with the Work as it is going out from Headquarters is going to inspire and enthuse God's people a great deal more!

One final thought: I was amazed at some of the shallowness of the questions asked in a recent Bible Study in Pasadena--and built my sermon around some of those questions on the following day. It makes me wonder to what extent more and more of God's people are becoming spiritually indifferent, lethargic, and are letting down on daily prevailing PRAYER and their own personal Bible study! Some of the questions (although I know many of them come from brand-new students who have virtually no Bible knowledge) were so shallow and so meaningless as to be ridiculous! One wondered whether I could expound a little more on "the truth about Israel" and if I didn't have the time, wondered where in the world he could find any information on the subject! It is sad indeed when people sitting in our own Bible Studies have never read some of the most basic and oft-advertised of the booklets we give to the general public--but this is nevertheless the way it happens to be!

My sermon was built around the need for additional Bible knowledge and being firmly grounded in the truth, as I have continually in these pages in the Bulletin urged all of you to preach basic, sound doctrine and meaningful biblical topics so your brethren are being fed a full and balanced diet of Bible knowledge during your Sabbath services and Bible Studies!

Let me remind you once again of the urgent need to do just that

Every time I preach a sermon of this nature at Headquarters, the comments simply come flooding back from people who say it was "just what we needed!" and there is a deep and abiding appreciation for sermons which are very heavily biblically-oriented! Our brethren DO hunger and thirst for more of the Bible--and it's our job to feed them!

This is growing quite lengthy, but I wanted to share all of these thoughts with you--since it has been some time since I had a letter in the Bulletin.

Until next time, THANK YOU for your part in God's Work--thanks for the many personal letters of support from a lot of you fellows that I never have the chance to write to individually--I do appreciate them!

Your brother in Christ,

Barnes Ted Armstrong

At Ambassador College...

An educational utopia

(Editor's Note: *This feature article describing the grounds of A.C. Pasadena appears in the October, 1975 issue of "Grounds Maintenance" magazine. A spectacular full-color photo of the Italian garden appears on the cover, and nine other views of the campus accompany the article. We're reprinting the entire article, minus the pictures, for our readers' interest.*)

Found throughout the 40-acre campus of privately-owned Ambassador College, Pasadena, Calif., are formal and informal gardens, streams, pools, and outstanding works of art. The Italian garden alone has 700 feet of formal boxwood hedges in a classic design.

Color is provided by 91 annual and perennial flower beds. Over 20,000 tulips bloom in March and April for an added brilliant display. Three thousand azaleas and 800 camellias also provide a major burst of color in February, March, and April.

The campus receives many visitors each year. A number of tour groups and garden clubs make Ambassador College a regular stop. Also, graduation ceremonies are held on the grounds in May. These activities demand a very high level of landscape maintenance.

A unique feature is the main track and playing field, which serves as the roof of an underground parking lot. The surface is artificial turf and the 1/6-mile track is a rubberized material (tartan track).

Nine acres of the campus are planted in dichondra, one of the largest single plantings in the world. Since dichondra is a broadleafed plant and herbicide weed control is limited, a great deal of hand weeding is necessary.

The dichondra is cut at 1½ inches on the level and 2 inches on steep slopes, about once a week during its rapid growth. Mowing is usually done from March through December.

The fertilizer program for dichondra is a fall and spring application of composted chicken manure, with supplemental nitrogen applied 2 or 3 times during the summer. Ground covers and shrubs receive 1 application in winter or spring. Azaleas and camellias are fertilized 1 or 2 times a year with cottonseed meal or an acid-type fertilizer and a chelated iron. The kikuyugrass on the athletic field is lightly fertilized with calcium nitrate after vertical mowing/aerating in June.

The flea beetle is a major pest problem on dichondra and is treated with 1 to 3 applications of diazinon granules. Slugs and snails, a problem in shaded and ground cover areas are controlled with regular applications of metaldehyde granules. Powdery mildew (on roses and crape myrtles) and aphids (on azaleas) also require some treatment.

Irrigation is one of the biggest maintenance problems. During hot summer months, all systems are used to capacity and must be checked carefully. The salt content of the water compounds the problem, requiring efficient water usage and flushing of salts from some areas to prevent a toxic build-up.

Because of visitor and student traffic, most of the watering is done at night. Day watering is scheduled to prevent wet walkways during heavy-use periods.

The Landscape Department employs 16 full-time employees and about 20 part-time student employees. For the full-time crew, the department has a weekly educational program. During the winter, instruction is presented in soil science, basic botany, and plant identification; while the summer program consists of proper maintenance procedures.

The 16 full-time employees are assigned to one of 4 areas — maintenance, irrigation, arborism, or floriculture. Eight men work on the maintenance crew. Each of 5 employees has a permanent area of about 7 acres and is required to do all the routine maintenance — mowing, edging, watering, fertilizing, weeding, etc. — for that area. Three other employees form a special maintenance crew that repairs or replants large areas of turf and ground covers, or does any job too large for the assigned area man.

A 2-man crew designs, installs, and maintains the irrigation systems. Although these 2 men have, in the last 3 years, installed 12 electrical controllers, which serve over 200 systems automatically, they still have about 300 manual systems.

The 4-man arborist crew does all formal and informal trimming and maintenance of over 3,000 trees (120 species) and more than 20,000 shrubs. Most of the large trees are trimmed once every 2 or 3 years. Fruit trees are pruned each spring after bloom; and formal trees are shaped 2 to 4 times a year.

Floriculture duties, propagation and planting of annual and perennial flower beds, are done by 2 employees. The 91 flower beds total over 30,000 square feet. The 2 men, with student help, change most of the beds 3 times a year. Thirty different species or varieties of annuals are propagated or

purchased and grown to planting size. Routine maintenance includes fertilizing, trimming, and replanting when necessary.

One man from the floriculture crew spends about half his time maintaining the 600 indoor plants and patio planters in the college buildings.

Some of the maintenance equipment for the 4 crews includes: pickups; panel trucks (for transplanting plants); electric, 3-wheeled carts; a tool truck; a dump truck (for brush removal); a boom truck (for planting trees); a man-lift (for pruning); a 300-gallon, 300 p.s.i. hydraulic sprayer; a 30-gallon, centrifugal-pump weed sprayer; and a 42-inch, hand-pushed Gandy drop spreader. □

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

(Continued from page 524)

offer and we are anticipating a good response as well as a certain amount of growth on our donor file. Remember it is from the ranks of coworkers and donors that members usually originate.

The most encouraging aspect is that Church members are doing their part, and in most cases going over and above, in supporting God's Work.

The letter going out is very straightforward and powerfully written and should elicit a good response all around. Either I or Ben Chapman in his column will keep you updated as to the results of the letter which is considered to be a major mailing and ought to put us right on budget as far as our income is concerned. Your prayers would certainly be appreciated in bringing about a greater success.

On a recent trip to New York City with Dr. Kuhn, we experienced an interesting series of events which I would like to share with you. We went to New York for two purposes — 1) to meet with Mr. Rader on some financial matters prior to a presentation to Mr. Ted Armstrong and, 2) to discuss our new publication, *Human Potential*, with some leading professional consultants in the publishing field. We traveled together and both met some very interesting people.

Dr. Kuhn had with him the page layouts for the first issue of *Human Potential* together with some cover photographs from which the first issue cover will be selected. Our publishing consultant in New York City, Mr. Art Murphy, (formerly the General Manager of *Life* and the President of *McCall's*) had lined up some very high-powered people in the publishing industry and they passed through our hotel room at very close intervals. Dr. Kuhn, together with Art Ferdig and Gene Hughes, who were already there, presented some of the *Human*

Potential material to each one of these people and without exception everyone of them was *very excited* about it and the potential they could see for filling a neglected part of the publication field.

I realize, of course, that most people are going to be polite in expressing themselves about any project, but these men had been selected because of their evaluative abilities and expertise in magazine publication — believe me, they did not hold back! Such people as the former publisher of the *New Yorker* magazine, the Circulation Director of *Life* (8 million copies before it ceased publication), a top name in the editorial field which would be instantly recognized, were all very forthcoming with suggestions for improvements and ideas for circulation building.

