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OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 18, 1990

Mr. Tkach solicits new ideas to launch five-year planning

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA—Avoiding crisis management, unifying into a team and enabling prudent financial decisions—Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach cited these as some of the benefits of the Church's five-year plan.

Meeting with Church officials and managers June 5, Mr. Tkach focused on domestic and international aspects of the Church and its facilities, including media areas, Ambassador College, Computer Information Services and the Ambassador Foundation.

This preliminary meeting prepared managers for the five-year planning meetings this summer.

"Mr. Tkach decided this year to have a kickoff meeting, in which he gave the managers general guidelines for preparing option packages," said Bernard W. Schnippert, Media Operations director and director of the five-year plan task force.

Planning plots the future

Mr. Tkach told the group: "Planning focuses our goals so we proceed directly to our objectives, rather than wandering around in a haphazard manner."

The pastor general said he has the responsibility of Matthew 13, which contains the parable of the sower and the seed.

"In times past we were scattering seed to the four winds, hoping the wind would carry it all to fertile soil. But it doesn't work that way."

He explained how a farmer who sows seed by hand "doesn't want it scattered over his neighbor's fields so he'll reap the harvest. He's very careful how he sows that seed to make sure it's going to be productive for him. We have the same responsibility."

Mr. Tkach emphasized: "We have to learn to work within our means. And that's all there is to it."

"Working smarter, not just harder, is the thing we want to continue to emphasize. I'm sure that with it, God is going to bless all of our efforts in direct proportion to which we apply the principle."

Mr. Tkach said he wanted no manager in doubt about "where we're going, why we're going, what we expect to accomplish and what our objectives are throughout the weeks, months and years ahead, so we can make sure we present ourselves before God as able-bodied stewards who are concerned about their responsibilities."

By working in the spirit of unity and communicating ideas, "something productive is going to result," said the pastor general.

"And that has been outstanding in the last few years."

Mr. Tkach listed some results of

the five-year plan from last year.

More ministers have been added to care for U.S. field churches; Church Administration International shifted its focus toward Western Europe; finances were adjusted, allowing Ambassador College to consolidate in Texas; a new main-frame computer was added; the media areas worked for cost-saving techniques in preaching the gospel, such as removing the toll-free number; and domestic and international regions were served through Ambassador Foundation special projects.

Merging college will save

Speaking about consolidating the college in Texas, Mr. Tkach said: "The first year's savings will be about \$1.3 million. It looks very promising."

"After two years there's going to be even more savings."

Media areas

The pastor general called *The Plain Truth* the flagship of the Work.

"It's more important than television, regardless of how effective television may be," he said. "We can still get the printed word out there, without the burden and excess cost of television."

"I'm not saying we're thinking of doing away with television. But somewhere along the line—five or 10 years from now—as television rates continue to escalate, we may be forced to. The fees being charged are just astronomical."

Youth summer programs

Mr. Tkach said the Summer Educational Program (SEP) "provides a means and a media to the youths in God's Church." Second- and third-generation Christians already compose a large portion of the Church.

"When you stop to consider what the kids donate to the Church, they are more than paying for themselves to provide an SEP camp," said Mr. Tkach.

"I'll tell you, we can take our hats off to the youths in God's Church and the parents because overall they've been very successful in encouraging the kids in the right direction."

Pasadena employees burdened

The pastor general expressed his concern for Church employees facing high living costs in Southern California.

"When you hear the sad tales of many of the employees who are on the lower end of the [financial] totem pole, it cuts the heart right out of you, if you have the heart of God."

He added, "It just makes me cry out to God all the more, 'Help! Help!'"

Mr. Tkach later commented that members worldwide are encountering difficult financial conditions, including the uncertain U.S. economy. This affects the Work's income.

He asked brethren to pray for one another, for employment and financial needs.

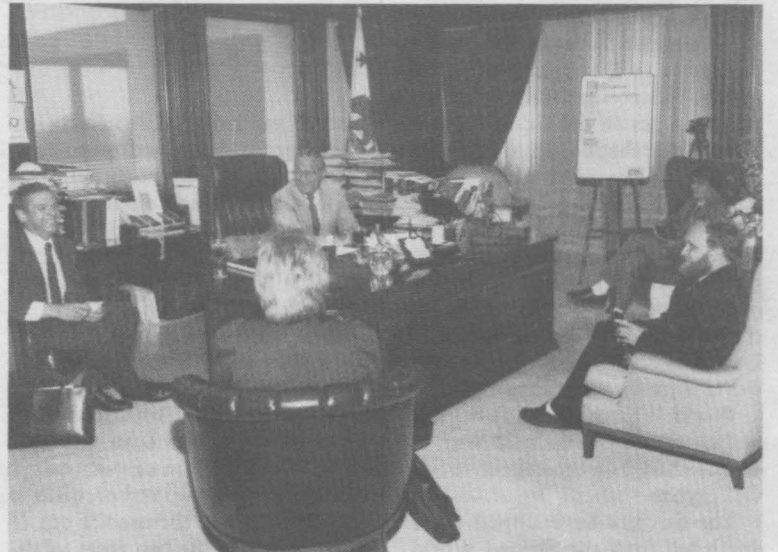
"There has never been a time in the history of God's Church when it was easy to perform the tasks God

has set before us," Mr. Tkach related.

Then he added: "I encourage you all to examine the priorities of God's Work and seek to find ways to do the most with what you will be given."

"How can we stretch that dollar a little bit more and make it go farther? We need to be considering and thinking about new ideas and strategies that would make that dollar work twice as hard for us."

"I have confidence in your abilities to rise to the challenge," he concluded. "It is mutual support that will enable us to fulfill and complete our commission."



SOVIET VISITORS—Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach meets with Radio and Television Leningrad representatives in his office June 7. Counterclockwise from left: Victor Kubik, who works in Church Administration, Irina Prudnikova, Valeri Kostin and Ivan Salmaksov. Details will appear in the July 2 *Worldwide News*. [Photo by Warren Watson]

Why time-buying leverage is important

Church charts media strategy

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA—A media update was presented to Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach in his office May 29 by Bernard Schnippert, Media Operations director, and Ray Wright, manager of Media Planning & Promotion.

During the meeting, Mr. Tkach heard how discontinuing the toll-free 800 service and reducing *Plain Truth* circulation have already saved the Work money.

Mr. Schnippert said, "We are concentrating on a quality subscription list—people who want the magazine and read it, and who are likely to renew, request other literature and progress into deeper involvement in God's Work as God directs."

"We believe this reflects the good stewardship God expects of us," he added.

Mr. Wright used charts to show

how the number of television stations worldwide has been pruned from 351 to 165 since last year.

"We've pruned back the tree," said Mr. Wright. "Now we are carefully letting the tree grow back a bit, but are regulating the growth."

Boosting buying power

By accepting *The World Tomorrow*, network-owned-and-operated stations and cable stations have given the Church buying leverage with other stations.

Leverage allows the Church to renegotiate with formerly inefficient stations to lower costs and obtain better time periods for airing the telecast.

"In addition to our traditional 52-week contracts," said Mr. Wright, "we have the flexibility to renegotiate for 13- and 26-week contracts as opportunities arise."

"We have proved to local stations that we are not hesitant to cancel for inefficiencies," he added. As an example, Los Angeles station KCOP's contract will be canceled.

International survey

From June 15 to July 31, BBDO (Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn), an advertising agency used by the Church, will conduct an international research survey to analyze the underlying attitudes about religion and electronic religious communication.

