

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

International News

Spanish Department Report The latest income reports continue to show a substantial increase in all the Latin American countries. The year-to-date increase is an encouraging 73.4 percent overall!

Following are excerpts from a letter from Mario Seiglie, the minister in Santiago, Chile. His words seem to sum up the feeling of the ministers and brethren in the Spanish-speaking areas of God's Work.

On November 15, both churches (Temuco and Santiago) joyfully celebrated the successful rout in the California Court case. The lesson driven home for us was how vital the "trunk" of the Church is in relation to the branches (the rest of the countries, including Chile) of God's Work. If the trunk at headquarters would have been taken over, the flow of nourishment would have ceased with the consequent withering--how astute is the devil! Mr. Armstrong's recent point about not having a Spanish, French, Australian, or German Work (trunk) was extremely timely.

Here in Santiago, the Church is drawing closer together spiritually and socially. Income and visit requests are up and each Sabbath there are new faces in the crowd. We know God will continue to provide the growth accordingly.

In recent months, efforts have been made to increase Spanish PLAIN TRUTH (La PURA VERDAD) circulation in certain countries where little, if any, advertising of La PURA VERDAD has been done. One of those areas is the country of Spain, with a population of 37,000,000 highly literate and sophisticated people. Recently, a few small ads have been placed in the daily LEVANTE, printed in Valencia, Spain's third largest city, and EL PAIS, of Madrid. This advertising, combined with a special gift subscription offer that was mailed to La PURA VERDAD subscribers as well as a cardholder display program maintained by only five Spanish members, will net an estimated 2500 new subscribers by late January. In just four months we expect the mailing list in Spain to triple!

Since July, nearly 5,000 new subscribers have been added at a very low cost (approximately 18 cents U.S.) as a result of a July PV card insert. The insert was placed in subscriber issues destined for selected countries where PV circulation has been low compared to total population. The response has been double what was expected and has bolstered circulation in such countries as Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Venezuela and the Dominican Republic.

Latest News From Canada November has been a very busy month as Mr. Fahey assumed his new responsibilities in Canada. Already he has visited the churches in Toronto, Winnipeg and Regina and conducted ministerial meetings

in those cities. Next Sabbath he will visit the Ottawa and Montreal Churches and hold a ministerial meeting for that area. The ministers from the Maritimes and Newfoundland will also attend.

The busy month of November was rounded off with a very successful visit to Toronto by Mr. Stanley Rader. Radio, television and press interviews occupied his three-day visit along with two services on the Sabbath. Mr. Rader was able to speak to one million Canadians via Canada A.M. alone--this country's main morning news program. In this favourable live interview, the host held up Mr. Armstrong's full-page ad "A Voice Cries Out--What's Wrong With Government..." from the Toronto Globe and Mail and asked whether the Church should be involved with government when the same Church was saying government should not be involved with the Church. A very good question, and one which Mr. Rader delighted in answering.

Statistics for November were again exciting and encouraging. Financially, God's Work in Canada is 23% ahead on the year-to-date figure with expenses running 5% under budget. Incoming mail was again high with over 30,000 responses to the ad campaign for the book UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY. The Work is truly booming on all fronts.

Mr. Waterhouse in London Mr. Gerald Waterhouse is currently touring Britain bringing a vision of the coming Kingdom of God to the Church here, and the need for all of us to be solidly behind Mr. Armstrong as we come nearer to the time that Kingdom is to be established.

Speaking in London on the Sabbath of December 13th, Mr. Waterhouse was true to form. One wonders if it wouldn't be easier to describe what he didn't say in his fast moving graphic sermon, as he journeyed from what led up to the court case to the reasons why the Church will need to go to the place of safety--all in three and a half hours! Throughout it all the central message was clear and well received by the brethren present: God is doing the Work at this present time through Mr. Herbert Armstrong whom He has personally prepared for the task. Whatever may occur, God is in charge and we should therefore recognise and respect the authority He has placed in His Church.

Mr. Waterhouse will be in the U.K. until January 6th and is eagerly awaited by the churches for sermons and Bible studies in all areas. Then from the U.K. he travels to Scandinavia before going on to other areas of Europe.