Without exception, however, they were all very impressed and would like to be involved even peripherally in the distribution of a magazine which they considered to be much-needed. This was certainly very encouraging to all of us there and convinced us even more that this is a magazine that *needs* to be published!

As Mr. Armstrong did explain during the Feast, *Human Potential* is a publication of the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation and as such does carry a subscription price and will carry advertising. It is designed to be self-supporting, if not profit-making, and as such, once launched will not be a continuing financial commitment for the Church. As you know, Mr. Armstrong is excited about having a vehicle to better represent the potential of mankind before world leaders in a way that will also reach tens of thousands of educated people around the world. In order to properly accomplish this, we will require some outside expert guidance and it certainly is very encouraging to know that many of the top men in the publishing field literally are *eager* to participate with the Foundation in what they consider to be a very worthwhile, educational, humanitarian, and uplifting publication!

From time to time, we will update you with developments in this area, but I thought I would just mention my experience and the tremendous acceptance that *Human Potential* has already received. We are all eagerly looking forward to the first issue and anticipate a good circulation growth with a resultant growth in interest in the great potential of man.

Despite the slightly negative position of the income, all trends in the income area do seem to be taking an upward turn and I hope that by the next *Bulletin* I will have some better news in this area

for you all. In the meantime, we are all greatly encouraged by the progress that has been made and the potential progress that lies just ahead.

— Frank Brown

Media

On Sunday, November 9, we shot our first television interview show for network use at Ambassador College. John McKay, coach of the U.S.C. Trojans, was interviewed by ABC's Stu Nahan about U.S.C.'s game with Purdue. It took less than three hours to produce the half-hour program, which was finished at 12:20 p.m. and aired over the ABC network at 5:00 p.m. the same day. The producer was quite pleased with the facility and talked to me the next day about bringing other shows here, since we are one of the few studios open on Sundays. Sunday is one day producers find it easy to assemble the name talent. However, Sunday is also the day few of the technicians care to work on, and not many administrators are in a position to pay double time for their services. So, at times the Sabbath turns out to be a blessing for us in strange ways.

— John Lundberg
TV Production Manager

International Division

THE WORK IN INDIA

Dateline: Leeds, Yorkshire

The Indian Work had a small beginning back in 1953, when the *World Tomorrow* was heard over Radio Ceylon. For the following 21 years the program was sporadic — removed, replaced on Radio Goa, removed, replaced on Radio Maldives, removed and replaced on Radio Ceylon.

However, the greatest interest and response came through the P.T. circulation. This began with our *Reader's Digest* advertising in 1968, resulting in a flood of requests. Up to this time the list was only 2,000 — but soared to 57,000 by the end of 1969, and continued to increase until it reached 85,000 by 1974.

All this time the membership was meager, to say the least! Until the yearly tours which started in 1969, we had two members in India, and three in Sri Lanka! Yearly the numbers increased slowly, and the figures were 25 in India and 19 in Sri Lanka at the end of 1974.

But 1974 through to the present has seen a sudden *pot-pourri* of changes take place in this far corner of the Work. The *World Tomorrow* had to be removed from Radio Ceylon due to financial dictates, and for the same reason the P.T. circulation had to be reevaluated. We were forced to restrict it to members, prospective members and co-workers — reducing it to a mere 385 compared to the previous 85,000!

However, despite these obvious setbacks, we rejoice that the Gospel can still go out to India and Sri Lanka. The Work there *is growing* in other respects!

Mr. H. W. Armstrong's public appearances before the Rotarians, Giants, and Jaycees in the Bombay area earlier this year marked a great step forward. The highlight for the 14 local brethren, and the P.T. readers was Mr. Armstrong's lecture at the Oberoi Sheraton to a group of 350 plus. Our members in the Bombay area have had the unique privilege of having Mr. Armstrong conduct several Sabbath services this past year. We are all looking forward to the possibility of large-scale campaigns in the future. However, we need to remember this in our prayers as the Emergency situation in India prevents the holding of public meetings of over four persons.

The third Feast of Tabernacles to be held in India was this year on the scenic Island of Goa (former Portuguese Colony on the West Coast of India). The first half was kept with 57 of God's people (three were unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances). It was the busiest Feast ever! Packed into three-and-a-half days were 13 hours of services, an afternoon of counseling, a baptismal service, two of Mr. Ted Armstrong's movies, a conducted tour of the local sites, a fun show and sing along. Feast attendance over the past year had grown 26%.

The second half of the Feast, the fourth to be held in Sri Lanka, was kept in the mountain town of Nuwara Eliya ("City of Light") with 57 attending. It was nearly as busy as the Indian one! The highlight of the Feast was the "spiritual food," or as one member put it, the "meaty sermons."

To date we now have 37 baptized members in India, and 27 baptized members in Sri Lanka. Twenty were added during the Feast and subsequent visits this year alone, representing a 45%

increase in members over the past year. Quite a number who had requested visits attended the Feast this year, having come into contact with the Church through other members. In spite of not having the finances to send out PTs to the area, God is using the fine example of our members to bring others into His Church.

The Indian mail is read in Bricket Wood and forwarded on to Pasadena, from where the lit is sent out. This is due to U.S. mailing costs being lower.

One universal problem that many of the members are facing is unemployment and inflation. A six-day working week is virtually a must in most businesses, and legislation enforcing this is expected in the future. Already this has caused a great deal of financial hardship for the brethren.

If and when the Emergency is removed, the future for the Work in India and Sri Lanka looks promising, particularly with the prospect of Mr. Armstrong's campaigns. We look forward to yet another year of growth.

The brethren are, of course, widely scattered and get to see one another only once a year at the Feast of Tabernacles. They do not have weekly Sabbath services... nor do they have a minister there to guide them (my primary responsibilities are looking after the Leeds Area Churches here in England). Do keep praying for God's people in countries that live under very difficult and trying conditions that few of us in the West can understand. For many of them, their actual physical survival on a day-to-day basis depends on Almighty God and His intervention.

I join with them in saying Thank You in advance for your prayerful support.

— Richard J. Frankel

Mail Processing

Important Holy Day Offering Notice

The following information was recently submitted to me by our Donation Mail Section to be included in this issue of the *Bulletin*. Would you please read it to your congregations as it concerns an important aspect in the processing of *late Holy Day offerings*:

"Due to the difficulty in finalizing reports on Holy Day Offerings, we generally do not process Holy Day Offerings as HDOs after approximately 30 days past a given Holy Day.

"When we receive an HDO over 30 days after

the date it is listed for, we enter it as a 'donation' to the First Fund. It will appear on the contributor's four-month statement as *'first tithe.'* Of course, the offering will still be used to help carry on God's Work.

"We strongly urge members who cannot attend Holy Day services for one reason or another to send their HDOs to services by a trusted friend, deacon, minister, etc. If you must mail your offering to Headquarters, it would be preferable to mail the offering *and* the HDO envelope a week before a given Holy Day *inside* a regular labeled tithe envelope.

"We submit these recommendations because Holy Day offerings not given in services require up to *six times the work* to process due to the procedures we must use. Thanks for your understanding and help in this regard!"

October Recap

Below is a general summary of mail sources (plus the WATS line) showing performance for October:

Radio & Television	15,650	7.9%
Plain Truth	13,196	6.7%
Good News	2,059	1.0%
Advertising & Booklets	1,840	0.9%
Booklet Cards	15,167	7.6%
Direct Mail	40,295	20.3%
Member & Co-Worker Mail	56,179	28.3%
Correspondence Course	1,580	0.8%
Miscellaneous	<u>5,792</u>	3.0%
Subtotal for Mail	151,758	
WATS Line	<u>46,723</u>	<u>23.5%</u>
TOTAL	198,481	100.0%

In the area of booklet cards, the coupons from the October *Good News*, advertising our new *Tithing* booklet, has been a very good puller. During the two-month period of September-October, 10,615 requests for the booklet were received through these cards.

Another area of increase was the Member & Co-Worker Mail category, which was up by about 10,000 letters over September. The WATS area received 46,723 registries for October, bringing the total number of registries for the year to 470,532.

