

The Bulletin



of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 11

PAGES 455-486

SEPTEMBER 11, 1974

News Briefs

Highlights of news from division reports in this issue

ACADEMIC (page 468)

Mike Germano reports that the enrollment this fall was larger than planned for. He explains problems of space, some student financial situations and comments on the international flavor of the student body. Overall a most encouraging start for the new school year!

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION (page 462)

C. Wayne Cole comments about the speaking schedules for the upcoming Feasts, gives instructions regarding the minister's responsibility toward "those who oppose themselves," includes latest ministerial transfers and discusses LTC and spokesman clubs.

DATA PROCESSING (page 468)

Ben Chapman concludes his two-part series of informative reports on "ACTS" — the Ambassador College Terminal System. He elaborates on the different functions of ACTS, the satellite files, and the various modes of this important and versatile system.

INTERNATIONAL DIVISION (page 465)

Les McCullough introduces two special reports from overseas areas: Colin Adair and Clarence Bass highlight activities of the Work in their respective areas — the Philippines and the Caribbean.

MAIL PROCESSING (page 456)

Richard Rice updates us on mail activity, response to the PT gift subscription letter, and co-worker activity. Featured are informative reports from Eric Shaw of the Postal Center and Larry Nelson regarding the WATS Line System. (Our apologies to Larry for the delays in running his report — *Managing Editor*.)

MEDIA (page 465)

For this issue Norman Smith asked Dan Ricker to bring everyone up to date on the following: plans for creating a viable monitor system; films and slide shows; airing schedules; display booth project response; TV promotion.

PUBLISHING (page 464)

Brian Knowles briefly comments on the November GN, a new booklet program, and our editorial team in England.

BIBLE HYMNALS

Church Administration Department regrets to announce that a delay in delivery of paper has held up printing of the *Bible Hymnals*. They will not be delivered before the Feast of Tabernacles as was originally planned. Printing is now scheduled for mid-September with delivery sometime shortly after the Feast.

— *Managing Editor*

Mail Processing

Mail Activity

The mail count for the month of August shows a welcome 3% increase over our July total. We received a total of 191,503 letters this month which gives us an accumulated total for the year of 2,115,717. Subscription renewals to *The PLAIN TRUTH* are the single largest factor in August's mail.

Responses to PT Gift Subscription Letter

The response to Mr. Herbert Armstrong's PT gift subscription letter is nearing completion. As of the end of August, over 38,000 letters have been received, with 79% of these letters containing contributions for someone else's subscription. The accumulated donations from this mailing now total approximately \$241,500 or \$8.02 per letter. Over 30,000 new donors are now on file as a result of Mr. Armstrong's letter!

Co-Worker Activity

During August 251 new co-workers were added to our co-worker list. Eighteen co-workers were cancelled and 28 delinquent co-workers were reinstated to an active status.

Some very interesting and unusual requests for multiple copies of our literature were received this month. In the July 17 *Bulletin*, we reported how an executive of Beech Aircraft Corporation requested 300 copies of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* for management personnel. About the first of August, he wrote again enclosing a check for \$100 and requesting 300 copies of *The Modern Romans!*

Proprietors of a new 20 story high-rise mausoleum in Nashville, Tennessee phoned in over our WATS line to request 5,000 copies of the article, "The Fear of Death," in our August *Plain Truth*. Since the article had not been reprinted we could not send it, but we offered them a limited number of "After Death, Then What?"

The Postal Center

Without the efficient and dedicated service of the Ambassador College Postal Center, the tons of literature mailed every month from Mail Processing Center wouldn't get very far. In this issue of the *Bulletin* we are pleased to present a report, written by the Postal Center supervisor, Eric Shaw, on the progress and cooperation Ambassa-

The
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EDITOR IN CHIEF
HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

EDITOR
GARNER TED ARMSTRONG

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
C. WAYNE COLE

SENIOR EDITORS
DAVID JON HILL, ROBERT L. KUHN

MANAGING EDITOR
RICHARD H. SEDLIACIK

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
CHARLES V. DOROTHY, BRIAN KNOWLES

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dor's mailing operation has been able to develop with the United States Postal System.

WATS Response

Because of space limitations in the August 14, 27 issues of the *Bulletin* the editors were unable to run a special report on the WATS Line System. Space does permit its inclusion this time and the editors have decided to quote the lead-in to the article exactly as I wrote it for the August 14th edition. This report will immediately follow the Postal Center write-up.

— Richard Rice

THE POSTAL CENTER

Over the years the Work of God has been blessed in many ways by our relationship with the United States Postal Service and by the smooth working relationship that we have with our own local Pasadena office.

First of all, the postage rate structure for much of the mailing that we do is designed to give non-profit educational and religious institutions a much lower rate. For instance, the last part of September we are planning to mail a promotion letter of approximately 1,000,000 letters to all

(Continued on page 461)

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
PRESIDENT and PASTOR

OFFICE OF
GARNER TED ARMSTRONG
Vice President

To all ministers of Jesus Christ and key supervisory personnel:

GREETINGS!

This may be the last Bulletin before the Feast -- I'll try to keep my part fairly brief.

As you know, Mr. Armstrong is currently in the Orient and will be headed for Cairo for a large testimonial dinner before top officials in the government, accompanied by several members of the Japanese Congress, and then on to Israel for a similar testimonial dinner there.

As soon as I receive additional definitive information from Mr. Armstrong (I am telexing him again today), I will pass it on to you -- but it may be that you will not receive too much additional word of those planned meetings until the Feast.

I am pleased to see the "running year" (taking the income averages for any given 365-day period, relating to the current date) now stands at about 5%! However, this does not mean the fiscal year will come up to 5%. We hope and pray it will at least come very CLOSE to that figure, as it MUST if we are to meet the budgetary commitments we have made, and live within our new balanced budget, reflecting the very deep and traumatic budgetary cuts of these past few months.

We are very close to publication of the complete ministerial white paper on the subject of tithing, and are planning the publication of a very complete booklet on the subject as well.

We have had a large number of meetings at all levels, including large plenary sessions and smaller committee-type meetings, and all the men on the committee have waded through every shred and scrap of evidence given by any from the field who had contributions, as well as the large number on the theology faculties and on the committee itself.

I am very, very thoroughly satisfied with the work of the committee on the subject of tithing, and it only remains now for final presentation to Mr. Herbert Armstrong and publication in several forms.

We are about to begin our promised tape-cassette ministerial

educational program! By the end of the week we will be mailing to all church pastors the first package of eight cassettes -- including material for the pastors, elders and deacons, and members. In general we plan to have three tapes on Pastoral Administration containing classes and information on human relations, stewardship and ministerial skills, Church government, counseling, problems of preaching, etc. Another four tapes from the Department of Theology would contain basic information from selected Theology classes. The eighth tape could perhaps be a Friday-night Headquarters Bible Study of special interest, or a College Forum or Assembly that would help to keep the membership in closer contact with Headquarters.

This first package, which will take 1-2 weeks to arrive, will include the following: an introductory letter explaining recommended ideas for usage, two tapes by Jon Hill or Charles Dorothy from Old Testament Survey, two by Dave Antion on Counseling, one by Art Mocarow on "The Chemistry of Government," and two from the recently concluded Ministerial Education and Training Program in Texas. We're all excited about this new program. Help us improve it!

I am very much looking forward to the opportunity to be with all of you fellows and the congregations in Cincinnati for the Feast of Trumpets! Currently we are planning to go over to Big Sandy on Friday before Trumpets, stay there over the Sabbath, then up to Cincinnati by Monday evening in order to have dinner with a number of the ministers and their wives in the area, returning on to Pasadena immediately after Trumpets.

Hopefully, we will be with the brethren up in the Sacramento or Oakland area during the Day of Atonement and begin our travels for the Feast from there.

I think most of you know that many of the ministers are going to be visiting more than one Feast site, including Ron Dart, who will manage to cover six; Wayne Cole, who will cover five; Bill McDowell, who will cover three (I believe); and several others, such as Jon Hill, Sherwin McMichael, etc., who will be attending more than one Feast site. It's hard to believe another Feast of Tabernacles is almost upon us, but I am certainly looking forward to a very exciting and enthusiastic Feast of Tabernacles this year, as I believe are most all of the brethren!

That's about it for now. Thanks ever so much for the communication and the steady stream of letters and phone calls, as necessary. I couldn't be happier with the job our CAD team is doing right now in keeping me fully and completely informed and in working as closely as possible with you fellows in the field. We welcome any of your input and suggestions of ways and means to improve communications. Hopefully each of you will do your part -- remembering that communication is a two-way street!

Hope to see everyone of you, in person, at the Feast!

Until then, with much love,

Your brother in Christ,

Samuel Ted Armstrong

P.S. Have just received an update from my father. Over 200 distinguished Japanese -- university professors, bankers, industrialists, executives -- attended a Bible Study in a private room in the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo. Mr. Armstrong was introduced to each person before speaking for 90 minutes on "What Is the True Gospel?" and why they had never heard it before. (This will form the basis for an expansion of our booklet on the subject.) The reaction of the audience was excellent (some even brought Bibles!) -- staying afterwards to talk with Mr. Armstrong, later following him out to the street. Future Bible Studies are being planned for October and November, when we hope to see the attendance increasing.

Mr. Armstrong's current trip (with the two high-ranking Japanese Diet members to the Mid-East) shows the extent of God's guidance. Nobody could have predicted a few years ago that as a result of a continuous strengthening of Japanese faith, confidence, and trust in Mr. Armstrong he would be officially cited, in formal diplomatic occasions, for making significant contributions to Japanese-Egyptian and Japanese-Israeli relations (and on the same trip!), as well as giving speeches on the true Gospel to such distinguished audiences.

Furthermore, Prince Mikasa will be officially visiting Egypt in January and Israel in June -- the initial contact and arrangements having been made through Mr. Armstrong. A tentative visit of the Prince to Ambassador College in Pasadena is in the works for next August. Considering the enormous prestige of the Emperor's brother and the worldwide influence of Japan, this whole sequence of events certainly seems to be providential!

Doctrinal Research

DOCTRINAL MEETINGS ON TITHING

(August 27)

The largest in a continuing series of meetings on tithing was held Tuesday, August 27. It was attended by 16 ministers and faculty members and chaired by C. Wayne Cole. Herman L. Hoeh, as co-chairman of the task force on tithing, conducted much of the proceedings.

The origin of the Emergency Fund was discussed.

C. Wayne Cole pointed out that the important thing is to establish the *biblical* base for our teaching on third tithe. At the present time about 90% of our third tithe fund goes to widows (of those, some 70.6% are "spiritual widows"). If the present trend continues since the May conference, the amount of help sent out from Headquarters before long will exceed that which is sent in for that purpose. Church pastors must encourage their members to be as self-sufficient financially as possible. We must teach the people the need for proper budgetary principles and proper use of money so that the Church is not over-burdened. Ways of helping those in need can include free lodging and food from time to time and personal services either individually or collectively donated, i.e. painting houses, garden care, roof and car repair, etc.

Lester Grabbe presented a succinct but thorough paper on the scriptures describing 2nd and 3rd tithes in the Old Testament and the later Jewish traditions. The committee now has a much more solid understanding of the issues on this matter.

(August 29)

The second meeting this week dealing with the subject of tithing took place Thursday, August 29. As on the previous Tuesday, 16 people were present.

The meeting got under way after a summary of a paper presented to Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong on healing (which we plan to amplify and send out in a white paper in the not too far future).

Herman L. Hoeh introduced the meeting to a discussion of the relative importance of the first tithe vs. the second and third tithes in the Old Testament administration. He presented the view that the first tithe is holy to God, the other two are directly for man's needs.

The meeting again covered the historical record and asked the question: Why are there two distinct Jewish traditions on the administration of the third tithe — and apparent variations of practice at different periods in history?

In Josephus' time (in so far as one can accept his figures), large numbers of people came to Jerusalem from all over the empire to keep the Feasts. They must have financed these journeys by saving the festival tithe. Later, apparently, the second tithe fell into disuse when Jerusalem was off limits to Jews.

Wayne Cole pointed out that we are dealing with *principles* in New Testament times. The actual letter of the law cannot always be applied *precisely* today. We are dealing with intent and consequent adaptation to modern needs and usage, but always consistent with biblical teaching whether either law, principle or example!

Third tithe was also addressed in the context of Christ's words, "the poor you always have with you."

Clint C. Zimmerman pointed out that we should not be out to relieve lay members or ourselves of an obligation toward the needy imposed upon us by God.

D. Jon Hill pointed out that we must understand the letter of the law before we can really arrive in the "ballpark" of the spirit of it. God would not give a law for the poor and needy that would *make* people poor and needy!

Further discussion centered on the use of taxes by the State or nation in welfare and charitable areas meeting the letter-of-the-law requirements of the poor or third tithe. But though we may have, as to conscience, been taxed even more than third tithe, there still is the need within the Church to take care of our own when secular funds are not sufficient.