Appreciation for Ministerial Refreshing Program

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Thank you so much for the tremendous three weeks we have just experienced, enjoying for the first time the blessing of being instructed in God's College by truly dedicated men, and to be able to be a part of the truly exciting spirit of purpose and harmony that is so evident on campus.

As two who have not before had this opportunity, my wife and I wish to express a gratitude that is very hard to put into words, Mr. Armstrong, both to you and to the great God that is back of you, for the experience of sharing in the sixth Refreshing Program. We do pray always that God may continue to strengthen you, and to guide you in the commission He has entrusted to you.

A Voice Cries Out: Hostages, Arab Oil, Israel and the U.S.

-The Real Origin of Ancient Hatreds, and Way to Solution

Appeared in the Wall Street Journal Dec. 22, 1980

THE WORLD NEWS spotlight has focused heavily on the Middle East, the hostage crisis and the Camp David conferences for Middle East peace.

But few know the real origin of this boiling caldron of historic hatreds. Few know that this on-and-off continuing *emotional conflict stemmed from a rivalry between two women over one man. It is significant in a manner little realized that present peace efforts involve the United States and the Camp David talks.*

Very recently I have had personal conferences with the two Middle East leaders—Prime Minister Menachem Begin in Jerusalem, and President Anwar el-Sadat in Cairo. The vision, courage and willingness of these two leaders to "GIVE" instead of "GET" is a hopeful start in *the way toward Middle East and even world peace.*

Israel has been willing to "GIVE" back to Egypt the Sinai Peninsula. And President Sadat showed me the architect's rendering of the new \$70 million peace center he plans to build at the base of Mt. Sinai. He invited my participation in this project, symbolic of *the way to world peace between nations and religions.*

The project at Mt. Sinai is significant, because some 3,500 years ago there was an "eruption" on Mt. Sinai. What "erupted" was the one and only practical and workable formula for world peace!

That formula is simple. It is a way of life. It is the way of "GIVE" as opposed to "GET." And the proposed peace center there epitomizes the way of "GIVE"—cooperate, mutual help, serve, share. "GET" is the way of self-centered covet-



HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

ing, envy, jealousy and hostile competition leading to strife, violence, war, destruction.

But actually Middle East antagonisms had been implanted in Arab and Israel peoples more than 400 years before the Mt. Sinai "eruption." It's an intriguing story, leading to present activities of concern to us all.

On Mt. Sinai, some 3,500 years ago, the prophet Moses received the tables of stone on which were written the peace formula—the way of life productive of peace—the Ten Commandments. They summarize the principle of outflowing love, the way of "GIVE."

Involved in the Camp David peace talks were heads of three nations, predominant in which are three major religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Religion has been a prime factor in wars throughout history. These three nations have a common ancestor, Abraham. All three religions regard Abraham and Moses as prophets. And therein lies a history of TODAY's vital concern to the lives of us all!

Abraham's wife, Sarah, was barren and childless, considered in those days a severe reproach. Sarah, the biblical narrative states, asked Abraham to give her a son by her maid Hagar. When Hagar became pregnant she despised Sarah. When Sarah treated her harshly she fled. Her son, Ishmael, became the father of 12 "dukes," who were the progenitors of the Arab world of today! Later, the narrative continues, Sarah became the mother of Isaac, progenitor of the 12 tribes of Israel. A jealous

hostility has continued to our day between the Arab world and Israel.

But where does the United States come into the picture? The answer to that question is one of the most exciting, eye-opening revelations of buried and "lost" factual history ever told!

Today the United States and Britain are both deeply involved in this whole controversy. It was the British Balfour Declaration that opened a national home for Jews in Palestine. Now the United States is trying to bring peace to the Middle East. The United States is deeply involved also through the hostage crisis in Islamic Iran.

But where are we, or the British, referred to in the historical narratives or the prophecies of the world's best seller? Theologians do not know. Approximately a third of the entire Bible is prophecy, focusing primarily on events of NOW—and the very near future. Yet these prophecies have not been understood. They have remained a mystery, or source of wild speculation. The vital key to unlock their clear understanding has been missing.