Festival Comments

While we are discussing the period of September-October, it might be encouraging to mention a word or two about letters sent to us from members expressing gratitude over the Feast of Tabernacles. Comments have been coming to our Mail Analysis Team in a steady stream since the con-

clusion of the Feast and we believe it to be a heavier response than last year. A quite voluminous report giving samples of the letter comments was prepared for Messrs. Herbert W. and Garner Ted Armstrong. The overall tendency of the letters was to express support for the leaders God has placed in His Work and solidarity in the Church as a whole. Many spoke of being shocked out of lethargy by strong, inspiring sermons and that they are now more eager than ever to go forward and get the job done — more united than ever before. A selection of these comments follows in the letter comments section.

Until next time,

— Richard Rice

LETTER COMMENTS

KANSAS CITY PERSONAL APPEARANCE

The following comments were received from people who had attended Mr. GTA's latest Personal Appearance.

"It was impossible for me to thank you personally while you were in Kansas City for the fabulous campaign here October 17 and 18, so I'm sending this letter to tell you that I'm very thankful for the fantastic job you did in conveying God's message to the people of Kansas City!

"Surely the hardest heart would be melted by your words. The music was truly unique and inspiring also.

"Garner Ted, thank you for submitting to God and allowing Him to use you in such a magnificent way to reach the world. Please know that we of God's Church are with you and continually behind you in fulfilling the commission He has given us to do."

— Mrs. Donna R. Sapp
Blue Springs, MO

"My wife and I had the pleasure of hearing you in Kansas City Saturday night and want you to know we thought your sermon was the finest we have ever heard and was so enlightening to us. This is the kind of sermon so badly needed today. We congratulate you on the wonderful work you are doing. We thank you for the opportunity of hearing you in person."

— Hooker N. Tospon, D.O.
St. Joseph, MO

"I attended your lecture Friday, October 17 in Kansas City. The comprehensive way you sized up the critical and desperate conditions of life on this

planet was most informative and impressive. We are sure your words have inspired countless people to spread goodwill and loving kindness and to actively cooperate with God's plan for the redemption of mankind.

"We extend our deepest gratitude for giving us transportation from our home to the auditorium. Otherwise we would have been unable to attend the meeting."

— Charles C. Hill
Merriam, KS

"It has been a very thrilling experience to help raise funds and then finally see your campaign here. The lectures, music, pictures and the background were so very inspiring. To say 'thank you' is very inadequate for how we feel."

— Mrs. Louise Smothers
Olathe, KS

"I have been wanting to write you to let you know how much I enjoyed the campaign in Kansas City. I'm from Tulsa, Oklahoma, and I was very excited about being able to attend. The way you are able to explain things so clearly and in a way it's easy to understand. I'm so very glad the work is going forth and I'm behind you and your father 100%. My prayers are behind you and I'm very grateful for God's Work."

— Mrs. R. G. McDonald
Tulsa, OK

"I attended the campaign in Kansas City and this is to say you were magnificent and very powerful. Those words you spoke were the heaviest words to enter my ears. It is good to know that not my money but God's money is going to such splendid use. Thank you!"

— Jase A. Luna
Springfield, MO

"I was privileged to see and hear Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong when he was in Kansas City October 17 and 18 at the Municipal Auditorium Music Hall.

"Mr. Armstrong makes the Bible come alive today. I am able to understand things that I never did before. I am taking the Ambassador College Correspondence Course and between the course and Mr. Armstrong's broadcasts, I am really getting a good education of the Bible."

— Mrs. Lillian Schreiber
Shawnee Mission, KS

"Just a few lines to thank you so very much for the great campaign here in Kansas City last weekend!!!

"I am a member, and it was truly a very inspiring time."

— Roy L. Zuvus
Kansas City, MO

"I'm not much for sitting down and writing letters, but I had to write this one. I was able to attend Sabbath Services and the last night of the campaign in Kansas City the 18th, and I just had to sit down and let everyone involved know how much it has meant to me.

"Please let the Ambassador College singers know that they gave a magnificent performance. You could tell it was sincere and from the heart.

"The rear screen projection had a lot of eye-impact and added a lot.

"There are no words to describe being able to personally hear GTA. I must admit I had been slacking off — he really gave me the impetus I needed to get back on the right track. I'm grateful for that."

— Mrs. Judith Umphenour
Pleasanton, KS

"I had an opportunity to attend the campaign in Kansas City on Saturday night. I pray everyone left there feeling as I, filled with determination to really get behind this Great Work of God. It was simply magnificent. The music was very effective with the very beautiful slides. And Mr. Mike Lord is blessed with a voice of charm and beauty. It really enhances the campaign. It really was a success. Keep up the good work!"

— Carole D. Huston
Pasadena, CA

"We went to the Kansas City Personal Appearance of Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong and it was the most wonderful thing I've ever been to. When I left there I knew that God was working through Mr. Armstrong and the Church and it made me feel so wonderful and secure in the Church of God!"

— Mrs. Michael D. Swan
Topeka, KS

"May I say we truly enjoyed being able to attend the Kansas City Campaign. We weren't able to be there Friday night because we got in to K.C. too late. However, we were there for the Sabbath and Saturday evening. It was very moving and I couldn't keep from crying. Keep up the good work and our prayers are with you. We are also with you 100%."

— Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Marshall
Stoutland, MO

"We recently attended the Kansas City Campaign and we all agreed that we have never heard or seen GTA more inspired than he was that night. When the P.A. system went out, we were all straining to hear every word so much that most were on the edge of their seats and it became so quiet that one wondered if everyone was no longer breathing. It was GREAT!"

— Mr. & Mrs. Griff Streit
Columbia, MO

FEAST OF TABERNACLES

"This Feast seemed to mark the turning point. We are now moving forward again, no longer marching in place trying to hold the Church together, trying not to offend 'the weak ones' and wringing our hands over those who have left. It was sad but also predicted so let's keep going!

"I am thrilled and excited and strengthened by this Feast. I am ready to go back to my home and life and climb the mountains that lie before me and make the necessary changes. And I'm anxious to get on with the Work.

"I feel we all let down in the last few years. How much I had I hadn't realized until this Feast. I am shocked and horrified. But this Feast was like 'the good old Feasts' and it really feels good to be 'back in the saddle' again.

"My support is behind you all as never before."

— Barbara Boedeker
Olympia, WA

"Thank you so much for making the effort to visit all Feast sites. I was at Squaw Valley. Did our offering convince you of our support?"

"You put tears in my eyes when you mentioned that sometimes you felt you were dragging us along. Yes, we know what we should do, pray and fast more, but we are just lazy. We need to be shook up. In our own warm, comfortable homes only an earthquake can shake us! We need a mental earthquake! We get in our daily routine and unless a shocking news event occurs, or we get a letter from you, or Garner Ted, we feel so far away from the Work you are doing. Is this a lukewarm attitude?"

"I am grateful to God for opening my mind to this precious truth. I just wish I were stronger in my prayers and fasted more.

"We need your eyes and mind so we can truly be aware of things as they really are, and can more fully support you."

— Mrs. Anne Duyck
Cornelius, OR

"I would like you to know that your sermon at

Squaw Valley, California just made my whole Feast. You put wind back in my sails. You voiced the same opinions and views that my mother and I have believed for some time. We should all be so busy correcting ourselves that we don't have time to judge others. To us it's a relief not to have to judge others.

"You are in our prayers daily and I know God will give you the strength you need.

"Remember God's people are behind you 100%."

— Charlotte Ramas
Meadow Vista, CA

"I would like to be among those who are writing to you in response to the sermon which you gave at Squaw Valley during the Feast.

"I have felt for quite sometime that you were not only leading this Work, but that you were indeed dragging the rest of us with you. I hope and pray that we shall all realize the fantastic way in which God is working through, with and for you, also our responsibility to His Work along with the relentless effort which you put forth daily. If we, as a people, could and would try only half as hard as you do, I know God would greatly bless this Work and open those doors which have been closed.

"May God forgive us of our self-concern and help us to do that which we have been called to do. Thank you, Mr. Armstrong, not only for your efforts, but we do need reminding about our part of this Work. Prayer, coupled with real concern and the right attitude, can and will make the difference in this Work for the few remaining years ahead of us.

"Great trials are coming upon us nationally and we will need to unite as never before. You are a very vital and necessary part of this Work. We need you as never before."

