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JUNE 16, 1971

# Mail Summary and Letter Excerpts



#### MAIL SUMMARY

June through the 11th has brought rather heavy mail because of the returns from the Semiannual Letter. We have had over 159,000 letters thus far, which gives about a 200% increase over the first third of last June. The percentage of return of the Semi-annual Letter has risen to 13.7 and is still climbing. The Pentecost Holy Day offering has given the income a good shot in the arm. It was more than 30% better than the Pentecost offering for last year. Because of the heavy volume of mail, we are somewhat behind in processing. This makes it difficult to give a percentage picture of the income to date. However it looks very good and is showing an upward trend.

Mr. Armstrong's Plain Truth article on Vietnam is stirring more comment than any other at this time. Also, of course, many people are commenting about the new book on sex.

#### LETTER EXCERPTS

Long Beach Lectures

Thank you for taking time to talk to us Tuesday at the lectures in Long Beach. I really didn't think I could do it because my last bus leaves at 8:00, so before I left home the first

Sunday I put it up to God. If He wanted me to attend I would have to find a ride home. You guessed it. What wonderful people, and the ushers are so very helpful and friendly. I don't know when I've enjoyed anything so much. Two more days and already I have four different people looking out for me. You couldn't have chosen any better than Mr. Hill and Mr. Meredith. I love them, and their sense of humor. Also, they really are making some things very plain.

- Mrs. L. Q., Paramount, California

I haven't missed a lecture here, although one night I was attacked from the back. Outside of a torn coat and a scare, I was all right. I let my predicament be known. I was amazed — half of the group wanted to drive me home. Thanks.

— Mrs. S. R., Long Beach, California

Thanks for setting aside a copy of your new book, The Missing Dimension in Sex. We have made a small donation from time to time. But I am going to start with my next income to send my tithe to the Worldwide Church of God, Headquarters at Pasadena. Heard you speak Tuesday evening 5-11-71 in Long Beach. You are truly being guided by God.

- Mrs. C. B., Norwalk, California

And special thanks for the Bible classes in Long Beach. My husband has gone to every one and that is really a change for him. He went out and bought himself a Bible and started reading it for the first time in sixteen years. I am so

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# Personal NOTES

#### BABY NEWS

Ben and Jan Leonard (North Dallas): On May 19, 1971 Jan gave birth to our first son, Craig Benjamin at 3:25 in the afternoon. Before everyone begins to congratulate Jan on such a decent hour for delivery, I would like to mention that we were in labor "only" 17½ hours. We took Lamaze classes in prepared childbirth for six weeks prior to delivery date, and with the onset of labor we quickly saw that without this preparation, Jan would have endured an almost impossible delivery. It was a long, hard, drawnout delivery, but she came through it quite well. Dad is now walking just above the nearest ground. Oh, yes... Craig weighed in at 7 lbs., 6 oz. and stands a tall 19 in. at the batter's box!

#### EDITOR'S NOTE

Due to his heavy load of responsibilities, Mr. Ted Armstrong was not able to prepare a letter for this Bulletin.

#### LEASE CARS

The Transportation Department would like to announce that rebates on all lease cars in the United States will be increased five dollars per month. Also, all those receiving Dodge Darts will be paying \$25 per month.

## MEMBER DONATION MAIL

Recently we have received a rash of unusual requests appearing in the member donation mail. Usually we would expect members to break down their donations in the normal categories, i.e., first tithe, third tithe, tithe of the tithe, etc. We are receiving requests to place money in the piano offering, recreation fund, picnic fund, library fund, etc., etc. These are obviously not headquarters' categories, but are evidently special items handled in the local Church. In addition, there are a mounting number of unclear



EDITOR
HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
GARNER TED ARMSTRONG

MANAGING EDITOR
DAVID JON HILL

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breakdowns and amounts received without any breakdown at all.

With these situations it creates an abnormal amount of work and also creates a fantastic receipting problem at the end of the quarter. Therefore, we would like all you pastors to go over the donation format once again, giving everyone the basic categories (listed below) that they need to follow.

