

The Bulletin



of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 5

PAGES 125-152

MAY 18, 1977

Personal from Herbert W. Armstrong

Editor's Note: The following Personal and article by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong should be read by all recipients of the Bulletin. Although essentially the same material appeared first in the Worldwide News, both contain ADDITIONS made by Mr. Armstrong after their inclusion in the WN. The latter part of the Personal also contains IMPORTANT INFORMATION which had not been written prior to the WN's publication. So please do read both the Personal and the article once again.

Tucson, Ariz., Sunday, May 8

Dear fellow ministers and brethren of God's Church. I will have this published in both the ministerial *Bulletin* and in *The Worldwide News* so as to reach virtually all members and ministers in the Worldwide Church of God.

Brethren, my heart is filled to overflowing with gratitude and love to you for the overwhelming response in congratulations for my marriage of three weeks ago today here in our new "away-from-home" home in Tucson, Arizona.

The cards and letters are not only of congratulations, but show rejoicing in your own hearts and your deep love for me, and now expressing that same respect and love for my lovely new bride, Ramona. I spent one whole day until I was

tired mentally and physically and "eye tired" wading through whole large boxes of hundreds upon hundreds of congratulatory cards and letters. It was one of the greatest demonstrations of your love, concern, loyalty and affection for your Pastor General and God's Apostle I have ever experienced.

And I shall never be able to thank God enough for selecting her and sending her to me, and causing the very real and deep LOVE that has grown in each of us for the other. God knew the help I needed to have by my side to accomplish His Work for the remainder of my life and both of our lives—and He certainly has sent to me the loveliest and most lovely of the lovely.

In a sense this has been our honeymoon in our own new home together—yet it has been one of the BUSIEST and HARDEST-WORKING three weeks in my life. The one room that is already completely furnished in the new home is my study, or my office. I have been hard at work on the typewriter and on the telephone with many of our top people at the office in Pasadena and in even other telephone conversations from other parts of the world. By no means have I been out of contact with the Work. I have even had hearty congratulations from mayor Teddy Kollek, and all of our friends in Jerusalem.

A few days after the wedding I had a telephone call from my son Garner Ted. "We're at the Tucson airport," he said. "May Shirl and I have lunch with you and Ramona at the Smuggler's Inn?" Ted was here for an important conference Friday afternoon on his way to the special district meeting at the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri and stopped off here, so we may be together again this afternoon on his return to Pasadena.

My plane has been "down" for almost three weeks for its annual inspection and should be in perfect shape for another year's grind early this week—probably tomorrow.

Oh, yes, I almost forgot. Garner Ted and his wife, Shirl, presented Ramona and me with a beautiful, large, leather-covered album of pictures in full color taken at the wedding. I am now having costs checked to see if I can afford to have copies of the one they placed first, showing both Ramona and me cutting the cake after the wedding. I thought many of you would like a picture of us both together, and if I can afford it I will insert one in the next *Bulletin* suitable for framing—in full color—if you wish.

Our next trip will probably be into Eastern Europe—communist countries behind the iron curtain. I have invitations to meet heads of governments there, and I think this extremely important.

Garner Ted called me on the telephone yesterday just before he was to go to the platform to speak to some 4,000 members. He asked what I thought about making what we both feel is a very important announcement. It is this:

Mr. Albert Portune is coming back with us. I insisted it was necessary that he talk with me at some length first, though Garner Ted, Mr. Rader and one or two others had been discussing the matter with him for some time. There were some points of important doctrine in regard to the Great Commission that we believed he was not in harmony with, beside some personal matters that we needed to get straightened out and in full harmony. We had three meetings here in my new Tucson home last weekend.

Friday night, in my office here in privacy, Mr. Portune bared his heart to me, explaining what his feelings and emotions had been prior to and leading up to the time of his resignation. He sees things quite differently now. On these, he completely satisfied me that he is now ready to be received back. The next day, Sabbath, we had a morning Bible study and in the afternoon a Bible study about two hours each on points that I felt necessary that we be in complete harmony on. These Bible studies were attended also by Mrs. Portune, Mrs. Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. Rader, and I believe Dr. and Mrs. Lochner.

As you know, Mr. Portune is one of our most effective and powerful speakers.

Later I think he will be an effective man—perhaps teamed with another in FOLLOWING UP the

The Bulletin



of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College

EDITOR IN CHIEF

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

EDITOR

GARNER TED ARMSTRONG

DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

RONALD L. DART

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

ROBERT L. KUHN

MANAGING EDITOR

RICHARD H. SEDLIACIK

SENIOR EDITORS

C. WAYNE COLE, CHARLES V. DOROTHY,
HERMAN L. HOEH, BRIAN KNOWLES

© 1977 by Worldwide Church of God. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the copyright proprietor.

work I am doing with Stanley Rader's able assistance in world capitals all over the world. My work now is primarily OPENING THE DOORS where they have been closed to this message, so that other powerful speakers may follow us and go into the message, reaching a larger number of people in these nations. Once we have COMPLETED that NEW PHASE of the Work, as well as in the United States, Canada, Britain, Western Europe, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, we shall have FINISHED the GREAT COMMISSION that God has laid on my shoulders.

We simply have not much time, although we do not know how much time we have. But God is ON HIS THRONE, and will see that it GETS DONE in time—whether that means one more year or many more years. I feel sure He will give us the vitality, the energy and the drive and power to FINISH THE WORK, as well as Garner Ted, who is almost 40 years younger in calendar age, and there should be no question about his having enough good, active, dynamic years left to finish his part. Stanley Rader is also close to the same age as Ted, as are many of our top men who are developing all the time in experience, ability and as powerful speakers and writers.

Just HOW MUCH TIME DO WE HAVE—and WHAT

IS THE STATE OF THIS WORK AT THIS MOMENT? I will try to cover that in another article in this same issue.

I want especially to express my heartfelt GRATITUDE to all you ministers in your important part in the special Sabbath offering requested by Mr. GTA. It was an overwhelming success. Ted stopped off here yesterday (Sunday afternoon, enroute back to Pasadena—I am now finishing this personal on Monday morning). He felt the special offerings may top a million dollars. He is much encouraged. He announced Al Portune's coming back yesterday at the Lake of the Ozarks meeting, after calling me and asking my advice about doing it, with nearly 4,000 there. Great applause, and mostly wet eyes was the response—it was an emotional impact and a great encouragement to the brethren. It shows how well loved Mr. Portune has been in the church.

Mr. GTA is solid with me on the decision to consolidate Big Sandy with Pasadena—if that should finally become necessary.

If we are finally forced to cease the operation of our branch in Big Sandy, which we both hope will not be, we do feel, however, that the consolidation will strengthen Pasadena and enable us to become one of the finest educational institutions in the history of higher education in the world, pioneering for the WORLD TOMORROW.

I fasted five days week before last. I will do it again starting this week, setting the example. Al Portune just called on the telephone and

said that he has spent a week in fasting and prayer preparatory to his coming back into the Work.

Fellows and wives, we have been letting down, at least to some extent—and any extent is too much. We are called into the WORK OF THE LIVING GOD! We are now right at the very threshold of the change-over from the DAY OF MAN into the DAY OF THE LORD. That means the END of Satan so far as deceiving this world and swaying it his way is concerned. *HE KNOWS IT BETTER THAN WE!*

I call on everyone of you to spend not less than three days in fasting and praying, confessing our sins and lassitudes, that of the church as a whole also, and asking for a REAL SPIRITUAL REVIVAL, getting us all closer to the LIVING HEAD OF THE CHURCH and to GOD THE FATHER. We must become a PRAYING CHURCH! We are not of this world, of its ways, interests, pleasures. We need to rededicate our lives to God and to HIS WORK!

Thanks for everything, fellows! Thank God we are TOGETHER—in HIM!

Love to all,



WHY THE WORK WILL SKYROCKET

by Herbert W. Armstrong

JUST WHERE ARE WE in fulfilling prophecy right now?

WHY is this great Work of God going to simply skyrocket in power from now?

Let me give you a brief, quick, condensed summary of prophesied events, showing where we are right now and what is immediately ahead.

As you know, the book of prophecy that ties all the prophecies together in point-of-time sequence is the book of Revelation.

Revelation means REVEALING—not concealing. Yet the Book is primarily in symbols. But it is NOT

the revelation of "St. John the Divine," as many Bibles print over the beginning of the book—but the revelation of JESUS CHRIST. Christ is the One who REVEALS—opens its meaning. And He does most of that in Matthew 24 (also Mark 13 and Luke 21). The main theme of the book is the "DAY OF THE LORD," or, as translated in the King James Version in Revelation 1:10, "the Lord's day," which does NOT mean Sunday but the time prophesied in some 30 prophecies as the "Day of the Lord."

Get this most brief background. Angels occupied this earth prior to man. Ruling on a throne, administering the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, was the

superarchangel LUCIFER, but he and his angels SINNED (II Pet. 2:4, Isa. 14 and Ezek. 28), rejected the GOVERNMENT OF GOD. God's government was based on His law of LOVE—kindness, concern, outgoing concern for the welfare of others—giving, helping, serving, sharing. Lucifer turned to THE WAY OF "GET"—vanity, lust and greed, envy and jealousy and hate, competition, strife, violence, rebellion against authority, resentment over real or fancied offenses against the SELF. This brought darkness, physical chaos, waste and decay to the earth (Gen. 1:2). God sent forth His Spirit and RENEWED THE FACE OF THE EARTH (Ps. 104:30) for the habitation of man (Gen. 1:26).

Without experiencing either WAY—that is, God's way of LOVE or Lucifer's (now SATAN'S) way of "GET"—the first man, Adam, listened first to God who explained the GOVERNMENT OF GOD (God's way), and then to Satan's arguments for rebellion and the SELF-centered way.

Adam rejected the KINGDOM OF GOD and God's GOVERNMENT over him, took to himself (with Eve) the knowledge of (deciding of the way of) GOOD and EVIL. Adam cut himself and the entire human family, which was to spring from him, off from God (I Cor. 15:22) and all contact with God.

God mapped out His master plan—6,000 years as the DAY OF MAN—man deciding for himself what is right and what is wrong—devising, setting up and operating man's OWN GOVERNMENTS, RELIGIONS, EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS, HIS ENTIRE SOCIETY—but always SATAN was still on his throne as the "god of this world" (II Cor. 4:4), blinding the minds of men against God's ways (Eph. 2:2).

Four thousand years later Christ came and:

a) Conquered Satan and QUALIFIED to RESTORE the GOVERNMENT OF GOD to this earth.

b) Called and taught His disciples to be His apostles, proclaiming the ANNOUNCEMENT (good news—Gospel) of the KINGDOM OF GOD that was to come later.

c) Proclaimed that announcement and good news to many thousands, of whom only 120 BELIEVED HIM (Acts 1:15).

d) Sacrificed His life in payment for our sins.

d) Was resurrected from the dead by God, making our resurrection possible.

f) Ascended to heaven to be our High Priest until He returns to earth to restore the GOVERNMENT OF GOD and to set up the KINGDOM (FAMILY) OF GOD.

Where are we NOW?

In the very last days of the 6,000 years of the DAY OF MAN which includes the DAY OF THE LORD

when He shall supernaturally intervene and take over ALL GOVERNMENT on earth.