— Mrs. Faye Langlais
San Pablo, CA

"Again this year we were privileged to hear you both at the Feast. I would like to thank you both personally for making the effort to bring us such an inspiring and exciting event during the Feast. I realize that these eight days are very tiring for both of you and I hope by now that you are fully rested.

"I was impressed with Mr. Rader's remarks at the Feast. The Foundation, the concert series, but most of all the daily miracles that occur to assist the Work complete its purpose. We members in God's Church could learn a lot about dedication and loyalty by thinking deeply about the activities of Mr. Rader and Mr. Gotoh rather than taking it

upon ourselves to criticize the very Work of the living God and those He is working through."

— Garth A. Ricks
Boise, ID

"I wanted to let you know that I surely did appreciate your coming to all the Feast sites! I don't see how you can physically do it all, but I'm sure you know our prayers are with you. Even though you are mortal men, you are the very voices of God in this end time! That, in itself, inspires awe in all of us! (Sometimes I have to pinch myself to realize that we are all involved in this end-time commission!) But I hope you do know and feel how much all of us love you. That's why we push and shove to get a glimpse of you and a handshake sends us in orbit! You see, we love you *because of what you are doing!* I personally love you because you are the voice of God's truth, and the truth has meant so very much to my life. That ties me very directly to you, who are tied very directly to God's Holy Spirit.

"Please forgive us all for smothering you at the Feast sites. We don't mean any physical harm for you — I hope you know it's just because we love you as God's representatives and as our leaders! I always am so deeply moved by your appearances at the Feast that I just get a lump in my throat and then begin trying to fight the tears of pride that God is working through you — and that you have taken your time to be with us! We all love you for it! I'm just looking so forward to your visit in St. Pete! Thanks so much for coming!"

— Mrs. Ed Knight
Martin, TN

"Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong, your sermon at the Salt Lake Feast site fired my imagination so much (and inspired me, too) that I was unable to take any notes! While you were there I felt like we were all really united with God.

"Not to be outdone Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, your presence was very inspiring and very heart-warming.

"You made me realize that time is indeed shorter than I had thought. I had written before that I support your efforts to fulfill the commission God gave you. But the Feast has made me feel much stronger about that. And I hope God will be pleased with the larger offerings I will try to give to make sure this Work is completed before the world falls apart. . . .

"Thank you both for speaking to us and me personally in Salt Lake during the Feast."

— Dennis L. Turner
Fountain Hills, AZ

"Well, another 'greatest Feast ever' is behind us and we have had our spiritual armor renewed by the many inspiring and encouraging sermons.

"Once again, you and your son have sacrificed your own personal pleasure to speak at an increased number of Feast sites.

"We sure appreciate it, Mr. Armstrong. Thank you. I heard you in Tucson, your last speech, and as Mr. Garner Ted told us, you were still full of zeal and enthusiasm.

"Thank you, most of all for correcting us as a loving father would his children who needed it desperately. God help us to heed. I have written, 'I'm behind you 100%.' And, yet, I am still lacking in 100% zeal."

— Mrs. Betty Jordan
Endicott, WA

"The Feast of Tabernacles, 1975, was just wonderful and truly the best Feast ever. God's people were truly giving and sharing all the way in love this year.

"The sermons were very inspiring. Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong's sermon was the best one I have ever heard him give. I was able to personally receive a clearer glimpse of what God is calling us to — to actually have the opportunity to become a son or daughter of His in His Kingdom ruling with and under Him on this earth. As Mr. Ted Armstrong said, 'what a tremendous, incredible bargain that is and all we have to do is be good.'"

— Synde Frenzel
Karnes City, TX

"The Feast of Tabernacles was the most fantastic of all. But I say that every year! Maybe that's why God's way is so wonderful — it 'gets better and better' the more we live it.

"Thanks to everyone who made the Feast a grand one."

— Wilma Taylor
Big Sandy, TX

"I, James K. Martin, Jr., do hereby say that this was the greatest Feast ever. I attended the Feast at Big Sandy. I must say being there among approximately 9000 brethren was fantastic!

"I am very proud, indeed, to be a part of this the greatest Work on earth. Every facet of the Feast was wonderful. The weather was just marvelous. I enjoyed the speaking to the hilt."

— James Martin
San Antonio, TX

"Your sermon moved me so very much that I just had to write a letter to you to thank you, and even more, I am thanking God that He is able to

use you to give us such a powerful message of our hope about God and His coming Kingdom of our tremendous human potential. Mr. Armstrong, your message today meant so much to me that I cried. I couldn't stop the tears from flowing. I didn't want to either.

"Mr. Armstrong, I want you to know that I'll be standing right beside you and your father, holding your hands up doing whatever I can.

"The words God inspired you to speak strengthened even more the bond of union that we have. Thank you, Mr. Armstrong! And I thank God for so mercifully giving of Himself to us and letting us be a part of His great commission."

— Malvina Kardos
Gladewater, TX

"God's Feast this year has been the most encouraging ever!

"One point that was repeatedly emphasized was that God's Church needs a stronger prayer life. In this regard I would like to suggest an article, or better yet, a series of articles in the GOOD NEWS greatly magnifying Romans 8:26. This verse has strengthened my prayer life and I would like to share that encouragement with others who need help."

— Charles Hooks
Tyler, TX

"Before the Feast, I almost wrote to you when I heard how many Feast sites you intended to preach at in eight days. We always love to hear and see you again, but those in other countries don't get to see you during the Feast — so we shouldn't feel too badly if you can't make it to all of the U.S. Feast sites. But, Mr. Armstrong, thank you for pushing yourself to make it to see us all. We appreciate it and needed your message. We hope you are rested some by now and thank God for the strength and vigor He continues to give to you.

"I hope you don't think that we believe you are just hopping around the world for fun — because we don't! We know you're doing the Work and working very hard. I really can't see how you can travel and go through so many time changes as you do — except by knowing God's power. Most of us would get really sick by messing up our body schedule as you have to do.

"It is very special to me to realize that we are your children in the Lord. We are behind you and praying for your inspiration, strength and protection."

— Mrs. Manning
Kansas City, MO

Ministerial Education & Training

THE MINISTERIAL CALLING

"There is no temptation taken you but such as is common to man."

Oftentimes we view our problems as unique — never experienced by any other person. Because of this tendency, we fail to avail ourselves of a wealth of experience. Perhaps this is true when it comes to the subject of *ministerial calling*.

We are *ministers*. As such we are characterized in the eyes of the world along with all others so labelled — including gurus, prophets, seers, mystics, etc. We are categorized according to an individual's background, knowledge and personal experience with the *ministry*.

During class discussions, pastors have commented that they have a certain negative experience of image of the ministry. As one man said, "My image of the minister is bad. It is embarrassing at times to be classed as a minister." Others made comments to the effect that much of our feelings about the "ministry" are self-created organizational images. We have tended to be repulsed by fundamentalist style preachers, have kidded about them, and thus because we are *ministers*, felt negative about ourselves through some process of guilt by association.

Whatever we may do or feel, it does not change the fact that we are ministers. As such, we have problems common to others within the profession of the ministry. We are not an island to ourselves. When we realize we have problems in common with others, we can learn from their experience and certainly vicarious experience would be a much better teacher at times than actual experience.

Profitable books have been written on the subject of the ministry (there are *unprofitable* books as well). Currently in any good Bible book store, there are several books available dealing with the subject of the ministry. Some of these titles reveal common problems ministers must learn to live with in a creative manner. James E. Dittes has written a book, *Minister on the Spot*, characterized by his publisher as an "inquiry into the gut predicament of being a minister." James Glasses' book *Profession: Minister*, deals with what he calls the "identity crisis of the parish clergy."

Again, though we might feel we are unique, that we do not have problems in common with other men — these books starkly reveal otherwise. Hopefully, we have the tools to more effectively handle the problems we might have — but if we do not understand some of our problems (which we can learn from the experience of others) then all the tools in the world won't help us solve a problem we don't understand.

How Did You Get Where You Are?

The ordination certificate in your wallet says you are a minister. How did you become one? Why? Were you *called*? What is a *calling*?

Many books have been written on the subject of ministerial calling. Theological journals and periodicals contain numerous essays and articles exploring this aspect of ministry. The experience and learning of others in this regard can be helpful to each of us.