"We're analyzing how to approach international audiences, taking cultural needs and sensitivities into consideration," Mr. Wright pointed out.

BBDO will survey the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, Germany, France, Italy and Belgium, and report its (See MEDIA, page 4)

PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear Brethren

I want to share with you an insightful and inspiring letter from Carol Mann, whose husband, Ted, an elder in Perth, Australia, died late last year.

I appreciate her giving us permission to print her letter, because I think it will be helpful, instructive and encouraging to many of our ministers and brethren.

Carol wrote the letter to Robert Fahey, who was serving as regional director in Australia.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Fahey,

Upon hearing that you will soon be leaving Australia, I wanted to write my sincere thanks to you both for the help and support you have been. Also, as we discussed, I have gone ahead and written a sort of heart-

to-heart about some of the emotions, attitudes (both good and bad, if I'm honest) and lessons I have experienced over the past several months.

"Our society is set up so that most women lose their identities when their husbands die. We draw our identities from our husbands. We add ourselves to our men, pour ourselves into them and their lives. We exist in their reflection." So states Lynne Caine in her book *Widow*.

I could add that not only do we give up our family name, but in some cases our country, and even some of our personal goals, to give in marriage.

It is the proverbial statement of Ruth, "Whither thou goest I will go." It is wrenching enough to lose the man you love, your companion, best friend, the father of your children, without losing yourself as well.

According to the Bureau of

the Census in the United States, women are becoming widows at younger and younger ages. One out of every six women in the United States over the age of 21 is a widow!

Men tend to remarry sooner after the death of a spouse than women. More than 70 percent of men over 65 years of age are married, compared to 30 percent of women.

In the experiences and death of my own husband, leaving me with three sons and in the dilemma of grief and widowhood, I have learned so many lessons and made mistakes. But I would encourage all women to prepare their lives in advance for life after marriage ends; to also have identity, goals, hobbies, interests and a real purpose.

It is so true that a husband and wife are a team. But in becoming acquainted with other widows, I find it is important we work out our lives and salvation with God, not in our husband's shadow, thinking we can just coast along. Otherwise, it is so much harder to cope with the ultimate test of having to do it in the event of a death.

(See PERSONAL, page 4)

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Soviet fears dominate security quest

PASADENA—The Washington superpower summit ended, reported *The New York Times*, "with warm talk of amity," but with little movement toward resolving the most divisive issues separating the United States and the Soviet Union.

In particular, continued the June 4 *Times*, the discussions between presidents George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev "produced no real progress on the German question and the shape of post-Cold War Europe."

Moscow is still at a loss as to what to do about the radically altered balance of power in Europe. Practically its entire buffer zone in Eastern Europe has evaporated. Worse yet, at the very time the Soviet empire in Europe is contracting, the German world is inexorably enlarging.

World War II, or as the Soviets call it, the Great Patriotic War, is deeply etched on the collective Soviet psyche.

The Soviets have upped their death toll from the Second World War from 20 million to between 26

WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg



and 27 million. The invading German forces destroyed more than 1,700 cities and towns, blasting six million buildings to pieces, making 25 million people homeless. The Soviet Union's chronic housing shortage is still partly attributable to the havoc wrought by the war.

The ferocity of the fighting that took place on the eastern front is almost impossible to fathom. A *Time* magazine account from June 1941 described the war between Germany and Russia in near-apocalyptic terms: "Like two vast prehistoric monsters lifting themselves out of the swamp . . . the two great totalitarian powers of the world now tore

at each other's throats."

More than words needed

Scars resulting from such a cataclysmic upheaval take several generations to heal.

"Moscow fears a united and powerful Germany as a greater, more immediate threat than all the missiles in the U.S. nuclear arsenal," wrote *Los Angeles Times* Moscow correspondent Michael Parks. "None of the West's reassurances that this is a 'different and democratic Germany' have calmed those fears."

A top Soviet official, Georgi Arbatov, added: "Every family lost

someone in World War II, and no one can forget that this war, like World War I, came from German soil. Certainly, nations can change, but our people need more than words to reassure them."

For the post-Cold War period, Kremlin policy favors a neutral, united Germany, unattached to any alliance, and with its military resources sharply curtailed. It would be required to pledge not to produce, acquire or station on its territory, weapons of mass destruction.

Moscow wants the two opposing military blocs—the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Warsaw Pact—replaced by a new, as yet undefined pan-European security system. And the Soviets intend to be its leading watchdog.

The combined Western viewpoint, however, advanced by President Bush at the summit, is that the new Germany should remain in NATO, even if the eastern third of the country (the present German Democratic Republic) would be free of military forces.

Many Western experts are trying to prevail upon Mr. Gorbachev that it is in the Soviet interest to keep Germany tethered to NATO. That way, they say, the Germans wouldn't need to worry about their own security, nor be tempted to go off on a dangerous path of their own.

The basic idea (publicly unspoken, of course) is that the United States, Britain and France would continue to watch the Germans, one of NATO's underlying purposes all along, anyway. West Germans joke that NATO has always had two objectives: to keep the Russians out—

(See SOVIET, page 4)

European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



Individualism hinders cohesive Polish nation

WARSAW, Poland—*Plain Truth* contributing writer Dan Taylor and I toured Eastern Europe May 8 to 30.

Compared to other internally fragmented European countries we found the peoples of Poland to have basically one culture, one language, one religion. A church building dominates nearly every village. The nation is 95 percent Roman Catholic.

This ethnic oneness is not found in all European countries, such as Yugoslavia, which is in danger of being driven apart as Serbs, Croats and Slovenes—ancient ethnic groups—express their individual needs and aspirations.

Look at the Balkans (Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Yugoslavia and European Turkey). The term *balkanization* is a symbol for the national tendency to divide rather than unite.

Two nations make up Czechoslovakia. The Czechs and Slovaks became one nation in an agreement signed in the United States at Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1918. Now there is a controversy over whether a hyphen should separate the name of the nation, making it Czecho-Slovakia.

Even though the Polish have ethnic oneness they possess an intense individualism that makes it difficult for them to compromise or agree

among themselves. That trait hinders their efforts to establish the institutions that make for a cohesive nation.

But that same individualism has proven to be an effective shield against attempts to reshape the Polish people to models preferred by occupying powers or differing ideologies.

The Polish people have endured much suffering in their modern history. They have been conquered from the west by Germanic peoples, from the east by Russia, from the south by the Turkish Empire and even by Sweden from the north.

But the individualistic Polish nature has outlasted its conquerors—and helped Poland retain its own national and cultural identity.

Besides Warsaw (the political capital), we visited the cities of Krakow and Katowice. Krakow is the spiritual capital (Pope John Paul II's pastorate was there) and is a prosperous city with considerable German influence.

During our stay we encountered taxi drivers, hotel staff, press agency personnel, street entrepreneurs, store clerks—and an official with the Polish Inter-press Agency in Warsaw. She spoke to us about Poland's opportunities, problems and dilemmas.

(See POLAND, page 4)



Just between friends

By Dexter H. Faulkner

What is important?

What is important to you? What do you consider top priority in your life? That's a big question, maybe one you need some time to think about.

I began to think about this because of new responsibilities I face and a busy schedule week after week. I thought seriously about my priorities and goals for the future. What I discovered is worth passing on to you.

Let me give a little background first. In some ways, people and nations are alike. Both tend to lose vitality or vigor as time passes.

Both tend to give greater attention to what they were rather than what they are becoming. It's easier to look into the past, on yesterday's deeds and achievements, than it is to look into the future and think about tomorrow's goals.

If we are not alert, our focus could be on where we have been rather than on where we are going and what we are in the process of becoming.

I have a collection of antique cameras. They are interesting to look at and talk about but not of much use otherwise.

God's people should not be like my cameras, retired from active service, to be placed on a shelf to collect dust. We are to be active people called by God to help give a message to this world. To do that, we need to determine and maintain our priorities.

Sort out your life

Real producers for God get their lives sorted out. They eliminate in order to concentrate. They set up priorities and learn to say no to the trivial.

King David said, "One thing have I desired of the Lord; that will I seek" (Psalm 27:4, New King James throughout). The apostle Paul wrote, "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead" (Philippians 3:13).

We are to aim at God's way. Zero in on him and his plan for our individual lives.

That's living on target. "That in all things He may have the preemi-

nence" (Colossians 1:18). Proverbs 16:9 says, "A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."

Again, what is important to you? Make some plans, and decide two things: First, decide what you're going to do. Second, decide what you're not going to do. Doesn't that sound simple?

Next week is a definable chunk of your life. As you think through your life goals, plan to start next week on accomplishing those life dreams.

Take a piece of paper and write down your God goals—maybe several—then your people goals, and then your work goals.

These goals would include daily

If you're too busy for God, you're too busy! If you're too busy to attend to your physical and spiritual family, you're too busy!

Bible study and prayer. They would include fellowship with the brethren and goals of work accomplishment.

Now be more specific: I want to study the book of I and II Thessalonians in one month; to learn what it means to grow in grace and knowledge; to make more time for prayer and meditation; to get my room cleaned up and my clothes altered before the Feast; to stay caught up on my reading for classes. You know the needs.

Make life happen

Take charge of your life. Set some priorities. Then every day of the week, block in the time when you're going to make these goals happen. Think most of all about your God goals.

This means the top priority chunks of time may have to shift from day to day to make sure they're not crowded out.

Now you need to decide what you're not going to do. Most of us are living pressured lives. We're busy, busy, busy!

Don't let the urgent take the place of the important in your life.

When an exciting project is presented do you find yourself saying you're too busy, or too tired? What we may really be saying is, "My life is already fat and slow and bogged down with too many activities."

A positive reaction would be: "Wow! A new adventure. Forward motion! What should go, so that I can do it?"

Now think carefully. What should you eliminate? It's an important question because it can be disastrous to eliminate the wrong thing. Let me suggest three things to eliminate:

1) The total failures. If you are a hopeless failure at skiing, maybe you should try something else.

2) Eliminate past successes if the time is right. Responsibilities that were a blessing in the past can completely defeat you now. Many are working so hard at maintaining yesterday, they find it hard to cope with today—much less tomorrow.

3) Eliminate efforts that ought to succeed, but don't. Great ideas that you struggle and strain at, but just can't make happen. Maybe it's not God's time yet. Don't push it if God is not in it.

Remember, if you're too busy for

God, you're too busy! If you're too busy to attend to your physical and spiritual family, you're too busy! If activities keep you from being a good parent, spouse, son or daughter, quit the activities! Time is too short and valuable to waste on non-productive activities.

So you've listed your priorities and goals.

Anybody can make a list. The point is what are you going to quit in life to get these priorities accomplished? Examine yourself. Let's determine that we are not going to allow anything to steal from us those important moments with God. Let's become people who are thoroughly committed to biblical thinking and action.

In I Thessalonians 2:12-13, Paul tells us what our priority should be today: "That you would have a walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory. For this reason we thank God without ceasing, because when you receive the word of God which you heard from us, you welcome it not as the word of men, but as it is the truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe."



Poland: Converted to Christianity in the 10th century ● Divided among Prussia, Russia and Austria three times (1772, 1793, 1795) ● Partly reestablished by Napoleon in 1807-18 ● Overrun by Austro-German armies in World War I ● Declared independence Nov. 11, 1918 ● Lost eastern territory in 1921 war with

Russia ● Invaded and divided by Nazi Germany and Soviet Union in September 1939 ● About six million citizens killed during World War II ● 1947 election dominated by the Communists ● December 1970, experiences riots against price rises and wage controls ● August 1980, government accepts strike workers demands at the Gdansk (formerly Danzig) shipyard ● April 1989, government agrees to political and economic reform and free elections ● June 4, 1989 the labor union Solidarity sweeps the national elections. Sources: *The 1990 World Almanac* and *Webster's New Geographical Dictionary*

Pastor general visits Buffalo, N.Y.

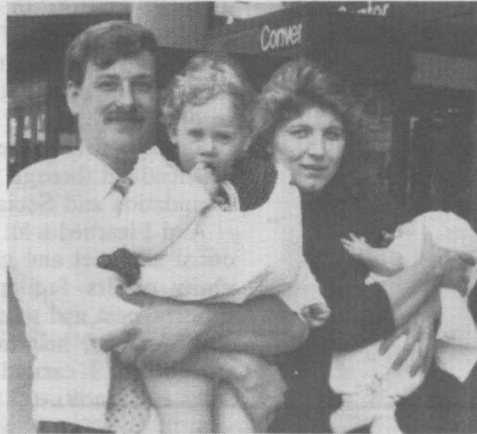


BUFFALO, N.Y.

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach spoke to 1,915 brethren from Binghamton, Buffalo North and South, Elmira, Olean, Rochester and Syracuse, N.Y., and Erie and Franklin, Pa., June 9.

Host ministers and wives were John and Fiona Larkin, Buffalo North; Michael and Susan Booze, Buffalo South and Olean; Dennis and Karen Diehl, Binghamton and Elmira; Ronald and Laura Weinland, Erie and Franklin; Kenneth and Nancy Williams, Rochester and Syracuse; Gary and Marcia Demarest, Rochester and Syracuse; Daniel and Emmalena Fuller, Buffalo North; and Cliff and Cheryl Parks, Buffalo South and Olean.

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"Into all the world..."

At sea

I read a *Good News* magazine in the library. I work on a ship where the work environment brings out the worst in people. I have checked off all the boxes because in this environment, we can use all the help we can get.

L.A.W.
Miami, Fla.

★ ★ ★

Vital information

I would like to state that the magazine you offer has vital information for anyone who wishes to read. But one cannot just read it and grasp the material. One has to learn to study and comprehend what is being said. To understand is the key word.

Read and listen with an open heart and mind, and one can learn intelligently. Your mind is like a parachute, it works only when it is open.

Overall, I really enjoy reading your magazine, *The Plain Truth*, and wish everybody would just take a few minutes to see how valuable and knowledgeable your magazine truly is.

R.P.
Lima, Ohio

★ ★ ★

Renewals

You'll never know what it has meant to me to receive this magazine every month. It has made my life so much richer. Don't ever stop sending it, OK?

J.R.
Cottontdale, Ala.

★ ★ ★

Yes, by all means, renew my subscription, please! I've enjoyed many hours of reading *The Plain Truth*. The articles are clear, concise, hard-hitting, no-nonsense, and above all, the truth!

A.C.G.
Manorville, N.Y.

I received a card from you relative to

receiving the magazine. Thanks to you I've been taking the magazine for months and believe it to be the best of all publications as to what's going on in the world.

I truly read and appreciate the extra pamphlets I send for from time to time. I would prefer never to be without *The Plain Truth*.

M.A.D.
Milton, Fla.

★ ★ ★

Family reading

I would like to compliment you on a great magazine. I can understand more about the Bible and what God's message is to us a lot better now. Before I could hardly understand any of it. I also am glad to have a magazine made just for me. I'm 14 years old. Mom has *The Plain Truth*, Dad has *The Good News* and I have the *Youth* magazine. You truly take care of the family.

A.M.
Bronx, N.Y.

★ ★ ★

Sermon material

I am a minister of the Church of Christ. I am very excited about your literature. It is the truth put in a good way, and I use it in my sermons—quoting and giving credit to *The Plain Truth*.

I have had a good response from my church. They are interested in your literature as a result.

S.T.
Mt. Vernon, Ill.

★ ★ ★

Appreciative readers

Thank you so very much for the *Plain Truth* magazine and the other literature you have sent to me. I have learned so very much from it. I almost feel like a sponge soaking up all of this knowledge.

I know I probably can never be able to send you all the money this literature is worth to me. I feel greedy asking for more, so please accept this small check.

Maybe it will help defray some of the mailing cost.

I thank all the people who have made it possible for me to have this literature. Also, I am passing the literature on to others after I read it and search my Bible.

D.G.
Big Spring, Tex.

Thank you and your ministry for coming to my home. I read many magazines; we have cable TV available at the touch of a button; but the most fascinating material is that which comes from you in your magazines! Yours is such an unbiased and loving presentation of God's Word and is No. 1 on my reading list! Yours is the true Word, as I see it.

M.S.
Joliet, Ill.

★ ★ ★

Youth 90

I would like to thank you, *Youth 90*,

for such great stories and articles which deal with us (today's youths). The magazine has helped me a lot!

It deals with the problems of today, and it is great reading material for a rainy day or for laying out and getting a tan. It's great for any time when you've got an itch to read.

The peer pressure is out there full force on the older youths, as well as on the younger youths. Sometimes it's hard to be a young person in today's world.

B.K.
Magnolia, Ark.

I really love the *Youth* magazine and I appreciate what you are doing to help us younger kids. We think we know it all, but we don't. All I know is that God helps us all the time.

Sometimes he works in really mysterious ways, but he is always there. We just have to remember that and put our trust in God. Your magazine helps me in the times I've been depressed.

Greybull, Wyo.

Report from _____
the Treasurer's Office

Leroy Neff

PASADENA—We have just completed a disappointing month financially. The income for May was 9.1 percent less than last year. This brought the year-to-date income to 1.9 percent more than last year. This is below what we thought was a conservative 3 percent budget for the year.

With inflation running at about 5 percent, our income levels are actually, in effect, negative. The departments will have to cut expenses in the coming year unless there is a turnaround.

Please pray that God will add more contributors and members to assist us in this great endeavor. We should all be sure that we continue to be faithful and obedient in paying God's tithe. In addition, we should be giving offerings as God has blessed us.

We are in what we hope are the final stages of finalizing the loan for the College construction in Texas. The documents are being reviewed before signature.

The U.S. audit by Arthur Andersen is complete and the worldwide report can now be assembled and reviewed by the auditors.

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

We need to face the reality that as there is birth, so there is death. I find many do not want to even think or talk about such a thing. But I think it is wise to count each day as precious and each day with your husband as precious.

Never expect to live forever or say, "That could never happen to me." I feel we can't really expect a lot from others if it does happen to us, as much as we can prepare ourselves as part of Christian living, knowing God really is in full control of our very life.

Facing reality and acceptance

Many wives and widows are [going through] or have gone through the shock and grief of finding that their husbands are terminally ill. For others, an unexpected accident or heart attack suddenly ends all future goals and plans the two of you have shared for so many years.

Therefore, it is important, I feel, to see every situation as different and not to categorise each individual trial into one expected mode of behaviour.

I would like to share with you

my experience in accepting and facing our trial, lessons we learned, mistakes made, knowing it could be totally different for somebody else.

My husband felt a lump in his neck. He was quite shaken as he confided to me that it had been there for some time. When he finally asked the doctor about it, another lump was found growing on the other side of his neck. A biopsy was suggested.

I will never forget that day. It was the Fourth of July, 1988. Even though we lived in Australia, an American nurse reminded me of the meaning of that day. For me it was not fireworks and celebration.

That day revealed to us that Ted did not have long to live, by all physical evidence. He was found to have a most malignant, aggressive, advanced form of secondary cancer. They could not even find the primary cancer.

The doctor was visibly shaken as he told us this news. Basically he was telling us that he could offer us no real help at all. But he would try to give us all the support he could, and relieve what pain he could. For the first time, I really realised that although death—and diseases such as cancer—are a real enemy to man, doctors deep inside do know their limitations and have

their moments of helplessness.

Ted's first reaction was total disbelief and denial. He had so much living to do. This possibility had never entered Ted's mind. He was strong, healthy and athletic. He was a swimming teacher, lifesaver, schoolteacher, choirmaster, a local elder, as well as a husband and father. "Get me to school, I'll be late," he said as we left the doctor's that day.

For me, the reaction and shock were overwhelming. The doctor just said Ted was going to die, by all physical evidence. All future goals and dreams suddenly disappeared into an abyss of total insignificance. I cried to God, "Don't let this happen!" I woke up really believing it was a bad dream—until the lump would remind me.

Friction started between us. Ted denied; I grieved. So immediately a stress was added—to subdue how I really felt and pretend everything was OK, "being positive" to make Ted happy.

I was positive God could heal. I was positive he was in full control. But I also knew many close friends who had great faith and God allowed them to die, as he willed. I read the Bible where God allowed his saints far more righteous to die.

So in time I began to face the fact that a new and difficult ex-

perience was ahead. I accepted and planned what would be one of the greatest trials of my life: to support my dying husband, give him my all, support my children so they would continue to feel secure through it all and continually ask God for strength and courage.

God's will

It was then that I privately made a "Plan A" and "Plan B."

Plan A was God's. I would pray, fast, study, examine myself, ask for God's forgiveness and if God's will was to heal Ted, it would be done. There was nothing I could do to "organise God" in this. God is in charge and knows our needs.

Plan B was the emergency plan, what I could physically do in this situation. I began to educate myself to our problem. I accompanied Ted on every visit to the hospital.

Here, the doctor would explain Ted's condition and explain how things were progressing. The doctor was candid and open at our request.

I grabbed literature I found lying around the hospital. There I found access to Hospice Care Service where nurses and doctors would be willing to allow terminally ill patients to die in the dignity and peace of their own home. I learned about legal matters that helped to get our affairs in order.

I learned what access I had to financial aid through the Cancer Foundation and Social Security.

And I learned a lot about cancer. I also met and got to know many others facing different cancers, pain and so many trials. Ted watched, helpless and distraught, as I carried out these tasks in Plan B.

As time progressed and pain became greater, nights became more sleepless, prayer became more fervent, I grieved more so. I cried as Ted sat coughing, unable to breathe, sitting up with his heart pounding, the cancer eating around it. He fought to be as normal as possible, trying to keep his dignity and be positive.

My goal became to make every moment meaningful and to fulfil any wish he had in the short time he had left. If he had a sudden urge to go on a drive I would drive him; household duties could wait.

Sometimes he wanted me just to sit beside him in bed, and just not be busy at all. I tried to imagine what it would be like if he really did die. I still hoped and believed God would intervene.

Still, Ted's mother died at this time from cancer. As I had to handle the arrangements for her as well, I went ahead and bought a plot for Plan B, just in case, so that Ted could be beside his mother. It would not be wasted if God healed Ted, as I knew none of us would live forever.

I made out a will. My children [Benjamin, 17; Charles, 14; and Philip, 10] would ask, "What if something happens to you, Mom?" I honestly told them of the will and arrangements in it. The relief was so evident, and they hugged me and thanked me.

With God's help

I would encourage any woman facing a trauma like this to ask for strength and courage. You cannot of yourself change the facts, but with God's help you can be strong. So many times my prayers were answered at a time of crisis.

(See PERSONAL, page 6)

Poland

(Continued from page 2)

Poland has given many sons and daughters to the United States. Many Americans will remember Stan Musial, a Polish American born in Donora, Pa. He is rated among the top 10 American major league baseball players of all time. In the '40s and '50s there were so many Polish Americans on the St. Louis Cardinals team that they were called the Polish Falcons.

The British have close links with the Poles too. They went to war with Hitler over the territorial integrity of Poland and have retained many personal links. The two peoples have much in common, perhaps most importantly this strong sense of individuality. The relationship is one of mutual respect—rare in this era of suspicions and backbiting international relations.

Poland has contributed its share of achievers to the march of human progress. For instance, Frederic Chopin in music, Marie Curie in medicine and Nicolaus Copernicus in astronomy, an impressive trio who made an indelible mark on Western culture and learning.

Many hope that with the changes made at the top in government Poland will begin to improve. But it takes time for improvements to filter through an entrenched bureaucracy; the economic difficulties faced by the nation are staggering.

Although the present is filled with ideals among the politicians, what happens to those ideals when they are combined with the difficulties of human nature?

The pressure of economic reform is putting great hardship on the people. And while the Polish people are Poland's strength, the country is still far from perfect.

Many barriers to communication and transport still exist. While journalists and tourists put up with these inconveniences they can be the difference between profit and loss to the foreign investor who wants to help the countries in Eastern Europe.

Poland needs help, economically and spiritually. Like all peoples, the Polish need to express their individuality in the context of a right way of life and a strong relationship with the One who allows nations to rise and fall. For those of us in God's Church, our prayers must be for the effective help of God's Word to the Polish people.



SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES—James Nickelsen Jr., who is suffering from lymphoma, receives his Ambassador College diploma from pastor David Fiedler in Sylvania, Ohio, May 18. Mr. Nickelsen listened to commencement exercises by telephone hookup. [Photo by Rick Laux]

Soviet

(Continued from page 2)

and the Germans down.

"Nobody, and that includes most Germans, wants a loose cannon on the deck," wrote Josef Joffe, a German, in the June 11 *U.S. News & World Report*. "Only NATO plus the U.S. can mute everybody else's fears of the German colossus unlimbering its muscles," added Mr. Joffe.

Still, for the Soviet leadership to accept the idea of all Germany being a part of the Western alliance structure represents a psychological defeat. It makes the enormous sacrifices of the war against Hitler's legions seem almost meaningless.

Moscow to keep powder dry

Because of the transformed geopolitical landscape in Europe, the reason for NATO's continued existence is being questioned more than ever.

Some believe that the Soviets are right: That European security should be managed collectively, probably under the aegis of the 35-member conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, launched in 1975 in Helsinki, Finland.

Others point out that collective security systems have failed throughout history. They cite the deficiencies of the League of Nations and the United Nations.

Regardless of what takes shape, the Soviets will keep their powder dry. While they will cut back on their nuclear and conventional forces in Europe, they will reduce their strength only to a level they believe to be a prudent minimum.

Their leaders will remain true to the words etched on countless Soviet World War II monuments vowing "never again" to be unprepared for battle.

No doubt some Soviets were disturbed at the slogan the West German government adopted promoting the economic union to take place July 2 between West and East Germany. It reads: "One Germany, One Europe, One Future."

To the Soviets, this slogan smacks of Germany's intent to dictate the Continent's future. And to the older, wartime generation it is much too close to "ein Volk, ein Reich, ein Fuehrer" (one people, one empire, one leader).

Much more intensive contact between these two great nations is certain to occur. The Soviets need German economic assistance, but caution on both sides will remain.

New Names on Campus

PASADENA—Chancellor Joseph W. Tkach approved names for the student residences and streets at Ambassador College in Big Sandy. The names will make it easier for people to find locations on campus, according to Rick van Pelt, director of Facilities Services.

Men's residences were given tree names: Hickory, Mesquite, Pine and Oak Manors. Women's residences were named after flowers: Azalea, Bluebonnet, Camellia, Daisy, Edelweiss, Lilac and Rose Manors.

The main entrance road was named Ambassador Way, and the main road through campus, College Drive. The perimeter road is Smug Oak Lane, named after the road on which the Bricket Wood, England, campus was located.

The north-south road leading to Lake Loma was designated Orange Grove after the street that runs along the western boundary of the Pasadena campus.

Faculty homes are along Lakeshore Drive. Brookside Drive connects College Drive with Smug Oak Lane, and Royal Road connects Highway 80 with College Drive.

Media strategies

(Continued from page 1)
findings to the Church in early September.

"We want more hard-core data and research about how to plan media in each of these areas," said Mr. Wright.

Why radio is not effective

At Mr. Tkach's request, Mr. Schnippert and Mr. Wright compared television coverage with radio, concluding that of the two, television remains the most effective and efficient tool for communicating the Church's message to the public.

"Periodically, some ask why we are not on 150,000-watt radio stations anymore," Mr. Wright commented.

"First, those stations no longer exist, and the 50,000-watt stations that are left are strongly format-

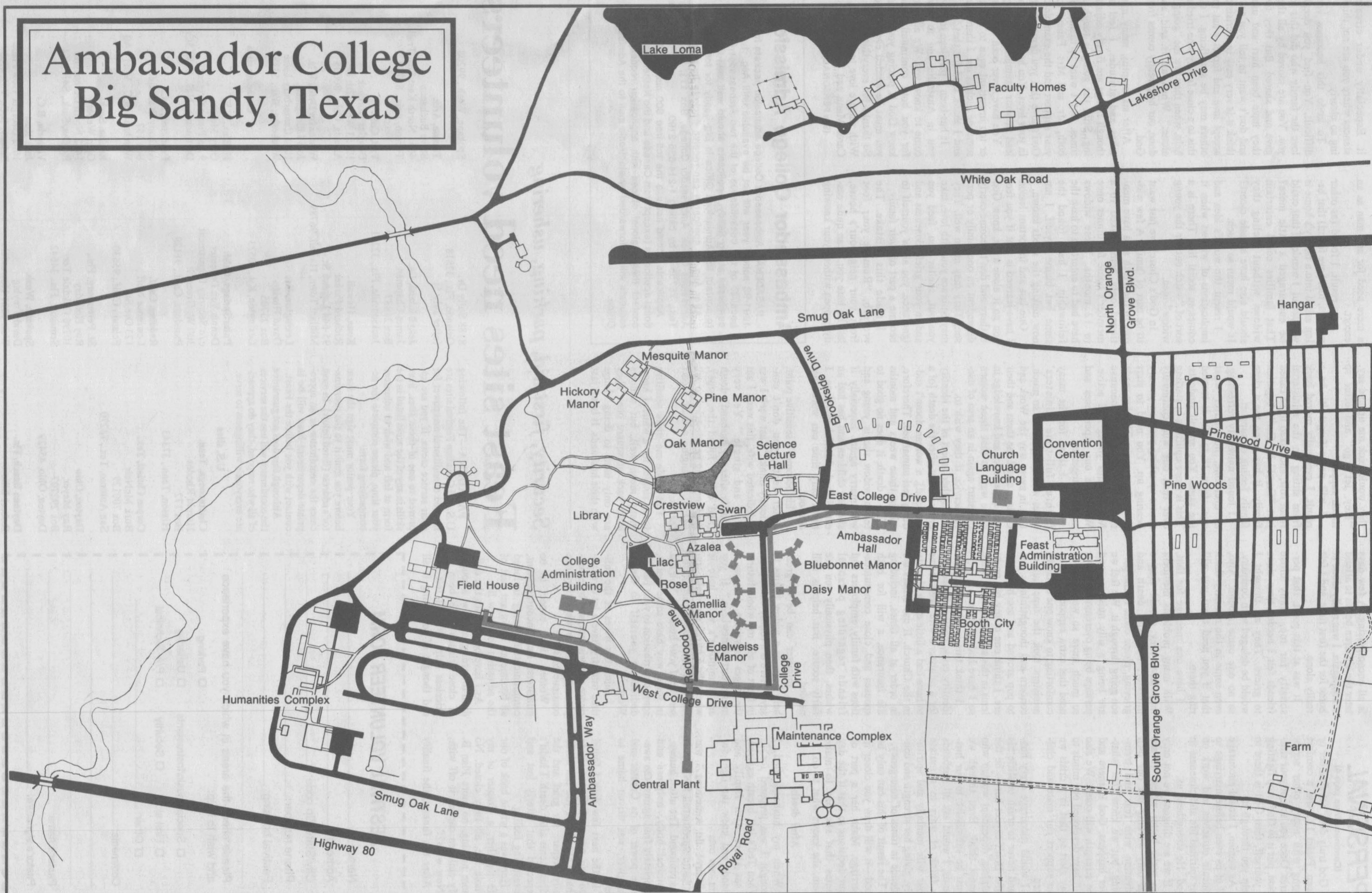
and program-oriented. And they are difficult to negotiate with; most of these stations simply do not want religious programming," he added.

"We would have to buy time on multiple stations for any significant listenership level at all—and that results in a lot of money."

Mr. Wright noted: "The media markets are constantly shifting. People's thinking changes. What works today may not work tomorrow."

Also attending the meeting were Michael Feazell, executive assistant to the pastor general; evangelist Larry Salyer, director of Church Administration International; Joseph W. Tkach Jr., director of U.S. Church Administration; and John Chalaris, budget coordinator for Media Planning & Promotion.

Ambassador College Big Sandy, Texas



PERSONAL

(Continued from page 4)

God truly does not slumber or sleep. Psalm 121 was a comfort along with many other scriptures. Once you accept your situation, put it to God, stop fighting it yourself, then God is there to help you through it.

As women, I would encourage all of us even before marriage to educate ourselves and work on our spiritual life and closeness to God. He strengthens us.

If we are diligent we not only can make better wives, we are not only working out our own salvation with fear and trembling, but we know that whatever happens, God is there and the strength will come. We also will have developed our minds to stay alert so that in a crisis we can support our mate and children.

I would encourage every husband never to crush or stifle his wife. Don't expect her to be the helpless, dependent woman who cannot think. Even though we must be submissive to our husbands, I would ask all husbands to think of ways to stimulate your wife mentally and spiritually, giving her strength and confidence in times of emergency.

The result of this can only be good—it will draw you closer in marriage. Make her a part of your decisions so that if the day comes that she has to make them, she knows what to do.

After death

When my husband died, I thought I was prepared for it. When Ted's last breath expired, I sat there with family and friends and knew the fight for him was over.

"Carol, do something," was his last desperate call for help. It was profound. The utter, human, chemical body, helpless and completely frail against the awesome power of its Creator and Lifegiver, was driven home to me.

In the next few days I found you can never really anticipate what is ahead and you can never fully prepare for grief and the adjustments after death. I hadn't expected that utterly lost and devastating feeling.

Here was a whole book of our life together, a chapter of my whole life, all fully closed. No more nursing, no more Plan B. My children capped it off with, "Now what?"

After the funeral, the finality

is all encompassing. A few days later the children began to attend school again. I was really alone at home for the first time, and I felt really alone.

It was at this point, that personally for me, many close friends felt I needed time alone to grieve. They all thought I would be deluged with company, so no one came around. Also, even some in the ministry think that if you need them you will ring them.

I have one message for that. With many problems members may have they should ring a minister, but with death and grieving, please come to the person going through it. We feel we are being a silly nuisance and perhaps being overemotional, yet so much more so we seem to need that extra support. It is so comforting to know one of God's ministers took the time out of concern and thoughtfulness just to pop around and see how you are. I think one of my big problems in this area is personal pride so I have had to learn.

I think this is where the real identity crisis begins. Especially for a minister's wife, who seems to have had a little extra identity in the Church. If our affairs are in order at all times, including life insurance, a will for both spouses and close communications with family, employers and friends regarding personal wishes, then physically you are fairly secure. But help is still needed.

A minister can be of great help here, as a widow begins to say: "Here is a totally blank book in front of me, my whole future, the pages unwritten. I know I must start somewhere." If you are a minister's wife, here is where the Church can make you feel that you were a part of the service of your husband. You did in some way have some worth, some contribution to your part in dedicating yourself to God's Work.

I think the wives of the full-time ministry have a lot of experience and wisdom, and by example and in many ways they can continue to serve.

Women don't expect to be ministers! But encouragement, communication, being included all become an important part of the adjusting to a new life.

As I have begun with the children towards goals now, a couple of close friends have been of priceless help. When I felt low and thought of forgetting it all

they would pick me up and say, "Hey, let's go" and offer so much support.

I will never forget it. As a result, I eventually moved back from sitting on the ministerial front row, and asked to be called just "Carol" by God's begotten family. It has given me a close family feeling of support.

I found university refreshing, as everyone, no matter what age—from 18 to 50—is treated the same. You are all students. This is more uplifting in starting over than one who continually comes up asking you how you are bearing up. You need to start somewhere again. This has made the children happy, because Mom seems young and active. We share our experiences and new life together.

Again, I think for the many faithful full-time ministers' wives who have served so much, that in every way the Work and College could use them and their vast experience and knowledge in some way, so that these women can start again in an area of useful service if they wish to.

Another aspect of the identity crisis is that after the death [of a husband], a woman doesn't suddenly feel unmarried. Therefore, within those weeks and months after a death, it does no good to tell a widow she is young and will marry again. Especially if she has children and has had an established, faithful marriage. I think only time can work that one out.

This becomes a sensitive point. After death, you don't consciously think, "Last week I was a dedicated wife, this week I am free and single." Yet very shortly after my husband's death (and others found the same), well-meaning people tried to ask us out, arranging a male escort for us.

This made me quite sensitive to all singles for a while. I know many mean well, but widows start back at square one. They are only used to doing things with their husbands. It is not just

a mere need for any man as an escort.

As a result, I found (as other widows, too, have found) that being asked into a family's home is wonderful. I wonder if that could be encouraged a little more? That families could entertain widows without feeling they should also have a male escort? It would mean so much.

I resent the world's idea and implications of widows when it comes to social life. There is a sort of "watch out for the young widow" idea.

In God's Church we just want to be part of family. A few widows in the Perth area have mentioned only being asked to a member's home for dinner once in 12 months. These widows have had to entertain to have the fellowship. I have found the same but blame myself. I am now making the needs known.

One last and important lesson I have learned is that if you feel you go it alone a bit, know God is there and don't become overly dependent on one family or person. They may mean well. They may embrace you with love, take you out, shelter you, feed you and in your grief, aloneness and ignorance, you allow yourself to become a part of their family.

I made this mistake. The proverb, "Remove your foot from your neighbour's house, lest he hate you," can quite easily happen without your knowing

it. Especially under circumstances where you are not thinking so clearly.

To undo this becomes very difficult. You find you deeply love the family who did this for you. You are moved by all they gave and shared. But they feel they have been hurt and used and don't want to tell you so. I think it is very easy in a crisis to accept love and forget what the others may be sacrificing. I did this to a close family who tried to help, when they saw me "going it alone." When all is said and done, our help really comes from God.

After six months, many mistakes and attitudes, I feel as though things are finally adjusting. Still, the going is tough at times. But I want to thank you both, Mr. and Mrs. Fahey, for your support and the example of God's love that you demonstrate in your lives. You have taken the lead in your example of caring.

You have never been too busy or too important even to talk to someone such as me. I thank you and I thank God for that.

It has been a privilege to have you in Australia and to have come to know you. We all pray for you both continually and know God is placing you where you must be needed even more. So thanks for everything.

With sincere love to you both, Carol Mann and boys

(See PERSONAL, page 8)

Ambassador College Admissions

PASADENA—Ambassador College admission packets for the 1991-92 school year will not be available until Aug. 1, 1990, because of the consolidation of the two Ambassador College campuses at Big Sandy. Applicants should wait until that time to contact the Admissions Office in Big Sandy for forms.

After Aug. 1, applicants can receive packets by writing the Admissions Office, Ambassador College, Box 111, Big Sandy, Tex., 75755 or by calling 1-214-636-2190.

Applicants should not use the toll-free 800 number. International applicants (except from Canada and the Netherlands) may contact their regional offices with application requests. The requests will be forwarded by electronic mail to the Admissions Office.

Security, first aid, parking, ushering

Feast sites need volunteers

PASADENA—The following U.S. and Canadian Festival sites are in need of additional manpower for their service crews. If you are approved to one of these sites, have skills in any of the areas listed in the form at left and wish to volunteer your time, please complete the accompanying form.

Your pastor must sign the form before you mail it to the coordinator's address (listed below). In most cases the coordinator or an appropriate department head will be in contact with you before the Feast.

Although this does not guarantee the coordinator will use the services of all who respond, they do appreciate everyone's willingness to serve.

U.S. sites

Chattanooga, Tenn.
Harold Rhodes
Box 172
Hixson, Tenn., 37343

Corpus Christi, Tex.
Burk McNair
Box 700129
San Antonio, Tex., 78270

Dayton, Ohio
Ray Meyer
Box 292707
Dayton, Ohio, 45429

Daytona Beach, Fla.
Robert Elliott

8188 Sully Dr.
Orlando, Fla., 32818
(after July 5)

Jekyll Island, Ga.
James Chapman
Box 24887
Jacksonville, Fla., 32241

Kona, Hawaii
Richard Parker
95-644 Lauawa St.
Mililani Town, Hawaii, 96789

Lexington, Ky.
David Havir
Box 23705
Lexington, Ky., 40523

Palm Springs, Calif.
Dennis Van Deventer
c/o Security Department
300 W. Green St.
Pasadena, Calif., 91129

Redding, Calif.
Lawrence Neff
123 Ore St.
Folsom, Calif., 95630

St. Petersburg, Fla.,
Roy Holladay
10796 Oakdale Ter.
Seminole, Fla., 34642

Spokane, Wash.
David Treybig
West 5021 Howesdale

Spokane, Wash., 99208

Tucson, Ariz.
Steve Buchanan
4651 North Keet Seal Trail
Tucson, Ariz., 85749

Vail, Colo.
Douglas Horchak
10253 West 77th Dr.
Arvada, Colo., 80005

Wisconsin Dells, Wis.
Joel Lillengreen
1033 Canterbury Lane
Waukesha, Wis., 53188

Canadian sites

Halifax, N.S.
Gary Moore
9 La Pierre Crescent
Dartmouth, N.S., B2W 5C6

Penticton, B.C.
Anthony Wasilkoff
Box 157
Westbank, B.C., V0H 2A0

Regina, Sask.
Glen Weber
1442 North Devonshire
Regina, Sask., S4X 3Z2

Victoria, B.C.
Jack Kost
1662 Georgia View Place
Sidney, B.C., V8L 4R6

FESTIVAL VOLUNTEER FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip code: _____

Phone number: _____

Festival housing: _____

Please check the areas in which you have experience and wish to help:

- Parking
 Special music/Instruments
 Ushering
 First aid
 Security
 P/A-Technical
 Other: _____

Comments: _____

Pastor's name: _____

Pastor's signature: _____

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS IN THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

PASADENA—The Festival Office announced that the Feast sites in Blantyre, Malawi; Grand Anse Beach, Grenada; Barquisimeto, Venezuela; and Port-of-Spain, Trinidad; have reached capacity. No further transfer applications can be accepted.

If you were accepted to an international site, but have decided to cancel your plans, please notify the appropriate regional office. This will allow people on waiting lists to be accepted.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—*News of the Work*, the Church's monthly co-worker newsletter, has produced more than 135,000 literature requests since April 1989, according to Media Operations.



NEWS OF THE WORK

The average response is 20.9 percent, 3 percent higher than the average for co-worker literature replies from 1979 to 1988.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—Raymond Dick moved to Jerusalem in February to serve as public information officer on behalf of the Ambassador Foundation, according to evangelist David Hulme, director of Communications & Public Affairs.

Mr. Dick is in Jerusalem in conjunction with an Israeli Exploration Society Project—an archaeological dig that begins this year in Hazor, Israel.

Thirty Ambassador College students will work at the dig for five weeks. They will leave the United States June 21 and spend one week touring Israel from Jerusalem be-

fore traveling to the dig site July 1. The group will return to the United States Aug. 9.

Richard Burky of Church Administration and his wife, Carol, will lead the group.

The Hazor project "is a significant excavation because it was one of the few places in Israel that archaeologist Yigael Yadin felt would yield clay tablets," Mr. Hulme said.

"Virtually no tablets about ancient times have been discovered in Israel."

The dig will be directed by Amnon Ben-Tor, a protege of Yigael Yadin. "Professor Ben-Tor feels he has more or less targeted the area where the library of Hazor would be found," Mr. Hulme said.

★ ★ ★

BOREHAMWOOD, England—Brethren in the West African country of Liberia are safe, despite fighting in Monrovia, the capital. Rebels there are trying to topple the government of President Samuel K. Doe.

David Stirk, business manager for East and West Africa in the British Office, reported that while one family remains in Liberia, two other single members have left.

The Barbley family, which lives in Zwedru, where President Doe is from, moved to a village on the Ivory Coast border to avoid any disturbances that could occur from the fall of the president.

If necessary, they were going to cross into the Ivory Coast to find sanctuary.

The Barbleys' daughter was attending a university in Monrovia, but fled with an American member to Sierra Leone, and from there to Ghana.

"This all seems to have been very wisely handled," said Mr. Stirk.

June 11 he said communications were not possible with Liberia, nor were international flights to Robertsfield, which was partially under rebel control.

"My last information, which is only a few days old, is that everyone is safe," said Mr. Stirk.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—Church Administration announced the following ordinations.

Anthony Wasilkoff, pastor of the Kelowna and Penticton, B.C., and Tonasket, Wash., churches, was ordained a pastor on the last day of Unleavened Bread, April 16.

Edward Johnston, a local elder in the Kansas City, Kan., South church, was ordained a preaching elder on the Sabbath, May 26.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—Thomas Lapacka, manager of Media Purchasing, met May 7 to 11 with representatives of Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborn (BBDO)/Italia and BBDO/UK. Mr. Lapacka was accompanied by Peter Shelton, senior vice president, and Scott McClintock, account executive for BBDO/Atlanta.

The purpose of the trip was to be updated on pending television contract negotiations in Europe, and to give direction for future television efforts on behalf of the Church in Europe, according to Ray Wright, director of Media Planning & Promotion.

The group learned that pending bills in the parliaments of Great Britain and the Netherlands may allow religious broadcasting on commercial stations.

The Church will continue to follow these developments closely.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—The following people received plaques and watches for 25 years of service to the Church.

Robert Smith, Phoenix, Ariz., West, pastor, and his wife, Shirley, April 16.

Kyriacos Stavrinides of Church Administration and his wife, Lambrine; Don Waterhouse, Fort Worth, Tex., East pastor, and his wife, Donna; Edwin Marrs, San Diego, Calif., and Yuma, Ariz., associate pastor, and his wife, Billie; May 22.

David Simpson, shipping and export manager at Shipping & Receiving, and Roland Wendt, foreman at the Church's machine shop, May 29.

Edward Smith, a local church elder in the Cincinnati, Ohio, North church, and his wife, Angie, June 3.

★ ★ ★

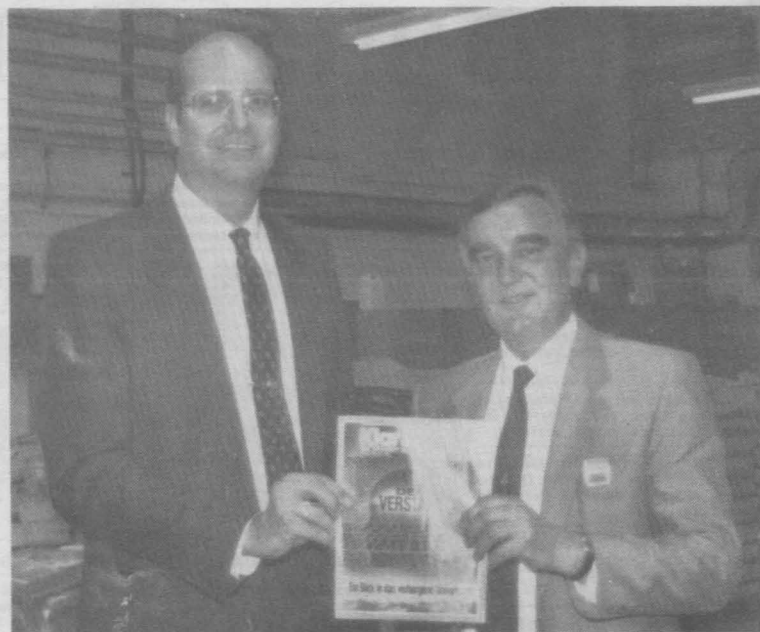
PASADENA—The address for Gregg Berg, children's choir director for the Rapid City, S.D., Feast site, was incorrect in the May 21 *Worldwide News*.

Mr. Berg's correct address is R.R. 1, Box 30-B, Barnesville, Minn., 56514.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—Four Media Operations representatives attended the Drupa exposition, which took place April 27 to May 10 in Dueseldorf, West Germany. The printing exposition and trade show takes place every four years.

Those who attended were Bernard Schnippert, director of Media Operations, and his wife, Ar-



PRESS CHECK—Bernard Schnippert, Media Operations director (left), reviews the German *Plain Truth* with Colin Passmore, managing director of Ambassador Press in England, which prints international editions of *The Plain Truth* and *The Good News*. [Photo by Brian Kritzell]

lene; Barry Gridley, Publishing manager, and his wife, Wendy; Don Patrick, technical manager for Publishing and Editorial Services; and Brian Kritzell, who coordinates purchasing for Media Operations.

"We attended the Drupa exposition because of its importance to the printing industry," Mr. Schnippert said.

Vendors offer "products and new technologies that are sure to have long-term influence on the graphics arts industry everywhere," according to the April issue of *Graphic Arts Monthly*.

"In addition to the opportunity to take a firsthand look at new printing technology, the trade show helped us finalize a decision about purchasing a new typesetting system," Mr. Schnippert said.

"We began considering new systems about two years ago when our current system was becoming outdated," he said. "Because of the nature of technology and marketing, older equipment is often much more difficult and costly to maintain and operate."

The new typesetting equipment will be the PostScript desktop publishing system. Plans are to produce *News of the Work* and *The Worldwide News* on the new system by the end of 1990.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—A 6.5 earthquake May 30 with an epicenter in southeastern Romania shook the hotel in Sofia, Bulgaria, in which Dan Taylor, a contributing writer for *The Plain Truth* and coordinator of Editorial research, was staying.

"Slowly, I came to the realization that my chair was gently rocking," Mr. Taylor said. "I looked around

my face, going over my shoulder and onto my arm, which was crooked in front of my head.

"The bus stopped a few meters away and I was sure my ribs were broken into hundreds of pieces and that my arm would have become pulp.

"I felt excruciating pain in my upper body and felt death was a moment away.

"But in a few seconds I was standing up and amazed that, except for some slight pain, nothing too much seemed to be wrong.

"People around could not believe what was happening and rushed me to the accident service of the Colombo General Hospital.

"There they x-rayed me several times and after several examinations said there was nothing wrong with me except for the bruise marks of the tire imprinted on my back.

"Except for those tire marks, no one really believed my story.

"We do serve a great God who looks out for his people and intervenes powerfully. How thankful I should be!"

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 6)

I hope you found the thoughts and feelings expressed here as important as I did. I cannot overemphasize the need for the love God has bestowed upon us to be expressed in considerate and prudent action toward one another. In addition, Carol's letter further underscores the value of continued education and skill development for wives.

Thanks to everyone for the Pentecost offering. It was a strong offering, 11.6 percent over the Pentecost offering of two years ago, although it was 7.5 percent below last year's unusually high figure.

Be sure to continue praying for the needs of the Work. The overall income for the year is running at about a zero percent increase at the moment. We do need God's guidance in being wise and effective stewards. Your prayers and letters of encouragement are a wonderful support and source of strength for me! Thank you for them.



FROM OUR SCATTERED BRETHREN

"That also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad." (John 11:52)

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka—"It is incredible that I am alive today and a testimony of God's saving grace. I was run over by a fully loaded bus [in April]," Brian Auwardt said.

Mohan Jayasekera, pastor of the Colombo, Sri Lanka, church, related this story about Brian Auwardt, a member in Colombo, after a miraculous escape from death.

"I was riding my Honda motorcycle on my way to the airport cargo warehouse with one of my work mates as a rider.

"A bus was proceeding in the same direction. As it slowed down I attempted to overtake it on the left-hand side.

"It did not occur to me that the bus was slowing down because of a pedestrian crossing. As I came up to it, all of a sudden I noticed a lady right ahead of me.

"I braked hard, the bike skidded and I was thrown off onto the road. The next second I found myself sprawled facedown under the bus.

"The rear wheels of the bus climbed up my hip, kept rolling up my back and almost rubbed against

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