

of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College

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APRIL 20, 1977

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Editor's Note: Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong requested that the following special announcement be placed in this issue of the Bulletin, prior to being sent to the entire membership of the Worldwide Church of God.

April 18th, 1977

Dear Brethren of God's Church:

This is a very personal announcement. Forty-three years ago God committed to me His GREAT COMMISSION—to carry Christ's Gospel—the KINGDOM OF GOD—to all the world. It is a staggering responsibility! In many ways He had prepared me for it in advance. Apart from organization, I have had to rely on God for *private*, *personal* needs as well.

Even before He thrust me into His Work, God provided the wife of my youth. He used her in bringing about my conversion, and for fifty happily married years giving me the *needed* closeness and warmth of companionship, love, affection and inspiration only a wife can give.

Since her death, God miraculously has opened to me doors (Rev. 3:8) to Kings, Emperors, Presidents and Prime Ministers, so that Christ's Message may be taken into nations whose doors were closed to this Message. At this stage no one but myself can do this. And I could not endure the grueling worldwide travel had not God blessed me with youthful vigor, vitality, and energy (Isa. 40:28-31) enabling me to carry on more vigorously than one in a hundred half my calendar age. This almost constant travel (last year 300 out of 365

days) and loneliness has reawakened me to the serious *need* God recognized when He said, "It is *not* good that a man should be alone."

Directly or indirectly, you brethren are all my sons and daughters in the Lord. But I am none-the-less human. Like the Apostle Paul said, "We also are men, of like nature with you." God says through James, "Elijah was a man of like nature with ourselves." Paul said, "Am I not an apostle?... Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife?" (RSV). People do sometimes forget an apostle has personal needs.

Of course no one could take the place of my beloved wife of fifty years. But the Work of God must go on, finishing the GREAT COMMISSION God committed to me, in this new and MOST IMPORTANT phase of the entire Work. And God now has graciously provided the wife to be constantly at my side—a woman truly led by God's Holy Spirit. We have given the matter much time, to be sure it has grown into true love and like-minded rapport, as well as definitely sure it is God's will.

This is to announce my marriage to Ramona Martin, in an informal and simple ceremony, attended only by our respective families on Sunday, April 17th, Garner Ted Armstrong officiating.

With much love, in Jesus' name,



Personal from Herbert W. Armstrong

Cape Town, South Africa (3/19/77)

SOMETIMES WE NEED to put it in modern language. Actually, looking at this world today—the state of the world—the condition of the world—looking at the Church, and the STATE OF THE CHURCH, and looking at the STATE OF OURSELVES as God's ministers—it all started with the incident of the Forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden.

God created two physically and mentally perfect humans—a man and a woman. He instructed them immediately upon creation—first before anything else. He explained to them HIS WAY—HIS GOVERNMENT—the REWARD, man's FANTASTIC POTENTIAL. Also the PENALTIES.

Then Satan came along and was allowed to give his pitch in favor of his way. After having heard both God and Satan, but not having experienced either's way of LIFE, in essence Adam and Eve said to God:

"Look, Mr. God, we have decided we want to be your followers—we want to be Christians—we want all these fantastic rewards and human potential—but we also want to do our own thing! We think we see some good in Satan's arguments. We will decide for ourselves which of his ways we shall adopt and which of Yours. We'll always do what we think. We want to do our own thing. But we sure do want to get in on all that eternal life and all that incredible human potential."

That's about the way it all started.

There are—or are there?—think it over—some of us—ministers as well as lay members—following Satan's way today.

Before any of the rest of you, God called, placed, and chose me to carry out the GREAT COMMISSION—used me to build His Church for our day—used ME TO SET THE EXAMPLE! I have tried very hard to set a GOOD EXAMPLE. Do you try to follow it—or do you prefer doing YOUR OWN THING?

The Apostle Paul said, in effect, "It has been reported to me that some of you are more interested in doing your own thing—and that perhaps you would rather follow Apollo or Timothy or Cephas. Is Christ DIVIDED?" (Read I Cor. 1, verses 10 through 13.) There was one CHIEF Apostle for



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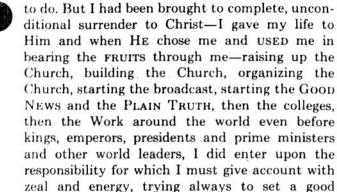
the Gentile world—Paul—yet some wanted to follow others under Paul. Today God has appointed only one Apostle for the whole Church. The point is, we must be a team—altogether—as Paul said in verse 10: "Now I beseech you brethren by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that YE all speak the same thing and that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

I have had to realize with great sorrow and even anguish at losing SOME MUCH LOVED MINISTERS—that some ministers became politically interested, concerned with their own position and rank in the Work. I have heard talk of "lobbying" for this or that.

Jesus spoke of how the Pharisees loved the chief seats in the synagogues and the upper seats in the feasts... and whosoever shall abase himself shall be exalted (Matt. 23:1-12). He came as a SERVANT and God exalts the HUMBLE. Fellows, let's all be TOGETHER on the SAME TEAM with CHRIST with NONE of Satan.

I did not seek the position of authority given to me—neither was it conferred by MEN. It seemed God literally THRUST me in when it was the very LAST thing I would have chosen or that I wanted

(I Cor. 11:1).



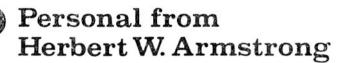
With much love to you all,

example for those of you who have followed me

into Christ's ministry, and trying sincerely to be humble. When I humbled myself, God exalted me.

It will be the same with you. You cannot SUCCEED

in exalting yourself. Follow me as I follow Paul



Just how important is YOUR particular part in the Work?

I think there has been a great deal of MISUNDERSTANDING on this point. I was told that one or two—or perhaps a few—of the ministers had the idea that I regarded them as "mere caretakers" and they were hurt to think I felt that way.

I don't!

Let me tell you how I REALLY feel about it— HOW IMPORTANT I know YOUR particular part is in the Work, and HOW IMPORTANT TO ME as well as to JESUS CHRIST, my Boss, to whom I am accountable.

You all know that several months ago I stepped off the platform into empty space after a lecture at Port Elizabeth, South Africa. That was 11/11/76, and after all these weeks and months I am still bothered much by it—the resulting sprained ankle. I well remember that once I severely bruised the little toe on my left foot. It made me appreciate the lesson of I Corinthians 12—HOW IMPORTANT the seemingly least impor-

tant member of the body is. How much more the BODY OF CHRIST.

Let me first right here pay a tribute to one to whom tribute is due. God says, through Paul: "Render therefore to all their dues, tribute to whom tribute is due; ... honor to whom honor" (Rom. 13:7).

There is one among us who is rendering, IN GOD'S EYES, value to HIS WORK of inestimable importance, little known or recognized by MANY of the brethren, and even of the ministers. That is Mr. Stanley R. Rader, Vice President for Financial Affairs, the Work's legal counsel, and the most valuable advisor to Garner Ted and me. He is my chief assistant in this latest and Most important phase of God's Work—walking through the doors of kings, presidents, prime ministers, and heads of government—the doors that were closed to Christ's Message.

I could not do this all-important phase of the Work without Mr. Rader. Yet, some who do not know this, his value or his heart, criticize and condemn in an effort to harm Gop's Work.

I know Stan Rader. He travels with me everywhere around the world. Even this new and Most Important Work I am doing has been belittled and criticized—now it is tremendously big in GOD'S EYES. No one can do this all-important phase of the GREAT COMMISSION at this stage but myself, and I could not do it without Mr. Rader and another who goes unappreciated and even persecuted and discredited—Osamu Gotoh.

If they are discredited, their real WORTH to the world, unrecognized by some men, is PRECIOUS BEYOND MY WORDS TO DESCRIBE IN THE EYES OF GOD.

In the same manner the TREMENDOUS IMPORTANCE of the work of YOU MINISTERS is often unrealized by MEN. But let me assure you it is recognized in the eyes of the ETERNAL GOD and JESUS CHRIST, the living HEAD of this great WORK.

Few seem to have a right and balanced sense of the TRUE VALUES!

Of the human body referred to in I Corinthians 12, the MIND is undoubtedly THE MOST IMPORTANT—in a sense. I say "in a sense" because the MIND directs the hands, the feet and what the rest of the BODY DOES. But let me tell you that when, in Central America a couple or three years ago, I severely stubbed or bruised my little toe, my MIND not only had difficulty using the left foot—but both feet suffered severe pain.

Paul says, "Nay much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble (to most people), ARE NECESSARY: And those members of the body, which we think to be less honorable, upon those we bestow more abundant honor; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness...but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honor to that part which lacks: that there should be no schism (division) in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another"—that is, OUTGOING CONCERN, not Incoming desire for SELF (I Cor. 12:22-25).

Fellows and wives, I MARVEL at the WONDERFULLY design of the human body—how WONDERFULLY God designed it to function, one member with all others. All the different systems—digestive, circulatory, respiratory, nervous, reproductive, elimination—are designed to work together in PERFECT HARMONY.

But how much more important is the body Paul is really talking about—the body of Christ, specially called to do the Work of Christ—taking the good news of the Kingdom of God to the world?