(September 3)

The numbers attending doctrinal meetings here at Pasadena continue to grow! Tuesday, September 3, saw eighteen men assembled to continue the discussion on the administration of tithing. Additional guests included Messrs. Bob Fahey (here on business from South Africa) and Richard Rice of the Mail Processing Center.

Lester Grabbe pointed out that it is clear, from internal evidence, that there were three distinct *uses* of the tithe in the Old Testament. There are still some questions that need to be weighed as to whether there were, through history, always three distinct tithes collected in the Jewish community.

A white paper is being finalized on the doctrine of tithing for Mr. Ted Armstrong's approval. It will be edited and distributed to the field ministry.

This paper will contain presentations on the various pertinent scriptures dealing with the subject of tithing.

The Work of preaching the Gospel still needs to be financed. There must still be a method of financing Festival attendance, and the "poor" we have always with us. What better system than an application of tithing! Does it not after all reflect the mind of God and the intent of the law?

All agreed that the Church has no responsibility to God to enforce tithing on every individual by checking into each one's personal practices. Tithing, as an act of worship comparable to prayer, is between the Christian and his God. However, those who cause dissension and discord over the doctrine should be dealt with as with any other similar problem.

The motivation for tithing should be twofold: 1) to support the preaching of Christ's gospel and 2) to lay up treasures in heaven instead of merely on earth.

THE POSTAL CENTER

(Continued from page 456)

regulars. At the first class rate it would cost \$100,000. At the normal bulk rate it would cost \$63,000. The rate we will pay will be only \$18,000. With the millions of pieces which we mail in the course of a year this saves us many hundreds of thousands of dollars. Except for these special rates our annual postage budget would be about double what it is now.

The cooperation with the local Pasadena Post Office has been a two way street. We try to help them every way we can by going beyond what is required in our mail processing. They reciprocate by allowing us to use optional procedures which save us much time and effort. For example, we sack first class co-worker letters and label the sack direct to its destination which allows them to bypass the normal sorting and sacking procedure at the Post Office. They can go direct to the airport for loading to various points around the country. Also any mail which has computer addresses is trayed for the Post Office in zip code order to make processing much easier. Proper coordination is the main element needed to achieve these advantages.

These and other procedures have enabled us to build a positive working relationship with the United States Post Office. Our system has been used as an example at seminars conducted by the Post Office and it's our hope that in the future we can continue to improve the groundwork already laid.

— Eric Shaw
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Q. Since the ministerial and church address book is no longer sent out to field ministers, what is the best way for us, or for our members, to get church meeting addresses and times?

A. The quickest and best way to get church addresses and times would be to call the Ambassador College WATS Line (800-423-4444), identify yourself and request the information you need. You can have members follow the same procedure when traveling.

Q. The WATS number for ministerial use was listed in the Bulletin as 800-423-4464. Shoudn't that have been 423-4444?

A. The WATS number for ministers is 800-423-4464. As mentioned previously, it is to be used for leaving messages for someone at Headquarters to return your call. Your call cannot be transferred. Members generally should not use this number.

The 800-423-4444 line is basically for requesting literature, as well as getting church meeting times and locations.

Q. What is our present policy concerning gift subscriptions to the Plain Truth?

A. Since we no longer offer a three-month PT gift subscription, the following policy has been adopted. Persons wishing to give a friend a subscription may submit his name (along with theirs) as before. However, in lieu of a regular subscription, he will receive a *special introductory* copy of the PT which contains a response card that he *must* return in order to receive a one-year subscription. This gives the person the *option* of accepting the gift.

Please note that we are *not* trying to build the PT list and you should not construe this policy as blanket permission to freely add names to our list. But if you feel a friend is genuinely interested, send us his name and we'll be happy to send him the introductory copy.

Church Administration

Greetings fellow ministers. We are now within days of observing the Feast of Trumpets. Several ministers from Big Sandy and Pasadena will be visiting churches across the country. Mr. Ted Armstrong will be in Cincinnati where we understand approximately 4,000 will be assembled.

I am not going to assume to report on Mr. McDowell's activities in the Feast Office, but do wish to comment on the Feast of Tabernacles as it pertains to the ministry. A few days ago Mr. McDowell sent the "final preliminary" speaking schedule or perhaps the "unofficial, official final — subject to slight, moderate or extensive revision and/or correction — speaking schedule" to Mr. GTA and a number of the principal speakers. Obviously I'm being facetious, but I hope you realize that preparing such an assignment sheet is a complex and traumatic job. Some will be disappointed because they have not been assigned to speak. Others, perhaps, would prefer not to speak at the Feast.

But believe me, Mr. Ted Armstrong's concern and certainly Mr. McDowell's and others of us who have input regarding these assignments are thinking of what is best for the Church at large. Please be kind enough to forgive any mistakes made out of a lack of personal acquaintance of individual minister's speaking effectiveness, etc.

I didn't intend to get too deeply involved in comments about the Festival plans, but I do want to explain that due to my services in CAD Mr. Ted Armstrong has asked me to visit and speak at several sites. (I am not the only one who will be doing so, by the way, but my reference here is to explain some of my intentions while visiting several Festival congregations.) While in each of the four areas of Penticton, Squaw Valley, Tucson and Big Sandy I would like to have a meeting with the ministers. I hope it can be a non-meal meeting and will simply be a profitable "rap-session" bringing us closer together, providing more understanding of our work, our needs and perhaps our common problems. Please be thinking about this and be ready for such sessions in the areas mentioned.

Paul Flatt, Burk McNair and Dennis Pyle will be attending the Feast at sites within their respec-

tive areas and plan to have meetings as described above with the ministers at such locations. Art Mocarow will be having some "get togethers" in areas where he will be attending for the purpose of Ministerial Education and Training needs. Other principal speakers may wish to have planned meetings, but the desire to do so should be left to them to indicate to the respective Festival Elders for arrangements.

Fellows, it is up to us in the ministry to make the Feast this year an encouraging, positive, inspiring place for God's people to be for eight days and to preach inspiring, encouraging, uplifting, powerful, positive, relevant, meat-in-due-season type sermons and sermonettes. We all need to be filled with a love for God and for His people and be *concerned, dedicated, service-oriented* ministers of Jesus Christ. Believe me, I think that generally that is the kind of ministry in the Worldwide Church of God, but between now and the Feast (and of course continually) let's do a little extra soul-searching and asking God for the attitudes we need to properly serve God's people at this coming Feast of Tabernacles.

You are all aware of the statement of guidelines we published regarding "disfellowships." I hope it was helpful for you in making serious decisions concerning "affected" members during the past few months. Since several requests have come in from ministers for additional instruction on this subject, I would like to amplify some of the earlier comments on this matter of dealing with "turned-off," "tuned-out" confused members and, unfortunately at times, with members who are so caught up in a spirit of resentment, accusation or disturbance that they may be causing some "discord among us." There obviously comes a time when one who is causing division must be dealt with firmly (in love, but firmly) and told not to attend services. But, fellows, this *can* be and *perhaps* sometimes has been used as the "easy way out of a problem."

When we examine the life of Jesus Christ and see His tremendous mercy and kindness, when we see the value and respect He placed on human life as potential God-family life, then to examine further the same spirit working in and through the Apostle Paul in his dealing with all kinds of cranks, attitudes, self-righteous persons, cases of immorality, etc., I feel we learn a great deal about *how we* should deal with those today who are *potential* sons of God.

We are told in I Timothy 2:25 to "in meekness

instruct those who oppose themselves." As well, "Brethren, if [although] a man be overtaken in a fault, you which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering yourself, lest you also be tempted" (Gal. 6:1).

These scriptures portray a *concerned, understanding* pastor. One who sees the needs of a fellow member of Christ's body, not one who is defensive and sees a fight, argument, or conflict. Then, when dealing with such a person, sympathetically working to *restore* his solidarity, *the minister is instructed to consider himself*. The attitude is not one of "holier than thou", or of condescendingly helping a derelict back to the minister's "elevated" status. It is an attitude of mercy and humility. The scriptures portray a spiritual strength and quiet firm personal conviction and devotion on the part of the minister — not wavering conviction nor weak understanding.

Fellows, the responsibility to strengthen the flock falls squarely on your shoulders as well as ours. We want to try to give you some administrative guidelines from time to time in order for us to approach our problems and difficulties in a unified manner, but regardless of whatever guidelines we give you we can never replace your individual judgment and discernment. That's why the individual pastor is a major key in maintaining a unified, inspired, growing body of Christ.

If you have members attending Church services who are spreading dissension, discord and division through gossip and rumor, you must deal with that as instructed in Timothy and Galatians. To allow constant divisionary gossip and rumor is to invite a demoralizing weakness into the Church. Obviously, if some people have questions and doubts you are the one they should be talking with and your *God-given charge* is that you be "...gentle, and easy to be intreated..." (Jas. 3:17).

Let us never have to look back and see someone "turned-off," confused or so polarized in a spirit of resentment that he is indeed not reconcilable to the Church of God — *BUT* if we had been just a little more patient, more concerned and had worked a little harder with him we might yet see him happily within the Church of God today.

Again, I say it is easier to *put out* a problem, removing it from you, than to *endure it* and be concerned with it *as long as necessary* and go "the extra mile" to see your brother restored to the faith and spirit of togetherness with God's people.

Another point to consider: if people are afraid of

you, filled with fear, thinking that you are narrow-minded, then you are not going to be easy to talk with. They will then go to others — friends and members — and begin divisive talk.

If you yourself are confused about what people are saying concerning tithing, healing, etc. and don't know yourself where the Church "stands," — *call us!* We have told everyone sincerely and honestly that we are studying these topics in-depth in order to reconfirm our teachings and make changes as necessary. Everyone should have patience and then have faith while they have patience! Please give the brethren the stability of your own personal conviction and devotion to God and His Church while these things are being finalized. Then, once you have expressed your own confidence and assurance to those brethren, don't let others with "hands hanging down and feeble knees" (Heb. 12:12) discourage the hearts of their brethren through divisive talk and gossip. If some insist on this course of action, then they should be dealt with firmly — suspended or disfellowshipped for creating division.

Now to some other matters.

Ministerial Transfers

We want to keep you informed of the latest transfers in the ministry.

With the recent changes in the configuration of the HQ churches — from four to three congregations — Mr. Leonard Schreiber will now be moving to Oregon to pastor churches in Medford and Klamath Falls. Greg Sargent is being transferred to the Cleveland area to pastor the congregations in that city.

Other transfers: Wayne Shiftet to Jackson, Miss.; Jeff McGowan to College; Terry Anderson to Fresno, Calif.; Dan Orban to Bakersfield; Stan Watts to Duluth; Otto Lochner to College; Randy Schreiber to Denver; Richard Parker to Salem, Oregon; Dan Caufeo to San Diego.

LTC

We've noticed from a statement or two sent in that a few men are still conducting "Leadership Training Classes" based on the outlines and material sent out in 1968-1970. While this material contained helpful information and study material, we feel it best to discontinue those classes.

As you've noticed in the last *Bulletin* we are embarking on a tape cassette program designed to further the education of the field ministry. After we've completed a year with this new tape pro-

gram we will analyze all factors to see if we need any specialized training such as the Leadership Training Class. If we feel there is a need, we will produce such material at that time.

Spokesman Clubs

During the ministerial conference in May Spokesman Clubs were discussed in the Church Activities Workshop. Several ministers mentioned that they did not have club this year because of a lack of new and interested participants. On the other hand, other pastors said they seemed to have more men than ever interested in the club. Some described limited to drastic alterations they had made in club format, etc.

In the past, Spokesman Clubs held a preeminent role in Church life. Members represented the inner cadre of the Church. The clubs were run by the book. If a man did not follow those specific guidelines, then he was indiscriminately going against Church government. In other words, the clubs became a criterion for judging conversion, spirituality and loyalty.

All of this is not to say by any means that the Spokesman Clubs did not produce positive results and fruit in the local congregations. They were edifying, pleasant, and invigorating. But, over the years, it seems they have begun, in some instances, to "bottom out" and we need to analyze where we are with the clubs and where we should go in the future. For those clubs to crumble and deteriorate into an unrecognizable hodgepodge from coast to coast is not good practice. If they need to be "killed" — then let's kill them. If they need to be altered, then let's alter them but, let's not just let them dissipate.

Therefore, you pastors should determine if you want to have a Spokesman Club in your area. Don't have it unless you have enough men (about 20) who earnestly *want* the club. Then, if you do have a club, try to follow the general guidelines in the Club Manual. In the meantime, send us your criticisms, suggestions for change, etc. regarding the Spokesman Clubs. Based on the information you give us, we will propose specific changes in the Spokesman Club format in the future.

That does it for another *Bulletin*. Looking forward to seeing many of you during the coming Holy Day season. Thanks again for the support and encouragement so many of you have expressed to me personally and to the team here in Pasadena. We are sincerely trying to "hold up your hands" and provide your needs and do appre-

ciate your dedicated service. By the way, if any of you have heard the latest rumor that has it that "I am fed up with CAD and am looking for a way out" — *FORGET IT!* I have only begun to be involved and am delighted to be in the service of Christ's ministry associated with you fellows.

— C. Wayne Cole

BIRTHS

Don and Alexandra Engle (Wheeling W. Va. — Uniontown, Pa.): There's another girl in my life, but my wife is thrilled about it. Alexandra and I are pleased to announce the birth of our first child, a daughter. Her name is *Jeannine Michelle* and she was born August 25th at 8:55 a.m. after a very short three hour labor. Everyone is doing just fine.

Publishing

GN & BOOKLETS

Greetings: As this is written we are going to press with the November GN. We are again running an updated, edited version of Mr. Ted Armstrong's old GN series "Seven Proofs of God's Church." Formerly, only five articles in this series were completed. This time Mr. Armstrong intends to complete all seven.

In addition, we are running a series of articles (mostly new) expounding the various parts of Acts 2:38. We hope this will be especially helpful to the newer people on the mailing list who are contemplating baptism.

The *Update* section will contain a report on Mr. Ted Armstrong's recent and successful European trip. Also, a brief article on the new academic program of Ambassador College has been contributed by Dr. Stenger, the Registrar. A third feature will be on Mr. Jackson's most recent African baptizing tour.

We think it will be a good issue over all.

We are still working very hard on a new booklet program. Dr. Kuhn and I hope to give Mr. Ted Armstrong a recommendation sometime this week for his consideration.

A special word of thanks to our editorial team in England. Dr. Meredith, Mr. Hunting, Peter Butler and David Ord have been very helpful in providing many helpful ideas and suggestions for the GOOD NEWS. Our British contingent will be well represented (as it has been) in future issues of the GN.

— Brian Knowles

Media

Greetings again to everyone. For this issue Dan Ricker will bring everyone up to date on several items within his realm of responsibility.

— Norman A. Smith

Monitors

Plans to create a viable monitoring system, which will keep us constantly aware of each station's handling of our program, are moving ahead.

Ministers in the U. S., who serve churches located within the immediate broadcast areas of stations carrying our program, have received letters requesting the selection of qualified persons who will serve as monitors to keep us "tuned in" to the program on their stations. Within the next few days letters carrying the same request will go out to ministers in Canada.

It is hoped that the task of monitoring can be made a family activity in order that we may draw upon opinions and comments from all members from time to time. These reports will become useful tools in evaluating each station's performance at contract renewal time as well as serving many other purposes.

Our thanks and appreciation go out to all of you, for without your sincere participation at this time the system cannot be effective.

Films and Slide Shows

We are continuing to answer requests from you who wish to receive films and slide shows for use in Bible studies, etc. Those on the waiting list for "Herbert W. Armstrong: The Man and His Work" and "Ambassador Auditorium" have been satisfied and we can handle more requests. Those who wish to use either of these, or both, can receive them within three weeks from the time your request reaches us.

Also remember there are other film and slide shows available and we are most anxious to serve you in any way we can.

Airing Schedules

By now all of you should have received the new fall program airing schedule for the TV station in your area. Hopefully, you will find it useful in keeping your congregation informed about the programs and in stimulating viewing interest. We solicit and welcome any comments you may wish to make.

Display Booth Project

Responses from state and county fairs continue to come to us almost daily. Several recent returns numbered over 800 literature request cards. Robert Jones of Minneapolis mailed in 813 cards and 1175 came from Richard Kilbury of Milwaukee. These figures represent costs per response of .43 and .29 respectively. Many other fairs have had good, solid response, public exposure in the local areas and member enthusiasm which are all very important aspects of this ongoing project.

Promotion

Much effort has gone into the preparation of TV promotion for the new fall season. There are new updated slides and announcer copy as well as new 30 second video promos and expanded TV Guide and newspaper ads. These should appear more often in on-air advertising as well as in print since they are carefully produced, quality materials.

We are enthusiastic about the coming season's programming and feel certain that you and the brethren will also find the programs exciting and stimulating.

— Dan Ricker

International Division

Greetings to everyone from the International Division. Just a short note this time to introduce two special reports from overseas areas. Colin Adair and Clarence Bass highlight activities of the Work in their respective areas.

— Leslie L. McCullough

THE WORK IN THE PHILIPPINES

Mr. Armstrong's first overseas campaign, held in Manila, is now history. However, the interest generated is still high. After four follow-up Bible lectures the attendance is very good. Although we received a total of 2,290 "pledges" to attend the lectures, many Filipinos have not kept to their commitment. Sad to say breaking their word is a bad characteristic of the Filipino people. It is interesting to note that on 3 out of 4 lecture days, it rained heavily just about the time people would be travelling to the study. It seems someone was trying to prevent people hearing the truth of God.

The first week we had only 201 in attendance, but 157 were new prospectives. I had told the brethren to stay home because we didn't think we

would have enough room for everyone! The second week we had total of 315 — 127 brethren and 188 prospectives. The third lecture was the largest so far, with 507, of which only 199 were members. The fourth lecture saw 394 in attendance, of which 204 were prospectives. The quantity may have been low, but the quality was high. The audience was very attentive and many questions were asked. At the start of the fourth lecture I still held 160 unanswered questions!

The university lectures on dating and marriage are still going on. Just last week I had the unusual opportunity to speak before a seminar of supervisors and principal teachers of Rizal province, on the subject of the teaching of moral values in schools. Over 300 people attended, each one being responsible for 100 or more teachers in their areas. This was one new way of "preaching the gospel" to a new group.

The Philippine Work is continuing steady growth. P.T. subscribers as of June '74 numbered almost 80,000, an increase of 8.43% over 1973. C.C. students totalled 7,217, an increase over last year of 67%. This is most encouraging as future members will no doubt come from these students. Mail is down on last year due to the quarterly instead of monthly Plain Truth, but the income for the calendar year shows an increase of 21.6%.

As of June we had a membership of 1,156 baptized people, an increase of 10.8% over last year. There are now seven churches throughout the Philippines although 3 meet at present only bi-monthly. Our greatest need is ministerial manpower. Five ordained men (including myself) is hardly enough to handle a whole nation. Hopefully, by early next year we can have someone stationed in the central islands to take care of our people there. But we need to continually pray for more laborers for the harvest.

Right now we are reorganizing our radio coverage to reach the country with more stations than our present seven, although with less frequency. We feel twice per week instead of daily, will do a better job of witnessing to the nation. We plan approximately 18 stations to blanket the country.

Bi-monthly booklet advertising continues in the Manila Daily Express, bringing us a fine return of approximately 20 U. S. cents per response.

In August the Manila office moves premises to the Ramon Magsaysay Center on Roxas Blvd., facing Manila Bay. This is a beautiful building in a beautiful area.

At present there are 20 staff members in the office plus two elders and myself. With the arrival

of Mr. George Hood this will make a total of 24 workers in the office. In Central Luzon Mr. Pedro Ortiguero pastors the Urdaneta and Baguio Churches, while in Mindanao Mr. Encardio Benitez, local elder, takes care of the Don Carlos/Kiara Churches and makes baptizing tours of the rest of the island. As well as this we have five leaders, (former Sardis) affiliated with us looking after small groups of brethren.

This brings us up to date with the Philippine Work, the largest Work in Asia. We would appreciate your continual prayers for the brethren here, especially the few in Mindanao who are still facing certain dangers from rebels.

— Colin Adair

CARIBBEAN UPDATE

The Caribbean region of the International Division consists of those English speaking islands of the Caribbean Sea — the Greater Antilles, the Lesser Antilles, both often called the West Indies, plus the Bahamas Islands, just off the coast of Florida, and Bermuda in the mid-Atlantic. We are also involved in several countries more or less related to the Caribbean islands — in particular Guyana.

The Caribbean, the sixth largest body of water on the earth, contains a formidable 971,400 square miles and about 25 million people, of whom the majority speaks Spanish (15,000,000). About 5½ million speak French and 220 thousand speak Dutch. These figures refer only to the islands within the Caribbean, and not to the Central and South American nations bordering on it.

From its regional headquarters in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the International Division serves fourteen islands within the Caribbean plus the Bahamas Islands, Bermuda and Guyana.

The main thrust of the Caribbean Work is in English, and reaches some five million English speaking people. However, the main harvest in the Caribbean lies among the Spanish speaking people, some 8 million of whom are behind Castro's sugar cane curtain.

The land mass of the region is less than ten percent of the total area, and it is divided into more than twenty islands (more than seven hundred if one counts each of the Bahamas Islands and cays.)

Getting from Puerto Rico to the various islands requires a lot of flying. San Juan to Bermuda, 4½ hours; San Juan to Kingston, Jamaica, 1½ hours; San Juan to Trinidad, 2 hours.

The year ended June 30th has been one of

growth. In February, Roland Sampson and I moved from Miami to San Juan and started conducting regular Sabbath services, and San Juan became a sort of headquarters for the Caribbean Region.

San Juan, Puerto Rico is a better suited locale from which to serve the region. It also offers the opportunity of trying to learn another language. Though most Puerto Ricans speak English, *la lengua de Puerto Rico es español*. Sabbath services are conducted in English, though. One of the members translates for those who have difficulty understanding sermons in English.

I should mention another reason for the choice of Puerto Rico as a regional headquarters. Puerto Ricans and Americans have a common citizenship. Since U. S. citizens are welcome in Puerto Rico, I can live in the Caribbean and not have to worry about getting work permits.

In July, we moved all church office functions away from my apartment to an apartment rented for that purpose. Having an office in one's home offers some conveniences and some very apparent drawbacks. We are now getting adjusted to our new working area.

This year there will be three Feasts of Tabernacles in the region for English speaking members: Barbados, Trinidad and Bermuda. The major reason for this increase in Feast sites is the severe economic pressure the members are under. It was getting increasingly difficult to travel overseas to keep the Feast for many of our members.

Skyrocketing air fares and general inflation in the region make it almost certain that one or two Feast sites will have to be added next year. Right now it seems that our next Feast sites will be Jamaica and St. Lucia, manpower and finances permitting.

For example, this year, because of tightening U. S. visa requirements, only three of our Jamaican members will be going to the Feast at St. Petersburg, only 850 miles away (only!). The others will have to travel to Barbados (1250 miles) or Trinidad (1500) in order to keep the Feast.

There are indications that the Government of Guyana is about to restrict the movement of its citizens for obvious economic reasons. If this happens, it may well mean that members would not be able to travel outside the country to keep the Feast. So, we have our problems, too.

Media and advertising in the region is limited to daily radio in Bermuda, Puerto Rico and Trinidad; and weekly radio on Rediffusion Service in Barbados. We have newly gone into a Newsstand

program in Barbados and Trinidad. The results of this activity are not yet known.

The region has four ministers and one ministerial trainee assigned full time to the Caribbean. In addition there are two ministers who are associated with the region. Below is a list of our ministerial assignments and church attendance.

Meeting Every Sabbath			
<i>Churches</i>	<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	
Barbados	Carlos Nieto	(LE)	220
Bahamas (Nassau)	Kingsley Mather	(LE)	70
Puerto Rico	Clarence Bass	(PE)	45
	Roland Sampson	(LE)	
	Pablo Gonzalez	(LE)	
	Gordon Harry	(MT)	
Trinidad	Clarence Bass	(PE)	190
	(Local deacon Lennox Deyalsingh acting for Clarence Bass)		
Meeting 1st & 3rd Sabbaths			
Bermuda	Ed Faulk	(LE)	85
	(On loan from New York)		
	Kingsley Mather	(LE)	
(From Nassau, Bahamas)			
Meeting Once Per Month			
Jamaica	Clarence Bass	(PE)	45
	Roland Sampson	(LE)	
Outlying Bible Studies			
St. Lucia	Clarence Bass	(PE)	60
	Roland Sampson	(LE)	
	Carlos Nieto	(LE)	
Baptized Members			
Barbados			120
Trinidad & Tobago			88
Bermuda			40
Bahamas			33
Puerto Rico & Virgin Islands			30
St. Lucia			21
Jamaica			20
Guyana			17
Grenada			14
Dominica			12
Belize (British Honduras)			7
Antigua			5
St. Vincent			5
St. Kitts			2
			414

The active PT file is about 12,000. Before we entered a vigorous renewal campaign at the beginning of 1974, it stood in excess of 20,000. Bricket Wood is still receiving subscriptions which are causing the file to gradually climb again. There is

good potential in the region. Due to the way the islands are scattered, we are receiving new PMs as fast as we get to them. We are actually expecting the alarming crises all around us to really "shake the bushes" among the basically religious English speaking people of the Caribbean region.

— Clarence S. Bass

Academic

PASADENA

Over 865 students have enrolled for the 1974-75 school year and constitute the largest student body in Ambassador's 27-year history! This gives us a full-time equivalent enrollment of about 685 students, since about 170 students are part-time extended day students who registered for the evening program.

Some 50 graduate students have enrolled as well as 645 full-time undergraduates. The marked increase in undergraduate students (from 481 last year) was due primarily to the closing of the Brick Wood campus.

The increased student body has allowed the college to achieve a reasonable economy of scale. This means that many formerly small classes are now supporting reasonable enrollments. Additional students and slightly higher tuition have aided in offsetting the reduction of \$550,000 of direct subsidy for academic operations from the Worldwide Church of God.

As you can well imagine, the campus has become quite international in character. We now have about 160 international students, with the largest contingent from Canada and then Australia. The majority are adjusting well to Ambassador.

Due to recent changes in the federal administration of immigration regulations, it has become difficult for international students to acquire off-campus work permits. As a result 5 or 6 students are having severe financial problems. Another 30 are headed for financial trouble unless jobs or scholarships are forthcoming. We are hoping that additional jobs on campus will be open after the Feast of Tabernacles and that additional contributions to the scholarship fund will be forthcoming.

Many of the American students are obtaining jobs in the Pasadena community. This program was developed last year, spearheaded by Robert Oberlander and Norman Kulick of the career services staff, and has not only aided students finan-

cially, but also has set a very fine example in the community.

There is a minor problem in the student housing area that you may have heard about. We were short about 30 beds when college opened. More students actually arrived for college than had been anticipated. As a result we had to open an additional dormitory for men, but it is taking some time to acquire furniture. So for now some male students are roughing it. Next semester an additional 70 spaces will be available to allow for the admission of about 100 students in January. One hundred additional spaces are being planned for the fall of 1975.

The college year opened smoothly. There have been practically no problems, with the exception of helping students find employment and getting everyone settled in suitable housing. The expanded curriculum has allowed for most student interests and we appear headed for an exceptionally fine year.

We appreciate your support and encourage your help in recruiting additional fine students for January admission.

— Michael P. Germano

Data Processing

(*Editor's Note:* This issue concludes the report on "ACTS" [Ambassador College Terminal System] which Ben Chapman began in the last Bulletin.)

For the first *five years* of ACTS (through 1972) we concentrated on implementing the production requirements of ACTS to the neglect of the information requirements. We had no choice. There simply wasn't sufficient manpower to do both. Many feel it takes too long to get information of a complex nature from the ACTS data base and they're right! The main name/address file is maintained in zip code order — for mailing purposes. Consequently when specialized data is needed, we have to extract this data by sequentially looking at the entire N/A file — a lengthy procedure. Then the extracted data can be sorted or manipulated to provide answers. We are now concentrating on building this general bridge from the file to the requestor of information to provide him quicker answers. The *direct mail* program (which will be discussed in a later article) relies very heavily on the various stats and information obtained thru ACTS.

The Different Functions of ACTS

Every person who writes the Work is added to the master record file. The file is maintained in zip

code sequence (because of the constant daily need for geographical inquiry into the file, as well as for mailing purposes). Substantial amounts of information can be stored in *each* master record:

1. Name (with full title and suffix and up to four name segments)
2. Address
3. Zip code table key

Each record is keyed to a zip code table entry to provide consistent spelling of city name and correct zip code. The zip code base of our file allows considerable data analysis with ZIP-O-DATA (1970 census information) and marketing media information (dominate marketing areas).

4. All regularly-mailed literature, including the Plain Truth, Co-Worker letter, Good News, Worldwide News, etc.
5. Special status information: Regular subscriber, *Plain Truth* renewal cycle information, donor, co-worker, member, ordained minister, employee, disfellowshipped, etc.
6. Special co-worker and member information
7. Media response information. Was the initial response thru TV, radio, referral, etc.?

Satellite Files

In conjunction with each master record there are presently *seven* associated satellite files:

1. Correspondence Course
2. Personal Correspondence — minimal now that PCD has been greatly reduced
3. This year's donation records
4. Last year's donation records (both years are maintained in order to reconcile any errors)
5. Literature sent history (really a by-product of the literature mailing system)
6. Extra information
7. Festival housing (currently handled totally in Big Sandy but still related to master records here).

All this information is necessary for us to effectively do our job. Although we do assign a unique subscription number to each new subscriber, *we do not* require subscribers to include this number in any correspondence. Obviously, its inclusion does speed processing. But often our terminal operators must find the subscriber by name — and if the handwriting is illegible, they search for it by using all information available.

Modes of ACTS

Additions to File — A person may be added to the file who requested other literature as well as the *Plain Truth*. All labels for initial subscription

letters, introductory *Plain Truth*, and booklets are automatically generated as a by-product of the *one* add to the file. Together with the literature system the old typing and keypunching departments have been eliminated and the service provided considerably upgraded. "Synonyms" (records with name and addresses already in the file) are caught before entry into the file. There is no estimate of the amount of duplication in the six separate files maintained prior to 1966, although it was felt there was considerable. ACTS eliminated all duplication.

Changes of Name and Address — These changes need to be performed only once — on one Master Record, not on each satellite file. People receiving *free* magazines do not seem to be as concerned with keeping their addresses current as those who pay for subscriptions. The system takes care of the problem of moving multiple people in the same family to a new address with just one address change. The normal time required by most other magazines is four to six weeks. ACTS permits one to three days to accomplish this. We need an up-to-date file at all times to handle our many mailings besides the *Plain Truth*, including the co-worker letters, member letters, promotional letters, *Good News*, church newspaper, special CAD listings for new churches, donation receipts, literature requests, campaign promotion letters, payroll checks and W-2 statements, accounts receivable statements, etc.

Changes of Status — Status changes are made as we receive them and are done automatically on terminals.

Literature Processing — The *Plain Truth* list is sorted into twelve groups to aid in processing through the Post Office to qualify for second class mailing permits. The savings in time, personnel and postal costs would be unobtainable without storing and sorting capability provided by the computer. When the literature system was initially installed, it was estimated that MPC could conservatively save \$10,000 — \$13,000 *per month* plus provide significantly better service by:

1. Automatically presorting all outgoing mail by Zip Code
2. Separating mail into mailing classes
3. Pre-weighing mailings for maximum postage advantages
4. Sequencing booklets for most economical mailing groupings
5. Storing booklet requests to enable bulk mailing rates to be used
6. Holding literature requests if lit is out of

stock — when ready the lit is mailed to the current address

7. Inventory control is an automatic by-product

8. Enabling the most efficient use of postal department staff

A by-product of the system is the literature history file. The existence of this file provides information to aid PCD and co-worker department writers, provides service for literature that does not reach its destination and to enable special promotional mailings. Presently only six months of lit history is maintained on-line.

Donation Processing System — all donations for the current year and immediate past year are kept on-line for purposes of problem resolution. One clerk is able to resolve all problems with individual receipts, annual receipts, etc. Three receipts a year are sent to members instead of one for each donation — a savings of about 20 mailings per year per member family. Annual receipts are now 99% correct since most members and co-workers use "pre-indexed" envelopes.

In conclusion, the consolidation of all name and address files into the master record system provides a centralized information source previously unavailable. Response time for each of the terminals is less than two seconds on the average, providing essentially immediate visual access to all information contained in the master record system. This factor alone has eliminated a considerable routing of letter and other information.

ACTS has proved to be a powerful tool, most necessary for the size and scope of the Work today. The production-oriented aspects of ACTS have proved most profitable; now we must make better use of the wide range of information in the files to encourage more people's involvement and spiritual growth in this Work through our direct mail programs.

— Benjamin R. Chapman

MAIL PROCESSING

(Continued from page 461)

WATS Response From TV Summer Specials

The telephones are continuing to ring as more and more people use them to phone in literature requests to us. During the month of July 31,260 calls were processed, in addition to 29,950 calls which could not be connected due to busy signals. Mr. Ted Armstrong's *Summer Specials* alone have brought in 14,000 calls thus far — plus about 1,000 letters.

Because of the current interest in the success and use of our WATS (Wide Area Telephone Service) System, we have asked the WATS Section

Head, Mr. Larry Nelson, to submit the following article for this issue.

THE WATS LINE SYSTEM

Why Use Telephones?

In this age of instant coffee, instant breakfast, and an emphasis on fast service and response in every aspect of life, the telephone has become necessity of life. The cost of a telephone is so low 92% of the United States homes have one. And there has been an increased emphasis on calling for whatever may be desired. Because of all this, many people would rather call than write and some will not write but only call.

So, it is to make responding easier for people who are more telephone oriented that we are advertising and using telephones. In addition to that, we have found in previous tests that the total response to the TV program increased 50-60% by using the phone lines.

The telephones are literature request handling lines. They are *not* counselling or problem handling lines. If a caller indicates a deeper interest, he is offered appropriate literature, and if a problem or counselling situation occurs we offer the services of the local minister. And if the problem is urgent, we will call it out to the area minister. We have found there are very few calls which cannot be handled by offering literature or a visit. And those few that are unable to be handled are generally not really interested, unreasonable, mental cases, or drunks.

Callers' Comments

Virtually all of the comments we receive are very favorable and encouraging. A surprising number of first time callers ask, "Who's behind this?," "How can you send this free?" And after we explain how we are funded, many voluntarily promise to send money and ask for the address.

Recently a man called who had been tithing to a certain denomination all his life. He asked, "I suppose you should be careful who you tithe to, shouldn't you?" "Yes, you should," was the answer. "You people accept tithes, don't you?" asked the man. "We certainly do, sir," was the reply. "Well, I'm going to send my tithes to you from now on; I think they'll do more good there."

Calling Audience

One of the most interesting and important aspects of the WATS number is that it is an excellent response vehicle for younger people. The

(Continued on page 480)

OPEN FORUM

HANDLING NEW KNOWLEDGE

In light of some of the recent controversy caused in God's Church by a few who claimed to have discovered new biblical information, a section in II Peter seems to take on new meaning. Verses 5 to 7 of chapter 1 admonish us to diligently build on the foundation of faith by adding certain spiritual characteristics — first *virtue* (excellence, moral character), then *knowledge*. The Greek word for knowledge is *gnosis*, meaning *facts* or *information* one acquires throughout life (compare with I Cor. 13:2 and Col. 2:3 where the same Greek word is used). Other translations render the word “intelligence” (Moffatt, Amplified), implying a discerning or understanding of the information as well. Verse 6 then gives us very important instruction in how to handle knowledge or information acquired; “And to knowledge [add] temperance . . .” *Temperance* is merely *self-control* or *restraint* over one's emotions, impulses and desires.

But why must we add control to knowledge we acquire? To quote a familiar proverb: “A little knowledge is a dangerous thing”; that is, knowledge in the hands of someone who has no desire to control it (including who should know it, how and when to explain it, etc.) is as volatile as dynamite! Springing a “new truth” on the Church before it has been thoroughly researched and discussed by the headquarters men qualified to do so, is a good example of *not* adding temperance to knowledge. As we have seen in the past months, hundreds, if not thousands of people can be adversely affected by someone's “new truth” (whether actually true or not) when it does not come to the officially authorized people from headquarters. Any one of us would like to be the first to announce and be given “the credit” for discovering some new point of truth in God's Word, but we must *never* let vanity supersede the necessity of channelling any new information in the proper direction *first* — i.e., to headquarters. This is the place to decide the value of anything we, in the field ministry, contribute.

The next part of verse 6 is also very significant: “and to temperance [add] patience . . .” Other translations render patience as “steadfastness” (R.S.V., Moffatt) or “patient endurance” (Williams, Alford). It makes great sense to add this key

element to the basis of knowledge and temperance, when we consider the route that new knowledge takes. Except for God himself, no one is capable of understanding, applying, and/or explaining the meaning of any new knowledge acquired *immediately* (if not sooner!). Surely we realize that any and all ramifications of something new have to be thoroughly discussed before a decision can be made on it. This often requires many meetings of those qualified in a particular area, as well as the final approval by the top leaders in God's Work. *Great patience* may be needed on the part of those waiting for a decision, but time is a necessary ingredient in sound judgment and policy making.

Temperance and patience, then, are absolutely necessary spiritual characteristics needed in the handling of knowledge God leads us to see in His Word. The application of these will not only help us in our own personal decision making, but will have a tremendous unifying effect on God's Church.

— Jon Kurnik
Penticton, Canada

SATAN'S MASTER PLAN

Recently, a few thoughts came to mind that might provide a broader perspective as to how the recent, and to some degree continuing, problems came about. I would like to relay those thoughts for whatever they're worth.

It goes without saying that *any* of us can be influenced by Satan the devil when we have the wrong attitude, let down in prayer, etc. Obviously, Satan has something to do with it when someone leaves the Church, even though the individual himself may not be doing anything malicious, at least not in his own mind.

I feel that Satan must have developed some kind of *master plan* (to whatever degree he is capable of doing such in his realm of confusion) to destroy God's Church.

Perhaps, just perhaps, several years ago, Satan might have appeared before God's throne like he did in the time of Job, and as he evidently does periodically. Perhaps God asked Satan something to this effect: “Have you noticed my Church lately? Have you seen how loyal and faithful they are in doing my Work? And how effectively Herbert Armstrong and Garner Ted Armstrong are spreading my message to the world?” Now God

knew the Church would have to be purged of some wrong attitudes to be presented to Christ without spot and blemish. But Satan has trouble recognizing attitudes sometimes — self-righteousness at least.

Maybe Satan replied, “Just let me present some of the issues to them and inject a little confusion and difficulty, and we’ll see how loyal they are.”

God, realizing He could use Satan to effect His purpose, just as He did regarding Job, must have given Satan permission to go ahead, but not to bring any bodily harm — at least not until the tribulation (even then knowing bodily harm is the only way to reach people with certain attitudes, if they can be retrieved for the Kingdom at all).

Picture the Church Satan looked at a few years back. It was a rather solid Church, at least on the surface. There was confidence in the leadership. Nearly everyone was extremely wary of falling away or of becoming part of the Laodicean Church. Church eras hardly were an issue. Whether or not Church eras are being described in Revelation 2-3, belief in a Laodicean era to come provided *strength* for God’s people.

This, then, would have to be made an issue. Confusion would have to be injected into this area.

Another basic approach Satan saw he would have to use was to play both ends against the middle. He would have to get some to think the Church wasn’t changing fast enough. Then he would work on those who thought it was changing too much.

Now what could he use for issues? It couldn’t be the Sabbath. The Bible is too clear about that. There are at least three reasons Satan would have chosen tithing as one issue: 1) The Bible is not as dogmatically clear on the subject as it is some others. 2) Doing away with it would appeal to the materialistic tendencies of people. 3) Tithing is the basic support of God’s Work, which Satan hates.

It is rather interesting that tithing did not become an issue of any proportion until recently.

Now, then, if people were to be influenced to disbelieve in tithing, at least two other issues would have to be put into their minds. If tithing were not clearly substituted in the New Testament with offerings, they would have to claim that without a direct New Testament command to tithe, the Church has no authority to decide. Hence the issue of Church government.

Next, an excuse would be needed to abdicate one’s responsibility in helping to carry out the Great Commission. What better way than to convince people it is not needful to do what this Work is doing in that regard?

This may not be the exact order, but it is obvious that these issues are related.

Pentecost and D & R became issues earlier so people would get to thinking that if the Church erred in these things, it must be wrong on a lot of other things. Some began to doubt as a result.

Satan’s timing was perfect. Had he started earlier, some might have discovered there is nowhere else to go and returned to the Church before it was too late.

In his direct frontal attack, Satan obviously determined to start at the top. The best way to scatter the troops is to slay the general. As we have seen, Satan has moved down one level at a time, taking members at each level. Now, he appears to be working more directly on the general membership.

All along, the process of people leaving God’s Church could be used as an element of confusion to yet other people in making them think it was the Church itself falling apart.

Yet, in spite of Satan’s efforts, he will fail. I believe God is merely using the devil to purify His Church, and to make it possible for some to be in His Kingdom who wouldn’t otherwise make it.

— Larry Neff
Austin, Texas

KEEPING OUR GOAL IN MIND

One of the seven laws of success is that of having the right *goal*.

If a person has the proper goal, and keeps his mind’s eye fixed on that goal, then he is surely more likely to arrive at his destination than otherwise.

“Keep your eye on the ball” is a good motto for ball players who really wish to win. Once one takes his eye off the ball, he becomes a non-winner.

But what should our goal be? Just entering the Kingdom of God? Or, should we have the higher goal of trying our utmost to do our part in the most important Work on earth today — the most important Work since mankind was put on this earth?

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has repeatedly stressed this important fact: If a person lets his mind get wrapped up in *himself*, *his* own personal salvation, *his* church, club etc. — then that person will either stagnate or go backward in his Christian growth.

But if that person has as his all-consuming ambition a burning desire to do his part in helping to get Christ’s gospel to all the world — then that’s the person who is going to grow and develop the most.

We ministers, especially, have a fantastic commission — to assist Messrs. Armstrong in fulfilling that Great Commission of taking the gospel to the ends of the earth. If we diligently carry out *our part*, then we shall receive a crown of life and glory from Jesus Christ. If we do our part of the Work half-heartedly, then we will receive a much lesser reward in the Kingdom of God, or perhaps no reward at all.

Being Faithful In Little Things

Remember, it is not how big a title you bear or how large a church or church area you serve, but how *faithful* and how *diligent* you are in carrying out your commission — *your part* in Christ's Work — that is all important!

Our High Priest has said: "He that is *faithful* in that which is *least* is faithful also in *much*: and he that is *unjust* in the *least* is unjust also in *much*" (Luke 15:10).

So, never assume that because you may not have as big a job as someone else *now*, or since your title or present responsibility doesn't seem to be all that important — don't assume for one moment that you are not capable of carrying a much greater load of responsibility — in the Kingdom of God.

Winston Churchill would have died in comparative obscurity had not a fortuitous (or ominous) set of circumstances (in this case, horrifying World War II) conspired to thrust him into office during a time of great trial and national crisis in Britain. He had already resigned himself to semi-retirement.

But Mr. Churchill was prepared for that greater responsibility — and when he was catapulted into the high office of Prime Minister, he proved qualified to handle the onerous task assigned to him by Providence.

Gerald Ford, the President of the USA, was relatively unheard of a short while ago. Many politicians in the U. S. feel they are much more qualified to sit in the high office of President of the USA than Mr. Ford. Undoubtedly many disdain him to this very moment. But he is the one whom God has ordained to fill that office. Even President Johnson is reported once to have remarked of Mr. Ford: "Gerald Ford is the only man I know who can't chew gum and walk a straight line at the same time." Another crack made about the President suggested that Mr. Ford's supposed mental lack stemmed from his not wearing a foot-ball helmet when he was on the team.

But in spite of the critics, Mr. Gerald Ford sits firmly in the White House, while his great, emi-

nently "qualified" fellow leaders are on the outside looking in.

All-important Inner Qualities

All of us need to look to the development of the *inner qualities* of leadership much more than the *outer* ones such as clothes, grooming, exercise, etc.

God is no respecter of persons. He looks on the *heart*, the *attitude* — and that is what really counts. God told Samuel: "Look not on his [David's brother] countenance, or on the *height* of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the LORD seeth not* as man seeth; for *man* looketh on the *outward appearance*, but the *LORD* looketh on the *heart*" (I Sam. 16:7).

How many Churchills, Fords or Davids do we have in Christ's ministry today? Remember, if you faithfully and diligently do your work with all your might, if you quietly go about your business doing whatever task God has assigned to you, doing your work with real fervor and zeal; if you keep studying that "Manual of Success" (the Bible), and if you keep in close, constant communion with your Heavenly Father — then you are assured of success! You will one day be assigned to rule over one, five or perhaps even ten cities in the Kingdom of God. Yes, you and I have been offered mayorships in the wonderful world tomorrow!

But remember, we first have to be willing to develop the right character traits here and now. We have to let God mold in us those important leadership traits which he loves and admires in leaders. And we need to remember that we have to "humble" ourselves, that God may exalt us in his own time and way. "*Humble yourselves* in the sight of the Lord, and he shall *lift you up*" (James 4:10).

Developing Patience

And . . . perhaps most important of all, we need to develop *patience*. Joseph was sold into Egypt when only *seventeen* years old, and had to suffer many trials, temptations, and humiliations; but he *patiently endured for thirteen long years*. Finally, after he had proven himself, God exalted him to become the Prime Minister of all Egypt — the second highest person in the nation, second only to Pharaoh.

Joseph was thirty years old when he was made the chief governor over all the land of Egypt, and this was thirteen long years after he was first sold into slavery. Undoubtedly Joseph understood that: "The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and *before honour is humility*" (Prov. 15:33).

As Joseph patiently endured all his trials, he must have understood that "By *humility* and the *fear of the LORD* are riches, and honour, and life" (Prov. 22:4).

Christ's Reward

When Jesus Christ passes out the "rewards" (the "crowns of glory") to each of us, here are a few questions which He will undoubtedly want answered: *How well did we do our job* — without *complaining*, without griping — and without looking to men for accolades? How *patiently* did we endure our trials and tests, the misunderstandings which others sometimes show toward us and what we (or God in us) may have accomplished? How concerned were we about the welfare of the people over which He gave us a charge? How *self-sacrificing* have we been with our *time*, our *financial resources* in His Work, serving His people? And He will certainly want to know how *loyal* were we to Him, His Work, and His ministers which He set over us.

These are a few questions which He will be asking and answering as He selects the particular crown to set upon your head, as He decides whether you will rule over ten, five, one (or none!) cities in the soon-coming Kingdom of God.

Remember, Jesus Christ will *not* reward us according to how many good times we have had going hunting, fishing or doing other *things we like to do* — not that these are wrong, if kept in proper perspective. (It is easy to do what you *like* to do, but difficult to do what you don't enjoy doing — even though you may know you should do it!) Our rewards will not be based on how many times we played bridge, hearts, poker or other games — and won (or lost).

Neither will our rewards be based on how many "important people" we know or have associated ourselves with. It will not even be based on the number of sermons, Bible studies, baptisms etc. we have conducted — or the number of articles we have written.

But each person's final reward will be based solely on *how well* he did with the *blessing* and *opportunities* (the talents) which God gave him — and Christ will know if we lacked proper *educational* and other opportunities to develop our talents; Christ will certainly take into account whether or not we were given suitable outlets or channels by which to properly *express* our God-given talents.

Yes, God Almighty will take these and many other factors into account when he hands us our rewards. And you can be assured of this one thing:

God will be totally impartial when handing you your reward.

In the meantime, as we continue doing the Master's Work, it is good for us to keep His words in mind: "Who then is a *faithful* and *wise servant* [minister], whom his lord hath made ruler over his household [His Church], to *give them meat* [the Word of God] in due season? Blessed is that servant [that minister], whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing [busy feeding God's flock]" (Matt. 24:45, 46).

A Stern Warning

Then Jesus Christ gives us a warning: "But and if that *evil servant* [minister] shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to smite his fellow servants [some get careless and *smite* with their *tongues!*], and to eat and drink with the *drunken*; The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the *hypocrites*: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (vv. 48-51).

We who are ministers need to keep these alternatives firmly in mind: 1) we can be the *faithful* and wise minister who diligently feeds God's flock or 2) we can become an "evil servant" who lives and acts in a way highly displeasing to God — a way which will culminate in our total repudiation by our Master. It is up to us.

As we continue serving God and his people, let us keep our *goals* firmly in mind. We need to seek the Kingdom of God, but we also need to keep our hearts in His Work, for this is the best way we can insure that we make it into the Kingdom of God with flying colors.

Jesus Christ says: "For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house [his Church], and gave *authority* to his servants [ministers], and to every man his *WORK*..." (Mark 13:34).

How well we do this "work" which Christ has assigned us will determine our *crown* — whether we will rule over one, five or ten cities.

We can, however, rest assured that Christ's reward will be totally fair: "Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as *his work* shall be" (Rev. 22:12).

— Raymond F. McNair
Senior Editor
Pasadena

LETTING BYGONES BE BYGONES

The year 1974 seems to be heading for the title of "the year of great criticism."

Richard M. Nixon was not able to live down his past mistakes. In spite of all his efforts, subtle twists, turns and feints, his past inevitably caught up with him and cost him his office. Nor is Senator Edward Kennedy without a "past." No amount of effort on his part, it seems, is able to exorcise the ghost of Chappaquiddick. For the past month or so in New Zealand a wire service article has been floating around local newspapers rehearsing alleged problems within the Worldwide Church of God, reviving old material to fuel its "scoop."

Truly Will Shakespeare wasn't kidding when he said, "the evil men do lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones." And that not only in the world at large, but all too often even right within the ranks of the ministry. Which is why I'd like to share a few thoughts with you along this line — hopefully you will find it of some value. For all of us have a "past" too, and sometimes it appears mighty difficult for us to "live it down."

All who have come up through Ambassador College have seen, firsthand, a fair share of what may kindly be called "nonsense" in the behaviour of those who were students with us. As well, our classmates of past years are usually pretty well acquainted with many of our shortcomings, faux pas, quirks, intolerances, indifference and general problems that seem to be part and parcel of the relative immaturity of our college years. We lived together, worked together, made mistakes and grew together.

At graduation we spread far and wide to many distant stations in the Work, and for the most part regular contact with our close associates of earlier years ended at that point. And therein lie the seeds of a problem: whereas both we and our former classmates continue growing, developing and maturing both physically and spiritually, our mutual impression and memory of each other remains "frozen" at the level at which we last knew each other closely. While we cannot readily forget some of the mistakes and some of the hilarious doings of college years, we yet should try to remember that that was the way our fellow-students *were*; and it is, in all likelihood, *not* the way they *remain* to this day. After all if they hadn't changed and grown in the intervening years, they wouldn't be holding the responsible positions they now do in the ministry and Work as a whole.

The same applies to experiences we may have had subsequent to graduation while working under superiors from whom subsequent transfers have now separated us. God's Church is constantly growing in knowledge, understanding and *bal-*

ance. In past years both we and our superiors have tried (and still do) with all our being to faithfully and diligently apply the policies, understandings and methods current in the Work. We now appreciate that some of those policies and beliefs were frankly intolerant or to a degree, unbalanced. As a Church we have grown into much more mature understanding. Now we *no longer* do some things quite the same way we would have ten or fifteen — or one or two — years ago. While mistakes were made in the past, they were made with the very sincerest of beliefs at the time that such decisions were proper and right.

Today we all know better. Yet just think how much personal memories persist of mistakes made and wrongs done. Sometimes we superimpose that mental image and memory on others in a way that is quite inaccurate as they *now* are as people.

For example, in this "year of great criticism" I have been surprised and a little disappointed personally at reports that have come back to me of personal criticisms originating with associates of past years. I hasten to add by no means do I "gripe" about this, as regrettably I've also commented from time to time about others along a similar vein, and the "bird of the air" seems a faithful rumour carrier. As I have no reason to suspect that my personal situation is particularly unique, probably many others have experienced the same kind of thing. As Solomon advised, "Also take no heed unto all words that are spoken; lest thou hear thy servant curse thee; for oftentimes also thine own heart knoweth that thou thyself likewise hast cursed others" (Eccl. 7:21-22).

Rather than resurrecting "old skeletons" we've got to try to remember the *positive aspects* of past associations with others in the Work, and to dwell on the *future time* when we will be sitting together in the Kingdom looking back with joy and satisfaction to a completed job well done. Also, it's good to try to remember each other with the *potential* growth that each can attain, even if this isn't yet attained. More like "thinking the *best* of each other" than dwelling on past errors, mistakes, intolerances, etc. If we do slip up from time to time, such wrong conduct nonetheless arises from conscientious motives — from the intention of serving Christ, Messrs. Armstrong and Headquarters with all of our very being.

At a time such as the present when the world is collapsing and our flock so keenly needs encouragement and shepherding, surely the very last thing the ministry needs to be doing is to be sniping at or "devouring itself" (Gal. 5:14-15).

Since none of us appears to be immune to the

kind of things "people" do — and since pre-occupation with unhappy episodes of the past seems to be a worldwide concern today — I wanted to share these thoughts on how this syndrome could be manifested and may be avoided in our own midst.

— Graemme J. Marshall
Regional Office Manager
Auckland, New Zealand

A LESSON IN HUMILITY

Recently while happening upon two little children at play, one of the most important lessons Christ taught His disciples was strikingly brought home to me. It is a lesson from which we all can profit and involves an attribute of character which I feel we ministers need to cultivate and maintain.

The lesson that was impressed on my mind had to do with an attitude — an attitude we probably had as mere children, but may have lost as life's experiences hardened our emotions.

As I watched the children, their attitude of humility — of warm friendship toward each other and selfless sharing of toys and play area — impressed itself on me. There was no display of superiority or competition or a grasping for power and authority. Neither took, snatched or grabbed something from the other. There wasn't enough each could do to make the other happy. What bubbled forth was humility and service in its purest and simplest form — like David and Jonathan, each treated the other as equals and with obvious mutual respect.

This approach, I feel, is one we in the ministry especially need to keep before our eyes as we serve God's people and as we work among ourselves.

It seems that somehow or somewhere most human beings lose this child-like trait of character as they progress from childhood to maturity. Instead of growing in this gentle spirit of humility and meekness, their thoughts and interests turn inward and the desire for power, status, prestige and personal greatness becomes the driving force in their lives.

It is truly sad to see the pure, warm, open and innocent personality God gives a child — one He intended we develop and nurture through life — transformed into one of cockiness, conceit, arrogance and vanity — RAW SELF!

The desire to be a success as a minister is certainly not wrong. But the motive and method must be one of genuine service to the brethren and to the world in general. The disciples asked Jesus, "... Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him and set

him in the midst of them... Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:1-4). The tenderhearted, kindly affectioned nature of a little child is the primary formula Christ gave to achieve real spiritual greatness.

When the mother of James and John came to Jesus asking that her sons be given two great positions in the kingdom, He said those positions were not for him to give and then went on to emphasize the importance of child-like humility. After mentioning how Gentile governments "exercise dominion" over their subjects, Jesus *commanded*, "... But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be *great* among you, let him be your *minister* [servant]; and whosoever will be *chief* among you, let him be your *servant* [bond-slave]!" And Jesus included Himself in this approach: "... *Even as* the Son of man came *not* to be *ministered unto*, but to *minister* [serve], and to give His life a ransom for many!" (Matt. 20:25-28.)

Did you ever notice how often the disciples were concerned about offices, positions, or becoming great in this life? Even on the very eve of Christ's crucifixion they argued about who was the greatest (Luke 22:24). It was only after they received God's spirit on the day of Pentecost that the attitude of child-like humility began to develop and grow in them. Peter, who previously had been one of the most aggressive — even presumptuous — of the disciples, a man who contradicted Christ to His face (Mark 8:32, Matt. 16:22), could later write to fellow-ministers in an attitude of deepest humility: "... *Feed* the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but *willingly*... neither as being *lords* over God's heritage, but being *examples* to the flock... Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, *all* of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with *humility*: for God resisteth the proud, and gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time..." (I Pet. 5:1-6). It is evident that Peter, through exercising God's Spirit in him, ultimately learned the way to true greatness in the eyes of God. Isn't this what we all want to achieve?

Personally, I believe this is an approach of mind and heart most express in the ministry and the Church. But don't you agree we can all improve and grow even more in its fullness? To be as little children in love, kindness, and in good works will enable us to do a far better job in ministering to the flock of God and will mean that in the future

we can with confidence stand before the Father knowing His purpose was fulfilled in us.

— Richard Rice
MPC Manager
Pasadena

FURTHER PENTECOST COMMENTS

With personal recognition to Mr. Adair, Philippines, for his recent contribution to Open Forum (entitled "Afterthoughts About Pentecost" in the August 14, *Bulletin*) and to the many others who have been concerned with coming to grips with the "wrong day problem," the following is submitted:

It seems that the supposed "forty years of Monday Pentecost" did not really exist after all. At the most, Monday was observed for only about 32 years. At the recent May Ministerial Conference, Dr. Hoeh revealed to at least one of his work shop sessions some generally unknown facts about the Worldwide (Radio) Church of God's observance of Pentecost.

Monday was initially observed in 1943, after Mr. Armstrong had first zeroed in on the command to "count" Pentecost. Previous to that, for three years (1940-1942), he had held Pentecost services on Sivan 12 as the Falashas (Ethiopian Jews) do, who assume the morrow after the second *annual* Sabbath of the days of Unleavened Bread as their starting point; that is, day number one of the 50 (which, interestingly enough, would be *inclusive* reckoning). I do not know if Mr. Armstrong's practice and teaching at that time was based on it or not, but it may be worth mentioning that the Syriac translation of Leviticus 23:11 and 23:15 is very specific on this point. It commands to count "after the latter of the two festival days" or "after the last day" (see van Goudoever, *Biblical Calendars*, p. 25).

Possibly Mr. Armstrong was influenced by the fact that not only Jews but Christians of Ethiopia preserved the correct weekly Sabbath through the centuries until Catholic priests entered the country with modern European colonial expansion.

Previous to 1940, Mr. Armstrong celebrated Pentecost on the same day European and American Jews do, Sivan 6, based on the first (annual) Sabbath of the days of Unleavened Bread as opposed to the last. I presume he accepted this day from those Christians of the Church of God who previously were keeping the annual Holy Days of God. These people were led by G. G. Rupert and others, who were in the magazine *The Remnant of Israel* from 1915 to 1929 or beyond. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong learned of the Holy Days and began to keep them in 1927.

David and his men ate the shewbread; God did not condemn them. Christ and His disciples walked through the fields, and picked of the grain and ate it; it was contrary to the strictness of the law, but God approved it. On the other hand, because their own constituted human authority over them decreed the Pharisees tithing mint, rue and cummin, extremely small things not worthy of such *special* attention (a tiny offering would have easily covered the value of that tithe), Christ said that they ought to obey it.

So what shall we conclude? In my opinion, as Mr. Adair rightly stated, "Pentecost is flexible." (The leaders of the Jews themselves, Mr. Adair, because of the time variation in the ripening of the harvest, found it necessary to give the farmers of tropical, below sea level Jericho special permission to harvest early, before the wave sheaf was offered at Jerusalem.)

But perhaps a better way to state it is that *God* is flexible. So long as we were learning, but *were* in a right attitude, God was pleased, and we were acceptable to Him.

If it had been the first Passover, for Israel in Egypt just before the Exodus the "wrong day" would have been very serious. If it had been the first New Testament Pentecost (Acts 2), perhaps also it would have been detrimental in that many may not have received God's Holy Spirit with the rest of Christ's followers. But I am sure that during these last forty-seven (not just forty, notice) years of Pentecost in peace, God Himself was not about to discriminate artificially against us (nor did He against those who observed a Pentecost during the previous generation before Mr. Armstrong).

The only major tragedy that I see in the whole thing is that a Monday Pentecost did upset unnecessarily those who thought they saw that Sunday was the right day. Some of them left in a bad attitude.

I hope we can all learn the obvious lesson from this experience and not be so oversold on our own understanding that we refuse to learn anything, even if it comes from one in a "bad attitude." Perhaps we can go back to the anecdote Mr. Armstrong has so often retold, illustrating his willingness to accept correction from anyone, anytime, in any circumstances. (See Feb. 11, '74 Member Letter, p. 5). He relates how an antagonistic woman came to him after he had preached a certain sermon and said (obviously in a very bad attitude): "Herbert Armstrong, you're all wet"; then proceeded to explain to him. He did not think she was right, but he listened, then went to the libraries

and/or authorities and found she was. It was a 'bitter pill to swallow,' but in the very next sermon he publicly admitted his error and preached the matter the correct way.

Why can't we all, always, have that kind of reaction?

— Lawson Briggs
Theological Research Dept.
Pasadena

THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING ATTENTION SPAN

Have you ever noticed how difficult it is to keep anyone's attention for any length of time any more? Have you noticed how rapidly your listener's eyes get that glazed "I wish he'd get it over with" look? Have you observed people fidgeting, getting restless and allowing their minds to wander? Perhaps you find yourself being constantly interrupted before you are able to properly develop the thought of what you are saying. Have you noticed how fast people often have to talk in order to complete what they are saying while they still have someone's attention — before they are interrupted?

It's all part of that universal phenomena known as "the incredible shrinking attention span." A brilliant writer, W. B. Park, wrote a short *fictional parody* on that very subject in the now defunct Intellectual Digest some months back (they failed to retain their readership's attention!).

Park described a minister named W. W. Harkwell who was having difficulty keeping the attention of his congregation on Sunday mornings. He was forced to use more and more bizarre devices to gain and retain their attention.

In one service he set up a large canvas and painted a Jackson Pollock style painting with hidden religious clues. Instead of the traditional organ music he took to using a glockenspiel. He made the appeal for the offering speaking in tongues and led an ecological mass in the nude. For Communion services, he used Chateau Mouton Rothschild '59.

Harkwell gained a little ground, but the problem was still there. It was there in meetings, counselings, and even at weddings, funerals and christenings. People just couldn't seem to focus their attention on anything for more than a few minutes.

As Dr. Harkwell began to study the problem, he realized that it was not present just in the Church. It existed everywhere in society. Concert violinists wandered off the stage in the middle of their cadenzas to get a hamburger. Surgeons took off for the golf courses neglecting to sew up their

patients. Absolutely no one could pay attention to what they were doing long enough to finish it!

What's the matter with everyone? Dr. Harkwell thought. Doesn't anyone care?

Then one day, a peculiar thing happened — the end of the world, or so it seemed. First, there was an extremely bright light, then a lot of trumpets sounding and angels and singing and powerful music. Rolls of thunder, flashes of brilliant lightning, and hordes of people dancing everywhere soon filled the vastness of a great plain which opened up before Harkwell's startled eyes. Great swirls of color and light came majestically down out of the clouds.

"So this is how it happens!" gasped the good Dr. Harkwell to himself.

At about that time a gleaming new station wagon pulled up to the edge of the crowd. Curious people turned to watch a man in a straw boater hat and a candy-striped jacket set up a large sign on top of his car. It read: "Mr. Madison's Judgment Day Closeout — Celestial heat resistant plexiglass medallions — lifetime guarantee."

The preceding humorous parody is certainly illustrative of the lengths some people have to go to to gain people's attention. We are forced into more and more spectacular attention-getting devices — greater and greater hyperbole. We must continually outdo ourselves to keep people interested.

In the GN we've found that most people don't have the stamina to read all the way through a "long" article — more than three pages. Unless it's broken up with a lot of pretty pictures, boxes, charts, etc. Modern editors — sensitive to this trend — are going to shorter, more tightly edited articles. How many of *you* read all the articles all the way through? (That is, if you've read *this* one this far!).

Who's to blame for this diminishing attention span? Part of it is surely a *lack of self-discipline* on the part of most of us. The speed of the pace of life has accelerated so much in our age that we jump and leap from one thing to another trying to live life for all it's worth. We don't want to miss anything. There is so much to do and see and experience. We want a bit of everything. We find it hard to settle down and do justice to any one thing. Our days are filled with constant interruptions — meetings, phone calls, people wandering in and out of our offices at random, etc. It's like taking a motion picture film and speeding it up two or three times its normal speed.

Another major factor is undoubtedly television. TV has a way of fragmenting your attention span.

Just when you are beginning to get absorbed in the plot of Mannix or Barnaby Jones or some other who-done-it, you are hit by a barrage of commercials. Sometimes 6 or 8 of them at a whack! Then back to the story — but only for a few moments. It's the same way with talk shows. You get flashes of Johnny Carson (whenever he shows up for work) between dozens and dozens of the most intelligence-insulting commercials possible. If you've ever watched a non-commercial documentary on an educational channel, you find yourself craving a commercial after a certain point! It's like having withdrawal symptoms.

Well anyway, your attention is probably already wavering. I do think we desperately need to recapture the ability to *concentrate* and *think things through*, however. If we don't, the end of the world might come when we are not paying attention!

— Brian Knowles
GN Managing Editor,
Pasadena

SPECIAL SPOKESMAN CLUB MEETINGS

What is an effective way to organize a *special* Spokesman Club? I am sure that question has entered the minds of many of us. The following format might provide some ideas. It included wine tasting, educational speeches on wine, and a discussion on wine.

There are five classes of wine — red table wine, white table wine, sparkling wine, aperitif, and desert wine. The toastmaster gave a short discourse on wine tasting, then introduced a wine representing one of these five classes for tasting while everyone's glass was filled. Then he introduced a speaker who spoke on an assigned facet of wine. The facets covered in the five speeches were Making Wine, Wine as a Medicine, Serving Wine Properly, Buying Wine, and A History of California Wine. After each speech a new wine was poured and introduced by the toastmaster for tasting during the speech. Throughout the wine tasting the men were recording their evaluation of the wines.

After the speaking session, we allowed each man to have a glass of wine from among the five that he felt was the best. Then we had wine topics which included or could have included "What were your feelings about first half?" "Was there any wines you didn't like and why?" "Do you feel you have developed a deeper appreciation of wine from this wine tasting?" "Do you personally have a favorite wine?"

The response throughout the evening was excellent. Instead of trophies, we presented

wrapped packages of wine. We also decorated the room with wine advertisements.

— George Kackos
Wisconsin Dells

Editor's Note: Obviously the amounts of wine mentioned above were *small!*

PORNOGRAPHY

This is a world of double-standards and no absolutes. Many parents and teachers — and just about anyone else who takes a stand on a moral issue — is hard put to convincingly explain how or why some things are bad or shouldn't be done.

Doubters and scoffers (certainly including some of our teen-agers who are brought up in this world's society, its schools, etc.) will often mentally retort to an admonition: "Yes, but *you* say it is bad — it doesn't affect *me* negatively" or "You ask me to take your word that such and such is bad or evil? — well, prove it!"

Following is a short excerpt from a *Los Angeles Times* article (August 8, 1974) about Brigham Young University (a Mormon college in Utah). Talking about pornography at a campus assembly last fall, BYU President Dallin H. Oaks succinctly but effectively addressed the subject. His remarks might prove helpful when addressing young and old alike in our church areas:

"For your own good, avoid it. Pornographic or erotic stories and pictures are worse than filthy or polluted food.

"...The body has defenses to rid itself of unwholesome food. With a few fatal exceptions, bad food will only make you sick, but do no permanent harm. In contrast, a person who feasts upon filthy stories or pornographic or erotic pictures and literature records them in this marvelous retrieval system we call a brain.

"The brain won't vomit back filth. Once recorded it will always remain subject to recall, flashing its perverted images across your mind and drawing you away from the wholesome things in life."

— Ron Nelson
Booklets Dept.
Pasadena

DEACONS EXPRESS GRATITUDE

Dear Mr. Armstrong: I'm not much of a letter writer, but I just had to take a little time to tell you how much I appreciate the opportunity that I have to read the *Bulletin*. I think that it is terrific that the deacons in God's Church are allowed to have all of this first hand information. Thank you

very much and I hope that we can continue to read it. I enjoy reading all of the news and was especially taken by the response to the letter to regulars asking them if they would like to donate a subscription for someone else. I'm very thankful that God is producing fruit through this method and I got an idea. I have been tithing and giving offerings for quite a few years and feel that I am giving as much now as I can and I think that most of the people are doing the same. But I have been able to scrape together enough to send in as a special offering to send the P.T. to someone else as well. I think that most of God's people would be willing to do the same. I realize this could be carried to an extreme (asking for a special offering for every phase of the Work) but if we ask others to do it, why couldn't the brethren do it too? While I've got this old typewriter warmed up I'd like to put my two cents in for the aircraft as well. I feel that these machines are real tools for preaching the gospel (just as much as a TV camera or a printing press) and as such should not be gotten rid of. I think it would be a very good idea to get a consensus of the people regarding these planes. I'm all for keeping them.

— Kenneth M. Schwab
Santa Barbara, California

Dear Sir: We want to tell you how much we appreciate being able to read the *Bulletin*. We are still behind, so to speak, as we are still reading those sent out in July. But it gives us much to think about and many things to pray about. Many of which are still quite timely and up to date.

As we read and reread names of those in author-

NOTICE

As many of you know, the turn around time for producing the *Bulletin* is very short in order to keep the news as current and up to date as possible. This means there is not enough time for most last minute items, such as many OPEN FORUM contributions, to be retyped before going to press. Most OPEN FORUM material is submitted to us typed *single* space — which makes it much more difficult to read for the typesetter in Composing. Therefore, to make his job easier and to speed things along, we request that all contributions to this column be submitted typewritten *double* spaced. Thanks very much for your cooperation.

— Managing Editor

ity, we can pray much more effectively for them. The various departments will be much more in mind, also.

To say, "thank you" for this opportunity, seems very inadequate; but we cannot find other words to express our appreciation at this time.

May God continue to inspire those of you at Headquarters who make the decisions in this and the many other matters that affect us all.

— Mr. & Mrs. Howard Smothers
Olathe, Kansas

MAIL PROCESSING

(Continued from page 470)

average age for people responding to the one-minute commercials, for example, was 31 (29 for men, 34 for women). Other surveys of phone callers show a similar age. Our special tests indicate that slightly more men call on the phone than women.

Professional, technical, and administrative people tend to use the phone more readily than to write. The one-minute commercials and WATS number combination have brought the cost per response figure under one dollar in a number of cases.

History

In the spring of 1971 our first major test of a telephone response system was conducted. Two Los Angeles radio stations and a TV station announced local numbers. Five phones were used for the radio stations and fifteen for the TV station. The test was later expanded to several stations outside California. Week after week volunteers answered the phones on Sunday nights. MPC employees were also answering phones during the week, and transcribing the recorded names and addresses received during the night.

In the Fall of 1972 another more intensive test was conducted. This time the emphasis was on television with six WATS lines being employed. Terminal operators came to work at 3:00 and 4:00 a.m. to take the calls from various early morning TV stations. Later a TV Guide test was also conducted in several sections of the country and then in a nationwide edition.

All of this testing was very useful in determining the number of lines, personnel, costs, effect on the mail, etc. So in June of 1973 the WATS lines were officially funded for the Summer Specials that year. The continuing success of the telephone lines led to using the WATS line on radio and TV stations nationwide. Radio stations began

announcing it in the fall of 1973, as did TV in April 1973, with the greatest impact occurring in May and June. Spot commercials also were run in various cities in November and December of 1973.

Other Facts

The Calling audience: More men, younger, wealthier, better educated than those who have responded by letters. 60% more total TV response when phone is used.

Radio: 65% are new people. Tendency to be white white collar workers.

Weekly TV: 80% are new people.

TV Spot Commercials: 95% are new people, average U. S. citizen.

Summer Specials: 95% are new people, better cost per response than TV and radio mail; last year's Specials pulled more comments than this year's, but this year's response seems to be higher.

Employees: Two full time employees, thirty students, mostly upperclass — with others on call.

Equipment: Three full-day lines, 15 measured lines, two free lines; new phone company tariff makes possible greater service at the same price or less than before.

Work Load: 122,000 calls and 67,000 busy-outs have been received in the last six months. Next year's salary and equipment cost is estimated to be 50-60¢ per call or less and 80% of the calls should be new adds to the file. The other 20% will continue to be visit requests and people deeply motivated to become further associated with the Work. An estimated 200,000 calls should be received next year.

— Larry Nelson

LETTER COMMENTS

The letter comments for this issue of the *Bulletin* have been excerpted from Mail Processing's Midweek report. They are basically a summary of Radio and TV comments received during August.

Broadcast From the Falcon

Being a Federal Aviation Employee working at the Salt Lake City Air Route Traffic Control Center, and a private pilot, I thoroughly enjoyed your program from the cockpit of the Falcon jet. It's a good observation of how flying laws relate to people's lives and God's laws.

If you're ever in SLC, I'd be proud to take you on a tour of the ARTCC, which is near the airport. I'd love to have a ride in your plane if possible. I

usually listen to your broadcast late at night on KOB, Albany, NM.

— Robert Hutchings
West Jordan, Utah

In the past week while listening to your son, Garner Ted Armstrong gave his wonderful and most interesting description of flying his jet Falcon on his trip to Europe (my husband is a retired naval aviator and was particularly interested as he flew the old type aircraft and knows little of the latest jets). We listen to your program nightly and find it most informative in this day of lawlessness and confusion.

— Mrs. W. E. McCarthy
Warrenton, Virginia

The plane ride was terrific.

—A. J. Stub
Rochester, New York

I listen to your program every morning as I am driving home from work. I especially enjoyed the program you did from the jet plane. The analogies you used were tremendous. An analogy is a great way of getting a point across and you do a very good job with them.

— Kenneth E. Howard
Keokuk, Iowa

Being a former SAC pilot, your broadcast from aboard a Falcon aircraft was enjoyable, different, and brought back many memories.

— Timothy Roulo
Englewood, Colorado

From Europe

Kindly send your letters on Mr. Armstrong's report from Belgium and the state of the economy. I heard him early one morning reporting by tape from Brussels and couldn't believe what he was saying, a deliberate depression is being instituted.

— I. Armfield
Arcadia, Missouri

Your current broadcast on America's involvement in Europe and the tenuous NATO alliance have aroused my deep concern. For some time, I have been an avid listener to the World Tomorrow program. I must confess, however, that up until now I have tended to merely listen and agree without taking any definitive steps to acquire any of the materials offered in the past. I suspect that most of us are so inundated with a world situation so incomprehensible, surrealistic

and frightening that we try to escape an intolerable reality by retreating into our lives in the desperate hope that the world would just leave us alone.

— Robert Ephraim
Brooklyn, New York

This morning I heard your broadcast from NATO headquarters in Brussels. Amazing! Is it possible to get a copy of that broadcast printed or a tape of it? Quite a different picture of the "defense" position. I would like to study that informative report.

— Edna Patterson
Florence, Oregon

Factual Reports

I am enjoying your programs very much, especially your factual reports on the international scene — its complications and the effects this would have on the USA.

— Eric Schiff

President, Schiff's Yacht & Ship Sales Brokers
Palos Verdes Est., California

World Affairs

Let me take a few minutes to congratulate you on your program. Of all the theories I have been hearing and tracts I have been reading pertaining to "Christianity," government policies and world affairs, yours have come the closest to what is really happening and is just about to happen.

Your program is truly authentic.

— Angela Cameron
Brooklyn, New York

Completely Different

I enjoy your radio program on Sunday evenings very much; your program is completely different than anything that I've ever heard before. It explains things in a way I think they should be heard.

— Mrs. Terry Moore
Webster, Indiana

Really Got It Together

You're the first person who ever made sense to me. Your interpretations of the Bible relating today's happenings were really on the ball! WOW, that man has really got it together!

— Wayne Pickering
Daytona Beach, Florida

Religion

For years I've wanted to learn about God. But I

hated religious approaches. To me they were a mockery. They were part of a religion once formed which people took apart to select what they liked and then renamed it. I can't see why God would hate a person if they didn't go to church to worship Him. Or wore jewelry, or short skirts or bright red. What good is it all if you do not understand the truth. It's all vanity. People like to show off. They do not care about what God really said. I hope you can always preach without someone giving you too much static.

— Mrs. Craig Oesterle
Chelsea, Minnesota

Helps In Search for God's Plan

Your broadcast, which I listen to over KLAC, greatly helps me in my search for God's Plan. Being a Christian I feel each broadcast strengthens my faith even more.

— Dennis Spady
Los Angeles, California

Feels Better Now

Since I have started viewing your programs I have been able to lay myself bare, strip myself of half notions, cleanse my mind of half truths and for the first time in my life begin to know that there is a God.

— Roger M. Mungin
Riverdale, Maryland

View of Bible Changed

I have listened to your broadcast for a few years and can say that no other broadcast has ever been so instrumental in changing one person's outlook toward the Bible.

My family has been of the Baptist faith for several generations and it never occurred to me to question the teachings of that faith until I began to think of the teachings of a merciful God and the word "Hell." Your one broadcast helped me make the truth clearer to myself, and punch a hole in the fiery hell domain teaching. This was confirmed by Bible study by myself.

— Frank T. Maynard
Cochran, Georgia

Thinks Bible Is a Myth

Anybody, as well educated as you seem to be, knows that the Bible is nothing more or less than a collection of myths, fables and writings of self-seeking men. It has been translated, re-translated, re-written, edited, re-edited, revamped and sponged and cleaned so many times that even Jesus Christ (if there ever was such a person)

(Continued on page 486)

Ministerial Education & Training

Warm greetings from the office of Ministerial Education and Training. It has been our privilege to have contact with many of the Church Pastors the last couple of months since the M.E.T. Program was instituted — either directly at the class in Texas or through the contributions and ideas many of you have volunteered. Your ideas are not only appreciated, several of them are already being used.

Beginning with this issue of the *Bulletin*, we thought it would be helpful to place the information supplied by M.E.T. at the very end of the *Bulletin* so that it can be clipped and used to build a training and personal development notebook and/or file. [Leaving at least 1/8" of these pages at the center of the *Bulletin* will prevent remaining pages from becoming loose — *Editor*.] Rick Gipe — Pastor of the Monterey-Santa Cruz Churches — mentioned just today that he had used the M.E.T. material from the last *Bulletin* for a Deacons' training session. We trust many others will find useful outlets for this and future information.

We have been working almost exclusively for the past month on the Ministerial Cassette Tape Program and will have — God willing — the first volume of eight programs out to all Church Pastors before the Feast. More details on that program will be forthcoming in the next *Bulletin*.

In this issue we have included some information that will give you more insight in the area of discerning that fine line between a person's attitude and personality.

— Art Mocarow

P.S. For those who might need to know, the new extension phone numbers for the Human Resources Information Center are 5448 and 5014.

ATTITUDE, PERSONALITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS

(A Lecture from Human Relations)

If any group of people were ever "attitude conscious," it is those of us in God's ministry! In former days, we would inevitably evaluate every person contacted, assess his attitude, and dutifully record it on the appropriate line of the visit slip. How many hundreds of times have we hurriedly jotted down the words "Good," "OK," "Poor,"

"Excellent," "Carnal," or — that old standby for widows — "Self-Righteous"?

In evaluating men for any position of leadership — whether for deacon, elder, the L.T.C. classes of the past, or Spokesman Club President — the inevitable question arises: "What is his attitude?"

But how do you go about determining a person's true attitude? All know from experience that people vary greatly in personality. And this display of personality has many times been confused with a person's attitude. Too often we have wrongly jumped to the conclusion that a person is carnally minded after observing what is merely a personality trait. As we shall see, personality is one thing; attitude is something altogether different. Let's see why.

What Is Carnality?

First of all, when is a basic attitude carnal? This is vitally important, for it affects our evaluation of the people we are in daily contact with. The Apostle Paul clarifies this point in the eighth chapter of Romans:

"The carnal mind is enmity against God..."

This means that a person dominated or motivated by a carnal mind is against God. He is hostile, in opposition, an enemy of God. This attitude of mind, unless changed, will mean death.

Paul said, "...to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." This carnal motivation must be changed to spiritual motivation. But how?

Notice: "...ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you."

At the time of repentance — followed by baptism and the receiving of God's Spirit — a person is no longer "at enmity" and against God. That is, if he has truly repented of his hostility toward God. This past hostility could have been out and out worldliness — or guised in religiosity. But nevertheless, from this point on, a person's basic motivating attitude ceases to be carnal; that is, in direct and flagrant opposition to God.

To criticize a person from this point on as being truly carnal — anti-God — is not expressing sound judgment. After the reception of God's Spirit, a person becomes continually more God-oriented. He does not out and out doubt God, His Word, His direction, His existence, His plan, His Work.

But how, then, do you account for the apparent "carnality" expressed by some members of God's Church? And how do we account for our own "carnality?" What of the displays of emotion we see in some people? Believe it or not, some emotional outbursts could be very spiritual. The point

is: we need a deeper insight into some of these human attitudes and expressions of individual personality.

Discerning an Attitude

Now, specifically, what *really* is an attitude?

Webster defines attitude as "a mental position toward a fact or state," or "a feeling or emotion toward a fact or state."

A somewhat more wordy definition of attitude is given by Aaron Levenstein in his book, *Use Your Head*: "The emotional response to a given stimulus in relationship to past conditioning..." He also mentions that "the way we see things is influenced by our conditioning."

A more clear and succinct understanding of attitude though, can be found by examining *personality*. Personality is — in part — merely the outward expression of one's inward attitude and feelings. An attitude, in turn, is actually a *habit of thought* — the way you have habitually viewed a given subject. And what is a *habit*? Simply an *automatic reflex*.

So — for our purposes here — an attitude is merely your set of "mental automatic reflexes." Much like the spasm that occurs when the doctor strikes your knee with his rubber hammer — only it is a mental, psychological and emotional automatic reflex. It may or may not be carnal — it all depends on what has been put there.

This applies to a specific attitude toward anything — race, sex, religion, politics, wealth. We are all constantly undergoing conditioning — each day our "mental reflexes" are refined or bolstered in some way. An attitude is strengthened, or an attitude is changed.

But what is important is this: our judgment of another's attitude is merely what we think he thinks. Or feels. Or likes or dislikes. And too often we judge his attitude by his personality. True, some people's personalities do reflect their attitudes. The problem is that many others do not.

It is important to know *our* attitude as well as *theirs*. Perhaps our view of someone's behavior is influenced by a biased view on our part.

What has conditioned us as ministers? Many things. God's Holy Spirit, Ambassador training, Bible teaching, church influence, previous experience, personal prejudices. In fact, the more we live and experience life, including our unconverted years, the more we find our attitudes change.

In relation to attitude notice this important point given by the previously quoted author: "One matures as a person by responding differently today from the way one responded yesterday." It

is this growth, maturing, and different responding that we should strive for in our personal lives (and recognize in the lives of others).

The Molding of an Attitude

We have seen basically what an attitude is. But it is paramount to understand as well what shapes, molds and changes our attitudes. Each stimulus will, in turn, produce a change in the resultant personality.

Note some of these factors:

1) *AGE*: Attitudes toward life change as one's age changes. Age affects attitudes toward particular situations in life. Forced retirement or job change does not affect a twenty-year old as it would an older person who is unprepared for either.

2) *UNIQUE EXPERIENCES*: Everyone's life has been punctuated with "highlights" — with special experiences. The affect has been lasting. Some unique opportunity, some disaster, the chance meeting of an outstanding personality, a sickness, a trip abroad. All with the possible result of a major change toward some concept of life and people.

3) *ASSOCIATIONS*: The influence of people on people has produced some of the most meaningful changes in our lives. A concerned teacher... the mate chosen for life... the intimate circle of sharp companions... the first employer. If one's associates have been chosen carefully, the course of his life will be greatly and positively affected. Conversely, a bad marriage or a hateful boss will be crippling to an attitude. All adds up to produce an indelible attitude which is carried into God's Church and into contact with us in the ministry.

4) *KNOWLEDGE*: The awareness brought about by new information also produces a major change in our minds. What about the new knowledge of the meaning of our lives? That has changed us immeasurably. Knowledge needed for job advancement has opened up new opportunities. Knowledge of geography, history, and current affairs, all combine to change us — hopefully for the better. Such knowledge brings about awareness. Living and pondering new information should bring about a deeper understanding of life. This changes our attitudes and hopefully our conduct.

5) *OUR "LIFE PATTERN"*: For the most part our "life pattern" is the composite of the previous conditioning factors. It is our "life style" — the mode of living we have fallen into. Our prosperity or standard of living greatly affects this area. We are creatures of habit. Slight influences have com-

bined to condition our responses toward everything — the general "rat race" of society, the shattered dreams, family traits. All have produced a unique personality in people — different from ours — but after baptism, motivated by a common Spirit toward a common salvation.

6) *DEMON INFLUENCE*: In few cases that we presently deal with has this been an influence of major consequence — but it cannot be totally dismissed. Scripture warns against treating it lightly. Satan is a roaring lion and we must be aware of his cunning devices. But, as has sometimes been the case in the past, we should not be too quick to assume that every oddity in a personality is a demoniacal manifestation.

7) *GOD'S SPIRIT*: This now is our, and our people's basic motivating influence. After repentance people will continue to express themselves in varying ways. The six conditioning factors have predetermined them to react differently on given subject — the Blacks, the Whites, men, women, money and sex. These responses have become habitual, automatic — but not necessarily malicious.

Note this carefully, fellows. The basic reaction we have all known prior to conversion is to be negative. Our whole set of "reactions" must undergo a change. But first of all the *basic* motivation must be changed. Our attitudes need to become positive and "pro-God." No longer carnal. This is accomplished by receiving God's Spirit.

It is at this point that the *expression* of our attitude — through our personality — needs to be changed. The real essence of conversion is, in one sense, the gradual receiving of a new set of "mental automatic reflexes." As Paul mentioned in Romans 12, we are to be transformed by the "renewing of your mind."

This is our life-long battle: to change. Now we

express our often biased, prejudiced or even warped personalities. Our past may have conditioned us to be picky, narrow, skeptical, self-righteous. It's easy to be "up-tight" about certain things yet still spiritually motivated. But we should each be aware that any improper reaction — if unchecked — can grow into major bitterness, corrupting the whole person once again into a carnal mind at enmity with God.

The Real Problem

What, then, is the major problem we in the ministry need to be aware of? Carnality in people? Not really.

Our big positive concern is building proper human relations between those God is using as co-workers and members — as well as between the Church and Christ's ministry.

In relation to public relations, let's now notice a study at Harvard University relating why people lose or change jobs. Here are the findings:

Thirty-four percent were fired because of inability to do the work.

Sixty-six percent were fired for failure in areas of *human relations*.

Astounding, isn't it? What collision has occurred with such people? Mainly the *mis*-understanding of attitudes. One would surmise most job dismissals would be due to incompetency, yet the facts reveal the real problem lies in the realm of human relations.

If there is any group on the face of the earth responsible for building favorable human relations it is God's Church — and, more specifically, the ministry! This requires understanding of attitudes and the recognition and tolerance of varying personalities. We must cease responding instantaneously to attitudes — unless we know they are "anti-God" or we know there is sin involved.

LETTER COMMENTS*(Continued from page 482)*

couldn't find an original quote. So why do you continue to sell the snake-oil by claiming it is the know-all and end-all of everything? I am convinced that you, and your ilk, siphon off more hard cash from the believers than all the other con games put together. I only wish I had a fortune large enough to expose you for what you are, an oldtime medicine-show man who has found out that people who listen to the radio will buy anything. Come on, why don't you stop mulching the poor, simple-minded suckers and get an honest job selling blue-sky stock to trusting ministers. Those self-appointed men of God are so mesmerized by their own hogwash that they are even an easier touch than the run-of-the-mill boobs.

— Tom Weatherly
Stockton, New Jersey

Evolution

I believe in evolution. I think the account in the Bible is proof, but having heard some of your talks against evolution, I am wondering if each "day's" accomplishment by God was a separate work of evolution. I consider evolution a much more wonderful work than a quick creation. The God I worship has the ability to plan and execute evolution. I think that toward the end of the sixth "day" God was so pleased with "man" that He breathed His spirit into him, thus making man His "spiritual child."

I think man existed all over the world. I do not consider the Hebrew man (Adam) to be my ancestor. I also think the reason Negroes are black is because they lived in Africa where the sun made their skins capable of enduring the heat over the thousands of years since they evolved.

P.S. "One Worldism" is nauseating. If you really mean the second coming of Christ, call it the Universal Reign of Jesus Christ.

— M. Doyle
Kansas City, Missouri

Faced Death Easier

My husband died about two months ago, but he always said that because of your program, he knew how to face death. Death was not dreadful, but seemingly welcome and it was your program

and literature along with our Bible that really helped him. It has certainly helped me know and understand so many things that I did not know before.

— Francine Presley
Natchez, Mississippi

On the Humorous Side

Some recently requested literature:

The Plain Truth About Child Reading — Why Bother

Our Awful Universe

Would You Please Send Me The Missing Link In Sex?

I would like a copy of the article "Flat footed Platy-what."

Curiosity's Up

You did it this time Garner Ted. . . . What is this about, "Do Worms Never Die In Hell?" You got my curiosity up higher than a cat's back. Please forthwith at once.

— Leo Waisanen
Rochester, Minnesota

Thanks

It is about time we take a few minutes to give you a personal thank you. So very many times we are going to do so, and then let other things get in the way. How does one express in words a HUGE thank you, which we owe to you? We love you and feel so privileged to work behind the scenes. We continually pray for you as an individual, and for your needs, besides the overall Work.

One time in years back, my husband and I helped in a musical stage production. As you know there are stars, producers, cast, etc. Even though we had a small stage-hand job of assisting with the props, we still felt good to be able to do a little job to make it successful. I hope this analogy helps to express how we feel towards the Work.

We are most pleased with you and your dad as the top of this Work. We feel very close to you as we would to a dear brother. Keep up the fantastic job.

— Don & Eunice Goodrich
Albuquerque, New Mexico