The following categories may be included on one check:

First Tithe & Offering
Third Tithe
Excess Second Tithe
Tithe of the Second Tithe
Emergency Fund
Firstling or First Fruits
Building Fund
Holy Day Offering

A separate check should be used for:

Ambassador College Tuition Summer Education

Also, please remind the brethren again to be sure, unless it is absolutely impossible, to send their tithes and offerings in through the local minister!

## FROM THE COMMISSARY

Many of you have heard about the Headquarters Commissary operating under the auspices of the Worldwide Church of God. We want to extend our services to as many people as possible in the most discreet manner possible.

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# Church Administration

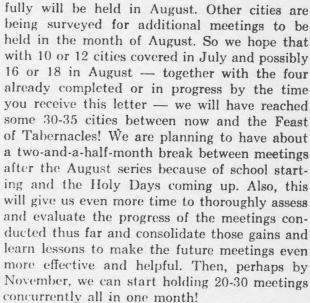
RODERICK C. MEREDITH

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings again from foggy and gloomy Pasadena! We have been having our typical early June cloudy, foggy weather recently — this time even more so — with a few sprinkles the last couple of days. However, most of us here have been so terribly busy that we have not really had much time to notice this or let it get to us with the rush of graduation, final wedding counsellings, wedding ceremonies, talking to men before they go to the field, moving schedule changes and planning out a thousand and one details of the Graduate School Bible Lectures coming up this summer.

The results of the Long Beach lectures are still coming in very well, by the way. There are now about 50 new people attending church as a result of these, with a couple dozen or so of these already baptized and the others virtually ready to be! The special follow-through Bible Study for the new prospectives engendered by these meetings is still going well. The PM attendance — as we call it — of these Friday night studies has been 162, 163 and last Friday night [June 4th] was 165! So we are very thankful, and now hope and believe that well over 100 adults will be added as baptized members of God's Church, partially at least, as a result of these meetings.

We had a fine meeting with Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong a couple of days ago reviewing the plans for future meetings this summer. As you know, Mr. Hill is joining Mr. Sharp for a lecture series in Cincinnati starting this Sunday night, June 13. Mr. Antion is joining Mr. Swisher in Portland for a lecture series starting this Monday night, June 14. And I am joining Mr. Kenneth Westby for a lecture series starting this Monday night, June 14, in Baltimore. Then, tentative plans are being made for these Bible Lectures to be conducted in July in Detroit, Glendale, Chicago, Oakland, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Manhattan-Brooklyn, Dallas, Milwaukee, Houston, St. Louis, Memphis and Boston. Some few of these may have to be postponed because of hall problems, but hope-



So you can see that this will have a tremendous effect on the growth of the Church and the Work within the next year. Again, I do ask all of you ministers everywhere to pray fervently for the success of these meetings, as they are already becoming a great source of inspiration to the local Church people in the areas covered, a real blessing and boon to the Tomor-ROW'S WORLD readers, a fine way of "reaping the harvest" which has been sown through the broadcast and magazines the past few years, and certainly a definite means - here in the United States especially - of building the financial base of God's Work in a way that will help the WHOLE Work, worldwide, go ahead with ever-increasing impetus.

Many ministers in the areas being covered are asking if they may attend the Bible Lectures being held in their district. Our basic policy will be this: The pastors of churches especially should plan to attend the first three or four nights so they can get the "feel" of the meetings - as they may be required to join another man in conducting some of these in their own city later on. Also, elders within 100 miles or so may wish to come up for a night or two for their own edification and to get the flavor of the meetings also. However, unless you are specifically asked to, ministers or elders outside the district being covered should NOT come. And even the ministers and elders within that district should not plan to stay more than three or four nights — as a rule — since that would simply take them away from their part in this very busy summer season! But any of you pastors of churches in the cities mentioned





above where we are going in July should probably plan to attend one of the series for two or three nights beginning next week to get the "feel" of what you will be joining in doing within a short time!

One point I should make clear regarding these forthcoming meetings. We are varying the invitation procedure somewhat from Long Beach. There we invited only those who were already in some PM category or else were among the better Co-Workers.