Fellows, each of you is part of that body. Your part—feeding the flock so they may develop character and grow to become born sons of God—very God, each one—actually DEVELOPING THOSE WHO ARE TO BECOME GOD—is that important? Counseling with brethren in their problems and misunderstandings, their needs—visiting and anointing and praying for the sick—visiting interested prospective members—helping bring them into God's Kingdom—OH HOW IMPORTANT! Then each of you have your part, even if smaller than mine, in this particular category, in proclaiming the Good news (Gospel) to a portion of the public—besides your many other duties and opportunities for service!

Please, fellows and wives, don't think for a moment that I do not realize what a HIGH CALLING that's yours. I myself can do NOTHING without you!

Let me tell you how much I could do without the Church to stand back of me. Just as much as I DID BEFORE. God used me in raising up the Church back in 1933. I could hitchhike out to a country school house—one room with 36 seats—to preach to those who came. I had WALKED over rocky, unpaved roads, with holes in the soles of my shoes, inviting people to attend the nightly meetings. My family and I often went hungry. All of you make possible the growth from there!

You wonder I have a heart filled with overflowing LOVE for you fellows and wives? Do you wonder it almost breaks my heart when some fall away and LOSE OUT on the GREAT PRIVILEGE that is YOURS?

I didn't have it easy back in 1933 and on as you do now. And I was being persecuted and fought against by enemies every step of the way!

I am THANKFUL TO GOD TO OVERFLOWING FOR YOU. I hope you are thankful to Him for the way He has so richly lavished every blessing in the heavenly sphere on you!

I have to FIGHT MY OWN SELF and desires, lusts and faults, in addition to Satan, and countless enemies ALL THE WAY. I NEED you and God. Let's all be THANKFUL for His blessings.

THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart for your loyalty!

Let's each and every one of us here and Now rededicate our lives in earnest, heartrending, prevailing and believing prayer that we may serve God better in even closer harmony and love together. I am right now setting you the example in doing that! Will you follow me? Beginning now let's pray more often, more seriously and in earnest for the Work, each for ourselves, and please for me! Will you?

With deepest love and appreciation,

Hobel Country

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91123

HERBERT W ARMSTRONG

GARNER TED ARMSTRONG
Executive Vice-President

April 18, 1977

Dear fellow ministers in Christ:

GREETINGS!

As you will see from the accompanying letter from my father being sent to the brethren, he is announcing officially to the entire church, both via this personal letter, and through articles to appear in the next issue of the WORLDWIDE NEWS, that he married Ramona Martin, Sunday, the 17th of April, in Tucson, Arizona in the home he has purchased there, in the presence of close family members and personal friends.

I, of course, attended, and, though I had earlier felt unable to perform the ceremony, at the last moment, upon seeing my father and hearing once again from his own personal lips what a deep personal joy it would be to him if I would perform the ceremony instead of his having to ask another minister from either Pasadena or, as he had finally decided upon, the local pastor of the Tucson church, Mr. Larry Neff, that I changed my mind at the last moment and asked my father if it would be all right if I preempted Larry and performed the ceremony after all.

His answer was a big bear hug and quite literal tears of rejoicing and he told me with great emotion that I had given him the "greatest wedding present" I could ever have given.

He was so bubbling over with joy and happiness that I felt I could not withhold such a personal expression of my own emotion and love toward him by not granting his request which he had repeated to me over the course of many months, and so changed my mind at the last moment and did perform the ceremony.

Without meaning or implying any undue sentimentality or emotion, I would like to tell you that it was the most moving ceremony (as you can well imagine) that I have ever performed, and perhaps one of the most difficult.

I began with very informal remarks saying, "This is a unique occasion, if not in all of history, at least in the history of this work, for a son to perform the wedding of his own father"--and told the audience not "to be nervous, because I am nervous enough for all of you"!

I then read through the standard wedding ceremony, by commenting prior to beginning that I was going to use the same ceremony

written by "this man who designed this ceremony from the Word of God when he was first called into God's Work when I was yet a little boy up in Oregon."

I cannot help but relate to you a very humorous aspect of the ceremony and at least two strange things which occurred during the wedding which I have never seen or heard before in the many ceremonies I have performed. One was uproarious laughter; the other was a burst of applause at the conclusion!

The laughter came, when, wondering how I was going to manage the question, "And now do you, his first name..." I said, "And now do you, Dad, take..." and upon his very positive affirmation of "I do!" I looked soberly at him, nodded, and said, "I thought you would!"

At this, the entire assembly burst into spontaneous laughter. I continued with the ceremony to the conclusion, asking God's blessing upon the union in prayer, and at the end, as Mr. Armstrong placed the wedding band on his new bride's finger, there was a burst of applause from all there.

It was a very short, simple, and private ceremony, with my father wearing a plain business suit and Ramona wearing a nice dinner dress, standing up in the family room, before the fire place, to recite their wedding vows.

My father wanted it this way, and I very much approved and appreciated his choice in the matter. I felt it was not only one of the most tasteful ceremonies, but, believe it or not, it turned out to be one of the most moving.

There was not an individual there who was not very deeply happy for Mr. Armstrong at his obvious joy, and most especially I believe they were all moved when I mentioned in my prayer, that after ten years of living alone, my father could at last know an end to the hundreds of nights of terrible loneliness.

For the next few days, I hope to be making a great deal of headway on my book about the REAL JESUS, and will be writing to you from Wichita following the Sabbath services there via the Personal in the WN.

Until next time ...

Your brother in Christ,

P.S. I just received the following letter from Anwar Sadat. Thought you would be interested. Hope you read the details of the dinner to which President Sadat invited me, where I met Vice President Mondale, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, Hubert Humphrey and many government leaders.

للمرالله الرلمن الرليم



Cairo, March 19,1977.

Dear Mr. Armstrong,

It pleases me to extend to you profound appreciation for your one hour Special "Egypt under Sadat", which I watched lately and enjoyed it very much. I, also, wish to state here that I enjoyed the two half-hour interviews with me and Mrs. Sadat, by your colleague Mr. Adli Muhtadi in Cairo. The way you have handled Egypt's problems, human hopes and legitimate aspirations is objective and truthful. Also, your commentaries showed how you grasped your subject in a short period of time during your visit last year with us.

I am confident that such an approach is the surest and most proper way to bring our two peoples together, and promote close co-operation between our two friendly countries for both their interest as well as for the interest of world peace and order.

Again, I thank you very much for the successful and fruitful effort you have made, as well as for your noble sentiments towards me and the Egyptian people, wishing you evergrowing success and advancement.

Mohamed Anwar El Sadat

Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong 300 West Green Street Pasadena, California, U.S.A.

FIVE-MINUTE RADIO LOG UPDATE

New U.S. Stations

	Call Letters	Dial	Time	Start Date
ARIZONA Tucson	KTUC	1400	12:45 PM	4/11/77
CALIFORNIA Chico Redding	KHSL KCLM	1290 1330	12:15 PM 12:05 PM	3/28/77 3/28/77
CONNECTICUT New Haven	WELI	960	10:30 PM	3/28/77
MICHIGAN Flint	WKMF	1470	7:00 PM	4/4/77
MINNESOTA Minneapolis	KRSI	950	7:55 PM	4/4/77
MONTANA Kalispell	KOFI	1180	6:35 PM	3/28/77
NEVADA Las Vegas	KVEG-AM	970	5:05 PM	4/11/77
NEW JERSEY Hammonton	WRDI-AM WRDR-FM	1580 104.9	6:35 AM 6:35 AM	4/11/77 4/11/77
OHIO Akron Cincinnati Cincinnati Cleveland Portsmouth	WSLR WZIP WCKY WWWE WIOI	1350 1050 1530 1100 1010	6:00 AM 4:20 PM 5:00 AM 5:05 AM 1:05 PM	4/4/77 4/4/77 4/11/77 4/11/77 4/4/77
OKLAHOMA Oklahoma City	кток	1000	10:10 PM	4/11/77
OREGON Medford	KSHA	860	12:50 PM	4/11/77
PENNSYLVANIA Scranton/ Wilkes-Barre Uniontown	WGBI WMBS	910 590	12:30 PM 12:30 PM	4/11/77 4/11/77
SOUTH CAROLIN	NA WCAY	620	7:00 AM	4/11/77
SOUTH DAKOTA Sioux Falls	KIOV-FM	104.7	5:05 PM	4/11/77
TENNESSEE Chattanooga	WCHU	1550	7:40 AM	4/11/77
TEXAS Cameron (DONATED)	KMIL	1330	12:55 PM	2/14/77
UTAH Salt Lake City	KSL	1160	5:30 AM 12:30 PM 10:55 PM	4/25/77
WEST VIRGINIA Bluefield	WKOY	1240	11:00 AM	4/4/77

Changes & Additions

ALABAMA Birmingham—WYDE

Change Time From: 6:10 AM To: 6:05 AM

8:05 Remains the same

ALASKA
Anchorage—KBYR
Add—700 (in Dial column)
Change Time From: 5:35 PM

INDIANA

Indianapolis—WBRI

Add—1:45 PM with start date of 8/1/77 6:00 PM Remains the same

To:

6:06 PM

NEVADA

Reno-KRSN

Change Call Letters to: KRSN-FM Add—104.5 (in Dial column)

Pastoral Administration

If it seemed that we had more than our normal share of pre-Passover problems, the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread—for us, at least—more than made up for it. This has been one of the most encouraging holy day seasons Allie and I have ever enjoyed.