G. Willis Bennet in an article on the *Ministry as Profession and Calling* made some interesting observations about the Protestant ministry. He said that some ministers view their decision to pursue the ministry more as a vocational choice, rationally made, without any special awareness of divine guidance. Others viewed their decision in a somewhat miraculous manner, perhaps even declaring the overpowering sense of God's presence where he broke down their own resistance. A few, he said, implied that they had no choice in the matter and indeed would prefer to engage in some other vocation.

Perhaps, as ministers, we would not identify with any one of these concepts — but we might. They do illustrate that for one reason or the other, ministers become ministers and somehow we got where we are. It is important for our future and the future of God's Church that we do understand how we got here.

Bennet writes of a survey of 1,348 Methodist pastors of which 695 said that the number one significant reason for choosing the ministry as their vocation was "a distinct and divine call," and 114 others listed it as the number two motivating factor. The younger ministers less recorded this as the prime reason. (Divine call, as interpreted by Bennet, is viewed as a sense of spiritual discernment wherein a person responds to what he believes God wants in his life.)

Types of Calls?

Most of us have heard the humorous incident of the young man by the edge of the cornfield lying

in the shade of a big oak tree. He saw a vision in the sky — the great big letters P.C. in pink smoke. He jumped up, exclaiming that he now knew the will of God in his life — he was supposed to Preach Christ! However, under interpretation of his father, who knew what his son was like, he got the proper interpretation of his vision — PLOW CORN!

Is the calling to the ministry that mystical, mysterious, simple and humorous?

H. Richard Niebuhr has done a study on what he terms four distinct calls, or modes of call. They are as follows:

- (1) The call to be a Christian
- (2) The secret call
- (3) The Providential call
- (4) The Ecclesiastical call

These four distinctions, along with some observations by Charles William Stewart, can perhaps give us some insight into the subject.

The Call to Be a Christian

Niebuhr states, with Biblical support, that every Christian has a "calling," or vocation under God. He further states that before one can answer any other call, he must answer the call of Christ to be his disciple and representative in whatever sector of the work world (vocation) he finds himself.

This concept of the call to be a Christian is borne out in the *Review and Expositor* (Vol. LXX, No. 1, pg. 6). "Originally, *calling* was not confined to a particular class of persons designated as 'minister,' but to all of God's people who stood in a covenant relationship to him and who were committed to the ministry he desired them to do in the world."

The injunction given in Ephesians 4:1 is without question a directive concerning *calling* which was applicable to the membership or *laity* of the Church. Paul was not addressing the office-bearers in the churches regarding calling and vocation but every member, corporately and singly.

Obviously, there is a ditch on that side of the road that must be avoided — the priesthood of all believers, or no order, organization and structure within the Church. Yet, it does hold true that each Christian is *called* of God for a specific purpose.

The Secret Call

This is defined as one *inwardly* becoming aware that God had him set apart for a particular ministry within the Church. He acknowledged that this was a highly subjective area in which one would have problems distinguishing between one's own desires and the will of God.

This is illustrated by Gladden in *The Christian*

Pastor. He said that even though every man might like to think that God has called him to his work, that thought had to be supported by data gathered from other sources. Gladden emphasized that it was not sufficient for an individual to depend on his own intimations and impressions; these were often misleading. He went on to say that sometimes what is described as the inward call (or secret call) might be sufficient, but in every vocation the inward call must be corrected or confirmed by the outward call. "If a man thinks himself called to the vocation of a teacher or an engineer, and, after his best exertions in this direction, can get no one to employ him in his chosen work, it is rational for him to conclude that he is mistaken in regard to the call."

The Providential Call

Niebuhr states that one should be able to see some relationship between the needs of the church and the society (which one wanted to meet through the ministry) and one's own talents and abilities. He stated that any feeling of the individual's call should be tested against some inventory of the person's abilities and needs of the Church. The providential nature of the call is the coming together of (a) needs, (b) abilities, and (c) circumstances, in what is perceived as (d) the providential will of God.

The Ecclesiastical Call

Niebuhr states (amplified by Stewart) that the candidate for Church vocation, *regardless of the mode or process of the call*, answers the call of a specific congregation or group. "The call to service makes no connection until you are: (a) set apart by a congregation; (b) granted a license to preach and administer the sacraments, and (c) come under the discipline of Church orders."

Gladden again illustrates this. "If a man thinks himself called to preach, and can find no one who wishes to hear him preach, he ought to decide that the inward call was misunderstood. Thus, it is plain that whatever a man's inward impulses may be, he is compelled to test his inspirations by the judgment of his fellow man."

Gladden further states, "And the Christian Church has wisely provided that this double test shall be applied. No minister ought to undertake the work unless he believes that he has a divine vocation; but he ought to submit this conviction of his to the approval of his brethren. Whether this approval is given *by the Church* that calls him, or by the presbyter, or by the conference, or by the bishop, is a secondary matter; it is well that other

clear and judicious minds should confirm his choice and send him forth with their blessing into the work of the ministry" p. 69).

The ordination card which you have in your wallet shows that you are commissioned by the ecclesiastical institution of the Worldwide Church of God. Your confirmation as a minister was borne out by fellow ministers and those responsible for the direction of this body.

Combination of Factors in the Call

Members of the Pastoral Ministry class felt they could see a combination of factors involved in their "calling." The most dominant aspects of the call fell in the area of *providential* and *ecclesiastical* calling.

Understanding this aspect of ministry can have several significant effects in your life. The world we live in is a world of institutions, established organizations and corporations. Though one might think otherwise, no matter where he is or what he is doing, he is under the domination of influence of some form of institution or organization. The ability to function within an institution is a major determinant of one's personal fulfillment and happiness. The institution "in which the minister does his work is critical for his role definition."

If one acknowledges that the major reason for his being where he is in the ministry is because of an institutional call (and the call of a unique institution), then he can more effectively deal with potential problems and conflicts that arise, and conflicts do arise.

Charles Stewart states that problems within the ministry are both personal and *systemic* (of, or having to do with the system or institution in which one works). Stewart further elaborates on a concept of *systems stress* and states that it refers to the institutional expectations (ecclesiastical institutions included), demands, and structures which impose themselves upon the individual in his work setting. Recruiting, placement, support, (financial and personal) all are part of the institutional setting and may cause stress in the life of the professional.

He points out that personal development requires the meeting of certain needs and finding of inner-personal security. Then he makes a far reaching and significant statement: "... to work within a social system (and ALL life takes place in a social system), *you must accommodate your personal needs or at least recognize that they come into conflict with the needs of an institution*" (p. 75).

Systems Stress

Systems stress is elaborated by Ronald Pavalko. Stewart applied those studies to the ministry. The fourth area of systems stress is timely and pointed. His fourth area of stress is *LOYALTY TO THE ORGANIZATION VS. SERVICE TO THE CLIENT AND LOYALTY TO THE PEER GROUP*. Stewart commented: "The minister as a professional may feel his *service to the individual laymen is uppermost* — both in counselling and in small group work. He expresses his loyalty to his colleagues in meeting with them either in bull sessions, after hours or at the fringe of meetings. . . . *This for him is where he lives and grows and where he finds his basic loyalty.*"

Stewart then quotes a study by Howard Hamm in which he stated that ministers who are "iconoclastic and are unable to bend the knee to institutional demands" fail. Those who conform to the expectations of the social system have better success in life.

How were you called to your ministry? You were chosen to represent the ecclesiastical institution of the Worldwide Church of God. You received your license from that ecclesiastical body and willingly submitted yourself to those church orders.

Working Within a Social System

The difficulties of working within a social system are not mystical — but they must be understood if one is hopeful of working creatively and effectively within an organization.

James Glasse, in *Putting It Together in the Parish*, made an interesting observation: "In business a man can inherit, buy, build, or rent. He can also become an organization man and operate a local branch for the national company. Inheriting a place is rare, but not impossible. Adam Clayton Powell inherited the Abyssinian Baptist Church from his father but he had to maintain it as his own. Church buildings are sometimes for sale, but congregations are not. If a minister wants to go it alone, he can become an ecclesiastical entrepreneur after the fashion of Oral Roberts, Billy Graham and others who set out on their own to build their own place. But for most ministers, a parish is the main option. Every pastor must pay rent (work effectively and productively within an institutional framework) in some parish to earn his right to be creative, prophetic, or whatever else he wants to be. The minister must 'pay the rent' required by that institution for his opportunity to serve."

Discussing "calling" in this manner might be very unsettling to some. All of us would like to look upon ourselves as another Apostle Paul, knocked off his mule on the road to Damascus; or Amos, taken from following sheep — but we ought to take a critical second look at that in light of the subject of calling. God has chosen us for the ministry through human instruments to work within His body — a corporation or institution known as The Worldwide Church of God.

Charles Stewart made a statement that is pertinent to all in the ministry. "You should be assured of your calling, you should enter the profession through an acceptable educational and training experience, and you should continue to grow as a Christian and person. Your primary identification is with Jesus Christ. That means you are neither a little Messiah nor a cipher. You are first a full human being, second a Christian, and finally a minister. It is a high calling, worthy of the best and of all the creativity that you have."

— MET STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE FOR U.S. MINISTRY

Financial Aid to "Strangers"

From time to time many of you receive requests from members visiting in your area for financial assistance from the Emergency Fund. Certainly all of us are aware of the scriptural principles of helping the needy and the stranger. Jesus gave the parable of the Good Samaritan to illustrate this Godly trait. However, in keeping with other principles involving wise stewardship, it is advisable, and we strongly recommend, that in most cases you should discreetly check with the home Pastor, or former Pastor, of any individual who might approach you or members of your congregation for financial assistance.

Spokesman Club Manual

The Spokesman Club manual is being extensively revised. All church pastors will be receiving a questionnaire asking for input and ideas on the format of the club and even its necessity. The revision should be ready about the first of the year. In the meantime, any of you who want to start a new club may do so, generally following the old manual. Or, if you choose, you can just hold off until the new manual is published.

Sabbath School Announcement

We appreciate the memos and letters received from many of you in regard to the proposed educational program for our young people on the Sabbath. As you know, there are many important

factors to be considered in regard to the format of the entire program — preparation of instructional materials, selection of local teachers and physical facilities available for holding classes.

We feel it is vital to the success of this new program that it be carefully planned and thought out. Therefore, if you have not already done so, we are asking that you do not initiate any such program in your local churches until you receive further information from Headquarters. If you have begun some type of program already, (and several were given an OK to start something) would you please send us a report of what it entails, how it is working and any suggestions you might have.

We hope that very soon now we will be able to clearly define the overall objectives and the budgetary and policy implications of the program, and go forward with its implementation.

Budgetary Analysis

October's budget report and analysis brings to our attention some things we ought to mention to you. Overall, the budget is in balance, which is a good sign. But there are areas within the budget that are seriously overspent which need to be mentioned so that you will be aware of expenditures in those areas. Transfer expense, for instance, has been very high since the sale of the moving van. We are overspent \$17,000 in that account. We are presently putting together a policy regarding transfers by commercial movers which will provide guidelines and will help us to keep the unnecessary expenses down.

Field telephone expense was over by \$9,000 for October. Of course, the large number of men in the field will continue to produce a large volume of very necessary telephone calls each month. All we can ask you to do is to be aware of each call and ask yourself the questions, "Is it necessary to place this call now?" or "Can I shorten the length of the call?" Perhaps a seven-cent postcard could do the job just as effectively as a twenty-five cent telephone call.

Mileage reimbursement was overspent by \$4,800. Again, this is one of our most necessary expense areas. Yet, with each of you cutting down just a little bit, it can ring up to quite a few dollars saved when the total bill for the field is added up.

Outside food expense was overspent by \$4,000, which really was expected since the changes explained in the last *Bulletin* regarding our meal expense policy will not have had time to really take effect. We are aware of the difficulties in this particular area and wish we had a better answer for the problem, but we are forced by very

(Continued on page 538I)

OPEN FORUM

OPEN FORUM was created to continue the same give-and-take discussions conducted during the workshops of the May, 1974 Ministerial Conference. OPEN FORUM affords you the opportunity to freely express your thoughts, ideas, opinions and suggestions regarding any area which you feel will contribute to the edification and stimulation of your fellow ministers and department managers. We want OPEN FORUM to be encouraging, thought-provoking — a vehicle through which constructive ideas can be born.

But please remember — and pardon our disclaimer — the views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the official policies or procedures of the Worldwide Church of God or Ambassador College. Neither do they necessarily represent the views of the editorial staff of the Bulletin. Nor do they necessarily reflect any absolute conclusions or dogma on the part of the individual contributor — just food for thought and discussion. Send your OPEN FORUM contributions to the Bulletin, 300 West Green Street, Pasadena, Calif. 91123. Be sure to double space your copy.

EXPANDED BULLETIN CIRCULATION

Many thanks for placing the *Bulletin* into the personal hands of our deacons and lead men actively on the sermonette list. This will undoubtedly be a tremendous teaching aid to them as well as to strengthen the "team effort."

In all positions of leadership men like to be trusted by those over them and this move illustrates that trust and confidence.

Particularly in the international areas where many of us face the possibility of work permits not being renewed or men not having a chance to spend two or three years at A.C., I feel this will help to give our potential local elders the "feel" of Headquarters as well as help to educate by the many constructive doctrinal articles in the *Bulletin*.

Again thanks!

— Roland Sampson
Hamilton, Bermuda

IN-HOUSE EVALUATIONS

In every closed society there develops what could be called "in-house evaluations" — we judge from our parochial little enclosed section of society. In every office you find nit picking, petty little criticisms. Every club, society or church is subject to trivial judgments.

We in the ministry have a responsibility to be men above the petty polarizations that seems to stifle most organizations. One area in which we can easily start to set up "in-house" evaluations is

with each other. Narrowing it down further, particularly with our evaluations of sermon styles. In the ministry there is a vast range of personalities, each called by God to help "feed the flock." Each one of us has different mental, emotional, spiritual makeups. We come across differently, we think on different planes, some have a gift of humour, some a gift of incisive logic, others the gift of gleaning facts, some have tremendous warmth or emotions. Of course we are all attempting to cultivate whatever elements we are weak in, to improve our technique.

However, here is a point I want to emphasize. Not one of us reaches 100% of our congregation. In the church we have a pot-pourri of personalities — introverts, extroverts, paranoids, you name it we have it. Certain styles are really going to set some people alight, while others are indifferent and at times turning some right off.

It has been an education in the last few years to hear various reactions from our members to different speakers.

To some, Joe Blow is the greatest, and yet to others he is boring. I had the lesson driven home the other day. I was listening to a sermon which I thought was rather insipid — did nothing for me. Two friends of mine, independently of each other, came up and said that the sermon had really helped them. It was just what they needed.

If we are not careful, we start to judge God's servants from our own exalted personal point of view. I believe each one of us whom God has called to his ministry has an important part to play. We have our different personalities to give variety, different view points of Christian living, to reach various segments in our congregation that others can't reach. I hope we are all learning to respect each other as colleagues who have a valuable service to give in God's Church.

— Alan Dean
Sydney

TEEN BIBLE STUDIES

In a recent meeting with the teens in our Church area, my wife and I posed the question, "Would you like to have regular teen Bible Studies in different people's homes, and what subjects would you like to cover?"

There were 26 teens in attendance at our home that evening, and we weren't sure what type of

response we would get from such a leading question. Much to our delightful surprise almost every teen there responded that they would like to have a teen Bible Study, not once a month, but *twice* a month. They enthusiastically requested that I cover such topics as: what does the Bible say about their future in God's kingdom, how to cope with high school and junior high school activities when you are a teen in God's Church, and, what the Bible says about bridging the generation gap. They also wanted to have open discussions with my wife and I on drugs, sex, dating, honesty, and what activities in the teen-age years should they avoid.

Well, in our first study we discussed different ways to have fun as a church teen group. Then I launched into a study (more of an open dialogue as I solicited their spontaneous comments or questions) on how to communicate effectively. Prior to the meeting we had purchased a game called, "The Ungame" which was devised by some nationally prominent experts on family behavioral problems. This game is played like any other game except everybody wins and as the contestant goes around the board he lands on spaces that direct him to pick a card. The card will have an interesting question that the contestant must answer and discuss in front of the other participants. An example of the questions asked are, "describe the ideal father" or "if your daughter was going out on her first date, what advice would you give her?" We played this "ungame" with the teens there at the first meeting and many of them really opened up and began to "tell it like it is."

