

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

MARCH 13, 1981

ADVISORY COUNCIL OF ELDERS FORMED

by

Herbert W. Armstrong

In the organizational pattern of God's Church an ADVISORY COUNCIL OF ELDERS has been formed. It is not a legal board of directors.

Actually the Worldwide Church of God is a spiritual organism, created by GOD--not a legal corporate organization created by this world's laws. But, in order to function IN the world in an organizational manner, the Church of God has needed to be incorporated according to state laws. The members of the Church are NOT members of the "Worldwide Church of God, Inc.," a California corporation, nor of "Herbert W. Armstrong, a corporation sole," under which our financial operations currently are functioning (since the massive lawsuit by the State of California).

The California corporation, "Worldwide Church of God, Inc.," does require a board of directors. The corporation sole does not.

But, regardless, the GOVERNMENT in God's Church, a spiritual organism, is government from the top down. God is Head over all--even over Christ. Christ is Head of the Church. He directs and operates the Church through His chosen apostle. In such office I have to appoint managers or directors of various operations under me.

God says through Solomon that in multitude of counselors there is safety. We are told not to put our trust in a man, but there is safety in a number of counselors. I have always followed that admonition. Beside prayer and looking to God through Christ for guidance, I have always counseled with those I consider best qualified to advise in the subject at hand.

This ADVISORY COUNCIL OF ELDERS, therefore, is a safety valve, in addition to relying on guidance from God.

For this Council I have chosen from among our older, tried and proven loyal ministers--men whose fruits show the guidance and leadership of the Holy Spirit, men of spiritual wisdom and balance. In order that we may meet frequently, or on quick notice when necessary, I have chosen men located in or near Pasadena. They are not the only ones qualified. I may add others later as conditions require.

The Council of Elders, as of now, consists of Dibar Apartian, Dean Blackwell, Robert Fahey, Ellis LaRavia, Raymond McNair, Leroy Neff, Joseph Tkach, Leon Walker, and, as Adviser to the Council, Ralph Helge.

ROBERT FAHEY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
TO HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

For years I have needed a personal assistant. My work load has increased until it is now imperative. I have appointed Bob Fahey as my executive assistant. He is here now, will soon move his family to Tucson, and already we are working together as a smooth-running team.

Mr. Colin Adair, recently transferred to Vancouver from managing the Manila Office and pastor over the churches in the Philippines, will succeed Mr. Fahey over the Canadian work. He will continue the Work in Canada in the same direction, in complete unity with Pasadena and Christ's apostle.

In the Canadian churches, as in the United States, we have been setting the Church back on God's track. This has been cleaning up the membership so that while total membership has held about even, income has increased about 25% for 1980, and is now increasing at a higher percentage. Last year was the best year ever for Canada. Bob wants me to explain that this increase came also from the efforts of Les McCullough and David Hulme, as well as from his.

Following is a report to me from Mr. Fahey dated January 15, 1981:

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Greetings from Vancouver to you and Mrs. Armstrong!

Since you have taken control once again of God's Work worldwide, He seems to be working extra hard to bless it. That blessing is certainly evident in the Canadian part of that Work. I thought I would write you to share the good news!

1980 was the best year ever for the Canadian Office and churches. By far!

Media coverage expanded greatly. A major contract was arranged with CKO, an all-news radio station that gave us coverage in the major city markets. Although we have enjoyed excellent radio coverage in Canada for years, the major city markets have not been previously available. CKO gave us 8:00 p.m. daily in their entire national network.

The World Tomorrow television program was reintroduced into Canada in 1980. At present we are on 17 stations throughout the country.

We also signed a contract with Global Television, Canada's third largest network. Global gives us excellent coverage in Southwestern Ontario, particularly Toronto.

Radio and television coverage was obtained for Alaska and paid for by the Canadian Office. We are presently on two radio and four television stations there.

In 1980 we were able to put 150,000 magazines per month on newsstands throughout Canada. This program has been handled by the church pastors and the local congregations.

In December of 1980 we were able to begin the "A Voice Cries Out" series in the Toronto Globe & Mail--the most similar newspaper in Canada to the Wall Street Journal. It is a national newspaper and is read by Canadian leadership.

For the first time, income topped \$9,000,000 Canadian. Total income kept inching one or two percentage points upward each month toward a 30% increase, ending at 24% increase for the year. In December we came very close to having our first ever million dollar month.

During the year, weekly church attendance hit 9,000 for the first time. We had 309 baptisms and 599 new visit requests. Many ministers are reporting a sharp upturn in prospective member activity.

The mail and circulation stats are also very encouraging. Total mail increased from 199,887 in 1979 to 477,412 in 1980--a 139% increase!

The PLAIN TRUTH subscribers in English increased 176% to end the year at 187,651 subscribers. During the year we added 126,663 new subscribers. A whopping 507% over the previous year.