We flew to Dallas on Friday to observe the Passover with Jim Kunz and the Dallas church. Since we planned to go on to Big Sandy after the Passover service, we were met at the airport by two Big Sandy students in a college car. They turned out to be very pleasant companions for the evening. It was encouraging to see Ambassador College students setting such a fine example, so dedicated to the college, the Work, and the church and so anxious to seize every opportunity to learn. They turned out to be most engaging conversationalists on the long drive to Big Sandy after the Passover service was over.

The Passover service itself in Dallas was particularly inspiring with just over 500 taking the Passover.

I had a chance to speak in Big Sandy the next day and to enjoy the well-known Big Sandy hospitality. The warmth and enthusiasm of the Big Sandy church, the students and the faculty are always encouraging. We then returned to Dallas for the first day of Unleavened Bread.

You will recall some time ago that we were discussing conduct, decorum, etc. during Sabbath services. I'm pleased to say that the 900+ people in Dallas on the first day of Unleavened Bread set a fine example in that regard. The Sabbath services were quiet and dignified; the children were well-behaved and the audience was attentive. The people also dressed as though they had come to appear before God—a custom which occasionally seems to be neglected nowadays. Our congratu-







lations to Jim Kunz and the leadership in the Dallas church for helping to set a right tone for the holy days.

In the next few days, I had a chance to interview a few ministers, visit with several others, and generally enjoy the Big Sandy campus. We even got in a day of fishing (perhaps I should say sitting in the sun—we caught few fish) on Lake Palestine.

One of the highlights of our trip was the Y.O.U. basketball finals that took place that week in Big Sandy. I must say we were tremendously impressed with the improved organization of the tournament, the behavior of the young people, the sportsmanship and performance of all concerned. We didn't catch every game while we were there, but the spirit and overall attitude was still evident. I was especially pleased at the progress our cheerleaders have made. Somebody has been doing a lot of hard work, and with good effect.

We've been quite impressed with the Y.O.U. code of conduct and their requirements for members of Y.O.U. They have set high standards for themselves, and it's bearing fruit.

We flew to San Antonio for the last holy day and enjoyed the hospitality of John and Nancy Bald, along with the rest of the San Antonio church. Our impressions were very similar to those in Dallas—of a warm, friendly, quiet and attentive church. Of particular note in San Antonio was their children's choir. What they lacked in tonal quality, they certainly made up in enthusiasm.

As I said earlier, it was a particularly encouraging spring festival for us. I'm sure there were some discordant notes somewhere, but we just didn't happen to come in contact with them.

We returned to Pasadena much encouraged, uplifted and ready to turn to the task of finalizing the pastoral assignments for the coming year. They won't be ready in time for this BULLETIN, but we should have them ready for the next "Pastoral Newsletter" or the WORLDWIDE NEWS, whichever is more convenient.

Elsewhere in this BULLETIN, we'll be including a report on the first year of our Certificate of the Ministry Program and the reaction of some of the ministers who have been in on sabbatical this year. I think you'll find it interesting. Our whole approach to the sabbatical has changed in the last few years, and I think we understand much better now the value of this program to the Church and to the ministry in particular.

I should explain, however, that the term "sabbatical" in this context does not necessarily mean a "rest." In the academic world, a sabbatical is

given, not to give a faculty member a year's vacation with pay, but to give him the freedom to pursue higher education to improve himself so that he can return a more effective and more competent teacher. We borrowed the term "sabbatical," not from the Bible, but from the academic world. The purpose of the program is not to "rest" the ministry, but to build the ministry. That being the case, the men who are in on sabbatical now take a full load of classes and are free from any other pastoral-type responsibility. Of course, they are available for anointing, counseling, special projects, etc.; but they do not bear the responsibility that they carry in the field. They do get a rest and a total break from the normal dayto-day pressures of the ministry-most notably, the telephone-and a complete change of pace. While they do have quite a bit of studying and reading to do, they still get a very clear, and sometimes much-needed, rest from their normal responsibilities.

The ministry, as you know all too well, is a highstress occupation. I'm afraid that if we didn't have a sabbatical program, we would be having a much more severe problem of burn-out in the ministry than we now have. I doubt if we will ever be able to bring much larger groups in for sabbatical in any given year, but we certainly are committed to retaining at least our present rotational policy.

I should point out that you may not understand—from your point of view—our decisions on who comes in for sabbatical from time to time. But from our point of view, they make sense and are designed to help both the ministry and the Church and to strengthen the pastorate in general. We are *not* using the sabbatical as a form of discipline. It is one of the greatest blessings we can give a man, and it makes no sense for anyone in the Work to continue to look upon it as a sign of failure on the part of an individual who's brought in for a sabbatical. All we're doing is trying to put more into a man so that we can get more out of him in the years to come.

Today we're finalizing the appointments of those men who will be taking their first pastorates, and beginning on the associate pastor assignments and moves. Congratulations to all of you stepping into new responsibilities. It is very encouraging to see the growth in the ministry—growth we all must determine to continue.

I plan to see several of you at the Lake of the Ozarks the weekend Mr. Ted Armstrong is there. He plans to meet with the area coordinators that Sunday morning, after which we'll sit down to discuss manpower and ordinations. I'm really

pleased that we're able to make such important decisions in a systematic, organized way.

Thanks again for patience while the transfer decisions have been made. Keep encouraging your "charges," and preach a positive message.

-Ronald L. Dart

MINISTERIAL DEVELOPMENT

We are progressing in our initial steps toward a procedure for ministerial development. Mr. Dart has asked me to bring you up to date on our current progress.

Developing a system as objective as possible is no easy chore, but we are realistic enough to know it will evolve over a long period of time. Developing a method of helping each man in the field to know the specific gifts God has given him has to take time.

We have felt one of the first steps is to receive personal input from every man in the field, all the way from ministerial candidates to area coordinators. A personal profile developed by questionnaire is what we are considering. The profile will contain questions relative to each man's personal aspirations—where he hopes to be in a year, five years or ten. It will also consider certain talent areas you have. It will address preaching, counseling, organizational traits and others. It will concentrate on strengths. The questionnaire should be ready about May 1st.

As you all know, the Bible states that "in a multitude of counselors there is safety." At present most placement decisions must be made on the basis of recommendations from the minister in charge. This is fine but the more information we have, the better the judgment. We believe the first area of consideration should be from the man himself.

Another step is the seminar method of mutual communication and instruction. We plan to address each seminar to a certain level of ministerial responsibility. The forthcoming session in Big Sandy, scheduled for May 29th through June 8th, is for pastors only. We presently have many requests for attendance, but if you are interested please write to Pastoral Administration, Attention: Ministerial Development, as soon as possible. Selections from applications will be made soon, so please send in your requests immediately. Those who are not selected will be considered for future seminars.

Some of the subjects to be covered will be marital counseling, alcoholism and drugs, effective preaching, human development, doctrine, administration, measuring your pastorate, and delegation. Wives and children are included and all expenses will be paid by Pastoral Administration.

We realize that in some cases school will not be out for some of the children, but we had to schedule the seminar before Big Sandy's summer session begins. Perhaps some of you can take your children out of school a little early without their being injured academically.

Besides the instructional sessions there will be time for family activities, socials and ministerial get-togethers. We are also planning some classes for the wives. If any of you wives have specific areas you would like covered, please write and let us know. Mr. Dart also hopes he can stay the entire period and have personal time with many of you.

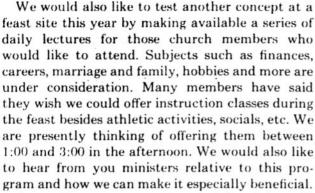
We are also planning another ministerial seminar in Big Sandy about the first week of August. This seminar will be for associate pastors only who will soon be taking their first pastorate. The subjects will relate to pastoring your first congregation. Since this identifies a limited group of men, it will not be necessary for you to request attendance as we will notify you in early July.

Since the local elders seminar last December was so enthusiastically received, we are going to offer another one for local elders at one feast site during this coming fall festival. We decided to use the feast time as it will not present any employment conflicts. We are presently considering three sites and will have to choose one in the next couple of months. The ones being considered are Big Sandy, Ozarks and the Dells; since they're more centrally located for travel. We would appreciate a quick letter from you local elders who would like to attend, letting us know which site would be best for you.

Tentatively we are considering holding the seminar meetings between the hours of 1:00 to 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon between the high days and weekly sabbaths. This way there will be time enough for other personal activities. Of course, you wives are welcome to attend too, so please let us know soon so feast transfers can be made where necessary.

In addition, two other ministerial seminars are being planned for next spring. We will let you know who they will be designed for later in the year.





Just a few comments about ministerial candidates for pastoral information. As you know, we recently finished interviewing seniors at both campuses and it looks like three-fourths of all of the applicants have potential to be involved to some degree in the ministry sooner or later.

Headquarters regards a ministerial candidate as an appointee to assist the local pastor as he has need, but the ministerial candidate's available time is also an important factor to consider as he will be self-employed. Please try to use these men if they choose to settle in your area.

The same consideration should be given to existing ministerial candidates who used to be employed as assistants. It is conceivable that an area could have five, six or more candidates able to serve. This way your judgment for pastoral or elder potential will be more objective since your selections will be larger.