That vital key is the identity of the United States and British nations in biblical prophecy. Such small nations as Ethiopia, Libya and Egypt are mentioned. How could the United States be overlooked? It isn't! It is explained in a revealing book, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. We will present, gratis, to those whose unprejudiced eyes are willing to see, a softcover copy of the astonishing, enlightening book, 230 pages, full color illustrated, gratis on request, no follow-up. Or, if you prefer, you may buy a distinctive hardcover copy at bookstores.

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We know we will now be so much better equipped to follow your inspired leadership. Thank you very much.

Lloyd and Alice Longley

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

My wife and I would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for giving us the opportunity to attend the Refreshing Program. These past three weeks have been the highlight of our ministry. We no longer have to wonder what we should teach the brethren. We have been truly refreshed with the true doctrines and policies Christ has put in the Church through you.

We are also thankful for the dedication and loving concern of men like Mr. Stanley Rader, Mr. Joe Tkach, Dr. Herman Hoeh, Mr. Dean Blackwell, Mr. Leroy Neff and a host of others that support you and serve us from Pasadena. They have made our stay here very enjoyable and most profitable. We thank God for putting us in the ministry and giving us a part in supporting you in this great Work!

Earl and Katrina Williams

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

I too would like to greatly thank you for the Ministerial Refreshing Program! My wife and I benefited much, had a lot of fun and went home with much to share with the brethren.

What struck me so deeply was the tremendous example of GIVE being shown forth by all involved with the running of the program. They are working very hard to back you up faithfully and to serve us in the ministry.

One specific area of note is how personable and "given to hospitality" all these have been. In three weeks time I received more opportunities to meet, be in the homes of and begin building friendships and working relationships with more evangelists, employees, faculty, wives and students, etc., than ever before. So thank you again for this terrific program.

Ron Howe

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Thank you very much, Mr. Armstrong, for allowing and encouraging the ministers' wives to attend the Refreshing Program. I truly am refreshed both mentally and spiritually.

The sessions were outstanding, the food delicious (my husband gained 11 pounds), the fellowship with the ministers' wives was most enjoyable and the opportunity to meet some of the instructors I did not know was appreciated.

I am grateful that you feel as though we are your sons and daughters; you are very special to us. Thank you once again for the Refreshing Program.

Joy Howe

P.S. My husband needed that extra 11 pounds!

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

I recently attended a Refreshing Program session with my husband and I would like to thank you very much for the entire program. It's a very necessary program and we both benefited from it a great deal. We want to be in tune with what God wants us to be doing, and through you and your guidance in this program we were instructed and taught by those anxious and careful to pass on your instructions as God would want us taught. It was very helpful and inspiring as well as a very enjoyable three weeks. We were treated so well and we thank you too for all the benefits and wonderful opportunities we receive in God's Work.

Also, what we know about how to have happy marriages and family lives has come through you, too, and we deeply appreciate this information and the benefit we've reaped in our lives with that knowledge.

As the wife of a minister I'd like to give you a special thanks for including us in the Refreshing Program. As we are involved in the ministry we need and appreciate the instruction and correction for our growth and service to the church and our husbands, and most of all to our Creator. So thank you for everything! We very much appreciate, love and respect you, Mr. Armstrong!!

Mrs. Jeff McGowan

Weekly Letter Comments

Viewers of the telecast find Mr. Armstrong's program interesting, thought-provoking and unique. Other comments show the December PLAIN TRUTH was well received, with several of the writers being commended for their articles. Then several comments from members express appreciation and enjoyment of The WORLDWIDE NEWS. Especially commented on was Mr. Armstrong's tribute to Mr. Rader entitled, "A Persecuted But Faithful Servant of God."

Reactions to the Telecast

It is encouraging to hear a man with your convictions on television. I totally agree with your views. Hopefully your message will steamroll into a movement that affects the lives of all Americans. To help you in your crusade I have enclosed a small donation. Keep up the great work.

Mary McClintock (Evanston, IL)

I happened to turn on the T.V. one day and caught part of your program. I found it very interesting and easy to relate to. I shall continue to listen to your program when possible.

Elaine Donofrio (Port Colborne, Ont., Canada)

Please send me your pamphlets on why we were born and [about] being born again. I've been watching your program for the past few weeks and find it fascinating: you bring up issues that I have never heard other pastors discuss, especially in the manner that you discuss them.

Nancy B. Fraser (Long Island, NY)

I have just heard you speak on T.V., and I must say that what I heard you say today makes only sense to me. It was so very intelligently put.

With so much propaganda floating through the airways today regarding religion, it is very difficult to find anything worth believing or even listening to. One is so inundated with words and pictures (90 percent or more of such being unfit for human consumption, let alone human belief) that it is very tough to be anything but apathetic, pessimistic, and downright depressed.

I just wanted to tell you how much I truly appreciated the privilege of hearing such an intelligent Christian speak; I would be very honored to receive your literature.

Suzanne L. Chilow (Reno, NV)

I would really appreciate your sending me The PLAIN TRUTH magazines you and your associates have published. I watched your show for the first time this evening and I like the way you interpret the Holy Bible and I would like to learn more through your teachings.

Robin B. (Newcastle, Ont., Canada)

I loved your TV sermon today. You are the greatest Bible teacher, and the only minister who does not ask for contributions each time we hear you--in fact, you never do it.

Would you please send me the booklet you mentioned "The Kingdom of Heaven"--I think that was the title. I cannot wait until next Sunday to see and hear you again--your time on the air is much too short. I understand how expensive it all is and appreciate your every minute. You have changed my life--you have taught me to know God, and to love Him and His Word. And I love you for this awakening.

Ann Brennan (Camarillo, CA)

December PT Has Impact

I just looked at this month's PLAIN TRUTH and all I can say is--WOW! Can you make the best better? Well, I guess you can!

Rod King (Phoenix, AZ)

Congratulations to you on your good and informative article on Islam, "Seeing the World Through Islamic Eyes" (PLAIN TRUTH, December 1980). This article is one of the very few that treats the subject in an objective manner. Keith W. Stump succeeds in projecting most of what Muslims believe in.

Articles of this caliber would certainly improve the chances of understanding between Muslims and other faithfuls, like Christians and Jews. Thanks again for publishing such a wonderful article.

M.A. Buraey, President of the Muslim Students Association (Chapel Hill, SC)

I have just gotten back from a three-week stay with friends in Munich, Germany. While there, I was able to watch the German elections on television. Now I read about Chancellor Helmut

Schmidt in your magazine. It gave me such a warm feeling. My German friends feel the same way about America and President Carter. West Germany has to go her own way now, she cannot depend on us anymore. It is so sad and makes me afraid. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for letting me and so many others read your wonderful magazine.

Mrs. Lillian Gorski (Erie, PA)

It's not often I sit down and respond to articles in the PT or GN, not that they aren't all very inspiring, moving, and interesting. But Mr. Rader's article in the Dec. PT on "Return of the Inquisition" gave me an insight into deprogramming that I had never thought about before. The parallels between conservatorship and the recent receivership on the Church were absolutely amazing.

I read it once, then immediately read it again to my husband--half in shock, half in a spirit of having been warned of what yet does lie ahead. Thank you very much.

Carolee Wise (Aurora, CO)

The PLAIN TRUTH should be commended for trying to show us the world of today and tomorrow through Bible prophecy. It is a monthly magazine that deals with what really matters in life. The magazine may not always be what we (the readers) want it to be, but truthfully speaking, it is the plain truth!

Keith Jones (Melbourne, AR)

Worldwide News Appreciated

This is my first time in writing my appreciation for The WORLDWIDE NEWS. I am very thankful for the many inspiring articles and informative news items. I especially would like to thank Dexter Faulkner for his "Just One More Thing" column. Each article has been very uplifting.

Mrs. Jo Johnson (Austin, TX)

Just a note to say that the article in The WORLDWIDE NEWS, "A Persecuted But Faithful Servant of God" concerning Mr. Rader, was heartwarming and moving. Mr. Rader is such a fine person and loves you [Mr. Armstrong] like a father. One can read this when he speaks of you. We love and respect him for being so dedicated to Christ and His Church and apostle.