Now back to the book of Revelation:

BRIEFLY: God, on His throne in heaven, is pictured as having the prophecy in a rolled scroll in His hand, sealed with seven seals. Christ, ONLY, standing in front of the throne, is worthy to take the scroll, open and reveal the meaning of the prophecy. He steps forward and takes the book. The first six seals are opened in chapter 6.

The first four are horses—the first is white, the second is red, the third is black, the fourth is pale.

These are symbols. But the Bible EXPLAINS ITS OWN SYMBOLS. In this case Christ explains them in PLAIN LANGUAGE in Matthew 24.

Jesus had talked to His disciples about the Temple being torn down (timing—their time, then). And then also of the END OF THIS WORLD OR AGE (the DAY OF MAN) and of Christ's coming (the Day of the Lord).

The disciples asked WHEN?

He did not begin answering with the sign of His coming and the END of this world (DAY OF MAN). He began in the order in which they asked: their day, in which the Temple would be torn down, and events from there. So first, He warned them about their day (though it has continued to now). "Take heed that no man deceive YOU" (Matt. 24:4), for the great false church and the deception engineered by Satan would start in their day. "For many shall come in my name..." (claiming to REPRESENT Christ as His true ministers and going out in His name) "... saying I am Christ..." (that is, that Jesus is Christ, the Messiah) "... and shall deceive many."

That represented the WHITE HORSE. Christ's Second Coming, pictured in the 19th chapter of Revelation, shows Him on a white horse. But these were FALSE APOSTLES (II Cor. 11:13-15), actually Satan's ministers (verse 15), posing as the ministers of Christ.

How did they deceive? They grew in numbers and persecuted God's Church, gained power to SUPPRESS the Gospel Christ taught His apostles. They took the NAME of Christ, calling their false church—which actually was the Babylonian mystery religion—by the name of "Christianity." They taught that their church was the KINGDOM—already here. The pope, as soon as the Roman bishops were called that, had come IN PLACE OF CHRIST—taken over Christ's place. They took the true doctrine of grace, turning it into license to disobey and break the law, saying that Christ did away with the law. Thus they destroyed the basic constitution and laws of THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

They blasphemed against the Holy Spirit, calling it a third person—their TRINITY doctrine—thus doing away with the fact that we may be BORN AGAIN—born of God into the God family. And that has come down to OUR TIME. True Christians were persecuted, and millions were martyred. The true Church went underground.

Next the red horse. Jesus (Matt. 24) said, next, “wars and rumors of wars” culminating in our time in “nation against nation.”

Next, famine, followed by pestilences. The red horse of Revelation 6 signifies the wars, the black horse the famine, the pale horse the pestilences which follow famines. These were to accelerate toward the end of the age, as they have and now are doing.

As I have shown (and many more prophecies bear it out), the true Gospel Jesus proclaimed was SUPPRESSED and false doctrines were sent out instead. The whole world was DECEIVED!

Now Jesus comes to the sign by which His people would know when we're coming to the end of this world—the END of the DAY OF MAN, and that the DAY OF THE LORD is AT HAND.

Verse 14: (after 1,900 years) “And this GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and THEN (following that) the END shall come.” Yes, the end of the day of man.

Now, at this point we have to consider some inset chapters in the book of Revelation. The 13th and the 17th, tying in with Daniel 2 and Daniel 7, show the rising up of a resurrection of the old “Holy Roman Empire.” That is in PROCESS through the European Common Market, now. But those nations CANNOT get themselves together. At the same time the Roman Catholic Church is having the greatest crisis in its history. Look at its history. When in a crisis it has never done as God's true Church does—drop to our knees, go to our God whose Church and Work it is, and ask Him to show us the way and to PULL US THROUGH. No, they have always resorted to POLITICAL and PHYSICAL means. The time is near for a pope (probably not the present one) to extend his good graces to the nations of Europe and to bring them TOGETHER—but only as a union of church and state, with the pope at the head, so that everyone will be FORCED to become Catholic—within their jurisdiction, that is. But this is the power that will start World War III and conquer Britain and the United States. That will be the time of the great tribulation, when the “mark of the beast” will be enforced, and true Christians will be tortured and martyred.

I have now brought you to the point where we are RIGHT NOW in prophecy. I am now fulfilling Revelation 10 (one of the inset chapters), verses 10-11—the Gospel going to kings to become a witness for all nations.

If you will follow through the next verses—continuing in the 11th chapter—we come to the TWO WITNESSES. The time is NEAR for their 3½-year ministry to start. Their ministry will end at the coming of Christ. You find them identified in Haggai and in Zechariah, chapters 1 through 4. Also the fulfillment of Malachi 1:1-4 which refers to the second coming of Christ, and other such prophecies.

Very possibly the GREAT TRIBULATION will end our present Work and bring in the Laodicean church. The real persecution and martyrdom will be on the Laodicean church; the Philadelphia era, to whom the doors are open to get the gospel to the world, will be protected from the great tribulation.

All the rest of the book of Revelation, including the fifth seal, which is the GREAT TRIBULATION (also described in Jeremiah 30), will quickly follow.

Today, as in Haggai 2:22, the thrones of nations are being overthrown—at the rate of one a month.

TIME IS SHORT. A small nuclear nation can now make the mistake of setting off a nuclear bomb against another small nuclear nation. There will be quick retaliation. A third nuclear nation will enter and Russia will not stay out, but will get into it. Everyone knows that the United States will not fire off the first nuclear weapon, but we would then be drawn into it, and in HOURS ALL HUMAN LIFE WOULD BE WIPED OFF THIS EARTH—UNLESS God Almighty intervenes with supernatural power at this point to save humanity alive. The day of man will then be over. That will be the very time of the DAY OF THE LORD with supernatural signs in the heavens.

Meanwhile, we may have one more year or 10 more—no one knows. I DO KNOW that time is SHORT and shorter than we think!

This will catch God's Church OFF GUARD. We are in a serious crisis SPIRITUALLY right now. The time has come for us to WAKE UP! The time has come for us to GO TO OUR KNEES! The time has come for us to become a FERVENTLY PRAYING CHURCH. The time has come for FASTING AND PRAYING.

I started setting the example by fasting five full days a week ago, mixed with intense prayer.

I will go back to fasting and prayer personally again this week. This is an example for all of the

ministers, to be followed by all the brethren. I ASK YOU TO FOLLOW SUIT, and pray more earnestly than ever before for the WORK.

We got the first indication of how the Work will skyrocket from now on the special offering that Garner Ted requested. It may run over a million dollars—perhaps larger than any Holy Day offering.

I know that you brethren are all 100 percent back of me in this. I know your hearts are in it!

As we pray, let us confess not only our own sins and laxities, but those of the whole Church, as Daniel prayed for forgiveness of the sins of all Israel.

We have been leaning farther than most of us realize in interest in this world, and getting closer and closer to it, closer and closer to Satan, while we warm our seats at church and still hope to make it into God's Kingdom.

Brethren, the time has come to make our CALLING AND ELECTION SURE!

From here on, the preaching—the message going out powerfully to the whole world—must be the good news of the happy and peaceful World Tomorrow, not so much of the bad news of the world today.

We must preach more and think more about the RESURRECTION—now not far off. What will it be like then? What will we be like—and doing—then?

The entire emphasis in preaching the Gospel is to change from now.

Brethren, I say that God is on His throne; He will fill us with His POWER. I say that we are going to CHANGE—the message is going to change—our hearts are going to change—and the whole Work is going to change—to skyrocket upward. Let's put our whole minds and hearts into it!

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91123

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
President and Pastor

GARNER TED ARMSTRONG
Executive Vice-President

May 17, 1977

Dear fellow ministers:

Greetings in Jesus' name! What a frantic, wild two weeks it has been! I don't believe I have ever gone through a period of time similar to these last very few weeks when, right in the midst of two back-to-back church visits, first to Wichita and then Lake of the Ozarks, together with the crushing load of trying to meet an early May deadline for my book on The REAL JESUS, we were faced with one of our most serious cash flow crunches ever, and the nightmarish task of finding ways and means to bring a skyrocketing inflationary pressure on all the financial resources of the Work under control, and within projected income for the next fiscal year.

In the meantime, notwithstanding all these elements (which would take hours to relate), came the final events for the two college campuses, and an in-depth, intensive accreditation visit at Big Sandy! Thus, in only a matter of days, it seemed, I had to struggle mightily (as were so many others) with the crying needs of the Work, attend the year's-end activities and conduct both commencement addresses at two colleges, work many long hours on the book rushing toward deadline and completion, plus a host of other things too numerous to mention--not the least of which, of course, was my calling for a special offering on the recent Sabbath.

Fellows, I hope you can all stand up in your pulpits and thank these loyal brethren from the bottom of your hearts for the enthusiastic and instant way in which they responded! Believe me, it was only by this dramatic response that we convinced our bankers of our tremendous versatility in the face of serious cash flow difficulties, and even they were amazed at the resiliency of this Work; the ability to put right back into the bank somewhat over one million dollars in only a matter of DAYS!

Usually, as they related to Ray Wright, most churches would have to float bonds, get out various campaigns and drives, and ask people to sign pledges and begin various fund raising activities, and such solutions would have taken place over a period of MONTHS! But our brethren responded instantly, and thanks be to God the immediate cash flow crunch was alleviated, and we were able to sail into somewhat safer waters.

As my father's most recent letter to the brethren is explaining, however, (and I went over it very carefully with him, as did several others at headquarters) we cannot let the brethren assume that this recent emergency offering was "the solution" to all of our financial needs! It did not even BEGIN to make up the deficit incurred following the last Feast of Tabernacles. Ray is telling me we can fully expect about six months of minuses in the next fiscal year, or about half of the time when our expenditures will be running ahead of income, balanced off, hopefully, by the remaining half of the time when income should hopefully slightly exceed outgo.

These "peaks and valleys" in cash flow, however, are where the problems come. When we are forced, because of the continual flow of financial resources to so many hundreds on the payroll, insurance and tax payments, debt retirement on buildings and physical facilities, radio and television time buying, printing, mailing, distribution and newsstand costs and all other related activities; but at the same time income from the brethren lags behind the steady flow of payments required in the conduct of God's great Work, it brings about a situation such as we have just undergone.

Of course, as my father has said repeatedly, the REAL solution for all of this is in the spiritual arena! All of us know, in the very bottom of our hearts, that if we will fast and pray, and then fast and pray again and again, drawing closer to God and closer to each other, that God WILL provide the means!

There are tens of thousands of human beings whose lives have been touched and helped by this Work, and God CAN perform the necessary miracles to call additional thousands to bear the burden of God's great Work with us!

At any rate, I am very much looking forward to being with the brethren in the Concord and Pocono areas very soon, even though I am going to have to leave a day earlier, and possibly stay overnight on the way because the little Citation could not get me to Concord prior to sunset even by leaving Pasadena early in the morning on Friday--and then there is the three hour time difference.

Incidentally, I will relate to you what I told the brethren in services here, because I know it is better to hear it from the "horse's mouth" rather than via the "grapevine."

On only the third occasion since we have been operating jet aircraft, my father and I flew together recently from the Big Sandy airstrip over to Gregg County, for his return to Pasadena following commencement in Big Sandy.

We were about on final, over tall trees, with full flaps and gear down, when a loud noise, growing louder and louder enveloped the airplane. Benny was flying left seat, and I was in the right on this particular leg, and we quickly monitored (as we do constantly anyway) all the engine instruments--RPM, ITT, Fan RPM, Oil Pressure and Temperatures--were all exactly normal and where they should be! There were no warning horns or lights, no cockpit indication whatsoever that something was wrong, and yet as the noise got louder and louder, Benny looked at me and said, "We're going to lose something!"

I was gauging the distance to the landing strip, glancing at our air speed indicator, which was just barely above VRef, and looking anxiously at the engine instruments when suddenly the right engine wound down from thousands of RPM per minute to nothing, and ceased!

Immediately, Benny shoved both throttles forward, saw the right temp. go down to almost zero, secured the right engine, got on the rudder, and pushed the left throttle forward to get more thrust. It seemed that the left engine balked and would not spool up as fast as we hoped, but perhaps our minds were thinking in milliseconds and the engine was responding somewhat more slowly than that. In any event, since I am sitting here dictating this letter to you, you know that we went ahead on one engine and landed safely. However, if Benny had not called immediately, "Approach flaps!" and had I not gotten the flaps back from full to "approach" mode and that engine spooled up as quickly as I did, you would have been reading of a far different story.

I cannot help but believe that in the Satanic furies of recent weeks, of Satan's attacks against God's Work seemingly from every quarter, that this very near catastrophe was not just "accidental" in a purely human and mechanical sense. Benny has flown for about 7,000 hours, and I have flown for over 3,500. That's about 10,500 hours' of experience between us, and the first time that either of us has ever experienced an engine failure flying dozens of different aircraft under different conditions.

Yet, it happened, on the third occasion when my father and I were in the same airplane!

By the way, I don't have to tell you that deepened my resolve that my father and I will never fly together again!

As you probably know, my father will be on his way to Europe, and back to South Africa for another exhausting trip by the time you read these words.

I know he has said this many times, and I can well appreciate that many of you who have traveled for any reasonable distances can understand it, but these trips truly are a "grind," and can prove quite exhausting.

Perhaps many of you, in remembering what I said about the ministry in a recent letter--most especially the sacrifices made by ministers and their wives alike--can apply much of what I said to those who go along with Mr. Armstrong and to Mr. Armstrong himself on such trips!

Though I don't believe it has ever been mentioned, few realize that Stan Rader, over these past several years of being constantly at Mr. Armstrong's side, has also sacrificed much: loss of friends as well as loss of enormous numbers of hours with his own family. And as I am sure you can understand, with growing children up in college (his elder son now completing his C.P.A. examinations) and having to leave his wife in Pasadena approximately half of the time or more, this can place great stress and strain on a person. And so it does truly require sacrifice.

Since I am a seasoned traveler, I can perhaps understand this from a perspective that many people who still look at overseas travel with "stars in their eyes" and who feel such trips are "glamorous," cannot.

My wife and I can truly tell you that even though it has been such a tremendous blessing to be with so many thousands of the brethren in these special combined church visits, and has proved to be very beneficial and very enjoyable to be with as many of you ministers as we possibly could, I'm sure you all (for so many of you have told me so) recognize the "sacrifice" element of the fact that we are unable to be in our own home, with our own children, or to lead any kind of a "normal" life whatever!

As a little aside, but on the human level, my wife and I were both so distraught just this morning when we had to wander out into our backyard, look saddened at our garden, to see giant patches of weeds, two or three sickly looking bean plants, the tomatoes sprawled along the ground, and the asparagus grown up almost ready to fern out again!

Sadly, with her voice almost breaking, Shirl began to lament some of the problems of recent weeks, and the fact that my time has been so dramatically taken up with so many other things that we cannot even lead the semblance of a "normal life," and commented that usually at this time in the Spring we would have had an absolutely beautiful garden, with vegetables growing.

I believe this is also true of those who travel with Mr. Armstrong! I know that many of them have had to undergo periods of great personal sacrifice, and I simply wanted to mention it to you all, knowing that you can appreciate this in the light of your own personal sacrifices and those of your wives and families, because of the demands on your time.

I know you will all be praying for Mr. Armstrong's personal health and the success of this current trip, and most especially let's heed his call for a united, prayerful, spiritual reawakening in God's Church!

Preach the word! Let's stick our people's noses in that Bible, and wade through it text by text, getting back to the basics, and continue to grow together in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ!

Your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Garner Ted Armstrong". The signature is written in black ink and has a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

GTA:lc

FIVE-MINUTE RADIO LOG UPDATE

New U.S. Stations

	Call Letters	Dial	Time	Start Date
ARKANSAS				
Ft. Smith	KFSA	950	12:25 PM	5/2/77
CALIFORNIA				
Sacramento	KFBK	1530	9:55 AM	5/9/77
San Francisco	KNBR	680	5:07 AM	5/2/77
San Luis Obispo	KUNA-FM	96.1	6:03 AM	5/9/77
GEORGIA				
Atlanta	WIIN	970	6:25 AM	4/25/77
HAWAII				
Hilo	KPUA	970	12:05 PM	5/2/77
IDAHO				
Idaho Falls	KID	590	6:34 PM	5/2/77
MAINE				
Augusta	WRDO	1400	6:25 PM	5/2/77
MICHIGAN				
Detroit	WCAR	970	7:25 PM	4/18/77
MINNESOTA				
Duluth	WEBC	560	6:00 AM	4/18/77
Rochester	KWWK-FM	96.7	12:00 Noon	4/11/77
MONTANA				
Dillon	KDBM	1490	4:25 PM	4/18/77
NEBRASKA				
Omaha	KLNG	1490	12:30 PM	5/9/77
NEW YORK				
Rochester	WHAM	1180	11:30 PM	4/18/77
NORTH DAKOTA				
Fargo	WDAY	970	6:35 PM	5/23/77
OHIO				
Columbus	WMNI-FM	99.7	12:30 PM	5/2/77
Dayton	WONE	980	5:00 AM	5/2/77
Toledo	WSPD	1370	5:05 AM	4/18/77
			7:05 PM	4/18/77
OREGON				
Portland	KYXI	1520	12:25 PM	5/9/77
PENNSYLVANIA				
Altoona	WVAM-FM	100.1	11:50 AM	5/2/77
Pittsburgh	KQV	1410	12:35 PM	5/9/77
TEXAS				
Abilene	KRBC	1470	5:55 AM	5/2/77
Harlingen	KMBS-FM	96.1	8:05 AM	5/2/77
Midland	KWEL	1070	12:30 PM	4/18/77
Midland	KBAT-FM	93.3	7:35 PM	4/18/77
San Antonio	WOAI	1070	5:30 AM	4/25/77
			10:40 PM	4/25/77
WASHINGTON				
Kennewick	KOTY	1340	11:55 AM	4/10/77
WYOMING				
Casper	KTWO	1030	1:30 PM	5/9/77
			6:30 PM	5/9/77

Changes

KBLI-Blackfoot, Idaho was cancelled 3/11/77

Community and Public Relations

The Work and the College are continuing to make a profound impact on the Southern California Community. Mr. Ted Armstrong was asked several months ago if he would speak to the large and prestigious Los Angeles Rotary Club on a topic of his choice. On Friday, April 29, he spoke to the club with approximately 500 prominent Los Angeles businessmen in the audience. His topic was the energy crisis and the speech was titled, "America's Decision, Who Will Survive?" He made a deep impression on the audience and many commented on his speech.

Then, this past week, Mr. Ted Armstrong and the College were honored at a dinner given by the President and the Executive Committee of the Tournament of Roses Association. These are community leaders who are the key people in putting together the famous Rose Parade seen by millions around the world on New Year's Day. Over the years Ambassador College has tried to cooperate by being good neighbors and to help with the parade. The Tournament wanted to say thank you to Ambassador and did so by hosting a lovely dinner. Eight couples from the College attended, including Mr. and Mrs. Ted Armstrong. The evening was a great success.

Actress Gloria Swanson and her husband, noted author, William Dufty are staying on campus in our college guest house preparing for their May 19 luncheon. Gloria Swanson and her husband are very interested in natural foods and helping people see the need for proper nutrition, especially for children. She has been appointed by Mayor Beame of New York City as Commissioner of Youth and Physical Fitness for the city. At 78, she is a most remarkable woman. The Ambassador Womens Alliance is sponsoring the luncheon of natural foods for 350 guests at \$15.00 a person. It is to be held in the College student center. The title for the occasion is "Younger than Springtime, a luncheon with Gloria Swanson."

Thought the readers of the Bulletin would be interested in what is taking place here.

—Bob Haworth

Financial Affairs

Greetings from the Business Office in Pasadena! We wanted to give you a current update on the special offering situation. I am happy to say it was especially good. Through Tuesday of this week we had banked one million dollars, and expect that the total offering will reach 1.1 to 1.2 million dollars! This has had a significant impact on the cash flow situation.

As Mr. Ted Armstrong said in his special offering letter that we are not crying wolf and that we did indeed have a very serious problem, I can only emphasize that a problem was *indeed* there. We can only thank the loyal and dedicated Church members for contributing so generously when the needs were again made known to them. The present cash flow situation has been temporarily improved, but major decisions that are now being contemplated by Mr. Ted Armstrong will be necessary in order to preserve our position in a healthy condition.

With our new budget we are endeavoring to emphasize critical needs in the areas of preaching the Gospel, and yet not jeopardize any of our major programs. We all feel that by putting more emphasis on not cutting budgets, but in developing the growth aspect of the Work, we will develop sufficient income over the long term to be able to have the financing to not only get the job done, but to develop the educational arm of the Work so as to pioneer into the future. As Mr. Ted Armstrong has said so many times, the educational aspect of the institution is of major importance to our overall objectives and goals and certainly should not be neglected in the time of financial crises, although recognizing that the preaching of the Gospel must come first and foremost in a direct line function.

Over the past several years in Pasadena, we have striven to reduce every element not essential or efficient to the operation of the Work. Most of the brethren do not realize that in the past two years we have laid off in excess of 600 employees from the Pasadena operation alone! This is not an easy task when you see families that you have known for a long period of time leave the physical arm of the Work. It is a time of emotional stress and strain both on the management and on the personnel involved. But all the people left with a burning desire to serve the Work and with the knowledge that it was best for the efficient running of the Work. We have now reduced our opera-

tion, and to borrow an expression, "not only down to the bone, but now we are in the marrow of the bone" in many areas.

In view of all this, you may ask why it is, then, that we still can't balance the budget. Since 1974 we have been laboring under a declining income situation, and at the same time facing spiraling inflation. The two combined have dealt the financial aspect of the Work a devastating blow in that many of the growth areas of the Work have had to suffer. In the academic area, books that once could be bought for \$5 are now \$20 and \$25. Food prices have skyrocketed. Costs for fuel and utilities have risen drastically and costs for materials have exploded. Time buying for radio and TV has skyrocketed. All these increases in prices have a devastating impact on the Work in the face of a dwindling income figure.