In Baltimore, Cincinnati and Portland, we are inviting everyone who has been on the TW list for at least nine months, and who responds in our survey and says he or she wants to attend the lectures. Therefore, our non-member audiences may be somewhat larger at first, but we expect a faster attrition rate. So do not be surprised if the attendances are not as "steady" as they were at Long Beach — where we had a more consistently "educated" audience.

Also, all of you ministers who will be involved in the July meetings should quickly get in the requested map and directions to your particular hall for the lecture series! And ALL of you ministers please realize that this type of thing must have absolute priority over even normal visiting procedure, Spokesman Club, etc., so that we can get these meetings properly organized and planned to effectively reach thousands of additional people yet this summer!

Another bit of GOOD NEWS! We are happy to announce the beginning of the new Denver District of the Church of God! Mr. Guy Engelbart now becomes a District Superintendent and will be over the district covering the following churches: Denver & Pueblo, Colorado; Albuquerque & Las Cruces, N. Mex.; Liberal, Kans.; Douglas, Wy.; Rapid City, S. Dak.; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Pocatello, Idaho. Mr. Engelbart was Vice President of the student body at Bricket Wood and graduate from there in 1961. He has pastored churches in a number of places here in the U.S. and has had a fine record whereever he has gone - working effectively and affectionately with his men in every area. So congratulations, Mr. Englebart! And I know that all of you men now working under him will be very happy for this change as it represents growth for everyone and for the Church as a whole.

With these burgeoning Bible Lectures, with the growth God's Work and Church is already experiencing, and considering future "secret" plans we are already making, there are GREAT PROSPECTS ahead for all of you men in the future as you yield yourselves to the living Christ and ask Him to work with you and through you!

It is now after normal work hours and I have to leave for the airport at 7 a.m. tomorrow morning to head back to Baltimore for the meetings. So I will close with this and again ask your prayers for these Bible Lectures everywhere, and for the growth of Christ's Work all around the world.

Your brother in Christ,

Robins C. Merdin

## PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Effective immediately, we are making a basic change in our prospective member procedures here at Headquarters. Formerly, when we received a visit request here at Headquarters, we made the individual a P.M. in our computer file before forwarding the request to the local minister. From now on it will be the local minister's responsibility to determine, after the first visit, whether or not the individual should be listed in our files as a P.M.

Rather than redesigning our present P.M. visit cards, we will, for the time being, continue to use our present cards and adapt their use for this new procedure. Your use of these cards will remain basically the same as before. The change involves when, or whether, a person is made a P.M. in our files at Headquarters. If after the first visit you plan to visit an individual again and you feel he should be listed as a P.M. in our files at Headquarters, please fill out a new P.M. First Visit Card on him. (In checking the boxes to indicate whether the person wrote to Headquarters or was contacted locally, ignore the phrase "already added to P.M. list" under the first category. We will add the person to our P.M. list only after receiving the new P.M. First Visit Card.)

If after the first visit you do not plan to revisit the individual, fill out a P.M. Deletion Visit Card and check the box to indicate that the individual was deleted on the first visit. (Even though the individual was never listed as a P.M. in our files, this card will serve to inform us that you have visited him and determined that he is not a P.M.) Please be sure to fill out the section on



the P.M. Deletion Card explaining why the individual is not progressing toward baptism. This will help the Personal Correspondence Department know how to handle correspondence from the individual in the future.

#### FROM THE COMMISSARY

(Continued from page 72)

We feel that our ministers should receive the blessing of purchasing personal items at the best possible price.

Through our buying power here at Headquarters, we have available the following items at the prices indicated:

ITEM	MANUFACTURER	RETAIL	YOUR COST
Cassette Tapes	Audio-Magnetics		
	60-minute 90-minute 120-minute	\$1.50 2.30 3.10	\$ .83 1.27 1.71
Cuff Links	De Gino	7.50	2.00
Appliances	RCA/Whirlpool Washers Dryers Refrigerators Dishwashers Air Conditioners	as liste mention	pends on model, ed in catalog ed below.

Luggage and	Samsonite or			
Attache Cases	American Tourist	or		
2" "Statesman		27.50	+ tax	16.75 total
3" "Commuter	"	30.00	11 11	18.02 "
5" "Diplomat"		32.50		19.52 "
Three-suiter		58.00		33.00 + tax
Two-suiter		53.00		30.00 " "
Carry-on One-suiter		43.00		24.50 " "

(The above Items of luggage are Samsonite; however, American Tourister prices and discounts are about the same.)