In the French area, La PURE VERITE circulation increased 82% to 46,970. We added 27,779 new subscribers, an increase of 221% over 1979.

Mr. Apartian and I are working very closely together to serve the French-speaking Canadians. We have been blessed with unity and harmony as we work at the specific assignments you have given us. We both are pleased and delighted to be working as a team!

Surprisingly, total membership has remained about the same as last year. Christ is cleaning up His Church! But those members who remain are doing more than ever before: 82% of our income in 1980 came from members of the Church, 15% came from faithful co-workers whose number actually fell since December 1979.

One statistic I found particularly interesting. During the first eleven months of the year the number of donations averaged about 5,450 per month. It never once reached 6,000. In December 1980 a sudden jump to 7,288 donations occurred! We know that increase comes from God!

All these developments have bloomed since you took direct control of the churches and began putting the Church back on the track!

Realizing that, I feel I understand as never before what the prophet means when he wrote "and they shall rejoice and see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel." I know you will not compromise with God's truth. If the plummet shows the wall to be crooked, I know you

will not rest until it is straight as God intends it to be. In that knowledge, I do rejoice!

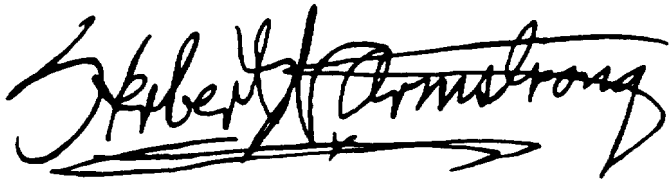
Please continue to clearly point out the way and the track. We are behind you 100%!

Your servant in Christ,
Robert E. Fahey

RE: CRITICISM AGAINST ANOTHER MINISTER

Just in case anyone should come to you with a criticism or direct or indirect accusation against another minister, you should report it immediately to Mr. Tkach in Ministerial Services. Any criticism against Mr. Tkach, if such should ever occur, should be sent privately to me and to no other. Mark such envelop PERSONAL.

Never has the ministry and the entire Church been so solidly and loyally together and together with God and with Jesus Christ. We must not let anyone stir up any semblance of disunity and disharmony. If anyone asks you if you know of any problems, or gives any implication of any, please report it either to Mr. Tkach or to me immediately.



FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

International News

Philippines Update January 1981 was a very exciting month for God's Work in the Philippines. The highlight, of course, was the 15-day visit here by God's apostle and Pastor General, Herbert W. Armstrong.

The highly successful two-night campaign at the elegant Philippine International Convention Center January 24 and 25 brought a warm and receptive audience of over 4,000--mostly nonmembers--each night to hear Mr. Herbert Armstrong's powerful messages about the coming Kingdom of God. At the close of his second message he challenged the audience to repent and to change their lives from the way of GET to the way of GIVE.

Already 906, who attended the campaign, have asked for a new subscription to The PLAIN TRUTH. Many of these were students who came in response to advertisements in the national dailies concerning an essay contest based on Mr. Armstrong's message.

A Voice Cries Out: WHY The American Living Standard Is Going Down!

Appeared in the Wall Street Journal, March 9, 1981

IT'S TIME we awaken to CAUSES! Human survival has become the world's No. 1 problem.

What brought the world to this frightening brink of human extinction? What brought on the myriad problems, upheavals and evils that engulf the world? And, paradoxically, amid awesome progress?

It's easy to become so engrossed in the day-to-day activities that we overlook underlying impending disasters. It's no time to fiddle while America and the world are burning!

Look now to one serious contributing factor—the 20th-century rise and now impending fall of the American standard of living. No nation ever ascended to the high living standard this nation has enjoyed!

But why? How did we come by it? What have we done with it? What basic CAUSES threaten to bring us low now?

There was an unrealized, underlying reason for America's rise to unprecedented wealth and affluence. But let me now mention a specific subsidiary cause.

On Jan. 6, 1914, I was sent as an editorial representative of a national magazine to Detroit to interview Henry Ford about his sensational \$5-a-day wage scale announced the day before. I saw Mr. Ford at the then Highland Avenue plant. But for details I also saw John R. Lee, head of the Sociological Department. It had been Mr. Lee's branch and he administered it.

"I understand," I began, "you are now paying the highest wage scale in the automobile industry."

"On the contrary," came the surprising reply, "we are paying the lowest."

Astonished, I asked, "Are you not now paying \$5 per day for an eight-hour day, while the union scale at other plants is \$3.75 for a nine-hour day?"

"Correct," Mr. Lee replied, "but we don't evaluate what we pay in terms of dollars per man-hour, but what we get for what we pay."

Then he explained that Ford alone had production large enough to shift to the assembly-line system. This enabled the company to set the pace of worker production.

Mr. Lee continued: "We now get more



HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

than twice the production per eight-hour day than others per nine-hour day. We pay \$5 labor cost for the same production others receive for \$7 labor cost—and our employees make \$1.25 more per day for one hour less work."