It is true the brethren have given more than ever before on a per capita basis, and it is their dedication and sense of responsibility to God that has given the Work the continuous shot in the arm that is needed to keep it going and moving forward. But in the face of this kind of inflation, it is obvious that if the income does not increase then the Work must be cut back physically in order to maintain a balanced budget. The only way we have been able to accomplish this in the last two years is by constant analysis of every aspect of the Work.

Some people may believe that financial management is just adding up a few figures on a piece of paper, not realizing that financial management can be one of the most creative and rewarding avenues of professionalism. In these matters Mr. Ted Armstrong has given us the encouragement and the leadership that has enabled the Finance Division to work with all the other divisions in accomplishing the necessary economies to be able to have growth in the Work in the face of inflation and diminishing income. That has called for extreme dedication on the part of many, and teamwork by the top management of the Work. Without this teamwork it would not have been possible to do what we have done in the last several years.

We have just now entered another period of crises, and yet at the same time we are on the threshold of some of the greatest moments in the history of the Church. Every avenue is open for dynamic growth such as the Work has never seen! Areas such as newsstands which are exceeding our wildest expectations in responses; print advertising which has yielded the lowest cost per response of anything we have ever done in the Work; poten-

tials opening up on radio and TV markets that have been closed are now becoming available; the potential of having Mr. Ted Armstrong's telecast seen by countless millions of people around the nation is now at our fingertips; the worldwide activities of Mr. Herbert Armstrong now spreading behind the Iron Curtain and soon to enter the European scene in a very strong and positive way; the International Division growing faster than any other element in the Work; QUEST magazine hailed as the most positive concept in major publishing history, and response from circulation and advertising is confirming it. All these things mean one thing—the Work is being and will be done.

Crises notwithstanding, God is on His throne and He will prevail by continuing to inspire the loyal and dedicated brethren and you ministers in the field who have once again risen up together to uphold Mr. Herbert Armstrong's and Mr. Ted Armstrong's arms not unlike Aaron and Hur held up Moses' arms. Don't ever think you have a small role to play in this Work because you are in some remote little town or some large city scattered around the U.S.—you play one of the most important roles in this Church today! Your constant efforts, prayers, exhortations, encouragement, etc., to the brethren and your combined unity with us at headquarters is how this job gets done. Yes, we use sophisticated and scientific methods for running the Work, but let's not ever forget that it is God who provides all our needs.

We are very close now to a balanced budget for the 1977/1978 fiscal year. It is going to be a year of austerity and yet a year of tremendous potential growth. We feel that with the decisions being made the Work this year will plunge forward and the income will come back up.

However, it will be directly proportional to the effort we put behind it. I have received letters of encouragement from several of you in the field and I can only tell you that the financial staff appreciates your encouragement very much. Keep up the good work, fellows. We appreciate everything you are doing.

—Ray Wright

Pastoral Administration

First of all, we want to thank all of you for your prompt and energetic response during the recent financial crunch. I'll have to wait and let you get the exact figures from another source later, but I

understand that the special offering was quite good. It was especially encouraging to me as it confirmed what I have been seeing in every church I visit—a wholehearted, dedicated, responsive and converted church. If this were not God's Work and if these were not God's people, we would have come to grief long ago.

GTA or Ray Wright will probably bring you up to date on the overall budget, but perhaps I should say a few words about the Pastoral Administration budget as it affects all of you. After having been fully informed about the nature of the Work's financial situation, we went back to the drawing boards and reduced our original request by 12%. Much of the reduction was the removal of things we had put in for next year that we were not doing this year—a budgeted salary increase, the reintroduction of Bible studies, the ministerial conference, all of our seminars, etc. We are even coming between 5 and 6% under this year's expenditures—primarily due to not replacing the men we've lost over the past year. All in all, I believe it will be relatively painless although it will mean some difficulties primarily in the area of work load. It now appears that we will not be able to do any new hiring for the next twelve months even to replace normal attrition. Presently, we have around 241 people in attendance for each full-time field minister. That ratio will probably have to rise as high as 250 to 1 in this year without any new hires. This may require some reeducation on the part of the ministry and the membership as to what precisely is expected of the minister and what is expected of the membership in the sharing of the responsibilities for visiting the sick, encouraging one another, making their own decisions, etc. More on that later.

We had a very successful area coordinators conference down at the Lake of the Ozarks. We had the conference there because Mr. Ted Armstrong was going to be there anyway for the special Sabbath service and dance that evening. With the Lake of the Ozarks being so centrally located, it was too good an opportunity to pass up. So we invited all the area coordinators to come down for the special Sabbath service and for a special meeting with Mr. Ted Armstrong on Sunday. Afterward, we continued with extensive discussions on ordinations, ministerial workload, expense accounts, the morale of the ministry, ministerial ethics, ministerial priorities, performance evaluation of the field minister, and the family problems that are often generated in the minister's own home life.

Would you believe we have about 60 ordinations

to recommend on up the line? It was tremendously encouraging to go through the list of men being recommended and to see the growth that has taken place in Ambassador College graduates and to see the increasing number of mature, respected, successful men who have grown to the point of being ordained as local elders. If we have not experienced much quantitative growth over the last couple of years, the *qualitative* growth in the Church is unmistakable when one looks at the growth in leadership in the field churches. This was one of the most encouraging aspects of the entire visit to the Ozarks.

One subject that was raised at the conference bears some discussion here. Concern was expressed by some of the area coordinators about men attempting to "stack the deck" on the incoming minister by recommending and ordaining a couple of local elders and half a dozen deacons (exaggeration for effect) just as he leaves the church. It was generally felt that it would be far better for the outgoing minister to leave his recommendations with the incoming minister and that our policy be that the new pastor confirm those recommendations within two months (making it a high item on his list of priorities to get acquainted with and to evaluate the men who have been recommended before). This way, we get two pastors' evaluations of the men being recommended without requiring the men to prove themselves all over again to a new pastor.

There are other aspects of ministerial transfers that could be discussed for hours on end. We have said much in the past about your responsibilities for supporting the man who preceded you in an area and not tearing down the work that he has done. It is just as important, however, that you set things up as you leave in order to give the man who follows you the best possible chance of success.

When a minister is transferred out of an area, we always get many letters from the local members. We don't mind this—on the contrary, we appreciate it very much. At a time like that, we get very few complaint letters ("I'm glad he's leaving"). Even your enemies tend to become mellow at a time like that and have some nice things to say about you. What we do not enjoy, however, is when we get a *defensive* write-in campaign ("How could you do this to our minister?") I know that all of you will do everything you can to avoid that syndrome because it does nothing whatsoever to make you look good, upsets all the local church members, makes headquarters look bad, and makes the job of your successor just that much

more difficult. So be careful not to inadvertently make your members feel they have to rally to your support against some unseen enemy.

Perhaps the most important thing we discussed at the area coordinators' conference this year was the effect of the work of the minister on his family life. We'll have more to say on the subject later, but there are a couple of timely reminders that are worth mentioning. We know that the job of the ministry puts an unusual and unnatural strain on marriage and family relationships. None of us are immune to it—all of our marriages have been affected by it at one time or another. If we can't avoid the strain, then it becomes extremely important that we learn as much as we can about it and learn how to deal with it.

Perhaps the most important reminder for all of you is to be sure that you deliberately set aside time to give your full attention to your family. The Work has a very generous vacation policy—use that time *with your family*. I have asked all the area coordinators to encourage all of you to use your vacation time and use it well. You are making no points with headquarters by working seven days a week, fifteen hours a day, fifty-two weeks out of the year. All you'll accomplish by that kind of behavior is destroy your health, alienate your children, and lose your wife (and you can lose your wife even while she is still living under the same roof).

If you should begin to have serious problems cropping up in your family, whatever else you do, talk to someone about it! We in the ministry have a great vulnerability to the "Physician, heal thyself" syndrome. We feel that if we went to see someone about our marriage problem, he would tell us nothing we didn't already know. We can tick off the answers in almost the same order he will give them to us, so why talk to him about it?

On top of this, there's the fear of being stigmatized. I understand both of these feelings and sympathize with them very deeply. But please allow me to make a couple of very important points. I recall many years ago, struggling through a heavy personal problem and attempting to solve it on my own. Once or twice I thought about talking to one of my closer friends in the ministry about it, but I thought: "What's the use—I know what he'll tell me." And I went right down the line in my mind listing the solutions I knew he would offer. I knew the answers, but the problem wouldn't go away. Finally, I mustered up my courage and sat down and talked to my friend for a couple of hours and, sure enough, he gave me precisely the answers I knew he would. I felt better after the conversation,

but I hadn't heard anything I didn't already know. Later, a funny thing happened—the problem went away! To this day, I don't fully understand what went on in my own mind and spirit. But when I finally broke down and talked to someone about it, I found the solution. I have still not forgotten the lesson.

As for the fear of being stigmatized if you discuss the problem with one of your superiors, what can I say? We are men like you are and we, too, are "compassed about with infirmities." Far be it from us to hang a label on you that would follow you through the rest of your ministerial career because you came to us as a brother to discuss a problem. We want to help in any way we can, and we'll treat anything discussed with us as confidentially as we possibly can.

But don't forget, there are other places you can go for help. There are a lot of very fine, fully qualified ministers in this Work who are *not in the Pastoral Administration structure*. Men on the faculty of the colleges have been of enormous help to field ministers from time to time without the administration knowing anything about it. Please feel free to consult anybody in the Work anytime you wish about a personal problem. There are times when a man needs a friend—someone he can trust. You have a lot of friends in this Work—don't hesitate to lean on them when you need them.

I don't want to give the impression that we have wholesale family problems in the ministry, but we are all painfully aware of the assault being made on marriage in the nation as a whole. All of us are going to have problems from time to time, and once in a while those problems are going to become severe enough that we need help. It's good to know the help is there.

Until next time,

—Ronald L. Dart

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Local Church Activity Funds

Because it wasn't mentioned to all area coordinators, let us mention to you that the monies you sent in from the local church activity funds will be returned to you as soon as the money is available here. It was intended that the money be a loan. Please be sure to clarify this with your congregations.

Also, to clarify a point on expenses, it is certainly all right to incur normal expenses. We felt it would be helpful if any expenses could be delayed

just for a *few days*, which would give us a little breathing space.

We were concerned primarily with those expenses that would not affect your necessary ministerial routine. Don't hold back any length of time cashing your Traveletters drafts unless you just don't need the money. We were more concerned with such things as delaying trips by changing schedules or delaying the purchase of office supplies, etc.

Moving Guidelines Booklet

The new "Moving Guidelines" booklet is being mailed today in a special packet of materials to those being transferred. It was decided to put the necessary moving guidelines in booklet form due to the length of the material, and the fact that it is applicable to both corporations and the AICF. Booklet form also makes it easier to use as a reference source.

Pastorate Transfer Information

A Pastorate Transfer Information form, which was suggested by several sabbatical ministers, is being sent to all men taking new pastorates. It's a comprehensive form designed to put on paper, for an incoming pastor, the essential information regarding a local church area.

Use of the form will be purely voluntary on the part of the incoming pastor. If he feels he wants the information, he will send the form to the man he is replacing with a request to complete the form and have it for him when he arrives in the area to assume the pastorate. If the form proves to be faulty in any way, I've threatened to expose Mike Swagerty as a ringleader in its creation.

Termination of Insurance

This announcement is being mailed to all employed personnel, but I thought I'd include it here for additional coverage.

Effective May 31, 1977, we are terminating the personal property loss coverage benefit for the U.S. field ministry. This means that after that date we will no longer reimburse you for the loss, damage, or theft of contents of your homes or other personal property. This memo rescinds page four of Pastoral Instruction 4.5.6. Please remove it from your Ministerial Manual.

We regret making this decision, but due to the strained financial conditions of the Church's budget, we feel forced to curtail this benefit for the field ministry. The program was terminated for college-employed ministers over a year ago.

We would encourage any of you who are renting

apartments or homes to consider buying a tenant's insurance policy. Those of you who own your home may already have a homeowner's policy that would cover such items. If not, you likely will want to change your coverage to include these items.

Ministerial Expenses

We truly appreciate the willingness shown by all of you to slow down any spending that wasn't absolutely essential. A goodly number of you were able to even delay writing Traveler drafts for a few days, and *it did help*.

This may not be the best time to mention to you some problem areas involving general expenses, but then I've never been noted for my timing.

Policies that are issued and then put in a binder on the shelf can be forgotten. It's no sin to forget a policy. I can sympathize because I'm as forgetful as the next guy. One area that gets a little touchy, however, is the Central Clearing Account. While we don't scream at every infraction in the general expense area, we do monitor the Central Clearing Account more closely.

There has been a trend lately to broadly interpret what the account is for. Rather than including a long list of infractions here, I would like to encourage each of you who haven't done so recently to review all our expense policies, and hopefully recognize those areas that may have begun to fade in your memory.

If there is any way we can help you in this area by providing more expense information, clearer information, more frequent information, etc., please let us know.

Please Note

If you have any questions regarding Mr. or Mrs. Kenneth C. Burcham, call Frank Simpkins in Durango, Colorado (303) 247-1552. Also, prior to giving any financial aid to a Mr. Wilkenson, call either Gene Noel, Steve Moody, Ralf Orr, or Ted Herlofson.

—Ted Herlofson

NOTICE

Sabbath services are to be held as usual on May 21.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

Editor's Note: While Dr. Kuhn was in New York City during the days of Unleavened Bread, he had occasion to discuss with Ed Faulk his studies at New York Theological Seminary, where he is slated to receive his Master's Degree this month. And so Robert asked Ed if he would write about the program for the interest of our ministerial audience. Here is that report:

The New York Theological Seminary offers a Master's Degree (S.T.M. or M.P.S.) in Pastoral Counseling in Cooperation with the Postgraduate Center each Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for two academic years.

Four additional courses at N.Y.T. Seminary, or one each semester while a student is at the Postgraduate Center, fulfill the core requirements for the Master's Degree. The Seminary offers courses at 4 p.m. on Wednesdays, which one may elect to take after the day at the Center. All degree work must be completed within four years of entering the program.

Finally, the students must do a completion project which will be designed to enable the student to pull together what he has learned from the program. It may be an extended paper or a project in ministry designed by the student and staff advisor which will demonstrate significant growth in some area of ministry.

A Presidential Study Commission has found that 42% of all people with emotional problems consulted a clergyman first. The clergyman, while carrying out his duties, comes into contact with many members of the community; he is called on to advise and to counsel, as well as to give religious leadership. To meet these tasks, training in the recognition and handling of psychological difficulties is urgent.

Training at the P.G.S. is in the following areas:

1. **Mental Health and The Pastoral Counselor:** Designed to review the goals of mental health as formulated by Freud, Adler, Jung, Horney, Sullivan, Fromm, and the existential schools. Students examine various theoretical models of psychological development and their application to the practical understanding of personality problems. Emotional factors that tend to influence the clergyman as counselor are explored. Also, understanding of mental health principles to the nature of the counseling and therapy process are related.

2. **The Counseling Practicum, Basic Techniques:** Students observe actual counseling cases through a one-way vision mirror. They then par-

ticipate in a guided group discussion which points out the basic factors in the observed sessions. Emphasis is placed on appraisal of the problems presented and recognition of interpersonal transactions.

3. Case Supervision: Each student receives supervision of counseling cases. One 45-minute session with a Postgraduate Center Supervisor will be required each week.

4. Group Experience: Students participate in a group to gain experience in the group process, as well as to share with colleagues their individual reactions to counseling. In addition, they learn how they can make better use of themselves as instruments in the counseling process through greater self-awareness and deeper insight into the dynamics of the counseling relationship.

5. Basic Literature of Psychoanalysis: Students are given a series of reading assignments which they are expected to complete during the summer months. When classes reconvene reading summaries are submitted and students take an examination covering the material that was assigned.

Certification as a Pastoral Counselor is received at the completion of the two years.

—Edward D. Faulk
Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

SERMON TAPES

The following sermon and Bible study tapes are now available for pastoral use. They may be requested by sermon or Bible study title, by name of minister who gave it, or by our file number. Following are synopses of each.

—Hugh Mauck

Bible Studies—Acts

The last two in the series of four covering the book of Acts are now available. The number three tape in the series is file number HQ 34 conducted by Dr. George Geis and Mr. Greg Albrecht, covering chapters 15 through 20. The last tape is file number HQ 35 conducted by Dr. Herman Hoeh and Mr. Walter Dickinson, covering chapters 21 through 28.

Seven Steps to a Good Marriage—Steve Martin (HQ 37)

Steve Martin's sermon begins by stressing President Carter's words that the strength of this nation lies in the family unit. He reaffirms Mr. GTA's words that the strength of the Church lies in the family, and goes on to show that God's eternal plan for man is based on the family concept. With that in mind Mr. Martin elaborates primarily on one aspect of the family unit—the marriage relationship, giving seven marital rules which he refers to as seven points for marital success.

International Division

Greetings! With graduation here in Pasadena next Monday and exams going on right now, most of the men in for the sabbatical from the International Division are hard at work with year-end activities and preparations for heading out on their new assignments. Owen Murphy and his family are headed for North Battleford, Saskatchewan (where a new addition to the family is expected shortly); Ron Miller is going to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Piet Michielsen to Calgary, Alberta; Roy Page to Winnipeg, Manitoba; and Bill Dixon to Tasmania, Australia. Chuck Boehme and Glenn Doig will be here in Pasadena for one more semester of classes. Carlos Nieto is returning to Barbados and Dennis Luker, recently back from Australia, will join the U.S. ministry by relocating in sunny Phoenix, Arizona.

A new addition to the International ministry is Tom Turk who has been here for the sabbatical this past year, after spending several years in Tucson, Arizona. Tom, his wife Jody and daughter Tammy, will be heading down to Mexico City this summer once the necessary visas are obtained. He'll work on perfecting his Spanish and then take on fulltime responsibility for the office there after the Feast of Tabernacles.

Another addition to International is Earl Roemer. He will be leaving for Alaska immediately. Most people wouldn't think of Alaska as an international area but it has been for some time. Earl and his family are very excited about the new area. We are renewing old relationships by having Earl become a part of the International Work since he was one of the pioneer students in Big Sandy. We

BULLETIN POLICY

A number of inquiries are being made as to which deacons are to receive their own copies of the Bulletin. Following is the policy Mr. Ted Armstrong set a few years ago: Those who are sermonette men, and other leading men who are not deacons but are also sermonette men, are to receive personal copies in the mail. In order that all deacons be kept up to date on developments in the Work, Mr. Armstrong would appreciate it if some of the sermonette men would share their Bulletin with another who does not receive his own copy. Or, the local pastor may request an extra copy to circulate among non-Bulletin deacons.

—Managing Editor

had a number of interesting times back in those days. The Roemers will be replacing Bill and Helen Gordon who will be coming in for a sabbatical. The Gordons are pleased with the prospect of having opportunity to once again be in Southern California since this was their home for so many years. I am looking forward to seeing them around as well. The Gordons used to be in my church in El Monte way back in the "good ole days," or whatever they were.

From talking with the men about to go out, the year spent here on sabbatical has been an extremely rewarding experience. They are now eager to get out into the field again, and we in turn are looking forward to the arrival of a new group of you coming in this summer for the ever-improving sabbatical program which is constantly being updated to help you in your overall development.

In addition to the Gordons, the men (and their families) coming in for the 77-78 sabbatical year from the international areas are as follows: from Canada—Ken Kneebone, Martin Watson, Dave Register, Dave Fraser, Lyle Simons, Harry Walker, George Patrickson, Perc Burrows and Gary Moore (who, depending on the manpower needs in Canada, will probably come in the spring of next year).

From overseas—Lyle Johnston will be coming in from New Zealand; Kevin Lulham and Colin Jackson from Australia; and Helmut Levsen from Austria. David Bedford will be happy to get a respite too, since he'll be coming in from Belfast, Northern Ireland.

That's it for now. Best regards to you all.

—Leslie L. McCullough

Mail Processing

Due to the response to Messrs. Armstrongs' request for a special offering and because of special departmental efficiency studies being prepared for the Financial Affairs Office, our update will of necessity be short this time.

Mail Activity

The mail has fallen off to some extent, but actually this is working for our good. With our limited number of employees, we need the respite in order to quickly process the special offering.

Through the end of April over 185,000 letters have been received for the month—672,087 letters so far this year.

Wats Line

The weekend of April 30-May 1 was a very good one for the WATS line. Two of Mr. Ted Armstrong's popular TV programs were re-run: "Energy—Here Today, Gone Tomorrow" and "Do You Have An Immortal Soul?" The response was so good that we have over 6,000 feet of taped literature requests, which were recorded by our automatic telephone answering equipment. It will take our WATS personnel a few days to catch up and process all these requests.

Subscriber Development

Good news from the Subscriber Development area! A couple of months ago we selected 3,171 of our most active donors and gave them the option of receiving monthly receipts or continuing to get individual receipts as they donated. Their response to our mailing has been the highest of any since our programs began.

By Friday (April 29) over 50% of the donors included in this special mailing had responded—and almost all of these desired the monthly receipt! We are convinced, from the enthusiasm shown by the responsiveness of these donors and the track record of their contributions, that monthly receipts will in no way deter their donation activity.

Another bright spot: As a result of last year's response to the budding MNC program, we anticipated that current efforts would result in 1,000 new co-workers being added to the list.

As of last week (ending April 29) we added 1,025 new co-workers, and responses were still coming in. So far, with God's help our MNC programs have resulted in a total of 24,224 new co-workers—help which is very much needed by the Work.

That's it for this time.

—Richard Rice

LETTER COMMENTS

SPECIAL OFFERING

The following letters are in response to Mr. Ted Armstrong's special emergency letter and speak for themselves about their feelings for the Work.

"It was with a heavy heart that I read your letter which I received today.

"Although I am a disabled widow and receive \$20.00 a month from the third tithe fund, nonetheless, over a period of time I've been able to put aside a few dollars to get some badly needed work done on my car. Well, *the car can wait!* This Work can't!

"I hope the enclosed check for \$100.00 will be of some small use in easing some of the pressure God's Work is under. He can magnify it many times over, and I know you can't outgive God!

"I'm willing to try to find more ways to cut corners so my offerings will not be so small, but inflation has hit me hard, as it has us all.

"Please know that my prayers are with you and your father and the Work, and I'll be proud to fast and pray for a miracle on the Sabbath before Pentecost. We all get a bit lax at times, but when the chips are down, you *know* you can count on us."

—Marian J. Dewey
Portsmouth, OH

"Thanks for telling us of the need to give! And thank you, too, for the example you have set by your own cut in salary.

"We are supporting you all the way!"

—Mr. & Mrs. Roger Ludwig
Rawlins, WY

"At services yesterday, some of us were talking about where and how to get more money for the Work. We know prayer and complete trust in God is the answer to all our needs. Nevertheless, we want to use all the resources at our disposal.

"Three ladies and myself have organized a newspaper pickup project for our church paper drive. Some are having garage sales or bake sales.

"Our pastor, Dan Fricke, mentioned the fact that God's spirit seemed to be powerfully flowing through the hall and everyone present. There were smiling faces and excited brothers and sisters eagerly discussing the situation and making plans to do whatever they could to help.

"I feel this setback will yield tremendous results in spiritual growth and in the ability of the Work to spread the good news more completely and effectively than ever before."

—Mrs. Chloe Rennie
Newberg, OR

"Our hearts are in God's Work. Our spirits lifted as we discussed what we would do for a special offering. (Please find enclosed a check for \$300.00 for the special offering.) Your letter also inspired us to begin setting aside twice as much each pay-day for holy day offerings.

"We appreciate your sacrifice of the Falcon, but we see that as a vital first-line tool in preaching the gospel. So we will pray fervently that God will deny its sale and restore it to His Work. The facility at Orr serves us—the Church—rather than

the gospel directly, so we gladly sacrifice that.

"We both are expecting wage increases this year which is exciting in terms of increasing our tithing and offering ability. We know this attitude comes from God and it also gives us faith when we pray for more co-workers and for more prosperity to those whose hearts are already in the Work.

"This crisis hurts, but it is good for the Church, and will be good for the Work in the long run. We look forward with enthusiasm to the special fast. Be encouraged. Through God's Spirit you have our Rock-founded support."

—Mr. & Mrs. James D. Anderson
Long Beach, CA

"Your decisions to sell the Falcon and the property in Orr, Minnesota are good ones, I believe. And even better, your request for a fast of all the members worldwide. As you say, only God can truly solve *all* our problems by our coming to Him in prayer."

—Mrs. John Figueroa
Oxnard, CA

"I'm sending \$25.00 immediately in response to your letter, which I received an hour ago. It's all the cash I have on hand at this time.

"I'm pledging \$200.00 as soon as our income tax check comes.

"I've only recently begun having any prayer life at all and feel a great responsibility for the problems in the Work.

"Words are cheap, I know. But I am truly sorry and with God's help intend to be on my knees more.

"We have these problems and trials to remind us it takes *all* of us, even myself. I must keep remembering there is *nothing* on earth more urgent or important than God's message through this Work.

"I've let the cares of the world and day-to-day raising of my eight children and all that goes with this society, pull me away from being consistent in prayer. My excuse is 'too busy'. I'm so glad Jesus wasn't 'too busy' for me and others like me."

—Mrs. Joseph A. Forste
Paramount, CA

"I got your letter yesterday, went to church and did the best I could. I'm scraping up all I can at this time. I can't promise any specific amount, as I've been unemployed for several months, but have promise of a job.

(Continued on page 145)

Publishing

In a recent administrative decision, Garner Ted Armstrong pulled several related areas together into an expanded Editorial Services Department. These areas include the News Bureau, Graphics and the Correspondence Course. Together with *The Plain Truth* and Booklets editorial, these five major areas constitute the *Editorial Services Department*. Allen Merager continues to head up the Graphics area, which includes Photo Files and Photo Services. Gene Hogberg remains as "news Guru." Dexter Faulkner will assist me in coordinating the budgets for these various functions in concert with Gene Hogberg, Allen Merager, Richard Sedliacik and others. John Schroeder continues as Assistant Managing Editor of both Booklets and the PT. John has been in England for six months now and continues to amaze us with the volume of work produced!

This consolidation of related functions under one "roof" will undoubtedly streamline activity and expedite efficiency in these areas. We will continue to work closely with Roger Lippross (Production) and Jack Martin (Circulation) along with Richard Rice and Bill Butler in the booklet areas.

Richard Sedliacik has been working closely with both Armstrongs in the development of the Correspondence Course, which I'm sure we all feel is very necessary for developing the Church which does the Work. Several ideas have been proposed for expanding and beefing up the course. Lessons 9, 10, and 11 are newly revised and near publication at this time. They are thorough, hard-hitting expositions of the subjects of repentance, baptism and the Holy Spirit. We'll let you know more on this as developments continue.

We are doing some necessary cutting in the booklet area due to budget constraints again. We will strive to avoid being "penny wise and pound foolish" in this area, however. The booklets are very important to the communication of the teaching of the Church in all areas. They are vital to media follow-up. They back up the CC and provide offerings for direct mail and subscriber development projects.

Final decisions on booklet cuts have not yet been made, but we'll try to keep you posted when they are.

—Brian Knowles

Y.O.U. UPDATE

S.E.P.

Applications for S.E.P. are still pouring in with only one month to go. We are both pleased and regretful to announce that the second session is already full and the first has very few vacancies left.

Please express our thanks to the people for their fantastically generous and immediate response to Mr. Armstrong's letter about sponsoring a youth to S.E.P. In about ten days over \$17,000 flooded in—enough to pay for every young person who applied and yet was unable to pay his own way. That kind of response must be a first since the children of Israel donated to the building of the tabernacle in the wilderness!

Even though S.E.P. is for sale, our program this year will be better than ever before with all systems full steam ahead. The new gym is virtually completed with the sound systems and backboards yet to be finished. Both have been delivered and are ready to be installed this coming week.

All the high school workers have been chosen and informed. Again, like with the college staff, we had nearly three times as many qualified applicants as we could use. That kind of enthusiasm is most gratifying.

Last week we sent packets of Bill Sharman basketball clinic information to all church pastors. Some have reported not receiving theirs. If you have not, please call us.

Response to the clinic has been very slow so far. Many requests are coming in from local non-church youth who have heard about the clinic, but we would rather save the limited spaces for members if they are interested.

Last night several of us watched the seventh playoff game between L.A. and San Francisco. Kareem Abdul Jabar made 36 points and 25 rebounds. He has been called the most dominating figure in pro basketball. He will be in Orr with Bill Sharman for the weeklong clinic. There is some chance that Lakers' coach Jerry West may come along also. In addition, five local coaches from Northern Minnesota and five of our own college people will assist the sixty participants. It should be a very worthwhile clinic for those who can attend at either Pasadena, Big Sandy or the camp at Orr.

That's it for now. Let us know if you see ways we can help with any arrangements for transportation, etc. Just a hint. If you buy a bus ticket before May 31 and use it before June 14, anybody

can go anywhere in the U.S. for only \$50.00. We plan to send our staff to Orr by bus. You can't beat the price. After May 31 the price jumps to \$75.00, which still isn't bad. Bon Voyage!

—Jim Thornhill

LETTER COMMENTS

(Continued from page 143)

"I will promise a higher percentage of all I earn or acquire from this day forward. I'll do my best."

—Ken M. Capo
St. Augustine, FL

REACTION TO GTA LETTER ABOUT THE MINISTRY

"I appreciated the view into 'the other side of the coin' as you termed it in your letter concerning the ministry and leadership in God's Work. There were quite a few points you brought out that many of us do not always consider or realize regarding the ministry and the demands of their job.

"As members, we should be standing behind and supporting the leadership in this Work rather than adding to the problems, pressures and difficulties of the ministry and leadership by criticizing, complaining, faultfinding, and 'slacking off' in support due to indifference or disagreement over the way things are done.

"A universal attitude of loyalty and support among the members would allow maximum effort and energy to go into the commission this Work has been given and eliminate the waste of valuable time which has to be expended in order to squelch rumors, contend with insincere questionings, and to deal with needless internal problems and dissension.

"I think this greater awareness and understanding of the tremendous responsibilities and pressures the ministry faces will give us all a better appreciation and supportive attitude toward the ministry and leadership structure God has placed within His Church."

—William L. Golson
Montgomery, AL

"I am not much for letter writing. In fact, during the almost twelve years I've been in God's Church, I have never written a letter to a minister. But, after reading your letter of March 30th, I felt compelled to let you know of my feelings.

"The ministry is the backbone of God's Work and without *it* we, the brethren, would be near cripples.

"As sheep, surrounded by a world of wolves, woe unto the flocks scattered throughout the world without the shepherds to watch over and tend to our needs."

—Earl Pursell, Jr.
Westlake Village, CA

"In regard to the letter concerning the ministry—I would like to personally thank you for trying to help us understand ourselves and the people we love (the brethren and ministry) better.

"It helps to have an understanding of the way things are because I believe with *understanding* we can have much more of that treasured patience, mercy and love we like to feel we have."

—Mr. & Mrs. Daniel A. Look
Palmdale, CA

"I received your letter and I have a much better understanding of what goes on in a minister's life. It is something to pray about. I feel much more a part of the Work when I know what's going on. This is the only organization that I know of where the top of government lets the people know what is going on. That is something you and your staff should be proud of."

—R. Scott Geddes
West Hartford, CT

"I just finished reading your last brethren letter and I was truly inspired to write and let you know how I feel.

"Your letter has made me appreciate my minister much more than I had previously. I knew he was very busy with all the activities he was in charge of and I truly admired his endurance. I am sure that as a result of your letter, I will have an even better relationship with him. In fact, I will write him as well and tell him how I feel and I hope that he will be encouraged."

—Joseph Mathieu
Big Sandy, TX

"I have much regard for our minister; but your letter helps me to see him in a way that I did not before. Now I can understand and love him more."

—David J. Crump
St. Petersburg, FL

"Thank you for the letter about our ministers. At this time in the history of the world we are all under pressure and stress and our first thought is to call our minister and pour it all out to him, never thinking what pressure and stress he is

(Continued on page 152)

For Your Interest...

UPDATE ON BILL RAPP'S HEALTH

I'm sure people have heard all kinds of reports about my condition lately and at one time or another they were probably true. I'd like to bring everybody up to date.

About the beginning of March, my white blood cell count became very unstable and started to increase at an alarming rate. Lorraine and I decided to see a doctor in Ensenada, Mexico who specializes in treating leukemia. He wanted me in the hospital because my white count was so high. It was sixty seven thousand (normal is six to nine thousand), and didn't stop until it reached seventy-two thousand. The treatment is designed to rebuild the bone marrow where most of the problem lies. After twenty days the white count went down twenty thousand, and the doctor sent me home with a little change in the treatment.

When I went back for a check up fifteen days later, the white count had gone back up to eighty-six thousand. When it gets that high it's time to start writing your will! The doctor sent us home again and put me on the same treatment I had in the hospital. One week later I took another blood test here in Phoenix and it has gone down to forty-two thousand. That's a drop of forty-four thousand in just seven days. I called the doctor yesterday about the results and he is almost as happy as I am. He changed the treatment by just reducing the amount. We go back to Ensenada April 26th for my next check up.

Lorraine and I want to thank everyone for their prayers. Also we are grateful for all of the concern many of the brethren have shown. We have heard from members we don't know personally, and it sure helps keep the old morale up knowing that so many people are pulling for us.

There has been little or no pain involved with my leukemia. I do get tired very easily though, and since I'm the type that can't sit still, life is rather frustrating at times. I feel like a wild lion that has just been caged. The whole life style is unnatural to me. After this is all over I'm sure Lorraine could get a job working for Barnum and Bailey as a lion tamer. She has been a real help to me in every way. We still have our hope in God and in His Son and know that as long as we are in His hands the goal of eternal life is ours, and that's the important thing.

—Bill Rapp
Phoenix, Az.

TV INTERVIEW EMPHASIZES THE WORK

Editor's Note: Dr. Kuhn asked that the following memo he received from Mr. John Ritenbaugh be reprinted in the Bulletin. It shows what Mr. Ritenbaugh has been able to do to increase local public awareness of the Work's activities.

Greetings from a very warm South Carolina!

You may recall I talked to you regarding a television interview during mid-March? The interview came off on March 30. I was on camera for 12 minutes. The interviewer was very positive in his approach. He likes Mr. GTA. In fact, he said prior to the interview that Mr. GTA is television at its best, informing and educating in a colorful way.

I think the most positive thing accomplished was that a very solid connection was made between Mr. HWA, GTA, Worldwide Church of God, Ambassador College, AICF, and Quest/77. His line of questioning led one to see a solid relationship between each of these factors.

After the interview was over, he asked me if I was satisfied. I told him that I would have liked for more to have been said about AICF and possible community involvement. He said "great, we'll have you on again." So, a date has been tentatively set for mid-summer. He wants me to have some graphics, some "blow-ups," of the campus (buildings, etc.) so that people can visualize the quality of the organization they are hearing about. . . .

—John Ritenbaugh
Columbia, S.C.

COMMUNITY INTEREST SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Several months ago, I developed a speech on the agriculture crisis. I have given it to several groups including county chapters of the National Farm Organization, Madison East Side Business Men's Association, and fertilizer meetings. The response has always been good. Those in attendance generally take a copy of the *World Crisis in Agriculture*. One woman has even attended services.

Developing a speech of community interest such as this is an excellent way to gain valuable experience and introduce people to the Work. Having a booklet, such as *World Crisis In Agriculture*, is an effective way to lead people to deeper interest in the Work. I'm sure many topics with back-up booklets could be developed and given to groups. Below is an article from the *Wisconsin State Journal*, November 5, 1976 dealing with one of my speaking engagements.

—George Kackos
Wisconsin Dells, Wis.

Critical year seen for state farmers

By Robert C. Bjorklund
State Journal Farm Editor

DODGEVILLE—The weather pattern and continuing dryness across Wisconsin and the Upper Midwest is pushing agriculture to the most critical year it has ever had, more than 300 Iowa County Farm Wives were told Thursday.

The Rev. George Kackos, Wisconsin Dells, said the weather crisis now ranks with energy supply problems, loss of soil fertility and adverse economics as the major reasons for troubles on the farm, which "must be recognized as national problems."

Kackos, main speaker at the fourth annual session for farm wives, offered his view of agriculture after extensive study of the relationship between farmers and the nation's economic and foreign policy.

He said the drought area could cut grain production and "if we don't have the grains to export, we don't have the payment means to import oil. It is only American agriculture that balances our payments abroad."

The energy problem is compounded by rising oil imports, which, he said, now provide half the nation's energy requirements.

Furthermore, farmers have been subsidizing the American economy through food costs because "the American people do not pay a fair share for the food they eat."

Kackos said the economic problem has become so reversed on farms that it takes an investment of \$1,765,000 to make \$15,000 a year on a beef farm. In addition, the income forecast would not hold true this year because low beef prices mean the beef breeder will probably experience a loss. . . .

IS GOD'S CHURCH REALLY DIFFERENT?

Following is a letter from a prospective member: "You say your Church is the true Church of God on earth today. I desperately want to believe you're right, but can you really prove this to me? For years I've been searching for the answer and you seem to come closer than anyone I know. But I still have doubts. I've read your literature, know you keep the right days, and do all the other things the Bible seems to require. But then I notice that other churches make similar claims, follow many like practices and customs. Except

for a few doctrinal points, I can't see where there's that much difference. Is there a simple way to settle this question for me once and for all?"

How would you answer this question from one whom God apparently is calling? Where would you start? This person has read our literature, is familiar with our basic doctrines—appears to have a certain foundational knowledge of the truth. Yet there is still this lingering, nagging doubt.

"Why, it's the Holy Spirit" someone may say. "That's what makes God's Church different and sets it apart from the rest of the world." In a broad sense, this answer is right (Rom. 8:14). But I submit that the Holy Spirit produces many outward fruits or physical manifestations, and there is one which ought to be clearly evident for the world to see—one it can readily understand and not gain-say.

I think Jesus Christ gave the best answer I've seen yet. It's clear, simple, and gets right down to the heart and core of the matter.

Before explaining the answer Christ gave, let's first notice two background scriptures:

Romans 5:5 "... the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us." One of the most important functions of the Holy Spirit is to produce in us the genuine love of God. Like rivers of living waters, this love flows out to others in acts of kindness, affection and heartfelt concern.

John 13:35 "By this shall *all men know* that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." We're getting closer to the answer. When the Holy Spirit infuses into our minds and hearts the true love of God, others will take notice and see that we are different. They will detect our love is genuine, that we truly care about each other, that we are motivated by a deep concern for our brother's welfare. They will see this love shine through in the way we cooperate, try to make others happy, and in our efforts to see them get the best out of life.

This now brings us to the point Christ made which I believe, when fully understood, is one of the strongest physical proofs of God's true Church. It's found in the book of John: "Neither pray I for these alone but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be *ONE*; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be *ONE* in us: *that the world may believe that thou hast sent me*. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be *ONE*, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be *ONE*; and *that the world may know that thou hast sent me*,

and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me" (John 17:20-23).

Simply stated, these verses prove how God's Church is different and how it can be recognized in the world. True Christians are bound together through God's Spirit into *one* body, *one* overall mind and attitude, *one* work, *one* dynamic love for each other. This love produces harmony, goodwill, a common purpose for all and a strong sense of brotherhood. It's all summed up in the concept of oneness—UNITY.

Doesn't it make sense that unity—oneness of heart, mind, affection and purpose—is what God's Spirit creates in us. Isn't this the outward manifestation that Jesus Christ said the world would see, thus *proving He is the Christ* and that we are His Church in whose lives He is working? Other churches may preach forms of right doctrines. But the final proof of the pudding is not just in preaching right doctrine; it's in living the truth and expressing it to others in genuine LOVE and UNITY. It's not only what we profess that counts; *it's what we are*. When Christ is living His life in us we will become ONE—drawn together and unified in perfect love.

In no way am I implying that unity supersedes the Church's commission to preach the Gospel to the world as a witness. The message is the vehicle that God first uses to attract, convict, and capture the attention of people. Yet, as Christ said, it is the deep love and unity that God's begotten sons exemplify to each other that proves to the world we are truly Christ's disciples—that we are indeed the *living Gospel*.

To support the fact that God's Church is built upon unity, let's recount the events leading up to Pentecost, the actual giving of the Holy Spirit, and the tremendous works which followed.

In the beginning of the book of Acts, we are quickly told about Christ's resurrection and 40 days of witness to His disciples, then His ascent back to the throne of God (Acts 1:1-6).

Almost immediately this theme of unity and brotherhood among the disciples begins to emerge:

"These (the apostles) all continued *with one accord* in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brethren" (verse 14).

Notice that this early New Testament Church was a *praying* Church. They prayed *together* for days on end until they came to be of one mind—of one accord.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were *all with one accord* in one place" (chapter 2, verse 1).

Then suddenly, on this historic day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit of God manifested itself in flames of fire upon the apostles. They were filled with great power and immediately began to do tremendous works. Peter's sermon on repentance was so mighty and powerful that about 3,000 people were added to the Church that day! And the number of new converts continued to grow (verse 47).

Later, other great and mighty miracles were done. The lame man was healed by Peter and John at the gate of the Temple (chapter 3). Such stupendous power was manifested that the sick were healed just by the passing of Peter's shadow over them (Acts 5:15).

Again, notice, that it was in this atmosphere of peace and harmony among the apostles that the Spirit of God was poured out and manifested powerfully.

Other scriptures in the first few chapters of Acts show that this spirit of unity continued many days after Pentecost.

"And they *continued steadfastly* in the apostles' doctrine and *fellowship*, and in breaking of bread and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul... and all that believed were together and had all things in common" (Acts 2:42-44).

Verse 46: "And they, continuing daily with *one accord* in the Temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with GLADNESS!"

After Peter and John were called before the rulers and scribes, and later reported to the Church, the disciples prayed in UNITY for greater strength to witness for Christ.

"And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with *one accord*..." (Acts 4:24). "And when they had prayed the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spake the word of God with boldness" (verse 31).

And, what was the channel through which this great POWER could work? Again, it was the spiritual affinity and oneness which Jesus had prayed that His followers would manifest (John 17:21-23).

"And the multitude of them that believed WERE OF ONE HEART AND ONE SOUL: neither said any of them that aught of the things which he possessed was his own; *but they had all things common*. And with GREAT POWER gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and *great grace* was upon them all!" (verse 33).

There is the answer. The obvious and significant theme emphasized throughout these passages is *unity*—that state of oneness and harmony which

characterized God's true Church and which came only from receiving the Holy Spirit.

There is another vital lesson to be learned from this unique time in the Church's history.

Throughout the years that followed, because of persecution and other troubles which afflicted the Church, a period of general slackness and lethargy set in. The original New Testament members began to lose their zeal—their love for God and His glorious truth started waxing cold. As this period of disintegration set in, the Church also began to lose something else. It began to lose the love and close unity that it originally received at Pentecost.

How fully do we realize that our love and unity will also diminish if we slack off in prayer and living in daily contact with God? Not only will our love for God dwindle, but our love for each other will, too. Just as Satan began to stir up the brethren and sow seeds of discord among God's Church then, so it can happen today. Once we lose contact with God, Satan moves in to fill the void and one of his first actions is to implant negative attitudes in our minds toward each other and God's Work. "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another" (Gal. 5:15).

I'm convinced that one of the biggest causes of conflict and discord that sometimes arises in God's Church is the direct influence of Satan. As long as we are in prayerful contact with God, he can find no avenue of entrance. This fact was clearly demonstrated at that first Pentecost. But once our relationship with God is severed, we become vulnerable to Satan's fiery darts and attacks. I think it behooves us to always be mindful of who our enemy really is.

When Jesus Christ returns to this earth, one of His great aims will be to restore universal peace to mankind. He will ultimately pour out His Spirit upon all the world, and with the passage of time and the spreading of God's word into all corners of the earth, *peace* and *unity* will finally be established.

Looking on beyond into eternity, we as the sons of God will co-exist together as a family in perfect tranquility and peace forever. Think of it—perfect peace and unity forever—the great hallmark of God's government.

We as a Church have been called to prepare the way for Jesus Christ. One of the characteristics used to describe Elijah in Malachi 4 is that he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the children to their fathers. The prophet was talking about UNITY. We must collectively strive to attain more of this unity today.

Admittedly, we have lost something of the spirit of unity as compared to the first New Testament Christians. But can we point a finger at any one person and say he's to blame? Satan is the real culprit and we've all been affected by his cunning and deceit.

I sincerely believe that if we as God's people were to privately and individually follow the example of our founding forefathers in asking God to mightily pour out His Spirit upon us, this coming Day of Pentecost will have special significance as no other in recent years.

Not only will we see a spirit of unity descend on the Church, but more importantly, I believe God's Work will be thrust forward in power and scope as never before in modern times.

Then as we all unitedly put our shoulders to the wheel in doing the Work, the world can say—*"That Church is genuinely different!"*

—Richard Rice

TWENTY-FOUR RULES FOR COUNSELING

A recent issue (March/April, 1977) of *Family Life* (the bi-monthly service bulletin of the American Institute of Family Relations) had an interesting editorial on counseling which contained 24 points for effective counseling. These "points of paramount importance" are recommended by Dr. Sawak Sarju, family life consultant in Edmonton, Alberta. I thought they would be helpful to any of us who counsel, so here they are:

1. To be able to keep confidences
2. To be a good listener not only to words but also to feelings.
3. To understand human nature and behavior and to seek to understand why people act the way they do.
4. To be able to recognize the dignity and worth of the individual
5. To be able to reduce the anxiety in the client
6. To have objectivity
7. To be able to advance motivation
8. To be able to promote a growing, healthy self-concept
9. To promote interpersonal relationships
10. To aid the counselee to face the future confidently
11. To have the ability to establish rapport
12. To be able to promote a client-centered counseling procedure
13. To assist the client in his becoming self-assertive
14. To be able to respond empathetically to the client

15. To be supportive in a meaningful way
16. To have the ability to clarify problems
17. To be able to interpret not only what is said but what is felt by the client
18. To aid the counselee in the formulation of solutions to his problems
19. To be able to work himself out of a job rather than nurture and exploit the dependency of a client
20. To give advice sparingly
21. To be able to accept what is said without exhibiting intense surprise or shock
22. To acknowledge his limitations and make referrals when necessary
23. To refrain from projecting his own values on his client
24. To be able to recognize the client has offered him an invitation to know and experience his intimate life, which requires that his problems must be approached with care and competency.

—Brian Knowles
Pasadena, CA.

BOOK REVIEW

Peoplemaking by Virginia Satir

Ever wonder who coined the colorful term "a can of worms"? Well, according to Virginia Satir, *she did* to describe the almost mind-boggling complexity of family interaction. This remarkable woman is an innovator, phrase-maker, coiner of terms and also happens to be one of the nation's premier family therapists or "family life educators," as she prefers to describe herself. Her two books *Conjoint Family Therapy* (1964) and *Peoplemaking* (1972) are both acknowledged classics in the field currently selling at the rate of 60-70,000 copies per year in the U.S. alone—and for good reason.

Virginia Satir pioneered the concept of "family systems" in a time when most treatment, therapy, and social work dealt only with the individual. Today the logical notion that in families we are all locked into systems with rules, patterns of communication and behavior, goals and purposes, ties, alliances, and networks is much better understood in the social sciences and generally agreed upon. Her insights are largely responsible for this shift in focus which seeks to see the family whole.

Conjoint Family Therapy was her seminal work and contains many of her most important ideas, but it is written in an outline, handbook form that comes across in a terse, telegraph style I never found easy to read even though the content is excellent. While *Conjoint Family Therapy* was

written primarily for the professional reader, *Peoplemaking* is, in her own words, "a new book for families that deal with family process. It's immensely readable. Satir writes, I suspect like she talks—in simple, direct, easy-to-understand language packed with her own catch phrases, unforgettable anecdotes about life in families, and experiential exercises one can do alone or with family members to help understand her points. She has a knack for getting a handle on those many simple everyday experiences that often elude description as though she sees life with fresh, clear, unobscured vision.

She is truly an exceptional woman. The victim of multiple childhood health problems, "she taught herself to read at age three, and by the time she was nine years old, she had read all the books in the school library" according to a recent profile of her in *Human Behavior* ("Virginia Satir: Everybody's Family Therapist," *Human Behavior*, September, 1976). With that kind of a start, perhaps it should not be surprising that she graduated from Milwaukee State Teacher's College at age 18 where she started with only \$3 in her purse! Today her fame, competence, and "yiddish momma" style have her booked up two years in advance in the U.S. and many foreign countries.

Peoplemaking focuses on the critical dimensions of self-worth, communication, system, and rules, factors she sees as determining the strength or weakness of the family and the individuals in it. Reading her book, one gets the distinct impression that *she knows what she's talking about*. She hits close to home (indeed!), hits some buttons, tells it like it is in families past and present.

Like Salvador Minuchin (*Families and Family Therapy*), Satir sets out to map what is going on in families. Any of you who have done family counseling know how complex family interaction can be at times and have probably struggled for ways to make sense of it all. *Peoplemaking* helps a lot here by giving a sense of structure to the many-faceted family relationships. This in turn helps the family counselor where to look for the problem when things are going wrong. She uses the terms "family blueprint" and "family engineering" in a sensible, pragmatic way that gets one past seeing all that complexity as that proverbial "can of worms."

But besides yielding a rich store of understanding about family life, process, and function, *Peoplemaking* has a way of making you *value the family more* for all its complexities, challenges, richness, beauty, and strength. Satir writes in a manner that is positive, inspiring, and hopeful—

full of assurances that it is never too late to learn, change, and grow. It's easy to see in reading her book why Fritz Perls described Virginia Satir as the most nurturing person he had ever known. You feel that come through very warmly.

If you're into families—and *who isn't*—you'll like *Peoplemaking*. Available from Science and Behavior Books, Inc., Palo Alto, California for about \$6.

—Dave Albert
Eugene, Oregon

BIRTHS

From the dearth of birth announcements in the last several issues of The Bulletin, one might assume that we've stopped announcing them, or that our ministers' wives stopped having babies. Neither is true. In a few cases it was oversight on the part of the Managing Editor, or lack of space. (No space was available in the last three issues.) A thousand pardons to those families who sent in announcements! We'll try to keep current in the future. Meanwhile, here's an even dozen for all interested parties to check out.

—Managing Editor

Bill and Jenny Bradford (Shreveport, Texarkana): We are very pleased to announce the birth of our fourth child and second daughter. *Jenean Rochelle* arrived as expected and on schedule at 7:30 Sabbath morning, September 18. The big surprise was her weight—10 lbs. 8 ozs.! This is by far the record weight for our family, and if anyone would like to challenge it they will find we are no longer in the competition. Mother and daughter are doing remarkably well.

Mark and Deborah (Johnston) Flynn (Montreal-French): Little did dad know that Pastor Carn Catherwood purposely assigned him a sermon because, in Mr. Catherwood's words, "...everytime I have assigned a sermon to an expectant father, the *baby* was always delivered instead of the sermon!" It turned out he was right, for at 10:30 a.m. on July 17, instead of being on our way to church, we were headed toward the hospital during one of the biggest hospital strikes in Montreal's history!

During mom's 24-hour labor, dad literally became the "coach," since virtually no doctors or nurses were available to aid in labor or delivery. However, our "Olympic" baby, *Brandon Marc*, crossed the finish line on July 18 at 1:00 a.m., just hours after the official opening of the Olympic

Games here in Montreal. He weighed in at 8 lbs., 13 ozs. and was 21½ inches long. Everyone's fine.

Ken and Colleen Frank (Estevan, Sask.): We are pleased to announce the arrival of our first daughter but second child, *Arleen Kay*, on Sabbath, January 8 at 3:40 p.m. After laboring on the Sabbath for 10 hours my wife gave birth to a 9 lb., 5 oz. and 21 inch baby. Mother, father and son are all doing well with our new bundle of joy!

Doug and Tanya Horchak (Formerly Washington, D.C.; now Pasadena): At 1:20 a.m. on December 25, 1976 (of all days!) our first child, *Christine Nicole*, made her three-week early debut into the world to our pleasant surprise. Christine weighed 6 lbs. and measured 19 inches at birth. Mother and daughter couldn't be doing better!

Paul and Karen Kneebone (Fredericton-St. John, New Brunswick): Our second son and second child made his triumphant arrival on December 7th at 8:22 p.m. He weighs in at 9 lbs., 2½ ozs. and makes this branch of the Kneebone Klan anatomically complete!

Bruce and Janet Kent (Bristol-Plymouth, England): We are extremely happy to announce to you all the birth of our first child, *David Ashley*. He arrived 10 days early on 17th November, weighing 7 lbs. Mum, dad and son all doing fine.

Don and Geri Mason (Joplin, Mo.): Geri and I are pleased to announce the arrival of our third child and first son. *Derek Edgar* was born Tuesday, January 25, at 2:00 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs., 1 oz. and measured 21 inches. Mother and son are doing fine. Dad? Well-1-1-1 Pleased!!!!

Frank and Sonja McCrady III (Fort Wayne, Ind.): We are now enjoying our "THIRD Son." Before his birth, we picked the name Michelle Mabel, but we decided not to have a boy "named Sue" and named him *Michael David*. He weighed in at 8 lbs., 10 ozs., and was 21 inches long. Everyone is doing fine, except at 3 a.m. Date of birth was January 10, 1977.

Laurie and Sarah Nyhus (Grand Prairie, Alberta): *Paul Edward* (weight 9 lbs.), our second son, arrived safely after an uneventful journey (for a change) on November 7 at 5:36 a.m. All went well.

Harry and Cheryl (Stephenson) Walker (Edmonton, Alberta): *Stephen Joseph*, our second son and

third child was born on election day, November 2. He weighed in at 8 lbs., 4 ozs. We overcame the temptation to name him Jimmy Carter. If anyone would like to know our secret for boys—write me and I'll send it by return mail in a plain brown wrapper (Donations accepted).

Stan and Gail Watts (Duluth, Minn.): We wish to announce the arrival of *Vanessa Anne*, our daughter. She is such a joy to the household! Everything is going perfectly, with a smooth 1½ hour labor. Vanessa is sleeping and eating well, and is such a calm and good baby.

Owen and Tina Willis (Central Africa): Because of travelling difficulties in this area with a Rhodesian born child, it was decided that we move for a short while from Salisbury to Blantyre in Malawi for Tina to have the baby. She duly produced a 7 lb., 11 oz. daughter—*Natasha Anna*—on the 24th of September. National statistics, which show that some 99.9% of babies born here are black, were proved wrong by one little Malawian blonde!

LETTER COMMENTS

(Continued from page 145)

experiencing in his own life. In our eight years of Church life, we have never called upon a minister for help or counselling that we have not received the kindest, most loving response. I'm sure many of our problems were insignificant compared to theirs, yet they never were too busy to give us the help we needed.

"Thank you for reminding us that we owe a great debt to our ministers and their very devoted wives."

—Mr. & Mrs. George S. Watson
Las Vegas, NV

"Thanks a million for your beautiful letter concerning the life and work of the ministry. It was a real eye-opener for those of us who can be so blind at times."

—Rick Topper
Big Sandy, TX