At our next teen study I'm going to give a talk about what the Bible says about morality, and give them some documented information on the tragic consequences of illicit sex and the promiscuous sexual revolution we see occurring in society today. I'm going to talk in terms that they can understand and on their level, and with God's help it will serve to guide the teens in the Church to avoiding painful mistakes.

I mention all this to perhaps help other Church Pastors or Associate Pastors who are looking for meaningful ways to serve the young people in their congregations. It would be very much appreciated if others reading this would also comment on ideas and feelings they have on this subject.

Before closing, I wanted to mention another way to possibly serve the children of the members in our congregations. That is, if possible, by starting a children's choir in the local area. We have begun such a program and, to put it mildly, the kids are really excited about it. We picked songs

that they could sing as special music in Church and we meet with them every Sabbath after services, gather them around the piano, give them their own sheet music copies, and teach them the songs. After a couple of these practice sessions the parents were coming up to us by the dozens and saying how their child loves this new choir and how he or she really looks forward to church now. Of course, this idea might not work in every church area, but because of the successful results we've had so far I wanted to share this with you.

We are surely grateful for the guidance of men like Mr. Ted Armstrong, Mr. Cole, Mr. Thornhill and his staff in encouraging us to serve the thousands of "little ones" in our congregation who desperately need our attention and leadership. These children are literally fun to work with and they do respond so positively to the concern and activities we can direct their way. I look forward to reading other comments on this subject from some of you. Thanks for allowing me to "sound off."

— Marc Segall
Portland, Oregon

JAMES 5 AND ANOINTING

Recently a number of comments have appeared in the *Bulletin* on the subject of healing and anointing. I am certain that these comments have provoked numerous reactions, and in my case they have been the stimulus for further study into the subject. Hopefully the Church will grow as a result of this dialogue as all the ministry comes to more fully understand the will of God.

I would therefore like to share the results of my own study, as well as give some thoughts on the subject of healing.

Much of the current discussion on anointing has naturally centered around James 5:14-16. Some believe that these verses show that anointing should be done only for "serious" illnesses and handicaps. Such opinions center around certain key words: sick, save, raise him up. But I believe that these words do not necessarily point to such strict limitations on anointing.

For example, *asthenei* is the word for sick in the phrase, "Is any sick among you." It is often used when a person is near death. But that is not always the case. In John 5:3 and Acts 4:9 the word is used for impotent, or crippled men who are nowhere near death. *Asthenei* is also found in its plural form in I Timothy 5:23 where Timothy is told to, "Drink a little wine for your stomach's sake and your often infirmities." These infirmities could hardly have been of too serious a nature for

wine to be their sole prescription. Therefore we cannot conclude from this word that anointing is to be limited to serious illnesses.

In verse 15 it is stated that the sick need to be saved. This sounds very serious. But saved from what? Death? Yes, in some cases, but not all. We read in Matthew 9 of Christ healing a lady who had an issue of blood for twelve years which the physicians could not stop. In verse 22 Christ, after healing her, says, "Your faith has made thee whole." Here the phrase, "has made . . . whole" is a different tense of the very same verb translated "save" in James 5:15. But in her case she is not being saved from death, but from her affliction. The Revised Standard Version reads, "Take heart daughter; your faith has made you well." From this we can see that if we have the word "save" mean (in James 5:15) anything other than "save from an illness" we may unnecessarily restrict the verse.

Next to be considered is the phrase, ". . . and the Lord shall raise him up . . ." Does this phrase necessarily indicate a bed-ridden individual who is close to death? Here again, the verb to raise (*egeiro*, Gk.) may be used in various ways. Often it is used for the activities of perfectly healthy individuals (Matt. 8:25, Mark 4:27, John 13:4). At other times we find it referring to the resurrection of the dead (Matt. 10:8). But what does it mean in James? The Arndt and Gingrich Greek lexicon claims that the phrase in this verse means "restore to health" (*A Greek-English Lexicon*, Arndt and Gingrich, p. 213). This reputable lexicon does not say that it means "rise from a bed," although that is where any sick should normally be. Further, to use this word to show that the person is gravely ill is placing unproven tight limits upon it. Might not someone with the flu rise from his bed?

Now we should look at a word not previously commented on in other articles. I refer us to the *New Bible Commentary: Revised* which says of verse 15, "The sick man is indicated by a verb (Gk. *kamno*) which is used of exertion and of illness and even of the dead (cf. Wisdom 4:16) but never apparently of the dying" (emphasis mine). This is a very strong indication that James is not talking just of serious cases, for the sick man is obviously living and probably *not* dying.

Therefore, after examining all of the evidence, we find that James 5:14-16 can refer and apply to "less serious" diseases and sicknesses. How can we, as ministers of Jesus Christ, establish limits on what degree of illness can or cannot be anointed when God Himself sets down no restrictions? I know of no minister who anoints for sniffles, but I

also know of no minister who clearly sees in every case when or when not to anoint. Rather, they must trust that the individual seeking anointing is doing his part in keeping healthy, is living a godly life, and is looking towards God in faith for their healing.

If we try to establish anointing limits I fear we will enter a maze more complicated and entwining than any we constructed for "repair surgery."

There are also several things that we need to consider. One, since healing is a matter of faith, how is a person with a serious and perhaps crippling or fatal disease going to have enough faith to be healed if faith has not been previously built with "little" healings for "small" things during the past? Does a baby run before it crawls?

Secondly, is not what God does as much support for doctrine as what He says? Without God's act of miraculously proving that He had given His Spirit to the Gentiles we would be requiring circumcision to this day, for no scripture at that time spoke of its abolition. And since God has shown He is willing to heal the small things, who are we to turn His children away?

Third, since God has healed some despite their "ignorance," will they want the "light" where God does not heal "small" things? How would God lead them to the "light" when darkness is much sweeter?

And those for whom God heals the "small" things, are they "ignorant" or do they see a greater truth than we?

— Ralph Orr
Youngstown, Ohio

HOW TO KEEP AN OPEN MIND

Do you realize that it is possible to have an *open mind*, yet at the same time have your *eyes closed*?

Most people have both *closed minds and closed eyes*! But if we have the Spirit of God, we should maintain an *open mind* at all times! This does not mean, however, that we will always have our *eyes open*, i.e., always be able to *see clearly the truth* of any subject which we might be considering.

God's word declares that the *eyes and ears* of the world are closed to the spiritual truths of the Bible. Christ said: "Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing *see not*; and hearing they *hear not, neither do they understand*. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall *hear*, and shall *not understand*; and seeing ye shall *see*, and shall *not perceive*: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see

with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Matt. 13:13-15).

Christ then told his disciples: "But blessed are your *eyes*, for they *see*: and your *ears*, for they *hear*. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to *see* those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them" (vv 16, 17).

This scripture clearly shows that many in the world do not understand spiritual truths, for God has just not opened their minds to see.

The apostle Paul also pointed out this same biblical truth: "What then, Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded. (According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of *slumber*, eyes that they should *not see*, and *ears* that they should *not hear*) unto this day" (Rom. 11:7, 8).

Other scriptures reveal that there is a spiritual "veil" over the inner eyes of those whom God is not calling at this time.

But in a different sense, even those of us who are now the *sons of God* sometimes have scales on our eyes — sometimes have our eyes closed to certain truths.

How many years did we have our eyes closed to certain technical truths regarding Pentecost? How long did we have the scales on our eyes regarding the real truths of marriage and divorce?

On numerous occasions during the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, he mentioned a point of truth to the disciples which they did not grasp. Their eyes were simply *closed* to the truths which he spoke. When he told them that he would be crucified, resurrected and glorified of the Father, it was too much for their finite minds to comprehend.

So it is with all of us. There are times when we may be totally unable to see some new truth — simply because our eyes (through one means or another) are closed to such truth. This does not necessarily mean that we are in a bad attitude, or that our minds are closed like a steel trap.

Quite to the contrary, our minds may be open, but our eyes may still be glued shut!

I am sure that we — ministers and laymen — often find this the case when it comes to looking into new aspects of doctrine.