ITEM	MANUFACTURER	RETAIL	YOUR COST	
Typewriters	Smith/Corona #250 Portable #220	\$265.00 265.00	\$165.00 165.00	+ tax
Cameras	Kodak #134 Color	30.00	20.00	11 21
Projectors	Kodak #M68A	100.00	66.00	" "

(Many models of cameras and projectors to choose from)

Recorders	Panasonic/Sony	Prices	in	this	gr	quo
		range	fro	m :	\$10	10
Radios		\$400,				
			I. Discount is up to			
Stereos, TV		40%.				

As you can see, these items are really good buys! We are in the process of making up an illustrated catalog showing price and model numbers of these items, as well as many others. Supplemental sheets listing other items will be mailed as they become available. If you would like to be on our mailing list, please write directly to the Commissary here at Headquarters. Instructions for ordering will be included in the catalog.

## LETTER EXCERPTS (Continued from page 71)

thankful to the Work of God for all the help that has been sent to us.

- K. E., Anaheim, California

I am most grateful and really appreciate the opportunity to attend the Bible Study Lectures held at the Pacific Auditorium these past two weeks. I will never understand how my name was chosen but however it happened I am thankful. I am looking forward to attending the study courses in Garden Grove.

- J. M. C., Long Beach, California

Do you have any kind of a Bible study group in our area — if not, perhaps a layman could start one here in our home once a week or so? Many Christians, such as we, are spiritually starved. We read the Bible, pray, attend Church, tithe, read your good publications but are empty vessels needing the fellowship and leadership of a discerning Bible teacher. Thank you for your help.

- Mrs. W. A. C., Oceanside, California

#### Truth About Vietnam

I enjoy each and every issue of The Plain Truth. The last issue with the article about "The Truth of Why We're in Vietnam" is still being read and appreciated in our family. My son-in-law has just returned from "Nam" and I will send him my treasured copy of the issue when we have read it. One of the saddest letters he wrote from Quang Tri was asking "Why are we over here?" If everyone in our great country could be told those truths, oh how Communism in our country would be fought instead of taught.

— Mrs. C. B., Hollandale, Mississippi

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# The NEW

# Personal Correspondence Dept.

by DAVID JON HILL and CLINT C. ZIMMERMAN

Among the many vital organizational changes made over the last couple of years is the recent establishment of a revitalized and greatly expanded Personal Correspondence Department. The accent is on that word PERSONAL.

In a world where everything and everyone is reduced to a numerical non-entity, personal concern is a rare commodity. In fulfilling our commission to that world, our contacts become more and more personal with those whom God causes to respond until they become members in the same family with us — and nothing could be of more personal and individual concern than the ultimate goal of God's own family!

We spend many millions each year on radio, TV and mass advertising to fulfill our first commission of Matthew 24:14. We spend many more millions — and much talent and energy — in serving the brethren of God's Church in what must surely be the most personal ministry on earth!

Now we are focusing time and talent on the bridge between these two great commissions God has given us — and that's where the new PCD comes in! People who respond to the first commission and begin to receive our literature soon have to face the very personal decision of having to change their lives!

All of you are aware of perhaps hundreds of personal dramas from the lives of members you know — each is an individual and unique story, no two are exactly alike. When a person begins to ponder coming out of this world, he needs every help he can get. He looks around him at a world gone mad — realizes he's part of the insanity, but as he begins to change he gets lonelier and lonelier and sometimes feels he's the only one who believes this way in his whole area! Remember the surprise so many have voiced when they finally come to Sabbath services and find hundreds of others just like them?!

These "little ones" need a friendly, strong, interested, personal hand to help them find that right way they've been called to by our Father in heaven. So as soon as an individual asks a

question, puts out a tender feeler, we are now equipped to respond to it instantly, warmly, personally!

About 15% of the mail fits this category. The other 85% is routine and can be routinely handled — specific requests for PT, TW, booklets; changes of address, tithes and offerings, etc.