The Ford company was then non-union, but later became unionized. It was not many years until others in the motorcar industry were able to go on the assembly-line system. Soon it became the system in most U.S. industry—all lines.

This nation provided a mass market for mass machine production not then possible in Europe and Japan.

This mass machine production soared industrial profits. But labor leaders were not going to allow capital and management to reap all the luscious benefits. Labor wars ensued. No longer was a single industry a united team of employer and employee. Of course capital and management was out to "get" all it could by expanded profits from mass machine production. But labor, too, was out to "get" all it could.

The "get" incentive led to competition—too often to strife and violence—between the two divisions of the same company or industry.

It is enormously significant that in those years American mass production enjoyed lower actual production costs because of mass machine production. Other nations could not compete. With labor getting its full share of the enlarged prosperity pie, THE AMERICAN STANDARD OF LIVING SOARED TO A HIGH NEVER ATTAINED BY ANY PEOPLE IN WORLD HISTORY! A huge middle and upper-middle class emerged in the United States.

But Europeans, in due time, provided for themselves a mass market by the European Economic Community, the "Common Mar-

ket." Soon Europe was competing in mass production by the assembly-line system—but with low-cost labor. Postwar Japan followed suit. America now faced a new international competition—European and Japanese assembly-line mass machine production with low-cost labor, against U.S. production with high-cost labor.

When I opened a new liberal arts college in England in 1960, the average American wage was still three times that of Britain and Europe and four times that of Japan. Two decades have considerably upped wage scales in those countries. The Japanese today are the luxury buyers of the world—the leaders in world travel—and, wonder of wonders, Japanese automobile production has overtaken that of the United States!

Living standards in other industrial nations have been rising. Ours is on the way down!

It is a competitive world. The way of "get" is the impelling motive! And "get" is the overall cause of all world troubles and evils!

Abraham Lincoln knew, and said, we Americans did not come to our unprecedented prosperity and affluence of our own efforts. The Great God bestowed it on us—and is holding us ACCOUNTABLE! We have not used this unearned material birthright according to God's basic spiritual LAW OF LOVE ("GIVE"). IT IS NOW BEING TAKEN FROM US!

It's time we WAKE UP—and THINK! This is no impractical or superstitious maudlin religious statement. It is the hard cold facts that stare us in the face!

We are going to be made to pay for our transgressions of the basic spiritual Law of life set in just as relentless motion as the power of gravity!

Then, not because we deserve it, that super strong "Unseen Hand from Someplace" is going to intervene, and save this beloved country—and the world—from ourselves! It will not be done by us, but to us—ushering in the utopian world TOMORROW—world peace, happiness, universal well-being, eternal salvation for all who will!

The time has come! A voice cries out! You have been told! Your acceptance or rejection will not alter what is about to happen!

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
Pastor General
Worldwide Church of God

I would like to offer you a subscription to *The Plain Truth*, a magazine of understanding. Utterly unique—no advertising—no subscription price. The magazine that gives you the meaning behind world news with a forecast of the future. Address Herbert W. Armstrong, Pasadena, Calif. 91123, or call toll free, (800) 423-4444. In California call collect (214) 577-5225.

Despite his other activities like meetings with President and Mrs. Marcos and speaking before students, civic and government leaders, Mr. Armstrong took the opportunity to visit the church office in Makati, Metro Manila. He also delighted the entire Philippine ministry and their wives by speaking for almost two hours January 27, during a five-day ministerial conference which Mr. Ames convened that week. This was the first time all the ministers and their wives were able to attend a nationwide ministerial conference, and the first time for Mr. Armstrong to personally address the entire Philippine ministry.

Mr. Armstrong encouraged the ministers to carry on with their job of helping the Church to grow to become God's holy temple. He also reemphasized how Jesus Christ, and not another human being, taught him through the Bible what we now believe as the truth of God.

The ministerial conference culminated with a "barrio fiesta" February 1 in honor of the Ames family and the entire Philippine ministry at the Philippine Navy Officers Clubhouse. Nearly 500 brethren from the Metro Manila and outlying churches came to share games, food and entertainment. Mr. Ames announced that this could be the first of an annual Church Barrio Fiesta.

Mail Trends: The advertisement "Does God Exist?" placed last August, 1980 in Panorama magazine, is still pulling in some responses, for an all-time record of 4,410 as of this month. A good number of queries about the Church and how one could meet with one of God's ministers are being received.

German Office News As of the beginning of March, five full-time ministers of the Work, including Regional Director, Mr. Frank Schnee, have completed the Ministerial Refreshing Program at Pasadena. Enthusiasm for the "refreshment" received in Pasadena is very high. Two more full-time ministers plan to attend in March and May.

New visit requests seem on the rise. One minister reported seven new contacts in his area in January and February, compared to his total of eleven during all of 1980. Another also reported, "Those who have attended services for a long time without being baptized are asking for counseling."

Enthusiasm and active interest for the Work and Mr. Armstrong's activities continue to run high in all the churches here.

In the month of February our total incoming mail showed a gain of 50% in comparison to February 1980. Some 65% more booklets, books and articles were sent out this month compared to February 1980's total.

In February the month-to-date mail income increased 30.1% over February 1980. Our year-to-date mail income is now +15%.

News From New Zealand Mail coming into the office this month was dominated by responses to Mr. Armstrong's latest semi-annual letter offering THE MISSING DIMENSION IN SEX. Over 6200 requests have so far come in for this book--a 23% response already. A large number of responses from the Pacific Islands haven't yet reached us, so this looks like it's shaping up to be one of the most successful letters on record. Responses to Mr.

Armstrong's previous letter, offering the new UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY book are now trailing off, with over 6600 (18.5%) having been received.

Mail income for February was 14.9% higher than for the same month last year, bringing our year-to-date income increase to 22.4%. This is our lowest percentage increase for the past two years, but we're now beginning to receive responses to Mr. Armstrong's latest co-worker letter, and we trust that these will provide the increase we need to continue pushing ahead through the powerful media doors God is now opening to His Work.

Appreciation for Ministerial Refreshing Program

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

A heartfelt thanks to you for making it possible for my wife and me to attend the Ministerial Refreshing Program in Pasadena. We both feel that it was the most profitable three weeks in our lives.

We were inspired by all of the men who taught the classes. Their sincerity and dedication certainly set a high standard for us to live up to.

The event that topped off the whole three weeks was your unexpected visit to the campus and being able to hear you speak in person with power and clarity and purpose.

My wife and I came back to the church area physically tired but spiritually refreshed. We feel that we can tackle the job again with renewed purpose and vitality.

Leonard Schreiber

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

No words can adequately express what the Ministerial Refreshing Program has meant to my wife and me. It truly was a dream come true. We thank you and your wonderfully warm and stimulating staff for the infusion of knowledge and wisdom.

The fellowship and new friendships made will always be a high point in our lives. Our prayer life has changed as we now pray more specifically for the brethren around the world.

Margaret and Wayne Hageman

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Just a brief note to thank you for the fine Ministerial Refreshing Program which we have just completed. It was, indeed, well named and valuable. Especially with this particular session since you were in Pasadena. It was good to see you again. Keep up the good work; you are doing a fine job. Again, many thanks for the fine program.

John and Nancy Bald

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Thank you for giving us the Ministerial Refreshing Program. As you have expressed there has been an abundance of good fruit of late to prove God is pleased with the direction you have been taking His Church. The Ministerial Refreshing Program is further proof.

Your team of assistants gave us valuable information that you have given them. This information provides us the tools (the understanding of the truths God revealed to you) to help prepare the brethren for the coming marriage to Christ. God's Church will now be better prepared to assist you in getting the Work done.

Nancy and I appreciated the blessing of being in the environment of God's college for three weeks. The campus is an inspiring example of what God's vision, determination to accomplish a goal, and resourcefulness all placed in a human being can produce. We enjoyed the tour of the House for God and appreciate that its quality reflects the mind of God.

Thank you and all those that work with you for giving to us. Now we have the opportunity to apply what we have been taught and hopefully give back faithful service to you and God's people.

Ken and Nancy Williams

Dear Messrs. Tkach, Blackwell, Neff, Hoeh, Salyer, and others:

Even though a month has elapsed since Carolyn and I attended the seventh Ministerial Refreshing Program session, we are still digesting the material, and will for some time to come. It has already helped us in many ways to do our job better.

We wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your instruction, as well as your personal individual examples of character, loyalty, and dedicated service. We know you have a big job to do and we are very thankful to benefit from your guidance and pass it on to those we are serving.

How wonderful it is to know the Truth of God and be unified in all our efforts! It is obvious that Jesus Christ and God The Father are no longer cut off from the Church, and Christ is seeing to it that we aren't misusing and wasting our efforts anymore. It's apparent that the Head of this Church is making up for lost time, and so is His Apostle, and so are you, and so shall we.

Stan and Carolyn McNeil

Dear Mr. Tkach:

We send you and all the Ministerial Services staff very warm greetings. Once again thank you and Mr. Armstrong for the wonderful opportunity we had in attending the seventh Ministerial Refreshing Program. It certainly was very uplifting and most inspiring.

Pablo Dimakis Santin, Guadalajara, Mexico

Mr. Joe Tkach:

Please accept our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to yourself and the whole refresher team who helped make the program such a landmark experience for both of us.

Of course, the mountain of instruction we received cannot be overlooked. But the program was far more than this--not only a respite from the daily pressures of a local pastorate, but also the opportunity to fellowship--to renew old friendships and establish new ones, to share experiences and trials, hopes and aspirations, with ministers of like mind.

We are returning home to Queensland with a renewed and more certain sense of direction, a sure foundation, and a confidence in the administration of God's worldwide Work that can only be forged with first-hand experience. Once again our sincere thanks to all.

Terry & Beverley Villiers

P.S. Please give a special bouquet to Rod Matthews and Glen Nice for their service above the call of duty in smoothing out the physical part of the arrivals and departures--particularly for those of us internationals who are still somewhat "at sea" on arriving in the U.S.

Dear Mr. Tkach:

Nancy and I thank you, the rest of the Ministerial Services staff, and the other instructors for the Ministerial Refreshing Program. It was refreshing to be taught the plain truths that God has revealed to His apostle, Mr. Armstrong. Several times in past conferences, during the '70s, I had the feeling that problems in the Church were well expounded but few, if any, solutions were given (an exception to that was the conference Mr. Armstrong directed in 1979). The sessions of the Refreshing Program provided solutions. This was refreshing!

The delicious food Mr. Green and his staff provided, the beauty of the campus, and the fellowship of the international ministers and wives made the program an extra enjoyable experience. The unity and peace God has put in Pasadena seems to have spread around the world. We are pleased to be serving with these ministers and wives we met who are serving in Canada, the U.S., South America, Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific, South Africa and Germany.

Thank you again. Now I intend, with God's help, to teach as I have been taught.

Ken and Nancy Williams

Special Letters of Appreciation

To All Who Pay Third Tithe:

Dear Brethren all over the world:

I am a 70-year-old widow who is being greatly benefited by your sacrifice in paying third tithe. To some it is a sacrifice.

I wish to thank you very much for the help I have received. I thank God after the receipt of each check and thank him for Mr. H. W. Armstrong. I even thank those at Headquarters.

How I want to thank you for your obedience in these times!

When I paid third tithe I did it because I was commanded to do so by God. I also worried about how I was going to make it on what was left. I believed God but the windows didn't seem to open too wide. Through obedience I learned to trust God. Then the blessings began to flow.

Forget how you are going to get by on what's left. Think of the widows and orphans you are helping. Above all, trust God to do what He says.

I know God is blessing you. Today my blessings are overflowing.

Again I say thank you, thank you, thank you. Trust and obey.

A member of God's Church

(The above note from Mrs. Lula Pearl McCurtis of the Tulsa Church was given to her pastor, Mr. Don Mason, who in turn forwarded it to Ministerial Services.)

The Fruits of Mr. Armstrong's Labor

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

It was with great pleasure that our family attended the "STARS OF CHINA" performance last evening in the Ambassador Auditorium. And it was even more exciting afterwards to have the opportunity to attend a reception held in their honor.

Our son Rod who is 19, and who has been accepted to attend Ambassador College this fall, met one of the young dancers from China who is about his own age. The dancer had taken two years of English, and he thoroughly enjoyed practicing his newly acquired skill on an American who knew no Chinese. He also taught my son some Chinese words.

These two young men became very good friends and the dancer gave Rod a beautiful emblem to wear on his lapel which represented the dance competition which he had won in China. These two young men were laughing and enjoying each other's company--even though they were worlds apart in culture and language!

Now in Satan's world, these two young men might possibly have met at some other time with hate, instead of love and good will. They could have met looking down the barrels of each other's guns!!!--like so many other young men have met for the first time. But they didn't because God's Apostle had brought to China the message of "give" instead of "get," which is the only way to WORLD PEACE and happiness. Consequently, these two young men met in peace and happiness which they shared together.

Thank you, Mr. Armstrong, for enduring all the trials, troubles and traumas which you have faced since God called you to prepare the way before the second coming of Jesus Christ. Thank you for remaining faithful! I look forward to the time when ALL YOUNG MEN--around the world--will meet in peace, happiness and friendliness, just as our son and the Chinese dancer did. These are, and will be, the fruits of your labor in Christ.

Mrs. Richard H. (Elva) Sedliacik

Comments From Monthly Church Reports

CHARLOTTE, NC--GEORGE PINCKNEY: I finished the series of sermons I had been giving on our preparation for our wedding to Christ. I feel that as a result of the Refreshing Program I've been able to lay the ground work for the work that we individually and as a congregation need to accomplish this year. Spirits are good despite the bad weather and the sickness going around. The brethren appreciate Mr. Armstrong's tapes and learn a great deal from them. There is nothing like the personal contact that we had at college and that the brethren are getting now.

LONDON, KY--MELVIN J. DAHLGREN: PM's are picking up. Old ones are showing renewed interest. Mr. Armstrong's tapes are very stimulating and deep spiritually, creating more discussion and opportunity for explanation.

SOMERSET, KY--MEL DAHLGREN: One excellent new PM. The reenacting of the old policy of not inviting until a foundation is built is going to give the needed guidance factor back to the local pastor. Financial needs are becoming more acute, but brethren are being blessed in other ways. YOUTH 81 is super. GN articles have been on target regarding the needs of the brethren.

KENOSHA, WI--MICHAEL HANISKO: YOUTH 81 looks like an outstanding magazine. Everyone that I have shown my copy to has been very impressed with the quality of the layout and articles, especially Mr. Armstrong's article.

BOISE, ID--JEFF MCGOWAN: In general, people's attitudes about the Work are good. The intensity of people's personal problems seems to be increasing however. There are a few problems that some people just are unwilling to deal with.

SPRINGFIELD, MO--GEORGE A. MEEKER: Members appeared rather excited about the sermon/report 1/31/81 on the Ministerial Refreshing Program we attended.

PRESCOTT-FLAGSTAFF, AZ--JOHN R. AMOS: The new YOUTH 81 magazine is outstanding and very well received among the Y.O.U. Anything we can do to present a correct alternative to the young people from the world's way of doing anything has my total support. High Schools, especially, are getting worse in gang fights, smoking dope, and fornication. It's so commonplace. As a father with children in their twenties, teens and pre-teens I can personally chronicle the garbage that comes to kids even in sleepy little Prescott and Flagstaff Arizona.

GRAND ISLAND, NE--DON HOOSER: Many members are wondering what will be the next big trial for the Church that Mr. Armstrong said he "couldn't reveal" in his last co-worker letter.

MISSOULA, MT--BILL QUILLEN: Everyone continues to support the Work and always interested in the activities of Mr. Armstrong.

SAN ANTONIO, TX--GREGORY L. SARGENT: Church attendance and overall spirits and attitudes are continuing to remain high. All are still very excited about Mr. Armstrong's growing zeal and improved radio broadcasts--he seems to be getting younger every broadcast.

EUGENE, OR--LARRY J. WALKER: Attendance is up consistently. Church is very warm and supportive. Have had two people return from Raymond Cole's group. Karen and I are very excited about the upcoming Refreshing Program. Everyone we have talked to that has attended has glowing reports.

SIOUX FALLS, SD--GEORGE AFFELDT: Very happy to see the "World Tomorrow" here on a local station (WNAX, Yankton). All the people here are very excited about it and looking to growth in the area that hasn't been doing too well since we went off about six years ago.

ST. PAUL, MN--BILL JAHNS: We have some good PM's in the St. Paul area. The baptism tank is starting to be used more often. Overall, attitudes are fine. The Church is stable and loyal.

SCOTTSBLUFF, NE; FT. COLLINS, CO--CHUCK ZIMMERMAN: Thanks for the media coverage on KYCU-TV CHANNEL 5 in Cheyenne, Wyo.!! It's a real shot in the arm! Spokesman Club enthusiasm in Ft. Collins is running high with developing the man an important topic.

FT. LAUDERDALE, FL--RANDALL KOBERNAT: Many positive comments on my corrective sermons to help remove spots and blemishes from our local church. Hit on some specific area problems--like being judgmental of God's government and need to develop spirit of oneness.

HARRISBURG, PA--JIM ROSENTHAL: Quite a bit of sickness kept attendance low the first three weeks of the month of January. The brethren overall are very faithful in attendance and very supportive of Mr. Armstrong. His last letter generated a lot of curiosity!

MONTGOMERY, AL--PAUL KURTS: Thanks to whomever was responsible for the radio program being placed on the air here. Hope we see some fruit soon!!

BANGOR, MA--LEONARD HOLLADAY: Dan Rogers mentioned that a guest speaker was coming from Pasadena for the last Day of Unleavened Bread. Our two churches will be there and the people here and in Portland are very excited about being there. Thank you for making someone available to speak to the Northeast. We need the contact with Pasadena.

TERRE HAUTE, IN--STEVE NUTZMAN: PM growth continues to be very, very low. On the brighter side, the waiting room program for the

Wall Street Journal Ads Attract Public Attention

For months I have been intrigued and mildly astonished by your ads appearing in The Wall Street Journal. It seems inconceivable to me that someone would spend the kind of money full-page Journal advertising costs to spread a message of apocalyptic hope.

I share the sentiments expressed in your messages and would like very much to receive the literature you indicate is available. Should you have any programs extant for active participation in spreading your messages, I would be most interested in hearing about them as well.

Let me thank you personally for keeping the Word of God alive in the halls of mammon. I will look forward to hearing from you.

Attorney at Law (Stockton, NJ)

Those interesting articles appearing in The Wall Street Journal are very, very good; I read them all.

The most recent one was especially interesting. President Anwar el-Sadat's proposal to build a \$70,000,000 peace center at the base of Mt. Sinai is a very wonderful endeavor. With a religious base of Jews, Christians, Moslems and others, I am sure much can be accomplished. To me, Anwar el-Sadat is the greatest and most sincere political person in today's world.

A.T. (Valley Stream, NY)

As offered in your advertisement entitled "Daily TV Reminder of the Hostage Crisis" in The Wall Street Journal, please send me, gratis, the book, THE WONDERFUL WORLD TOMORROW--WHAT IT WILL BE LIKE. I look forward with great interest to reading and digesting the 96-page exposition of the ideas set forth in your statements.

Considering what historical evidence we have of mankind's curious will to self-destruct, I share former President Carter's deep concern which he expressed in his farewell to the nation: the danger of nuclear annihilation is growing.

R.S. (Worchester, NY)

Today I was very impressed with the article in The Wall Street Journal written by Herbert W. Armstrong. I would appreciate receiving the free booklet entitled, THE SEVEN LAWS OF SUCCESS as well as the magazine, The PLAIN TRUTH. I am very concerned with the state in which our country is and in which we find ourselves. Thank you very much.

S.W. (Orange, CA)

Your full-page advertisements in The Wall Street Journal, pointing out the way of the Lord for all who will hear, are tremendous. I may have missed it, but have you had one concerning the weather patterns affecting all parts of the world, and the Biblical references related thereto? Mr. Donald Schroeder had a wonderful article on the weather problems throughout the world in The PLAIN TRUTH in 1980. Some reference to weather in The Wall Street Journal would reach the materialistic people.

P.T. has netted 200 subscriptions so far. In 2 1/2 years of the P.T. newsstand program in this area, over 20,000 P.T.'s have been distributed. Brethren are excited about these projects.

TAMPA, FL--RONALD A. LOHR: The brethren are loyal and behind Mr. Armstrong. The tapes from him are great! We are elated that we will now have two broadcasts in the area--WINQ and WPLP--whereas we have had none in the last two years. The more uniform policy on who attends our services (closed, but not secret, door) is bearing good fruit and I feel I have more control. Some PM's who had been attending for some time but not progressing and acting on what they know, I tactfully asked that they not attend for now but that I would work with them on visits in their homes. This is much better and no one has been offended.

BETHLEHEM PA--ROBERT BRAGG: PM attendance is up. I Corinthians 15 tape very timely--had a sudden death of one of our fine members.

PITTSBURGH (EAST), PA--DON J. LAWSON: Many members have mentioned the outstanding articles in The PLAIN TRUTH and The GOOD NEWS. We also appreciate good "meaty" articles. It certainly helps in the spiritual condition of the entire Church.

NASHVILLE, TN--JAMES F. FRIDDLE: Many favorable comments about the family relations series of sermons. Because of cold weather and influenza the attendance has been lower than usual. Everyone who has received YOUTH 81 really likes it.

TRENTON, NJ--VINCE PANELLA: Have received approval to attend ninth session of Refreshing Program. Anne and I are very eager and excited. Can't wait!

ROME-ATLANTA, GA--HAROLD LESTER: Areas stable and solidly behind Mr. Armstrong and God's Church. Church encouraged by Mr. Armstrong's activity and growth of preaching Gospel to the world.

MACON, GA--OTTO LOCHNER: People are behind the forward motion of Mr. Armstrong--very happy about the YOUTH 81 magazine--appreciate ministry getting back to the "things once delivered."

NEW ORLEANS, LA--JAMES SERVIDIO: Church steadily shaping up. New people coming in and those not totally committed are dropping out. Attendance down due to sickness.

Weekly Letter Comments

People from all walks of life find Mr. Armstrong's ads in The Wall Street Journal interest catching. Our first group of letter comments shows that many want to learn more and are therefore requesting the advertised literature. The next group of comments finds brethren expressing their appreciation for Mr. Armstrong's radio and T.V. programs, being especially excited about his new series. Our comments section concludes with comments from members who enthusiastically describe the abundant blessings God has showered on them in their third tithe year.

One final thought. I would like to see all The Wall Street Journal messages put into a book. They are wonderful, and I pray repeatedly that God will get these messages into the innermost beings of all people.

C.R. (Temple Terrace, FL)

Radio and TV Programs Appreciated

This is just a note to say "hello" and also tell you that I am now watching you each Sunday morning on your new television program. You look great in color T.V. and sound good too.

I'm so glad we have a newscaster like you to keep us inspired in God's way of life. Your voice is one in a million and is recognized immediately--so feel sure that the wise sheep will not have any trouble following the voice of the good shepherd.

Mrs. Mary F. Ollis (Spring Lake, NC)

Mr. Armstrong, I must tell you how much I enjoy your current broadcasts dealing with the United States and Russia in prophecy. They are so interesting and dynamic. I wish you could speak for at least an hour each time. I pray that the revelation of these events to occur shortly on the world scene will prompt people to write for the booklets, as well as The PLAIN TRUTH.

Mrs. Calvin Cloud (Martinsburg, WV)

My wife and I listen to the World Tomorrow broadcast each weekday morning at 7:30 a.m. over WCLS radio, Columbus, Georgia. The program began a week ago this past Monday. Thank you for letting us, the people in Columbus, enjoy the broadcast. I just wish the station had more power.

J.M. & Janelle Sprinkel (Columbus, GA)

I'm writing to encourage you to produce new World Tomorrow programs. We really enjoy seeing and hearing you on television. I look forward every Sabbath to the telecast. It is always uplifting. It makes the day extra special. We also wish to let you know we are totally behind you in all of your endeavors for the Work.

Ray & Bev Ferranti (Pacific Grove, CA)

I just wanted to write and congratulate you on the new television programs that began airing here locally last week! This new format is so timely during the present state of world affairs. Your meetings with heads of state--spanning a period of 12 years--can only allow you to speak with more authority as you explain the prophetic events about to transform our nation and the world.

Our prayer is that God will continue to help you bear up under the pressure of these great responsibilities, and that Satan will be restrained from harming you or the Work. We look forward to supporting you in any way we can as God's Work enters the climactic decade of the 80's!

Bob & Ruth Miller (Pasadena, CA)

Abundant Third Tithe Blessings!

I want to share with you a very exciting incident that took place recently, while in my third tithe year. I had begun to grow anxious about my financial condition and was on the verge of going back to my physical parents for aid. Suddenly I realized that I was not exercising any faith. I prayed immediately to God to forgive me for doubting and asked Him to help me have more confidence in Him to fulfill all His promises.

The very next day I found two checks in the mailbox, totalling more than \$500.00 for architectural work I had done 11 months ago but had given up hope of being paid for!

But not only that, even more recently God has delivered on His promise to provide for our needs again! I have become engaged to be married and also got a pay raise!

James Yowell (Shenandoah, VA)

It pleases us so much that God has kept my husband working this winter, when so often he is unemployed during much of this time of the year because he is in construction. This indeed is unusual. However, it is our third tithe year and we can really see God's hand in blessing and providing for us (and for His Work and the widows and fatherless) every step of the way. God truly keeps His word!

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry N. Oliver (Nine Mile Falls, WA)

I just wanted to write and relate a few of the many blessings I've received in my third tithe year. I got a good job and before it ran out, I was able to get another one. I only have to pay \$22.00 a month rent. I was able to get a fur coat for half the price on the ticket, and dinner invitations too numerous to mention.

This is only a partial list of the blessings God has given me. I cannot express my gratitude to Him for everything except to say "Thank you, God for loving me and calling me into your Church."

Janet Flythe (Hampton, FL)

Enclosed is a check to help you in the "gun lap" of God's end-time Work. I've been exceptionally blessed in this third tithe year and am able to help more than in previous non-third tithe years!

Franklin F. Jarvis (Danville, KY)

It has proved true once again that we just can't outgive God! Before this third tithe year began, it seemed we could barely make ends meet. Now however, there seems to be plenty of extra money in addition to the third tithe. Thank you for teaching us God's way of "give."

Mr. & Mrs. Andy Alexander (Uvalde, TX)

Since 1980 was a third tithe year for our family, perhaps we could share with you (Mr. Armstrong) some of the interesting material and non-material blessings we received while adhering to God's tithing

law: (1) a new, healthy, firstborn baby boy--just in time for the Feast; (2) we moved into our own house; (3) received an unexpected gift of cash which amounted to over what we paid in third tithe; and (4) was assigned new job responsibilities, with an accompanying 10% (approx.) raise in salary.

The above outlines a few of the physical blessings we have been privileged to receive. On the spiritual side of the ledger, God's Church has made a turnaround and is now back on the track!

David & Nancy Martin (Sault Ste. Marie, MI)

--JOE TKACH, MINISTERIAL SERVICES

INSPIRING LETTER QUOTATIONS

In addition to letter comments we send to Ministerial Services to be included in that section of the Pastor General's Report, we would like to include in this update a few of the most inspiring short quotes about the Work that people send in. Here now is a selection of some of the best received:

God's Work and Church

I have the feeling our train is not only back on the tracks but is picking up speed and momentum. Through your guidance and direction you are helping us to get firmly seated in the train, rather than hanging on to the caboose where a sudden jolt could send us hurling off.

I have just this last year (1980) joined with God's Church. I feel like I have come home. Every sermon is like a peaceful river that flows through my mind teaching me and reminding me of God's ways.

The Plain Truth

I'm very glad I met up with your publication by accident. Of course you know coincidences are where God chooses to remain anonymous.

Reading The PLAIN TRUTH is like going to school. I'm old, and have read the Bible all my life. But I've learned more about truth and life than ever before. Herbert W. Armstrong is one of the greatest Bible teachers I've ever known.

End Time

What momentous days we are living in. The fuse is burned down pretty close to the powder keg and it'll blow pretty soon now.

In the midst of this increasingly sickening world, with compounding forces attempting to wipe out the very light that keeps it in existence, it is so extremely important for us as members of Christ's body to be fervent in prayer for the strengthening and guidance of the Church. Never before, Mr. Armstrong, have you needed our prayerful support in order to keep the blessed momentum of divine growth flourishing beyond the limits of our own human hopes.

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center