Men from your local congregation could also be designated as ministerial candidates. If you have a man who has ministerial qualities, is totally dedicated, converted, wise and competent, then you can write to Pastoral Administration and recommend that he be designated as a ministerial candidate. Once approved by Headquarters, you can notify the man of his acceptance.

With the advent of Y.E.S., Y.O.U., A.I.C.F., P.T. newsstand distribution, etc., many new opportunities for significant church service are available — Christian leadership has broader application now in the church. There will also be many new responsibilities for the women as well.

We also hope, in the future, to construct some manpower progress tools for you to help those under your direction. Perhaps a six-month progress report that each pastor could conduct with all ministerial candidates, local elders, elders and associate pastors could be forwarded through the area coordinators with his comments, and then sent to Pasadena for each individual's personal profile. Remember, these reports would primarily deal with talent and skill development.

We all know we have a long way to go, but with all of us helping, a rather sound ministerial development system should produce good fruit.

Please feel free to write us on any of the above subjects. Keep in touch.

-Art Mokarow

CERTIFICATE OF THE MINISTRY PROGRAM

The Certificate of the Ministry Program, which began this past fall, is specifically designed to meet the professional needs of the ministry of the Worldwide Church of God. The Certificate is a thirty-unit graduate program, with studies being divided up between three areas; professional studies, biblical studies, and historical and systematic theology.

We anticipate that between 35 and 40 "students" will complete the requirements for the program this year and will be awarded the certificate at a luncheon on campus this May. Participants of the program in general comprise three categories of people: (1) ministers in on a sabbatical from the field ministry; (2) ministers in close proximity to Pasadena pursuing the certificate on a part-time basis; (3) recent graduates of Ambassador College who are interested in preparing themselves to serve the Church of God. This third group of students are unordained and realize that completing the certificate program in no way guarantees ordination or employment in the Church. They simply want to prepare themselves to more effectively serve the Church.

It might be helpful to give you an idea of a typical class schedule of a minister who is in on sabbatical this year. He would take Robert Kuhn's class on doctrine of the Worldwide Church of God, and Ron Dart's class focusing on preaching and sermon construction. He probably would study pastoral care and counseling with Dave Antion. Also many of the men took human development with me during the first semester, and life of the pastor with Art Mokarow the second semester. Finally, he would study one of the biblical languages and/or take the background to the New Testament class with Lester Grabbe, or the Hebrew Prophets with Gunar Freibergs, or biblical scholarship with Keith Crouch. Most men take between 15 and 18 units for credit (five or six classes) each semester. Those who thought their sabbatical was going to be a "rest" have found it more of a growth experience!

The Certificate of the Ministry is planned as the first of two steps towards a professional master's



degree. It now appears that it will be possible for some of these ministers finishing the certificate program to obtain the professional master's degree during their next sabbatical.

Please let us know if we can be of help in answering any questions you may have regarding the program. Its main purpose is to help you perform even more effectively in your service of the Church.

Finally, we thought it might make interesting reading to include excerpts of some evaluations of the certificate program by ministers currently in on sabbatical. A number of the suggestions they make are currently being addressed in order to continue to improve the sabbatical year.

-George Geis

The sabbatical program has a "fine-tuning" effect, which extends in two directions.

First: The educational update the men receive allows them to be much better in tune with the needs of mankind, not only the brethren in the local areas but also the members of the community in which they live. Consequently, they can be better servants, and more useful tools in God's hand to do the job He wants done—e.g. feeding the flock and leading them to witness to this world.

Secondly: The men will be better in tune with headquarters and the men over them. Spending a few months in close proximity of headquarters, experiencing contact with some of the top men on a one to one basis, makes headquarters somehow a lot more human, trustworthy and appreciable. It will aid in communication and responsiveness after the men have been reassigned in the field.

For the men who have never attended Ambassador College before or don't have any degree, the sabbatical has a special attraction; to have an opportunity to obtain the Certificate of the Ministry. Apart from all the above mentioned benefits, to them the certificate is of tremendous psychological value.

Suggestions for possible improvement:

- Sabbatical is a misnomer. Call it an educational update.
- 2. Have the ministers' wives totally involved in the program. After all, they are totally involved in our ministry.

 —Piet Micheilsen

In beginning this critique I would like to first state what I felt this sabbatical would do for me before I came in. I felt last August that it would:

1) Give me a better prospective on the HQ way of doing things, 2) Help me to be better versed in the Bible, 3) Improve me in all areas of the ministry,

4) Help me to get into shape physically, and motivate me to stay in shape later on, 5) Help me to know key HQ personnel better, and help them to know me, particularly Mr. Dart, 6) Refresh my batteries both mentally and spiritually so I could hit the job of being a minister afresh when sent out again, 7) Help me to know myself and my strengths, weaknesses, likes, dislikes, and whether or not I am cut out to be a minister.

This seems like a tall order for one sabbatical, but let me say without one bit of exaggeration, that this sabbatical has done all of the above, and this is only the first of February. And in most of the areas it has done it more than I anticipated. So my overall critique of the sabbatical is that it has been just great. It has been really tailored to the ministry and its needs, and I certainly hope I can come back again in another 7-10 years.

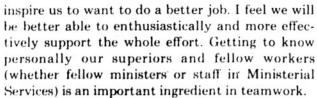
-Mike Swagerty

Colorful Colorado has a way of growing on you, and to say the least, I did not want to leave Colorado Springs when I heard the news of being transferred. I was even more shocked to hear I was coming to Pasadena for college on a sabbatical and to be in the new Certificate of the Ministry program. My wife and kids sat down and cried and I felt like it too. Our roots were down deeper than we thought and it looked like a very painful move ahead for everyone. It seemed like every time we worked to get a home and grounds the way we wanted we were on the move again. Now, for the first time when moving, we would have to leave older children behind. We kept trying to find positive points to console each other and everyone else with, as we went about the motions of making all of the arrangements for the move.

Once we were in Pasadena and settled and ready to begin classes, everything began to seem very positive. There is something about being "on campus" that always makes you feel great. All of my apprehensions ceased after starting classes. I found them very fulfilling and uplifting. To see the why, where and how of all the actions and interactions I had experienced in the field, and to understand the basic human laws that prevail in all of our relationships, is thrilling. Nothing can replace that firsthand contact with headquarters and knowing the men who are directing the Work.

-Herbert F. Magoon

The sabbatical program is a tremendous blessing. Just having the opportunity to come back to headquarters and rekindle the feel for those who are laboring here to get the Work done helps



The classes in the Certificate of the Ministry Program are refreshing as well as stimulating. They are serving well to blow out a few cobwebs that have been accumulating over the years. Most of the classes demonstrate potential for practical spin-off—not only do they encourage a man to aspire toward better service of the people in a local congregation, but they present possible approaches to accomplish this.

-Darryll Watson

I have found the sabbatical-certificate program to be very beneficial. This is its first year, but it offers a great deal to stimulate growth. It is a very productive change of pace.

Classes are not a repetition of our previous undergraduate program. They are new, educational and thought-provoking.

Some classes provide increased objectivity in areas where we had previously been much too subjective. I feel the program helps strip away harmful concepts and prejudices which we may have developed over the years. Other classes expand the awareness of what can be done in areas such as counseling and human development.

-Nelson C. Haas

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Housing Allowance

Having just felt the bite that taxes take out of your income, you may be interested to know that there is a way to bite back. A substantial tax savings may be available to you by filing a Housing Allowance Change Request. This is your parsonage exclusion. Our tax structure allows you to exempt from taxation all costs related to housing. You are even allowed a legal double deduction on interest payments. For further information, check Pastoral Instruction #4.5.4 to see if you can be benefitted. The forms are available through the ministerial supply system.

Revised forms can be filed whenever there is a significant change in your housing expenses.

Communication

We've had several situations lately where a member or deacon has communicated directly with us regarding hall rentals, expense checks, etc. Hall Rental vouchers are being signed by people other than the pastor. As is stated in Pastoral Instruction #2.3.5, page 3, "The pastor should retain the responsibility of signing and forwarding all forms to Headquarters and communicating all requests and questions to Headquarters."

We recognize that many local men are a tremendous help and appreciate your being able to use them, but in this area we have to ask that *only* pastors communicate with us and sign vouchers for such items.

The potential confusion and difficulty that could be engendered in having to deal with hundreds of different deacons and members is more than we care to contemplate.

For a sane and happy staff at Headquarters, please pass all such communications through the pastor.

Fixed Assets

This is just a reminder that purchases for fixed asset items (baptismals, PA system, pianos, chairs, etc.) must have the prior approval of headquarters. We have just finished formulating the budget for the next fiscal year, and the allowance for capital acquisitions is going to be very tight.

Please Note

Anyone having questions regarding a Mr. Wilkenson may call Gene Noel, Steve Moody, or Ralph Orr.

Anyone having questions regarding Mr. Frank Arrington may call Ted Herlofson.

-Ted Herlofson

NEW SERMON TAPES

What is Most Important to God Right Now! — H. W. Armstrong (HQ 30)

This is a sermon Mr. Armstrong gave while he was in Milwaukee on the fifth of February. It is preceded by Mr. Rader's witnessing to the fact that Mr. Armstrong is truly carrying out God's overall purpose in the worldwide mission God has commissioned him to; and to the fact he is doing so more powerfully than ever before.