But that 15% represents the ones whom God is calling to a greater responsibility, perhaps even to share with us the ultimate of the very Work of Christ as a member of His body. And it is your personal responsibility, and mine — as ministers — to eagerly and attentively SERVE these "little ones"!

This doesn't mean we write a personal letter to each of these that comprise that 15% of the daily mail — that would be excessive and far too expensive. But it does mean that we focus the minds of mature, well educated, and in many cases ministerial personnel in an area where wisdom and judgment is so necessary.

Dr. Zimmerman, John Wilson and I have been the main ones used to put this NEW department together. In the following comments, "Doc Z", as we affectionately refer to him, puts down a detailed inside view of this department that is still in the process of forming. Perhaps John and I can later explain in more detail about how we are working with the Co-Workers.

By the way, we certainly welcome ideas from you fellows in "the field" because we consider ourselves members of the one team with you commissioned to serve these "little ones."

Now here's Doc Z ...

The men in the Personal Correspondence Department watch the germ of truth burst into bloom in people scattered all over the continent. From the first feeble stirring, through the carnal, picky, suspicious initial letters — into the pharasaic, religious, technical sproutings — to the deeper, bed-rock, spiritual understanding — we find repentant people hungry and thirsty for the full truth and wanting to be baptized!

Through the intervening weeks, months, and sometimes years, we have done our best to give

them "food and drink," stimulation and correction, always hoping and praying that they will receive all they need to reach the Kingdom.

Many of these people become well known and close friends. We see the fruit of God's Spirit as it uses us to cultivate, water, dig and dung these tender, "little ones." The experience is rewarding. It is with happy jealousy that we are able to give them to you for begettal from God through baptism and the laying on of your hands, and then final grooming, pruning, nurturing.

All too often we have been hampered by a lack of background information, insufficient history of their development. But now we have much more help. We have completely reorganized and expanded our department to take advantage of the wealth of information that lies stored in the computer. Now we can pick its "brain" for all sorts of information which will help us do our job better. Through individual terminals at each correspondent's desk, we can search all of the computer records for vital information Correspondence Course lessons, monetary involvement, magazine subscription history, accumulated "extra information" of all types, correspondence history, visit history (if any), and soon we will be able to determine the full account of every piece of literature each of them has received from us.

We intend to use all of this information to the best advantage. And what you will be happier to learn — we'll be sending this knowledge for your use when finally these people ask for a visit.

To beef up our effort we have called two pastor rank ministers — Arthur Craig and Richard Rice — into the department. Mr. John Wilson and a dozen former graduates — long-time, full-time, experienced mail readers — have been added to the staff. You'll soon see many new names on the letter copies we'll be forwarding to you.

CAD has revamped the Visit Information Form to elicit more specific information from those wishing a visit. (Be sure you read the new instructions about this in this Bulletin.) We'll be asking people to fill in and return these for your benefit. But we simply cannot send such forms to everyone. Many people do make direct requests for a visit. Their note of urgency, their indisputable and sometimes desperate requests and their available history may dictate that we send such directly on to you. When this occurs we'll fill you in as our total information allows —but then we need to count on you to follow through.

By the way, we have the feeling that some of you somewhat misunderstand what we mean by a "CVL Direct." We are NOT directing you to immediately visit. We are only forwarding a direct — a specific request from the individual — for a visit. It is up to you to fit them into your schedule as you see fit.

The entire effort of PCD will be bent in the direction of moving all non-member correspondents toward participation in the Work. We want them to become involved as quickly and thoroughly as possible. As Co-Workers? Yes! But more importantly, as members — if that is God's will. Our efforts, coupled with the (Tomorrow's World) Graduate School Bible Lectures should find us all reaping a fruitful, strong and sustaining harvest of members and Co-Workers.

We realize that we will be "plaguing" you with memos about "our" little ones. Please bear with us. Our memos seem to have a way of finding themselves at the bottom of all too many "to do" stacks. We need all the help and cooperation we can obtain from you to keep from cluttering up your visit card file.