Mr. & Mrs. Albert Smith (East Laurinburg, NC)

I just received my WORLDWIDE NEWS. Thank you for the beautiful tribute to Mr. Rader--he surely deserves it.

Miss Ina Lindberg (Vancouver, WA)

I especially enjoyed the Nov. 24 issue of The WORLDWIDE NEWS, with the numerous articles by Herbert Armstrong, most especially the one entitled, "A Persecuted But Faithful Servant of God." Thanks to all.

Scott McGhee (Dallas, TX)

We enjoy the articles you [Mr. Armstrong] write for The WORLDWIDE NEWS, but especially liked the one about Mr. Rader. It may open people's eyes to see the need for Mr. Rader and the quality of person God called to help you do the Work. You are top quality and God would not give you anything less than a top quality man to assist you.

Mr. & Mrs. Charley Pigman (Corona, CA)

I think The WORLDWIDE NEWS is a fine publication, sharing with members all the many and varied activities of God's Church throughout the world. While I don't know but a few people in the Church, I like to read what is going on abroad as well as here in the United States.

Eugene Kern (Salem, MO)

--JOE TKACH, MINISTERIAL SERVICES

NEWS FROM Y.O.U.

S.E.P. Applications

S.E.P. High School Worker applications are now available. Several applications have been mailed to each pastor for those in his area who might be interested in applying. Deadline for applications will be Friday, January 16. Remember that your recommendations as pastors are essential to us in making these selections. Please recommend those you are confident will uphold all Y.O.U. standards, and set the kind of example Mr. Armstrong would want at S.E.P. Camper applications are now being printed and should be ready by mid-January. Each of you will receive a packet of applications for those in your area who might be interested in applying for camp.

There will be three sessions of camp this year. The dates are as follows:

- 1st session: June 10-June 29
- 2nd session: July 3-July 23
- 3rd session: July 27-August 16

Tuition is set at \$175 per child with a \$50 discount for the second child per family. An additional \$25 fee will be required for Y.O.U. T-shirts and jackets which will be distributed at camp.

Y.O.U. Bowling Competition

The fourth annual Y.O.U. Bowling Competition is underway. Rules are being printed in the Worldwide News and are also in your Y.O.U. Manual. Please urge those in your area to participate. Many churches find the bowling parties they plan are great fun for the entire family as well as the Y.O.U. bowling entrants.

Official entry forms are available from the Y.O.U. Office. Forms will be mailed to you automatically at the end of January along with the SEP Camper applications.

Y.O.U. International Exchange Program

Deadline for applications to the 1981-82 International Exchange Program is January 30, 1981. Please urge those young people in your area whom you feel would benefit from such a program to apply soon. Applications are available from the Y.O.U. Office in Pasadena. Basically, the exchange program is one year in length with each of the two students spending six months in the home and country of the other. Each family provides for the other's child during that six-month period. All travel expenses are paid by Y.O.U. and other expenses would be minimal.

--Kevin Dean, Y.O.U.

ON THE WORLD SCENE

INTERNATIONAL NEWS CENSORSHIP LOOMS ON THE HORIZON The stage is now being set for a marked restriction, in the years ahead, of the free flow of vital news from around the world. Even the spreading of the Gospel could be affected.

A few weeks ago, the 21st annual conference of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) ended in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. The result was a pronounced victory for Third World and Communist Bloc nations--the majority of UNESCO members. UNESCO adopted by consensus a resolution calling for "a new world information order"--lofty words for global news censorship. Specifically, the resolution called on the world's mass media "to contribute to strengthening peace and international understanding, to the promotion of human rights and to countering racialism, apartheid and incitement to war." (Poor South Africa and Israel--they get kicked in the shins by every U.N.-related agency.)

To further indicate the political thrust of the UNESCO program, the delegates also voted to seat the Palestine Liberation Organization as a UNESCO observer. (One wonders if the P.L.O. has enough "observers" left for all the forums it's invited to observe). Predictably, Yasser Arafat made his UNESCO debut, delivering a 90-minute speech.