I believe my mind was opened on the issues of Pentecost and Marriage and Divorce, but at one time my eyes were tightly closed — for I firmly believed we had been right all along. It was almost

like someone telling me that I must consider whether or not the seventh day sabbath was really the true sabbath.

My biggest doctrinal difficulty was the question or issue of marriage and divorce. I thought I had proved our past beliefs concerning this subject, and then when I repeatedly went over the scriptures, still believing that we were right, but being willing to change if proven wrong, it was very difficult for me to believe that we were wrong.

That is one time when God really showed me what it was like to have an open mind, but totally closed eyes. I said repeatedly that I saw some inconsistencies and seemingly contradictory aspects of our old teaching (e.g. polygamy and O.T. divorce). But somehow it just did not seem to me that we could be wrong in the way we were.

I firmly believe that *if my mind had been closed* (as well as my *eyes*) that I might not have weathered the marriage and divorce doctrine storm. I might not have been willing to accept the new teaching. Even so, it took time to digest the new teachings. I believe God has now opened both my *mind* and my *eyes* to see and understand his basic teachings of this subject much more accurately than in the past. I do not, however, discount the possibility that we may still need to clarify certain aspects of our D & R teachings. By keeping open minds we shall also correct them.

As God's Church (working through the Doctrinal Team, and his servants, Messrs. Armstrong) continues to look into aspects of our doctrines (race relations, Old and New Covenants, etc.) let us all make sure we keep open minds and allow God to lead us into all truth.

An Open Mind

What is an open mind? It is a mind that sincerely *wants* to know the truth and is willing to examine any new evidence, both pro and con. It is a mind that truly seeks to understand the *truth*, and is willing to accept it when proven.

But it is possible to want to understand the truth, yet to have prejudice, bias, or certain pre-conceived ideas that blind us. At times we all have a certain amount of *bias* or *prejudice*. And such prejudice serves as a "blind spot" preventing us from seeing new truth. It can totally obscure our vision, making clear focus of the subject impossible.

On occasion all of us have our (inner) eyes *closed* to certain truths without even realizing it. But let us make certain that we keep our *mind open* — willing to look objectively at any subject under consideration!

Keeping an open mind, it will be much easier for us to overcome any *temporary blindness*.

A Final Word of Caution

Having an "open mind" does not mean that we keep our minds so open that we *accept* without proof anything which comes into our heads.

We must always keep the gates of our mind open, but keep guards there to make sure we do not *admit* anything which is unwholesome or undesirable.

We must not be unstable, or wishy-washy. We dare not be fickle. We are commanded: "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good" (I Thess. 5:21). The RSV says, "*But test everything; hold fast what is good.*"

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has often referred to President Lincoln, who was frequently urged to change his views — especially during the Civil War. And President Lincoln did change his views on occasion. But he didn't change quickly, nor was he swayed easily.

Here are President Lincoln's actual words: "I shall try to correct errors when shown to be errors, and I shall adopt new views so fast as they shall appear to be true views."

This should epitomize our attitude — our approach — to new ideas. Let us keep an open mind at all times, but let us not *accept* anything which is presented to us — without first testing it and proving it to make sure it is sound!

— Raymond F. McNair
Senior Editor
Pasadena, Calif.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

(Continued from page 538D)

real budget considerations to seek this solution.

As stated before, the overall budget is almost even. However, there are several trends that indicate overspending. In the areas mentioned, we think that you can see that it would be no time at all before we would be seriously overspent if present trends were to continue.

It is not our intention to be negative, because overall most of you are doing a splendid job. We want to thank you very much for your cooperation in keeping as close to our projected budget as we have. We know that it takes effort and sometimes even a little sacrifice in order to do so. We sincerely appreciate the effort that you've made and your dedication to God's Work.

PERSONAL NEWS

Don Prunkard, recent pastor of the Minneapolis Church, has been granted three months leave of

absence and suspension of his ministerial duties.

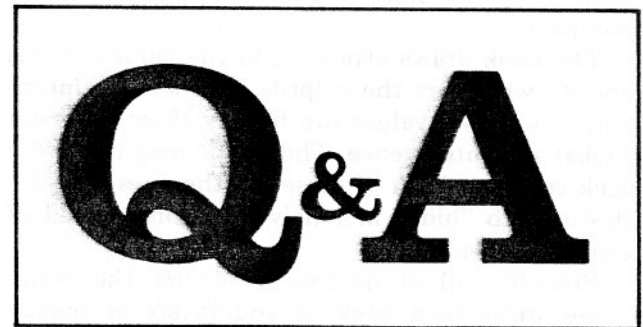
Don has been under a good deal of stress which has aggravated some health problems, and at the same time he has expressed a lack of confidence needed to support the thrust of the Church and to continue teaching some of the doctrines of the Worldwide Church of God.

We hope that during these three months Don will find relief from the stress he has experienced and come to a satisfactory resolution of his relationship with the Church.

Mr. David Orban, Pastor of the Knoxville, Tennessee Church has asked that we pass along the following announcement in regard to a member from his congregation. If a Mr. Robert L. Switzer should come into your area seeking financial aid or assistance you should first contact Dave at 615-693-2335, and then encourage Mr. Switzer to get in touch with his wife.

IDEAS

Herbert Magoon, Pastor of the Colorado Springs and Walsenburg Churches, wrote in recently that he was able to procure the loan of a field organ from Fort Carson which the church used during Sabbath services held in a remote area. This was in conjunction with a weekend campout. Possibly others of you might want to avail yourselves of this service from a local military installation.



Q. If a church member is on third tithing for a period of years, and has no form of private medical insurance, would the Church be obligated for thousands of dollars in medical bills in the event the member was taken to a hospital?

A. No, the Church would not be obligated for any medical bills whatsoever simply by virtue of the member having received third tithing.

However, it would be possible for the local minister to become personally obligated should he sign certain forms, placing the person in the hospital, if they contain some clause whereby he undertook the obligation to so pay. The Church itself would

not be bound by any such document because it has never granted ministers authority, to serve as their agent, in signing such an agreement to pay. Any such obligation by the Church would have to be on a case-by-case basis depending upon all the facts and circumstances.

If a person is receiving Social Security, he should, of course, sign up to receive the Medicare. Medicare would pay for some portion of any such medical bills. Further, the chances are that the state or the county in which the member is a resident has some type of a medical program for the elderly or people without financial means to pay for medical care.

— *Legal Department*

BOOK SHELF

Hide Or Seek by James Dobson, Revell Co., 1974, 159 pages, \$4.95.

Our children are one of the greatest responsibilities we have in life and all of us would like to endow them with the best tools for a successful life. One of the most important aspects of life is being uninhibited because of inferiority, fear and doubt about yourself.

Dr. James Dobson focuses his book on the epidemic of inferiority that many suffer from and gives guidelines to parents in helping their children avoid the mind and life-crippling inferiority complex.

The book draws attention to the values of this society which are the culprits in producing inferiority. Society's values are beauty (how a person looks) and intelligence. Those (the majority) who lack either or both of these are the ones who are destined to "hide" in lonely isolation, robbed of real enjoyment of life.

Probably all of us can remember the many times we've held back as youngsters or maybe even now because of feelings of inadequacy or inferiority. All to some degree are affected by the mind-binding inferiority complex.

Specific guidelines are discussed at length by Dr. Dobson on overpowering the inferiority malady for our children in today's society. I feel these are fine "strategies" for building esteem in children — one of the finest gifts we can give to them. On pages 99-103, a problem experienced by many in God's church is discussed. Many of our young people have grown up with a resentment toward the church and their parents and as a result have "left" the church. Dr. Dobson analyzes why they respond this way and how we, in our concern for

the child's conduct and future, have inadvertently driven our children to this response.

The book is capped off with a chapter on "the only true values" referring to God's values in contrast to society's values. In light of the fact that we are to assist in the development of the society in the World Tomorrow, the ending comments are indeed thought provoking.

The book is fast reading, yet Dr. Dobson has a real insight to the problems discussed and gives proper solutions. As he says in the introduction, "This book is intended to help parents and teachers raise self-confident, healthy children. Our children need not 'hide' in shame; by applying the strategies I have outlined, we can give them courage to 'seek' the best from their world."

— *Dan Fricke*
Portland West, Oregon