Mr. Armstrong reminds the brethren in Milwaukee that they are, as we are, spiritually speaking, his very own children in the Lord; that God is calling very few to salvation today; that there is no contest between God and Satan. He tells about events that have led up to this point in history, beginning with the creation of Lucifer, his choice of character, his fall, the creation of man and his purpose. He tells about his own calling and commission, about why God called this Church, what the purpose of the Church is, what our individual purpose is, and what is uppermost in God's mind today.

Bible Studies-Book of Acts

The first two in a series of four covering the book of Acts are available at this time. The first is file no. HQ32 conducted by Steve Martin and Nelson Haas covering chapters 1 through 7: The second is file no. HQ33 conducted by Dennis Luker and Ellis LaRavia covering chapters 8 through 14.

Role of AICF-Ray Wright (HQ 29)

This tape (being offered by popular request) is an explanation of the role of AICF given almost a year ago in which Mr. Wright brings out how the foundation formally expresses what Mr. Armstrong is already doing worldwide.

International Division

Greetings to everyone once again! Special greetings from the churches in Australia, New Zealand, and Hawaii, since I have returned from there a few weeks ago. The church in Hawaii continues to grow, although the perennial problem of members moving back to the mainland, or being transferred in the military, continues to hold down the overall number in attendance.

Mr. Ouvrier is doing a fine job in working with the church there. He has been having a bit of a problem in securing steady work though, and would appreciate your prayers in the matter. He was intended to be one of our non-career ministers, but since moving to Hawaii, he has been experiencing difficulty in finding work. He is a sound engineer and the field is pretty well tied up by the Japanese who are very clannish when it comes to passing out work.

 I was amazed to find that they are suffering from drought in parts of Hawaii just as we are here in California. You tend to think of Hawaii as a tropical paradise with abundant rainfall. Such isn't the case right now.

Mr. Bob Morton and his family have settled back nicely in New Zealand. It was just a year ago that Bob returned to his homeland and the responsibility of directing the work in New Zealand. The Work in New Zealand is small but growing. The curse of the drug scene is just now hitting this particular country, but with a very heavy impact! Instead of building somewhat slowly as it did here in the States, it has arrived with a full head of steam. The government wasn't prepared for it or perhaps even expecting it, so they are ill equipped to deal with this many-faceted problem.

Bob just advertised the drug booklet and the response has been very heavy. Many civic-minded people are extremely concerned and are almost desperate to find some solutions. So the booklet has been in great demand.

We decided, while I was there, to bring Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Johnston in for a sabbatical beginning this fall. Lyle is very enthusiastic about it since it will be his first opportunity to spend any period of time at headquarters.

In Australia, things are really beginning to happen. We are now on 44 television stations in Australia (at least it was 44 when I left, but there may be more by now). Several of the men mentioned that they are currently receiving more visit letters in a month than they had been receiving in a year.

Radio has now opened up to us in the Solomon Islands for the first time. I believe there are three stations involved and they will cover all of the Solomons, parts of New Guinea and even a portion of Australia. There is also the possibility of radio opening up in Jakarta, which would also be a first.

Dean Wilson is understandably excited about the new areas opening up. One of the important factors is the turn-around Australia has made in the financial area. We finally were able to sell the press in Sydney. That not only stopped the outgo of several thousands of dollars per month, but it also created a cash reserve which has enabled us to greatly expand the media area of the work. That expansion has created new interest not only from the brand new people, but from the church members as well. It's hard not to catch some of the excitement when you see new TV stations airing the telecast and then new people beginning to show up in church.

In addition to reaching their own people, the Australians are now able to help financially in other areas. The radio time in the Solomons and Jakarta will be handled by the Australian work. We are also talking about the possibility of their assuming the costs of publishing and mailing the Malaysian P.T. That would enable us to use Canadian funds to expand in another area of the world.

The Y.O.U. program is just getting started in Australia as well. We do have to make certain modifications in some of the program, since the number of youngsters in the smaller churches limits what any one church can do.

Mark Cardona has gotten involved in a take-off on the Bi-centennial bike ride here in the United States last year. He has helped organize a 1,100 kilometer bike ride in Queensland. Some of the local civic leaders heard of it and wanted to be included so that now the group will not only be comprised of church youngsters, but some young people from the local communities as well.

An interesting aspect of the ride is that the young people are using the publicity to help raise funds which will be donated to one of the local drug centers in Surfers Paradise. The theme is along the lines of young people helping other young people fight the drug problem. Several newspapers already carried articles featuring the event.

One of the local community leaders, Sir Bruce Small, has helped secure new gold colored (the area is called the Gold Coast) bikes at half the normal cost for all those participating. There will be fifty young people taking part in the ride.

One side benefit Mark Cardona has found is that he has lost forty pounds during the time he has been getting ready for the ride. I would have to say that he was dieting along with the riding. Brigge, Groce and some of the others might find it difficult to imagine Mark losing forty pounds. On the other hand, recalling last feast when I saw several of these fellows, perhaps they won't. I am sure Mark would like to issue a challenge to some of his old ball-playing buddies to do the same. That's in jest fellows, not pointing a finger at anyone.

On the last day of the conference in Australia, John Halford left for the spring feast in Malaysia and Burma. He will ordain Saw Le Bey, a Burmese, as local elder. I hope you will remember this new elder and the very difficult situation he experiences in working with God's called out ones in Burma.

That's it for now. Any of you who know anyone in the Australian/New Zealand area of the world, please accept their warmest greetings which they have passed on through me.

-Leslie L. McCullough

Mail Processing

More good news to report this time. Another yearly high mark has been reached!

In the last issue of *The Bulletin* we mentioned that the week ending March 11 had been the best week for mail so far this year. The mail during

April 4-8 has surpassed that previous high with a total of 54,944 letters, giving us the best week for mail this year!

Total mail received for the month of April (as of the 8th) now stands at 66,200—giving us an annual total of 553,120 letters.

Much of this increase in mail involves three current programs: (1) The March Plain Truth had a special stitched-in promo card offering The Seven Laws of Success and the booklet on Tithing; (2) a renewal sent to many PT regulars, and (3) a Subscriber Development mailing sent to 517,000 PT subscribers offering The Four Horsemen and Are We Living In The Last Days? booklets. This latter mailing has brought in a 12% response so far—the highest response we've received from Regulars since Subscriber Development programs began last July.

WATS Line

Latest reports from the WATS area shows we are receiving an average of 800-1,000 calls per day. The one-minute spot ads on TV are doing quite well. During the months of February-March over 8,000 calls were pulled by the TV spots and TV Guide combination, with 96% of these being NEW people!

Subscriber Development

The highest number of literature requests yet received from Subscriber Development mailings arrived during March. During the first six months of its existence (July-December 1976), Subscriber Development generated an average of 64,700 literature requests per month. Since the beginning of 1977, however, the average has been climbing higher: in January our mailings produced 142,400 lit requests and 135,200 in February. But, during March the present zenith was reached—231,000 requests! Seventy-four percent of the requests resulted from the three following mailings:

Mailings	Lit Requests	% Total
Letter to PT Regulars	68,797	30%
Literature Catalog	59,543	26%
GTA Co-Worker/Donor Letter	40,849	18%

That's about it for this time. The holy day offerings appear to be doing quite well. Our projection at this time is for an 8-10% increase over last year.

Until next issue.

-Richard Rice

LETTER COMMENTS

FAMILY NIGHT

In a recent taped sermon sent to all the churches, Mr. Ted Armstrong announced that all members should begin observing a family night. Following are some comments in response.

"First I would like to thank you for your tape on family night. It's something desperately needed in this nation, for brethren and all Americans.

"I am a five-year member of the Church and now have a very rewarding career as coordinator of the Family Education Center in Danville, Illinois. At F.E.C., we have parent-study-discussion groups for parents who want to prevent family problems by learning parenting skills. We use books like *Raising a Responsible Child* by Don Denhmeyer and Gary MacKay.

"In our groups, we have one session on family meetings, a way to encourage children to be more cooperative and responsible by involving them in problem solving, recreation planning and even rule making discipline. This is not intended to be a 'voting session' where parents are outvoted, but in a spirit of conferring even young children can give important input into the smooth running of the family. This is a part of our family night and a very important one. It might be good to pass this idea on to the members."

-Michelle Harper Danville, IL

"Let me tell you a story about family night. We always observed it on Friday night and family day on Saturday. So, when our oldest daughter was ready to go to college (A.C.), she informed me that because of family night she never lost a date. And that she had more dates from more boys than any other girl in her high school class of 960. She had boys making dates weeks and months ahead (one date was three months). The rest of the girls could never understand her popularity, but she knew that it was not just because of her but the boys' respect for our family night."

-Mr. Francis S. Houghtaling Danville, OH

"Thank you so very much for the tape on family relations. We will have family nights for I definitely feel our families need to be together in order to stay together, and to get to know each other better.

"We need more articles, sermons, and such on family relations, child rearing. It is a grave, awesome responsibility we have in raising sons of God. I get so discouraged thinking I am failing as a mother. But I keep on trying my best."

-Mr. & Mrs. Lynn Bickel Brighton, CO

"Really enjoyed the tape from Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong on family relations. We have started our family night already and really do like it."

—Mr. & Mrs. T. L. Hubbell Houston, TX

"I just read your personal letter from *The Worldwide News* and wanted to express my feelings concerning the reminder on the importance of the family unit.

"I feel if we kept this fact uppermost in our minds we wouldn't allow family night to pass up by taking it for granted. The family unit is truly a wonderful blessing. The idea of a family day set apart once a week is great."

> —Mrs. Dot Trehern Pascagoula, MS

"This last Sabbath we were privileged to hear the tape by Mr. Ted Armstrong on family unity. It seems we receive these tapes and sermons on the right subjects just when needed the most."

> —Mrs. Bonna J. Gordon Fresno, CA

BING

A number of our subscribers commented on seeing the "BING" special that was videotaped in the Ambassador Auditorium. The overall reaction was favorable, especially from those who are actively involved in the support of the Work.

"I saw the Bing Crosby special on T.V. When the program first came on, I saw Bob Hope and all these people singing and dancing outside near a fountain. I said to myself, 'That kind of looks like the fountain in front of the Ambassador Auditorium I've seen in one of the booklets.' Then I thought it was just my imagination when all of a sudden the announcer mentioned it was Ambassador Auditorium.

"I was really surprised! I wish we would have had a color T.V. instead of a black and white. I bet the Auditorium was really beautiful in color."

> —Harry D. Tudor Richmond, KY



Community and Public Relations

Three more articles featuring the Church and the work of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong have appeared in two well-known national publications since the last Bulletin. Christianity Today ran a long, in-depth two-part feature article (April 1st and 15th issues) which focused on changes that have taken place within the church over the last few years, especially in the areas of doctrine and doctrinal administration.

People magazine (April 11) ran a short photographic article featuring Mr. Ted Armstrong.

Furthermore, in the April 10, 1977 issue of the Milwaukee Journal, a front page story, triggered by the church's and foundation's impact on the Milwaukee area through the recent concert series, highlighted the work, activity and even criticism of Messers. Armstrongs and the Church. Since few will have access to this article, we're including excerpts of it for your interest.

Church of Garner Ted Gathers Friends, Foes

By David L. Beal of The Journal Staff

Each weeknight his measured tones manicure the Milwaukee airwaves.

The 6:58 news melts away. Stay tuned for the weather, but now is the time for The Voice.

His words begin to flow, dancing to the top of his favorite octave, down to a firm low note and back up the scale again.

The message seems palatable, reasonable, sprinkled with pregnant pauses and a knowing, reassuring sarcasm, more fun to hear than the network newscaster being pre-empted at this very moment.

But the messenger brings very, very bad tidings. Famine. Natural disasters. Nuclear holocausts. Terrorism. A storm lies just around every corner.

Suddenly it's 7:05, and a new voice.

"You've been listening to Garner Ted Armstrong's commentary.

"WISN weather: We're expecting "

A fine fix. How can you blow away the black clouds? Fear not. Do as Garner Ted said.

Pick up the telephone, dial 800-434-4444 and ask for your free copy of Plain Truth magazine. You may be on your way into the Worldwide Church of God, the church with all the answers. Too many answers, some suggest.

Suddenly Emerging

After years of relative secrecy, going back to the days when it was known as the Radio Church of God, the church is suddenly emerging in Milwaukee. Through a new Milwaukee chapter of the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation (AICF), the good works arm of the church, church leaders are making a splash by bringing big names to the Performing Arts Center.

Finds Tranquility

Mstislav Rostropovich, the famed Russian cellist, came here in February. Vladimir Ashkenazy, a widely acclaimed pianist, performed last month. Robert Merrill, the world renowned baritone of the Metropolitan Opera, will be here Tuesday night.

For some, the church has meant tranquility. Take Danny Thomas, a designated hitter for the Milwaukee Brewers and a mixed up man until he joined the church late last year.

A serene Thomas slammed the ball all over Arizona in spring training this year. The Brewers seemed ready to call on him to start virtually every game this season, but Thomas will miss 37 Friday night and Saturday games, a fifth of the season. Church doctrine says to keep holy the Sabbath, which runs from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday.

However, others say the church has brought on strained family relations and drained family pocketbooks. Many members, upset about confusion over church doctrines or questionable uses of their financial contributions, have left in recent years....

Offers Explanation

Joseph Hopkins, a religion professor at Westminster College and an expert on the church's doctrines, said the church was surviving by appealing to people turned off by the ritual and hypocrisy often found in the traditional, organized churches.

Other big elements in its survival are its loosening of controversial doctrines on marriage, healing and other matters, and a lessening of secrecy, he said. "They're trying to accommodate themselves to the straight society," he said.

Herbert Armstrong began the church 43 years ago in Eugene, Ore., after several years of intensive Bible study . . .

The church's regional headquarters for the Upper Midwest used to be in Chicago, but it has been moved here since Carl McNair, the coordinator for the area, came here from Atlanta.

Interview Given

McNair and several other church officials here discussed the church and its work in several interviews with a reporter. Among the others interviewed were William Kessler, minister of the North Church, Michael Hanisko, South Church minister, Blackwell, and Thomas H. Grede, a Milwaukee businessman and vice president of the local AICF chapter.

They allowed a reporter to attend a joint service eight days ago at the Ramada. At the service there were hymns from a songbook written mostly by Dwight Armstrong, Herbert's brother, and some announcements. But the low key, nonproselytizing sermon, said to be a hallmark of the services, took up two-thirds of the two hour gathering.

About 800 Present

About 800 persons—men in suits and ties, women in dresses and skirts that fell at least to their knees—attended the service.

It seemed like a giant Bible study class.

Many of the men carried their Bibles and notebooks in attache cases. They took extensive notes during the sermon. When it was over, their attache cases snapped shut in unison, creating the only real stir of the entire service, save for a few crying babies.

"We are fundamentalists," McNair said. "We teach that Christianity is a way of life as well as a faith. We believe in a literal interpretation of the Bible. We believe in Jesus Christ as our personal saviour.

"Our goal and objective is to expose who we are and what we believe. We're active now in a way that we really should have been a long time ago."

One sign of the church's new openness is visible at Mitchell Field. Three weeks ago the church began distributing Plain Truth, the magazine that has long been its most widely circulated publication, free on three racks inside the main terminal.

Church and foundation officials are also planning to bring the US Coast Guard band to the

Arena May 18 for a free concert. They hope to fill the Arena.

But it is easily the concerts that are attracting the most attention. Herbert Armstrong came to town, for the first time in 20 years, to hear Rostropovich and meet with community leaders here.

Seen as Pilot City .

Armstrong and other church leaders view Milwaukee as the pilot city for the concert series. They want to bring more of the work of the church here and elsewhere through the goodwill established by such events.

Grede said the PAC's education program could receive as much as \$15,000 from the concerts.

McNair and the others claim a baptized membership of about 1,200 in Wisconsin, with about 550 in the Milwaukee area.

An average of five or six new members are being baptized every month around Milwaukee, Hanisko said.

He estimated that 40 to 80 persons, including unbaptized members, have left the church here in the last two years.

Nonetheless, leaders claim the recent net gain in members is still fairly substantial, a contention disputed by many former members.

This year Garner Ted replaced his half hour program, which had been on WISN here at 11:30 p.m., with the five minute show. The move saves the church money and brings him more listeners, radio managers say.

You can catch him at 6:10 p.m. on WSAU in Wausau. He's on WAXX in Eau Claire at 9:55 a.m.

"He's controversial as hell, but he has a charisma and relates things to the Bible," said John Hinkle, WISN general manager. "People just sit there and listen."

Y.O.U. UPDATE

Howdy! We just returned from the basketball and cheerleading finals in Big Sandy. Once again, the tournament was an overwhelming success. This year the Little Rock basketball team and the Big Sandy cheerleaders were victorious, making it the first time that both trophies have gone to one region.

The overall quality of play was much better this year. The same holds true for the cheerleading. I think almost any of the eight cheerleading squads entered this year could have won last year. They put on a real show! It was very obvious that they worked a lot of long hours in the last year. Most of







them had attended cheerleader clinics last summer. It really made a difference in the quality of the whole show. (We have a complete list of National Cheerleader Association sponsored camps this summer if any of you are interested in sending your cheerleaders to a camp.)

The caliber of ball players in the tournament improved quite a bit this year too. We had quite a number that the colleges were interested in getting to come to Ambassador. I feel that as time goes on, the overall caliber of talent will continue to improve.

Team sportsmanship was greatly improved this year, too. It was nice to have a struggle in determining who should get the sportsmanship award. It showed that a lot of coaches and pastors had been putting the emphasis on the right things. We want to thank everyone who had a part in making the tournament such a success.

Spring Holy Day Offerings

We will be sending all of you another supply of the special green holy day envelopes prior to Pentecost. We didn't have enough ordered to be able to send you enough for all the spring holy days at one time.

We certainly want to thank all of you who gave a special plug for the youth donations during the Days of Unleavened Bread. We would also like to encourage all of you to "plug" it on Pentecost and to build up its importance. If the youth don't donate we can do very litte in the way of improving the program.

International Exchange Program

We are ready to get another new activity off the ground—an International Youth Exchange Program. Many of our high school juniors and seniors have wanted to participate in one of the cultural exchange programs offered in public school. There are many obvious difficulties for our youth in such a program, though, such as living with an unconverted family with all the problems which go along with this.

We want to try to get the program rolling this summer with three or four U.S. teens (who will be either high school juniors or seniors next year) going to England or Europe to live with a church family, who has a teen of similar age, for six months. Then in January both groups will return to the U.S., with the foreign teens to begin living with U.S. families for the next six months. Y.O.U. will co-ordinate it, and will pay all travel costs for both groups of teens.

We want to start small with only three or four teens each from the U.S. and Europe to begin with. Hopefully, we will be able to expand this considerably in the future and include many other areas of the world. If any of you church pastors have youths in your congregations whom you feel are deserving and qualified for such an exchange program, please let us know. We need the individual's name, age, sex, interests, and a statement from you as to why you would like to see him or her considered for the program. We need this information by May 15 at the latest.

S.E.P. Update

Preparation for Summer Educational Program continues to come along very smoothly. To date we have accepted 428 students for summer camp. This includes 182 accepted for first session and 246 for second session. If you have young people who want to go to camp this summer, do encourage them to get their applications in early. Also, those who can attend either session should be encouraged to attend the first session since we have more space there. Camp promises to be better than ever this year and it looks like we may have an overflow crowd. An early application will reserve a space.

That's it for this issue. Thanks for your continued support of Y.O.U. Keep up the good work!

-Jim Thornhill

Sermon Outlines

HOW CAN YOU REJOICE IN TRIALS? Introduction:

Sometimes we look at all the problems, crises and tests that life throws at us and we get the feeling that we are "on trial" for life! Our entire existence, since we came into contact with God's Church, seems to have been a process of staggering from one crisis to another. We barely recover from one before another hits us.

Maybe we begin to wonder, "What happened to the Good Life?" After all, didn't Christ say that He came so we might have life more abundantly? (John 10:10); and that His yoke was easy? (Matt. 11:30.)

It is essential that we understand why we have trials in our lives. If we don't understand, if we feel we are being cheated out of the "Good Life," then it is too easy to fall into an attitude of bitterness, and even lose out on our salvation!

I. DID GOD PROMISE THE "GOOD LIFE"?

- A. If He did, then He has failed His people miserably down through history!
 - Heb. 11:35-40—God's servants have suffered persecution and martyrdom throughout history.
 - 2. "Those About to Die," *Mannix*, p. 134, gives a graphic account of the torture faced by Christian martyrs in Rome.
- B. The plain fact is, God promised us trials in this life!
 - 1. Acts 14:22—Through much tribulation...
 - 2. I Cor. 11:23-27—Paul's example.
 - Matt. 10:16-17, 21-22, 34-39—Christ promised a difficult life.
- C. He even told us we should rejoice in trials!
 - 1. Jas. 1:2-3—Count it all joy . . .
 - 2. Prov. 3:11-12—Trials a sign of God's love...
 - 3. How can that be? Surely it would be better *not* to have trials? Or would it?

II. WHY DOES GOD PERMIT TRIALS?

- A. First step in understanding why trials is to know where they come from.
 - First major cause is our breaking of laws. Then we reap the natural consequences of the law.
 - Other major cause is coming into conflict with Satan's society and the way it does things.
- B. God permits trials as a part of His Spiritual Training Program.
 - "Book-learning" is not sufficient to teach us all we need to know as leaders in the World Tomorrow.
 - 2. Paul uses the analogy of an athlete: I Cor. 9:24-27.
 - An athlete doesn't become a champion by reading about his sport. He has to train, and the training often involves stress and pain.
 - 4. Trials help us to develop "spiritual muscle" as we put into practice the principles and laws we have learned about. Heb. 12:11—Exercised thereby...

III. REJOICE IN TRIALS?

- A. To understand how we can rejoice even while we go through trials, we need to understand what makes men happy.
 - 1. Utopia? From the experience of individ-

- uals and societies, affluence leads to decay; e.g. the Roman Empire.
 - B. The work of psychologist Frederic Herzberg ("Work and the Nature of Man" and other publications) indicates that man needs much more to make him happy and fulfilled than mere physical comfort.
 - 1. He needs a sense of achievement—of overcoming obstacles.
 - He needs to feel that life is challenging and requires the use of his utmost abilities.
 - He needs a sense of advancement, or growth—to see himself develop in his strengths and abilities.
 - C. These, and other needs, are not satisfied by a life in which everything is supplied—that only leads to boredom and stagnation.
 - D. Trials give meaning and purpose to our lives when we recognize that through them God is helping us develop godly character.
 - 1. Without the challenges posed by trials, we can fall into a spiritual "holding pattern" as did the Laodicean Church (Rev. 3:14-17).

IV. GOD IS NOT PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH OUR PHYSICAL COMFORT

- God sees our physical life as a means to an end.
 - 1. It is a training ground to produce a happy and full spiritual life.
 - 2. We should not be looking for the "Good Life" in this life. Heb. 11:13-16—Citizens of heaven...
 - 3. Having counted the cost, be willing to pay it (Matt. 10:37-39).

Conclusion:

Rejoice in trials? Yes, we can, when we understand what they are working in our lives, and what the future holds for us.

We will be able to wholeheartedly agree with what Paul says in Romans 8:18: "I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

-Don Mears Winnipeg, Manitoba





For Your Interest...

THE MINISTER AND DEPRESSION

Having heard about the suicide of Don Wineinger, I began reflecting on the facets of a minister's work that might lead to extreme depression. Here's what I came up with.

-Bill Roberts
Louisville, Ky.

"It was as though some silent dark force pulled the plug on my life and let the vital juices drain away until I was an empty shell." That's the way Percy Knauth, successful journalist formerly with the New York Times and Time-Life, described depression. His book, A Season in Hell, vividly describes his struggle with this terrible illness.

Depression is the most common mental illness of our day. It's a negative reaction to the stresses that besiege us all. It's the mind turning on itself. Depression's symptoms range from general discouragement and melancholia to thoughts of suicide. For those in this pit of despair, life is hopeless, there are no solutions to their plight. In time they withdraw behind a wall of self-pity. Impenetrable, this wall blocks help that might come from the outside, simultaneously making depression's victim a prisoner to his own loneliness. Some come to feel that not even God can lift them out of their bottomless pit. Without hope, the mind torturing itself, suicide seems the only answer.

Millions of people, from all walks of life, fall prey to this debilitating disease. Depression can affect any person at any age, social, financial, or educational level. Depression is no respecter of persons. Even ministers of God can become depressed. In fact, certain aspects of our jobs can increase our chances of getting depressed. It's vital we recognize those aspects, and be on guard.

Unrealistic Image of What a Man of God Is

Growing up in the Church, I was certain the minister's biology differed from other men. Bathrooms in their homes were for visiting members, children were the result of immaculate conception, and surely he suffered no personal problems.

Later I became a minister. I had to learn to live with the sharp contrast of what I was versus what I thought I should be.

I don't know a minister who doesn't admit his humanity. Yet when we have personal difficulties (marital, financial, childrearing, spiritual, etc.), we tend to lose our objectivity. We crucify ourselves.

These are problems we're supposed to preach about, not have. We forget that Elijah was a man "subject to like passions"...including temper, fear, pouting. We forget Moses' marital difficulties, David's sins, Abraham's lie. Self-condemnation becomes our merciless judge.

God's plan called for imperfect men to shepherd God's people. Being "subject to like passions" was to make us more effective in our jobs, not less effective. We, too, learn by the things we suffer.

Unless a minister can live his life, struggling to grow, but not condemning himself for his fallibility, he'll fall into depression.

Man on Call . . . the Constant Drain

Unlike the butcher, baker and candlestick maker, the minister's home is not his "end-of-day-refuge." People's problems invade our homes in a barrage of telephone calls that interrupt all aspects of home life. This along with the scope and magnitude of what we're trying to accomplish, can get a man down. All of us constantly have someone crying for our attention.

Even Christ wore down from this constant drain. He took time away from the multitudes to rejuvenate. We must do the same. Our job is physically, emotionally and spiritually draining. We must renew what's drained away.

The Minister and Trauma

A minister is the man most turn to during times of emotional trauma. We anoint the sick, preach funerals, console troubled hearts, and counsel troubled marriages. I've stood besides the caskets of brother and sister, ages 14 and 15, trying to console family and friends. The children were killed in a school bus accident. I preached the funeral of an 11-month-old baby. The little girl had been born the same week as my youngest son. She had a horrible birth defect. My wife and I visited the child and mother frequently during those 11 months of life. There was a special bond due to the circumstances. When the baby died, it was almost like burying my own.

I've sat beside the elderly, hurting to understand them, but couldn't because a stroke had robbed them of their ability to communicate. I've watched the agony of terminal cancer patients fighting for life. I've visited a burn victim encased entirely except for holes to breathe through. I've heard the dying cry, "I don't want to die," begging me as if I had power over life and death. I've watched marriages disintegrate, young people drop out on drugs, adults wallow in the slime pit of alcoholism. I've been to nursing homes, mental

institutions and prisons. You name the sin, the sickness, the perversion, the agony, the human misfortune... and I've dealt with it. And so have all of you. I've walked away from other people's traumas shaken and sick at heart. Sometimes wondering, "When will it be my turn to suffer." Most people don't fully understand the scope of what human misfortune can be. We do.

As ministers we must be aware of a counselling phenomenon called "transfer." Transference can cause the minister to pick up the emotional attitude of the person he's dealing with. (Though transference also has other applications as well). A minister unaware of this possibility can get so busy "living" all the traumas of his congregation, he becomes depressed.

We Can't Solve All Problems

Ministers were once supposed to be all knowing, having the solutions to all problems. Not so. The problems of our world are so complex, that only Jesus Christ can and will solve them. Men's minds have become like scrambled eggs. Many marriages, minds, and lives are beyond our limited ability to help. If a minister expects to solve everyone's problems, futility, frustration and depression are in his future.

They Bite the Hand That Feeds Them

Remember the first time you were ever criticized by someone in your congregation? As much as we like to say, "Well I don't care what anyone thinks,"... it hurt like the dickens, didn't it? If a minister can't stand the heat, he'd probably better get out of the kitchen. Criticism's gun is always leveled at the doer. Mr. Herbert Armstrong has lived with it since God called him.

Any minister having a member(s) that has become his "thorn in the flesh" (better known today as "pain-in-the-neck") who lays in wait for his mistakes, would do himself a favor if he read Teddy Roosevelt's "Man In The Arena."

What's Your Temperament?

Ministers have all types of temperaments. We have those who are "the life of the party," some quiet and serious, others easy going, and still others who are aggressive drivers. Some temperaments tend to be more depression prone. So it's only logical that some of us tend to be more depression prone.

This is no disgrace either. Many gifted leaders have had serious bouts with depression: Moses, Elijah, Abraham Lincoln, Winston Churchill; just to name a few. If a minister understands this,

depression doesn't have to be a constant problem.

Depression can cripple your effectiveness as a minister. The two best weapons we have to fight with are, 1) An understanding of what depression is and how it works, and 2) A close relationship with our God who promises hope in this life, and ultimate happiness in His Family for eternity.

-B.R.

Editor's Note: Following is the passage by Teddy Roosevelt which Bill alluded to above.

Man In The Arena

It is not the critic who counts, not the one who points out how the strong man stumbled or how the doer of deeds might have done them better.

The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred with sweat and dust and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who, if he wins, he knows the triumphs of high achievement; and who, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.

PROMOTING GARDENING IN LOCAL CHURCHES

Last year we devised a way of promoting gardening in our church area. It was through a harvest festival. Each year, county fairs encourage people to enter produce, especially youth in 4H.

We decided to adopt their idea at our church picnic. We distributed the following information to everyone:

LET'S GET GROWING

Spring is just around the corner. Start planning your garden now. Enter your biggest and best produce in the "Country Fair" at the annual church picnic in August. Prizes will be given in different age groups.

Categories

- I. Vegetables
- II. Fruits
- III. Grains
- IV. Canned goods
- V. Baked goods
- VI. Handcrafts
- VII. Processed dairy products
- VIII. Flowers
- IX. Garden Box Exhibit
- X. Bees
- XI. Educational Booths

To enter you need:

- 1. An exhibitor number
- 2. Category number
- 3. Class number
- Variety name where applicable

Judging based on:

Quality

Uniformity

True to type
Condition at show time



VEGETABLES

- 1. 1 cup dry beans
- Plate of green or yellow beans
- 3. Beets, 5 specimens
- 4. Cabbage, 1 head
- 5. Tomatoes, 5 specimens
- 6. Potatoes, lots of 25
- 7. Onions, 5 specimens
- 8. Sweet corn. 5 cobs
- 9 Turnip or Rutabaga, 2 specimens
- 10. Carrots, 5 specimens
- 11. Cucumbers, 5 pickling
- 12. Watermelon-Muskmelon, 1 specimen
- 13. Pumpkin, largest
- 14. Squash, 1 specimen
- 15. Cauliflower, 1 head
- 16. Broccoli, 5 stems
- 17. Peppers, 5 specimens
- 18. Herbs, display of 3
- 19. Sunflower, 1 head
- II. FRUITS
 - 30. Apples, plate of 5
 - 31. Pears, plate of 5
 - 32. Berries, 1/2 pint
- III. GRAINS
 - 40. Oats, 1 qt.
 - 41. Wheat, 1 qt.
 - 42. Rye, 1 qt.
 - 43. Sheave, 3" dia.
- IV. CANNED GOODS
- 50. Pickles
 - 51. Fruits
 - 52. Vegetables
 - 53. Jams and Jellies

- V. BAKED GOODS
 - 60. Breads
 - 61. Desserts
- VI. HANDCRAFTS
 - 70. Your own choice: quilt's, candles, knitting, etc.
- VII. PROCESSED DAIRY
 - PRODUCTS
 - 80. Cheese
 - 81. Butter
 - 82 Cottage Cheese
 - 83 Yogurt Include instructions for making the above.
- VIII. FLOWERS
 - 90. Potted flowers
 - 91. Potted green foliage plants
 - Flower center piece arrangements
 - Dried flower arrangements
- IX. GARDEN BOX EXHIBIT
 - Amount of each veg. same as in category !
- X. HONEY
 - 110. Hive Display
 - 111. Extracted Honey
 - 112. Comb Honey
- XI. EDUCATIONAL BOOTHS
 - 120. Open to any group or individual; Homemakers YOU, etc. Depict any appropriate educational theme.

The response was excellent! We are planning a similar fair this year. Such a fair is a way of backing up Mr. Ted Armstrong's stress on gardening and making a lot of church people happy.

-George Kackos Wisconsin Dells, Wis.

"A MAGAZINE TO READ, NOT JUST LOOK AT"

Editor's Note: Following is an interesting evaluation of QUEST/77 which recently appeared in a St. Augustine, Florida newspaper. It was sent in by our new Jacksonville resident pastor, Allen Bullock.

Booksmithing

by Bob Smith

The magazine selection is to The Booksmith what the salad bar is to a fine restaurant: full of goodies to pick from, something to satisfy every taste.

But rarely, ever so rarely, does a new title appear which immediately earns a position amongst the traditional high quality bestselling magazines.

Quest/77 has done just that.

Promising a fresh look at the human condition, promising a journalism of courage and "good news" and human potential, the first issue of Quest/77 delivers its promise admirably.

Possessing the artistic appeal of National Geographic, demonstrating the in-depth reporting of Harpers or even Time and Newsweek at their (alltoo-rare) best, and covering a range of topics unmatched in any other one magazine, Quest/77 finds a welcome in the very competitive magazine market which destroyed Life, Look and the Saturday Evening Post of former years.

I found myself reading all eleven major articles in the magazine, something I never do with other magazines. If three or four articles appeal to me, it is an outstanding issue.

Sports (climbing Mt. Everest, ballooning, Vince Lombardi), history (the real Thomas Jefferson), the arts (modern art, photography, epitaph carving) are all superbly represented in this inaugural issue (March-April) of Quest/77. It is, unlike the most recent successful new magazine, People, a magazine to read, not just to look at. By the same token, its appeal is more general than that of the New Yorker, another real reader's magazine.

Quest/77 and over a hundred other magazines are available at The Booksmith on St. George Street.

BOOKLET REVIEW

Are you fit to be tied? (#79, 20 cents each)

Are you fit to be tied? is put out by the Knights of Columbus (Catholics). It is only 32 pages, but I feel it contains very good information for premarriage counselling. Fourteen main questions are covered, expounded and amplified upon. They are:

- 1. How old are you?
- 2. What dating experience have you had?
- 3. Why do you want to get married?
- 4. What's your "P.M. quotient" (personal maturity)
- 5. What do you expect of Marriage?
- 6. How happy are your parents?
- 7. How do you handle money?
- 8. How important is religion to you?
- 9. What kind of wedding do you want?
- 10. How do you feel about sex?
- 11. How long have you known her (him)?
- 12. What do you share?
- 13. Is sexual involvement part of your relationship?
- 14. Are you in love?

For 20¢ each you can't go wrong. This little booklet may help you to aid those considering marriage.

Write to:

Catholic Information Service Knights of Columbus P.O. Box 1971 New Haven, Conn. 06509

> -Hugh Wilson New Orleans West

LETTER COMMENTS

(Continued from page 116)

"We saw the Bing Crosby special and enjoyed it very much. Bing is a hometown 'boy'. We're very grateful to you good people!"

> —Ed Schoenberg Spokane, WA

"May I say that it has been too long since we have been blessed with a program with such good taste and delightful entertainment as was on the Bing Crosby special. I was indeed grateful that I am a part of people who know beauty."

-Ms. Harriet J. Cephus Chicago, IL

"We viewed the 'Bing' show last evening, March 20, and it was truly inspiring to see the House of God on T.V. They really showed a good picture of

the outside of the building with the fountain flowing freely. It was beautiful."

> -Mr. & Mrs. John Patrick, Huntsville, AL

"I was thrilled by the Bing Crosby special on CBS. Also I noted credit given the Ambassador College and the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation. More than ever before, the Work is being accomplished as the end time looms upon us.

"Keep up the good works while we do what we can behind the scenes. I am happy to be a part."

—James E. Laughlin Decatur, GA

"Last evening we watched the Bing Crosby special, and I thought it was just great. It is the first time I have seen very much of the House of God and it is very beautiful. It made me very proud. I couldn't keep from telling my family (who are not members) that is 'our' building. I was extremely proud."

-Linda Arnold Fisk MO

"Just watched Bing's show from the beautiful Ambassador Auditorium. What a gorgeous place it must be!"

-Ada Casey Reedley, CA