The issue of establishing international press controls has been smoldering for some time. The developing countries have long resented the fact that most of the world's influential news media are based in the industrialized "First World" countries. These media, they charge, operate "news monopolies" and present a biased view of Third World events.

However, what really disturbs the communists and the Third World countries --an overwhelmingly undemocratic bunch--is that Western news agencies such as AP, UPI, Reuters, Agence-France Press, Deutsche Press Agentur, as well as major newspapers with foreign correspondents such as the Times of London, Daily Telegraph, the New York Times and Christian Science Monitor, are generally free to report to their readers what is happening inside the developing countries. Such reporting often gives an unfavorable--albeit realistic--view of events inside those totalitarian states.

Editorialized the Los Angeles Times in angry reaction to the UNESCO resolution: "The undemocratic countries already control what their people read and hear. What they want is a mechanism, created and subsidized by UNESCO, to enable them to extend that control to international news. They are well on their way to achieving that goal."

Exactly what the Western news media might be up against was dramatically revealed--albeit coincidentally--during the UNESCO fiasco. A French journalist working for Agence-France Press was arrested and jailed in the Zambian capital of Lusaka for having reported accurately the attempted coup that threatened the government of President Kenneth Kaunda. Yet remarkably the French delegate to UNESCO went along with the consensus proposal and most of the other issues brought to vote.

Although not specifically mentioned in news reports from Belgrade, UNESCO proscriptions are undoubtedly directed at radio and television coverage as well. In many countries, it is only reporting by the BBC World Service and other Western radio services that gives people living in Third World countries an accurate account of conditions inside their own borders. The Third World countries would like to restrict the movement of, say, BBC reporters or stringers operating overseas, calling in reports to London, and having their dispatches received back in the home country via short-wave.

Collapse of Western Will

Champions of the ideal of a free and unfettered press were greatly outnumbered in Belgrade, reports L.A. Times' Don Cook, who covered the UNESCO meeting. He quoted Elie Abel, a U.S. delegate, as saying, "We and the people who share our views are in a very small minority in UNESCO. We don't have a lot of friends and we'd better face it. I think we have to ask ourselves why we are seeing this steady, steady erosion of American influence."

At the Foreign Office in London, the British were indignantly outspoken about the results of the Belgrade meeting. At one point, British delegate Lord Gordon-Lennox was preparing to vote against the "world information" resolution, but then the U.S. delegation got instructions from Washington to go along with a consensus approval rather than force a vote. Britain, "with the greatest reluctance," decided it had no alternative but to go along too. Nevertheless, Foreign Office Minister Peter Blaker made it clear that Britain regards the whole exercise as a growing threat to the free flow of news and ideas and a curb on freedom of the press in the guise of trying to define how journalists are supposed to report and behave around the world.

In general, the Western countries caved in to the pressure exerted by the opposition. Reported Cook: "The British were blunt and outspoken in debate and committee work, and the Swiss refused even to go along with a consensus. But otherwise, only Canada, Australia and West Germany were ready to line up on most of the votes. France and the rest of the European allies, and countries like Japan, Sweden, and Austria seemed more concerned not to oppose the Third World."

The Western countries were also swamped by the Third World/Communist bloc when UNESCO voted itself a hefty 34% increase in its operating budget, up to \$725 million over the next three years. Of course, most of this money comes from the Western world, specifically good ol' "Uncle Sap."

Impede The Gospel?

UNESCO's Director-General Mahtar m'Bow of Senegal pledged at the closing session that "this is only the first stage in creating a new information order in the world." And before the delegates adjourned, the Soviet Union

sponsored a resolution--overwhelmingly approved, of course--to call a special UNESCO-sponsored international conference in 1983 to assess how the international press has been living up to the new UNESCO standards. Noted Cook: "The prospects for turning such a conference into a Soviet and Third World propaganda forum against the Western Press are self-evident."

It should be obvious that if the Western countries succumb supinely to UNESCO's demands, it will make the job of watching world events in the light of Bible prophecy all the harder. And one wonders, too, if Satan is not manipulating UNESCO affairs in an attempt to curtail the future dissemination of the Good News of the Kingdom of God in many parts of the world.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau