

Bulletin



of the Worldwide Church of God

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NOVEMBER 14, 1972

General News and Comments

MAIL SUMMARIES

HEADQUARTERS

November 10, 1972

The income for the year to date through Thursday now shows a 11.0% increase over last year.

This past Wednesday we received 15,822 letters — the largest number of letters received on one day in two months.

The response to the nationwide *Reader's Digest* ad about Famine which appeared in the November issue now totals 4,347 responses.

We have received a combined total of 654 literature fliers through Friday from St. Petersburg in response to the campaign.

Response to St. Pete Campaign

As of November 6th, the response to the appearances in St. Petersburg has been fairly good. Through Sunday, November 5 we have received 313 of the prepaid tearout coupons which were in the program. Seven of those contained donations totalling \$29.51. We have received 218 of the "Worth Writing For" cards with three of them containing donations amounting to \$17.00.

Ron Wallen reports that to date he has received 50 telephone calls and that 14 persons have been visited this past week as the result of the appearances. Seventeen families have been invited to attend the weekly Bible studies. Nine families have been invited to attend church. In the Bible studies held Sunday night, Roger Foster reported about 20 new persons and Ron Wallen 12 new persons.

Ron says that some still have not been contacted. And, the calls are still coming in every day.

LONDON, ENGLAND

Newsstand and Library
Distribution

November 1, 1972

Response to the Newsstand programme continues to be good. The August and September distribution in South Africa has thus far added 1900 new subscribers to *The PLAIN TRUTH* mailing list.

Japan is also proving an interesting new area. The following letter from a university lecturer in Japan accompanied his response card.

"I was very interested to read all the articles in *The PLAIN TRUTH*, especially the one about the E.E.C. As a university teacher in Japan, it is my practice never to use text books for teaching English to my students but to type up various items of news. With this in mind I found more of interest in your magazine than several international problems which are facing us today.

"I would therefore be grateful if you could send me copies of your excellent magazine regularly."
(Brian P., Tokyo, Japan)

British/European Section

Our October *Reader's Digest* advertisement entitled "Why Am I Here?" has brought a total of 720 responses. The second "message" ad has recently appeared in the November issue of *Reader's Digest*, and coupons are already being received. The advertisement is entitled, "Why Did God Let Johnny Die?"

African Section

In past years, most people from countries such as Nigeria and Ghana have first contacted us after

seeing a copy of a booklet or *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine in a friend's home, or after being told about Ambassador College by an acquaintance. However, recently we have commenced broadcasting on Radio Lakeland in Malawi. The station broadcasts with 100,000 watts of power and, depending on local conditions, could reach up into Nigeria. However, it will be most suitable for Southern Africa, and South Africa in particular.

Indian Section

Letters are beginning to come in from people who have been visited by Mr. Frankel and Mr. Carpenter. The tour began in Sri Lanka (Ceylon) and will continue in India until December 1st.

One Indian who was visited writes: "Please let me express my sincere gratitude for arranging a personal contact with Mr. Richard Frankel. I discussed all my doubts with him from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. He and Mr. Carpenter very clearly explained all my questions. I am 29 years old. I feel that during the span of my 29 years, I have spent only these 1½ hours usefully. I have wanted the answers for a very long time and have asked other evangelists, but they were never able to satisfy me by answering properly. Now I am fully satisfied." (Mr. B.K.M., Tamil Nadu, India)

News of Radio Ceylon

We have received a steady response to our Radio Broadcast of the "World Tomorrow" over Radio Ceylon, which is heard daily at 22:30 hours, local time. The localities of people writing in to us show that the broadcast is being received over the entire country, including Kashmir in the far North. Total number of responses to date has just passed the 200 mark. (The programme has been broadcast since July 1.) Previously we had not heard from anyone in Ceylon itself, but now we have three responses.

VANCOUVER, CANADA

October 25, 1972

The income has dropped off sharply since the Feast of Tabernacles. This has occurred for no apparent reason that we can ascertain. The letters, on the other hand, are steady, averaging just over 4,500 per week. This average, however, is not enabling us to catch up with last year's year-to-date letter count.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

October 31, 1972

Income for the year has dropped until it is now only 2.2% above the first ten months of 1971. The

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Ministerial

Bulletin

of the Worldwide Church of God

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Book Reviews

From the Ends of the Earth: The People of Israel by Howard Morley Sachar, 1970 (Delta Books, paperback \$2.95, 2745-5).

Without vision, the people perish. Without vision in your *sermons*, chances are that some of your people's *minds* are perishing. In your sermons, the Word of God is the foundation of all knowledge, but some supplementary texts of men can often add color, understanding, and vision to the histories or prophecies from the Bible.

The Millennium is a case in point. If our vision is sterile, we often picture the thousand-year reign of Christ as an ever-joyous, no-problems, happy-happy, ten-century lark of "Recapturing True Values." We see perfect government, ideal schools, beautiful music, agrarian cities, happy households, abundant crops and a perfectly ordered problem-free Utopia.

What we see will indeed come! But what we *don't* see all too often is the excruciating birth pangs of this New Age. This perfect society will not suddenly drop from heaven. There will be an age of *transition*, lasting perhaps many decades, in which millions of refugees — wandering homelessly from all corners of a destroyed earth — will converge on Jerusalem. Although they will need to learn all the basic doctrines from the three tithes, to the three resurrections, and all about clean and unclean meats — they will also desperately need a full stomach, a solid roof, and warm clothing.

Howard M. Sachar's emotionally gripping story of the refugees returning to Palestine in 1948 pro-

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Financial Affairs and Planning

ALBERT J. PORTUNE

Greetings to you at long last from really beautiful, smog-free Pasadena! Strong north winds have given us crisp, clear weather.

Right now as I write this to you, we are in the middle of a series of vital meetings, and have already completed some very important conferences with Mr. Herbert Armstrong and all of the Headquarters Evangelists. As you read in Mr. Armstrong's last member letter, we are facing a serious budget problem for 1973, and this topic was the subject of several of the meetings in the last few weeks.

It was good to be able to discuss these budget matters in depth with Mr. Armstrong and to receive guidelines from him in this all-important area. You will read of how seriously he is taking the situation in his member letter. I am sure that this letter will not be taken lightly by God's people, and I know that a combined effort of fasting and prayer can solve many of the financial "problems" that we have.

As I write this letter to you, continuing meetings are going on with the various division and department heads and their assistants who are busily planning their 1973 budgets, and looking toward a year of belt tightening and "holding the line." Certainly, I do not anticipate the Work being hurt by *some* belt tightening, and feel it will be good for all of us to look more to God for direction in doing *His* Work, rather than trying to solve our own problems our own way. At present, our income is showing an 11% increase year to date. Hopefully, this will hold until year's end with Mr. Armstrong's letter reaching the membership.

Mr. Armstrong has also decided upon having a series of Headquarters Evangelist meetings to discuss doctrinal matters and questions that have accumulated over the years. We are hoping that certain areas that need clarification can be taken care of here prior to the Conference, and then in open meetings during the Conference your comments can be taken into account. After the series of plenary meetings and full discussion, the results will be written up and distributed to all of you as official Church doctrine. Mr. Antion will be covering this in much greater detail over the next several weeks.

Apart from the fact that we are enjoying beau-

tiful weather here, some of the other good news involves our relationship with the City of Pasadena. As I mentioned to you in one Bulletin some time ago, the City had requested that we present to them our plans for building development over the next several years. We then prepared for them a movie entitled, "Ambassador College General Plan — 1972," which we showed to them prior to a luncheon here on campus.

The Mayor of Pasadena attended together with three of the City Directors, plus the City Manager, his very dynamic young assistant, Mr. Pollard, and a representative from the City Attorney's Office. Needless to say, they were *very* impressed with what we had to show them and really appreciated the openness and cooperation that was evident.

As a matter of fact, they were even considering making our College Park (industrial park) an official redevelopment zone. This would mean that the City would help us in acquiring properties within that area and would even give us certain tax benefits in the maintenance of the zone. So far they have not made any official approach to us yet, but it does indicate to me that they have the greatest confidence in our integrity. I feel we have really made some gains with them and cemented a firm friendship. Instead of making critical comments about us in the local newspaper, they now *defend* us against our detractors!

The Auditorium, of course, is now in full swing with most of the exterior walls approaching completion. Next week they will begin swinging the huge supporting prestressed columns into position all around the building. The Auditorium will really begin to take on its majestic final appearance. At present, we are approximately eleven weeks ahead of the original schedule, and it does look as if the Auditorium will be dedicated by Mr. Herbert Armstrong during the Conference of 1974. This is really an event to be looking forward to!

Other news that you might be interested in would include the fact that the work on the parking structure and athletic field is proceeding rapidly and should be completed around the middle of 1973. The freeway construction is still presently scarring the neighborhood, but hopefully will not be disrupting our activities for much longer.

Overall we are all looking forward to a very challenging 1973. We know that God's Work *will* continue to grow despite sterile and perhaps sometimes disheartening statistics! I am confident that God will change more lives than ever in the next

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Church Administration

DAVID L. ANTION

The first of a series of doctrinal meetings of the evangelists with Mr. Armstrong took place Tuesday, November 7th! We're all very thrilled about it here at Headquarters and feel that really *great* progress was made!

In this first meeting we decided to establish the agenda on the tithing doctrine. We hope to clarify and firm up what was done last year — but never got sent out.

It was a very enjoyable meeting — the kind that made really fine progress — with the mind of Christ guiding and leading His ministers to some very fine concrete decisions and policies.

Mr. Armstrong will be presenting the decisions we came to at the 1973 Ministerial Conference. At that time the district superintendents and men from around the world who attend the conference will have an opportunity to ask questions about the subject for reclarification. We want to do this prior to sending it out in policy form.

If there are, however, any emergencies or immediate needs for decisions on tithing questions, please feel free to write them in or to call so that we may give the answers now.

Shortly after the Ministerial Conference, we hope, God willing, to be able to have these decisions written up in policy form for all the ministers.

Potpourri of News

The next Personal Appearance campaign is scheduled in San Antonio for December 8-10.

We had a fine response from the St. Petersburg campaign with over fifty phone calls. Quite a number of people were invited to Bible study and a number invited directly to church services. Our ministers there have been kept quite busy with the additional work.

We have on campus now Mr. Nasser Eddin Nashasibi from the United Arab Republic. He has been an outstanding journalist and politician representing the United Arab Republic and has held many posts in his career.

He is very interested in our Work and would like to see our message go to the Arab nations. Mr. Anthony Muhtadi (pronounced Mooktahdy) is also on campus. He is an employee from the Bricket Wood campus who is an advisor on literature and

ideas for *The PLAIN TRUTH* in the Arabic language.

It looks like doors are being opened to get the gospel in the Arabic language to the Arab nations. We certainly hope all of you will be praying that God will open the right doors and give us direction and guidance in going through them.

Budget meetings are taking place on campus today (November 8). The budget will be tight for next year and there is a freeze on all hiring as of the present. However, we all hope and pray that God will bless His Work with the needed increase in income. *But we have to do our part!* Mr. Armstrong has written a member letter which you should have received before you got this Bulletin. He said he would be writing a letter to the ministers as well — so you may have it by this time, too. Both letters should explain the situation, so I will not attempt to describe it here.

By now you've all received the new policy on the emergency fund. This is the first policy that has been written down on our new policy stationery, and hopefully there will be many more. The policy will not change unless you receive a new *written* policy change. We feel that written policies like this are a great step forward in the growth of God's Work and its organization.

General Instructions

A part of a minister's job is necessarily clerical. And I'm happy to say that the vast majority of our ministry does a commendable job in fulfilling its clerical responsibilities. There have to be reports, there have to be memos, there have to be cards filled out — information transferred from the field to here, etc.

However, from time to time we receive letters from new members saying they have not received their GOOD NEWS magazines. These letters usually come anywhere from 3 to 6 months *after* they've been baptized!

A recent survey taken in our Mail Processing Center shows that of 118 new members updated in our files in July, the majority were updated within a month after their baptism date. A number of them had July baptism dates — *showing that most of our ministers are prompt in sending in these slips to Headquarters.*

However, 33 of these had been baptized more than a month before we showed them listed as members in our files. And eight of them were baptized in May or *earlier!* We had one member updated in July of 1972 who was baptized in December 1971!

I know this instruction does not apply to the

vast majority of you. But for some who may be negligent, let me strongly exhort that you pay attention to your clerical responsibilities.

Your baptism cards — showing new baptisms — should come in weekly. You should concentrate on devising the proper system to help you remember to fill out these cards as soon as possible.

I think most of you use a system similar to this: as baptisms occur, you fill out the cards and insert them into your yellow ministerial report envelope during the week. When the envelope is ready to be mailed, the cards are already included. I certainly would recommend this procedure for all of you men to follow.

We definitely need this information as soon as possible. Not only for us at Headquarters, but for the members. They need *The Good News* and other member literature. And until you send in their baptism cards, they will not receive any member literature. So you owe it — as a part of your responsibility — to send the baptism cards in as soon as possible.

“Free Time”?

In the last year there have not been as many PM (new visit) letters sent out as in the year before. Therefore some ministers may feel they do not have enough work to do. Some may feel that with few PMs to visit they are “just sitting around.”

What do *you* do when you are not busy with a lot of PM visits?

It seems to me that God’s ministers should have an abundance of things to do. First of all, if we’re not “playing the numbers racket,” but are truly pastoring God’s flock, we should not have a lot of free time. We won’t have time to “kill” if we are deeply involved with God’s people — in their problems, in their hopes, in service to them!

Also, every minister needs to be working on himself — upgrading his own abilities, his organization, his spiritual strength through Bible study and prayer; his own family life, his general learning, etc.

Free time ought to be *preparation time*. When not pressed with a number of church problems or a number of PM visits, our ministers ought to be preparing themselves spiritually, physically, organizationally, financially, etc.

However, I would like to know what kind of “free time” there is in the field. I am interested in providing the kind of program that will upgrade and enhance the quality of our service to God’s people. If you have any suggestions along this line, please feel *free* to write me confidentially.

Children and School

Dr. Farrow, the principal of Imperial Elementary School here in Pasadena, recently called to my attention a very valuable article appearing in the October 1972 *Reader’s Digest*. The article is entitled “When Should Your Child Go To School?”

Dr. Farrow comments: “Most educators have been aware of the dangers involved in pushing children into school early, and yet there is still a very vocal minority of them who are still encouraging parents to do so.

“As you are well aware, there are many parents in God’s Church who have been taken in by this philosophy. We have seen several instances of the unhappy results here at Imperial.

“I sincerely feel that the issue is of enough importance that it should be brought to the attention of the congregations at large.”

It is true that many of the parents in God’s Church want to push their children into entering school as early as possible. Every parent wants his child to become a “genius.” And since many of our own church members have not excelled in school, they are now pushing their children to do what they did not do early in life.

Here are a few interesting quotations from the article:

“The idea that ‘the earlier a child starts school the better’ is well on the way to becoming an unquestioned tenet of the conventional wisdom. Educators and legislators across the country are pressing for earlier schooling for *all* children, on the assumption that schools and teachers can do more for the child than parents can or will do.

“In face of this growing movement — and after review of the research concerning early-childhood education — we contend that sending four-year-olds off to school results in far more harm than good.

“Investigators who have studied very young children in school generally present a discouraging picture. The child too often stumbles insecurely through kindergarten and the early grades. His friends who were delayed a year or so quickly catch up and pass him — and usually become more stable and highly motivated.”

I feel it would be well worthwhile for our church members to read this article. So will all of you please recommend that your people read the article in the October 1972 *Reader’s Digest*, “When Should Your Child Go To School?” If you haven’t read it, I think you will find it worthwhile, too.

The Ministry and You

The comic strip we've included is a takeoff on a strip that recently appeared in the Sunday comics. Many of you may have seen it.

The lesson is obvious. But we need to apply it to ourselves.

What kind of congregation do you think will be the result of actions like those shown in this comic strip?

If the minister preaches love, teaches love, exhorts love — but *doesn't show* love — what kind of congregation will he have? What will be the overall and total effect on the congregation?

Let's analyze what takes place in such a situation.

The congregation hears what is obviously true. There is no argument that "love is the way." So what the preacher is saying is true. He is telling them the truth — they believe it.

But they look to him for an *example*. They look to him to set the pace because he is a leader — an authority.

The Bible refers to God's people as "little flock." And the Bible refers to the ministry as "shepherds." The shepherds not only guide the sheep, care for them, feed them; they also lead them — showing the way.

I say a congregation that hears about love, but does not experience it, will not be a really loving congregation. If the minister shows by his actions that he dislikes fellowshiping with the brethren, — shows obvious signs of being unfriendly, cold, withdrawn, unapproachable — you will see the same signs in the congregation.

Furthermore, the minister will cause one other effect. If he preaches on a subject on which he does not set the right example, *and the members see this*, they will begin to conclude there is hypocrisy and play-acting involved. And before you know it a credibility gap develops. Other truths that the minister expounds will become somewhat suspect. They will wonder whether he *really* believes what he is saying.

Preaching is a very powerful tool — but it must be *reinforced* and *backed up* by **EXAMPLE!**

In fact, a poor sermon can be greatly enhanced by good personal example. (You may refer to the last Bulletin for exhortations on better sermons.) Once a congregation knows its pastor personally, they are far more impressed and motivated by his *personal example* than they are by his sermons. (Though they all still want to hear really good, moving, dynamic, interesting and well-prepared sermons.)

Your example in all phases of your life and conduct is of **UTMOST IMPORTANCE!** Your love to the brethren is of *particular importance* in this case.

I will deal more with example and character examples next time. But for now, let us consider the minister's ability to show love. Love is more than friendliness. But it is friendliness, too. Love is a deep and abiding concern for one's fellow human being. It is an outgoing concern — away from self. It is a concern that cannot be hidden from others. But at the same time it is a concern that cannot be put on or pretended.

Love is the keeping of God's commandments (we all know that!). Love is the fulfilling of the Law. And love is also the sign that we are Christ's dis-



ciples! "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35).

Can the members see this in you?

I know that we have to remain relatively unemotional and uninvolved in the personal lives of our members in order to render proper judgment on decisions involving God's Law. But at the same time we must show a deep and loving concern which can be *readily recognized* by God's people. We must show ourselves friendly, outgoing, loving to every member.

From time to time a minister will get peeved, irritated with, or "bugged" by a certain member. The worst thing that he can do is to let this irritation show openly. Some will even avoid the member right in church service! They will pass him by without a friendly greeting or the right hand of fellowship.

As the minister of the congregation you have a duty to all the brethren. If you have not disfellowshipped a member — but allow him to attend — you have an obligation to give him every service, every warmth, every degree of fellowship that all other members receive!

If he is not worthy of your warmth, friendliness, and outgoing concern — then what is he doing in church? But if he is attending — never allow any "irritation" to show! That means that in *your heart* you must get rid of any irritation. You must ask God for a loving concern through God's Spirit for ALL the brethren. If you do, you will get it. And this concern, love, warmth, friendliness will be directly reflected in the overall conduct, warmth, friendliness of the congregation!

Do you see a friendly congregation? What's the minister like? In almost all cases you will find the minister is warm, friendly and outgoing.

Do you see a congregation that is relatively distant, withdrawn, cold? What's the minister like? Answer: the same.

Every example in the New Testament shows that our Master — the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ — showed love and concern and friendliness and warmth to all of His disciples. The only contrary examples were when they knew better and He had to rebuke, correct and exhort them — and then it still was in love. But in personal conduct Jesus Christ was warm, loving and outgoing.

He told us to be the same way! "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know *that ye are my disciples, IF YE HAVE LOVE ONE TO ANOTHER.*"

Can people see that you and the members of your congregation are Christ's disciples?

We need to *work* at having that kind of love. If we're drawing close to God through sincere, heart-rending prayer every day, and if we're letting His Word correct us through daily Bible study, then His Holy Spirit will flow through us and produce the kind of love Jesus was talking about.

Let's unitedly rededicate ourselves to the service of the children God is nourishing toward His Kingdom, setting the *right example* in all our conduct. I know we can depend on you to do your best. □

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

(Continued from page 143)

year, and I am looking forward to having a part in serving the people He calls.

I know I can count on you all to pull together as a team in supporting Mr. Armstrong as the one God has called to physically lead the Work in the end time. I also feel that the upcoming day of prayer and fasting will greatly serve to get all of our minds on the goal, and will UNIFY the whole Church as never before. *Thank you* for your part! □

BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from page 142)

vides just such a glimpse of what the demands of these initial years of the Millennium will be like. In twelve *true* stories (each story is the size of a *small* book) he profiles twelve such refugees — and the heartrending trials they faced. The book runs over 500 pages, but it is written so tightly that you will want to slowly weigh every word. The in-depth research is only surpassed by the emotional *impact* of what actually happened. The location and time setting is similar to Leon Uris' *Exodus*, but in this case fact is not only more exciting than fiction, it is also more emotionally powerful.

The justice of Gideon Hausner, who recently spoke at campuses of Ambassador College, is featured in one chapter. There are also some passing references to Moshe Kol and others of our friends and associates in Israel. This empirical association with the true-life characters is yet another reason for securing this volume from your local bookstore.

If you find that this book appeals to you, Mr. Sachar has three other related volumes you may wish to read. His father, Abraham Sachar, is a noted historian from Brandeis University, while Howard, with his brother (both in their thirties),

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Foreign Educational Service

RONALD L. DART

November was an important month for the Foreign Work. This month saw the PLAIN TRUTH circulation *outside* the United States exceed the one million mark!

In October, 1967, PLAIN TRUTH circulation worldwide exceeded one million for the first time. In December, 1968, fourteen months later, PLAIN TRUTH circulation in the U. S. exceeded one million. And now for the first time this month, the circulation of the PLAIN TRUTH outside the United States has passed the one million mark!

To celebrate this important milestone, our staff hosted a party for all the friends and associates of the Foreign Educational Service at Headquarters. It was held in the new Office Facilities building. We had displays of the first PLAIN TRUTH in the German, Dutch, French, and Spanish languages, showing "then and now" comparisons with the latest edition of each magazine. We also graphically demonstrated the growth of the PLAIN TRUTH circulation outside of the United States, which we hope to be able to once again display at the ministerial conference this January.

We just received word that the Danish Correspondence Course has now been requested by 646 people as a result of newsstand distribution of the English PLAIN TRUTH in Scandinavia. (We send about 12,000 copies of the English PLAIN TRUTH to Scandinavia.) In the September-October issue we advertised the Danish language Correspondence Course. We did not think that the response from that ad would be so great. This, of course, is very exciting to all those involved in the Danish Work, and we are hopeful that this type of advertising of our other foreign language Correspondence Courses can be done in other newsstand distribution of the PLAIN TRUTH.

The news from the French Work is good this week. Mr. Apartian is reporting a total percentage of increase for the first nine months of this year of 41%! This is really exciting, because it lays the groundwork for future growth in the French Work. We are now in the process of planning a strong push in the French Work for 1973, and are now beginning to develop some ministerial assistants. The French people have shown that they

will be able to financially support this expansion, and this makes possible even more rapid growth without making excessive demands on Headquarters. Also very significant is the fact that their correspondence course list has increased 79% OVER September of a year ago!

That's about all the news for this time. Tomorrow we're off for Europe and South Africa, so in the next Bulletin I should have more news of the Foreign Work in these areas. □

BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from page 147)

are carrying on the fine writing and teaching tradition of their father.

From time to time we will offer book reviews in this Bulletin. Your reading should not be limited to what we recommend; neither do we agree with every last word in a volume we recommend. But there should be some mind-expanding *book* reading (not just "news" from magazines and newspapers) in your busy schedule, or your most important resource — your mind — will dry out, as well as your sermons.

We also want to encourage any of you men who would like to recommend a book or two or more that you feel would be profitable reading, to go ahead and write up a summary and send it to the managing editor.

THE NEWS BUREAU

As you have already seen, the Ambassador College News Report is once again being published. It is primarily a service to the members of the Editorial Department and to those receiving the Ministerial Bulletin. With the first new issue, you received a cover memo from department manager, Gene Hogberg, explaining its purpose and intent.

The News Bureau itself has been operating for more than thirteen years, and as such is one of our older departments. It has served primarily as a current events barometer for the whole Work. In its present configuration, the News Bureau serves three main functions:

First is providing information for the "Garner Ted Armstrong" television program. Observing *every one* of Mr. Armstrong's telecasts is the responsibility of Mr. Hogberg, or his chief assistant for television research, Don Schroeder. Their "eyes for the news" may correct a mistaken statistic, or even bring forth fresh ideas for new programs.

A second equally important function of this department is in the PLAIN TRUTH editorial area. As an associate editor of the PLAIN TRUTH, Mr. Hog-

berg, together with his six-man (and two-woman) staff is able to lend insight and information on future article subjects. This is via input in the weekly editorial planning sessions. The News Bureau files provide writers with a starting point for research on virtually any subject. Clippings may not always be the most reliable, but they can direct a writer to more detailed and primary sources of information. For this reason their third-floor offices in the Hall of Administration are a first stop for editorial fact finders. The department subscribes to leading newspapers and magazines from around the world, as well as many private newsletters and government reports. In addition, the leased wire services of AP, UPI, and Reuters are employed.

A third service of the bureau is its bi-weekly News Report, usually enclosed with the Ministerial Bulletin. It is not designed, of course, to be the final word on any particular subject. It is written to provide you with an overview of important trends or conditions. You should keep that in mind if you use the News Report as a source of research for sermons or Bible studies. Mr. Hogberg plans to include more "commentary" in the News Report, not only by himself and his staff in Pasadena, but also by our editorial correspondents in Washington and Brussels.

The News Bureau of today performs an active role in providing up-to-date information for the wide-ranging activities of the Ambassador College Extension Program. All of this is done along with sending the News Report your way. We hope you find their services helpful.

— *Les Stocker*

MAIL SUMMARIES

(Continued from page 142)

income for October was the second lowest monthly income for 1972.

Our experimental PLAIN TRUTH advertisement card in the September-October magazine resulted in an encouraging 2,051 new subscribers for our Australian edition. This represents the highest subscriber-to-ad circulation ratio of all media used so far. Also at negligible cost.

LETTER COMMENTS

CAMPAIGN RESPONSE

During my stay in Canada I became very impressed with your nightly broadcasts and the one on Sunday afternoons. I also attended one lecture by Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong in the Auditorium at Calgary. This seemed to bring me great comfort as I've recently lost a very dear husband.

I would so much like to learn more of my Bible and what it really can mean. This world seems to be in such a horrible mess and I feel sure there must be a reason for it all. I'm sure you can help to enlighten me. I'm only sorry there aren't any broadcasts in England — or are there? Hoping to hear from you soon, and may God bless you in this very precious work you have undertaken.

— P. M.,
High Wycombe, England

I have waited about 7 years and never thought I would get the opportunity to see you speak in person. I was able to attend two out of three evenings. I feel sure that you would or did let the people know where there is a church of God in St. Petersburg, but I missed it. Would you please write and tell me where it is here so that I may attend.

— Barbara C.,
St. Petersburg, Florida

Mr. Ted Armstrong just last night concluded his three-night Personal Appearance campaign in St. Petersburg, Florida. I was fortunate to be able to serve as an usher for this tremendous event. Seeing him witness to these thousands of unconverted people (full house all three nights) made me want even more to broaden my knowledge of God's truth, and as quickly as possible.

— Mr. & Mrs. K. M.,
Mulberry, Florida

GENERAL COMMENTS

Good Example Set at Feast

Dear Mr. & Mrs. ———:

Just a note to let you know how much we appreciate the tender-loving care you gave our house during your stay in Squaw Valley. It is indeed very rare and most pleasant to return and find our "hand-made" love in such beautiful condition!

To dwell just a bit more, midst the cleanliness, we did notice the care you took with our personal supplies and all the little touches (i.e. garbage bags, etc.) you added. You are to be generously thanked and commended.

We mentioned our happiness to the realtor, asking if we might "put in" a bid for you next year! Her response was that if you desired to have our home again it was your task to put in such a request.

If you do come to the valley again and would like our house, please feel very free to act accordingly — it would be our pleasure to have you as tenants in the future.

Most sincerely,
— H. G.,
Berkeley, California

It's About Time

Please send me the booklet, *Why Was I Born?* I am 95 years and that question comes up as I approach middle age and I want a good answer.

— J. Franklin G.,
Los Altos, California

Healing

My son was to have surgery October 27, to have a tumor removed; it was located in his right chest area to his shoulder. It was very painful and quite large. Feast of Trumpets, Mr. Neff anointed him; October 25 he went in for pre-op check. The doctor didn't believe it. He called in another. The tumor had shrunk to the size of a marble and there has been no more pain or soreness. I am very thankful for God's healing power.

— Mrs. Lois M.,
Fort Hood, Texas

A Miracle?

I just had to write you and tell you of our biggest third tithe year blessing.

It all happened on Friday the 15th, just before the Day of Atonement. I was away at work and my wife was home preparing for the Sabbath and the trip.

Our oldest boy, Richard Brian, was playing in the house and while he was running from one room to another he slipped in a puddle of water on the kitchen floor which my wife hadn't, as yet, cleaned up. He struck his head and was unconscious. She tried to revive him and could not. She got very excited and ran out to the alley to summon help, and luckily a policeman patrolling the area was going down the alley. She told him what happened and he rushed to the house, leaping over our small fence and tried mouth-to-mouth resuscitation without any response. He immediately told my wife to get the baby, Thomas David, and go to the hospital.

At the hospital the nurses and doctors in the emergency room tried feverishly to bring Richard to. After trying artificial respiration and heart massage for about an hour they came and told my wife he had expired. My wife couldn't believe it; she ran in and saw them covering him up with a sheet. They began asking her what mortuary they should call and who to contact and notify. She just said she would rather they did nothing until she made a few phone calls and she began trying desperately to contact Mr. Hargrove, the local minister here in Phoenix. After several times and getting a busy signal, she tried to call the Local

Elders but was unable to reach anyone.

After about 15 minutes an intern came out and told her he was so sorry but that they had made a mistake and that after they left the room for a few minutes they returned and found Richard sitting up playing with the sheet they had covered him with. They called a neurological surgeon specialist to look him over. He did and said he most certainly had a bump on the back of his head but that he wasn't and couldn't have been dead. At this the nurses and doctors who were along with the policeman said he most certainly was. The specialist only came back with, "Well, he's alright now," so they released him.

— David P.,
Phoenix, Arizona

Parents Impressed

Our daughter is a freshman in your college this year. First, we want to thank you for the most wonderful hospitality when we went out to Pasadena with her. It was one of the greatest experiences we have ever encountered. We had read a great deal about the college but we had no idea how it was until we saw it. It is just as you describe it. The students are the most unusual we have ever seen and we feel it is a privilege and a great honor for our daughter to have the opportunity to attend. She writes us and calls us regularly, and is very satisfied and happy.

We are not familiar with the Feast in September, since we are not in the Church yet, but our daughter attended and it was a tremendous experience for her. She called us several times from Squaw Valley and told us what was happening. We asked her if she was enjoying herself and her remark was, "It's like Christmas ten times over." If it's at all possible we would like to attend next year.

— Mr. & Mrs. T.,
Metter, Georgia

Friendliness — Hallmark of Ambassador

My wife and I just returned from a short vacation in Texas, and we could not resist the occasion to visit the Big Sandy Campus of Ambassador College. This was our first return to Big Sandy since a visit in 1968. We were pleasantly surprised to note the various forms of expansion of the facilities; and particularly, the even more lovely gardens, walkways, lawns and water-runs. One thing that had not changed is the unparalleled friendliness and hospitality that was accorded us by all with whom we came into contact. This proclivity of

your faculty and student body has become a hallmark of Ambassador.

— Jack M.,
Huntsville, Alabama

Experimental Digester

I recently visited your experimental digester project at Ambassador College, Big Sandy, Texas. That which you are doing with solid waste materials at Big Sandy is almost beyond the stretch of the imagination. There is no question but what this process is going to be very successful. And to me, having been in the construction equipment business for years, and knowing of the many past methods that have been tried to dispose of solid waste, you certainly have the ultimate in this system. I know that the enthusiasm of all who have seen this operation is tremendous.

— Sabine Machinery Company,
Stewart T. Trawick,
Dallas, Texas

Where's My PLAIN TRUTH?

Like, where's my mag? You know how it feels to wait and wait and wait? Come on now, get with it! By the way, I read your magazine more than Playboy! Bring 'em back alive!

— Richard M.,
Berrien Springs, Michigan

Some Don't Seem to Get It

I again find much to complain about in your September/October issue. I have already believed that you are an extremist Jewish-backed group trying to weld together Judaism and to denigrate Christianity. My wife agrees, saying that there must be some catch in a free magazine of such quality. But this is mere speculation, a hunch, as you might say. There was an article, "When Was Jesus Born?" It does not really matter when Jesus was born. Many Christian feasts have been originated in, and others substituted for pagan feasts

just to turn the people away without pain from their pagan customs. Here in Ireland, St. Patrick accomplished this very well. It is admitted. If this was done for 25th December, so what? The main thing is that we are now commemorating our salvation through the coming of Jesus Christ.

— P. O'd.,
Dublin, Irish Republic

Tithing Pays

I wish to thank you sincerely for the July issue of *The PLAIN TRUTH* you sent to me. I was especially impressed by the article on tithing. Ever since I started work two years ago I've been wondering how I should go about my money matters. What I noticed was that any time I tithed faithfully the rest of my money would be more than what I would need for the month, besides which I would get many unexpected blessings. However, anytime I would refuse to tithe for some reason, I would go borrowing money before the month was finished. I support the testimony given in this magazine. Tithing pays!

— Miss S. A.,
Winneba, Ghana

Results of Not Tithing

I was tithing regularly until December last year when I gave it up to boost my financial viability. However, in May this year I was sacked from my job over a small affair, and have not been able to secure another job. I attribute my long lay-off to the absence of God's blessings, and I have not had God's blessings because I stopped tithing. Should I obtain another job — and I hope to do so early next month — I wish to resume tithing on a "for keeps" basis. But the trouble is, my tenth will be so meagre as to make transferring it to England too longwinded an affair. Kindly advise me on what to do. I am hanging on your reputation for dealing swiftly, surely and satisfactorily with inquiries.

— Mr. A. A.,
Accra, Ghana