Our intent is to give you bona fide prospectives with which to work. But we also find that many "good" Co-Workers are not real spiritual prospects. It may be that you will need to hold their hands once in a while in spite of their carnality. Like the story Mr. Armstrong tells of the poor woman praying for food. When the irreverent kids threw a loaf of bread into her window she thanked God for the gift even though He used the devil to send it. We are supported by some of the strangest people, yet they should be kindly and circumspectly dealt with.

We are open to suggestions and hope you'll give us the benefit of your constructive criticism. We're looking forward to a tremendous last half of the year 1971. The doors are swinging open all over the place!

# LETTER EXCERPTS (Continued from page 75)

In a recent broadcast of Alan Courtney's "Open Phone Forum" on radio station WIOD, Miami, Florida, Mr. Courtney read in full an article which appeared in your magazine by Herbert W. Armstrong reciting the whole history of our involvement in Vietnam and its relationship to world communism. As this is a story that needs very much to be told, will you please advise me how your magazine may be obtained,

whether at news stands or dealers, and whether reprints of the article are available.

- A. D. D., Fort Lauderdale, Florida

I just wanted to comment on the May issue of The Plain Truth. I have read every page and I am so glad you printed this issue. I fully understand the "why" of the war now and I understand everything now when before I didn't. You explained it in simple terms and easy to understand. Thank you for printing the May issue.

- C. E., Salt Lake City, Utah

# "The Missing Dimension in Sex"

I received your most interesting letter about your new book, "The Missing Dimension in Sex." I would deeply appreciate your sending me this book. I've never bought a book or magazine on the subject of sex because I thought to be caught with a book of that nature would be embarrassing on my part for not already knowing everything. I liked the way you explained this in your letter. I do still have many unanswered questions about the subject of sex.

- N. W., Broken Bow, Oklahoma

While I regard this much over-worked subject of the natural universal animal function of reproduction with common horse sense, your views might be interesting.

- William J., Elgin, Oregon

I can tell you the plain truth about sex in one sentence. Sex should be used at no time whatsoever, married or single, unless you intend to have a child. It is not a toy to be experimented with, or for our pleasure, married or single. So married or single, children or adults are constantly misusing sex only for their pleasure. If your book does not teach this, then do not send it to me. Any child or adult can be taught about the proper use of sex in 10 seconds, which is never at no time use sex, unless you intend to have a child. If my parents would have just told me that one sentence, it may have saved me many difficult experiences for which it is very difficult to forgive myself. These people that play with and experiment with sex are the same as someone using a hammer on a hydrogen bomb, as it will soon explode and their whole lives will be ruined.

- J. L., Colorado Springs, Colorado

#### Atheist and Communist Praises PT

I have found your magazine excellent in many ways — strange praise from an atheist and Communist!! In spite of the rather basic differences in viewpoint of the writers of the magazine and myself, I still feel that we agree on most of the practical points about day-to-day living. In particular, I virtually completely agreed with the articles "Whatever Happened to Father?" (March '71), "Half Million Perish in Pakistan" (Dec. '70), and "Five Ways to Save Your Marriage" (Feb. '71).

- W. R., Liverpool, England

#### No More PT's in Trash

We live in an 18-unit apartment building and one of the tenants has been discarding the magazine in the waste paper box. Myself and another tenant get it and read it and hand it on to two other tenants, and we all enjoy it very much. This tenant is moving away and we would like to have *The Plain Truth* mailed to us. We would be forever grateful.

- Ferne S., Alhambra, California

#### Walks a Kilometer

I cannot keep myself from expressing my gratitude to you for opening my eyes and especially, changing my life. Even though my subscription has long time stopped, yet I never miss any issue. I even have to walk one kilometer just to borrow your Plain Truth, as I am really hungry for the true bread of life. Sir, if your representative happens to visit our province, please let me know, for I want personal counsel. May I again renew my subscription to *The* Plain Truth and Tomorrow's World?

- Miguel C., Iriga City, Philippines

## Jesus Trip

Please promise to send me your book of reality, The Plain Truth, every month. My girl friend brought me the article on "Jesus" the same day that I purchased "Superstar" and I realized that I was just kidding myself when I used to say I was on a Jesus trip. My trip was just unreality — an escape from the world. I know now what I must look for, but I still have a few things to get together before I find it. Please help me by sending me your book.

- Paula E., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada