

PASTOR'S REPORT

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NON-TITHING IS STEALING!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

I find it impossible to believe that a Minister of Jesus Christ could at the same time be a THIEF--STEALING FROM GOD! Nearly all ministers and 98% of brethren have been LOYAL. Yet during recent years "liberals" have risen up in the Church, watering down the laws of God.

God says, "If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, and the sign or wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, 'Let us go after other gods...and let us serve them,' Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet,... for the LORD your God proveth you...Ye shall walk after the ETERNAL your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments..." (Deut. 13:1-4). And in Old Testament times such a false prophet was put to death.

Yet it is reported to me that a minister has said to a congregation words to this effect: "If you don't want to tithe, you don't need to."

The living Christ who heads this Church has been, for a full year now, SETTING GOD'S CHURCH BACK ON GOD'S TRACK. Jesus Christ has moved swiftly. Great strides have been taken--great change already has taken place.

But during the past ten years much false teaching has gone out, subtly, craftily, inducing many of God's people to ease off on keeping God's Commandments, leading many into SIN, while being deceived into supposing they are on safe ground spiritually.

God has shown me that my Commission is not ONLY to proclaim the Good News of the coming Kingdom of God, but also to raise up this Church (which already has been done) and, far more, to lead this Church into becoming READY for Christ's soon return in GLORY to earth.

LISTEN! Fellow Ministers and wives--and you brethren in the Church: Jesus "loved the Church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it...that he might present it to himself a GLORIOUS church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be HOLY, and WITHOUT BLEMISH" (Eph. 5:25-27).

Again, (Rev. 19:7), at the time of Christ's return in power and GLORY, the Church shall have "MADE HERSELF READY"--and brethren, we have many spots to be cleaned out, and many wrinkles to be ironed out before we are READY! And TIME IS SHORT and GROWING SHORTER FAST!

Actually, I think God already has held up the progression of world events, TO GIVE US more time to 1) give out the Gospel of the Kingdom in greater power to more and 2) get ourselves--the Church--READY!

I am simply heartsick that my son assumed power and authority neither Christ nor I gave him to WATER DOWN GOD'S TRUTH. In that infamous "STP" paying tithes which we OWE to God was changed to merely mean a little GIVING--IF we feel like it!

God says, "To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is SIN"! Perhaps some of you--even ministers--were DECEIVED by these "intellectuals" who felt they were superior to Jesus Christ and put out of circulation the official Church booklet on TITHING, and substituted a new booklet based on the "STP."

Perhaps "the times of this ignorance God winked at, but now commandeth all men everywhere to REPENT" (Acts 17:30)--and THAT MEANS YOU!

God has ordained the tithing system. This whole earth BELONGS TO GOD--not to us! Everything we have, whether goods or value in money, comes out of the ground. Even we, ourselves, have come out of the ground --WHICH IS GOD'S EARTH--therefore even WE OURSELVES belong to God, whether we wish to admit it or not.

The Church of God is built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets--Jesus Christ being the chief corner stone. The prophets who form part of the very foundation are the OLD TESTAMENT prophets, for the apostles' teachings and New Testament writings are quite largely built on the Old Testament prophets. There were NO NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS WHO CONTRIBUTED any doctrines or teachings to the Church. Malachi wrote after both the Kingdom of Israel and the Kingdom of Judah had gone into captivity and slavery, and his words were therefore written for US, rather than for recording "Old Testament teaching." It is THE WORD OF GOD!

And this Prophet on which the Church was built, says to YOU who have not been tithing, "Will a man rob GOD? Yet ye have robbed me...in tithes and offerings. YE ARE CURSED WITH A CURSE: FOR YE HAVE ROBBED ME, EVEN THIS WHOLE NATION! Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse...and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Mal. 3:8-10).

You ought to know how tithing is COMMANDED in the NEW Testament also --even though some liberals try to twist the Scriptures of the Holy GOD so they can "GET" and never "GIVE." Speaking of the Old Testament Levitical Priesthood, we read in Hebrews: "And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people, according to the law...But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises.... And as I may so say Levi also, who receiveth tithes, PAYED tithes in Abraham." (Tithing is not a matter of taking pity on poor God and GIVING Him alms and charity in the form of tithes and offerings--IF YOU FEEL LIKE IT. IT IS A MATTER OF P A Y I N G to God WHAT YOU OWE AND ARE COMMANDED TO PAY). Neglect or refusal to PAY is STEALING from GOD--cutting yourself off from the lavish BLESSINGS He promises to faithful tithers as quoted above.

But continue in Hebrews 7: "For the priesthood being CHANGED,"--(not abolished, but a change in which Priesthood receives your tithes under the NEW TESTAMENT), "there is made of necessity a change also of the law."

What law is it talking about? As quoted above, a law in which the priesthood "have a COMMANDMENT to take tithes of the people ACCORDING TO THE LAW" (Verse 5).

The priesthood was changed at the founding of the New Testament Church back again to the Melchisedec priesthood under CHRIST. There is therefore a CHANGE in the TITHING LAW which COMMANDS YOU AND ME TO PAY TITHES TO THE MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST, since Christ is now our High Priest at the right hand of GOD! (All above quoted from Hebrews 7).

Brethren, it is not easy for me to write to you whom I dearly LOVE, and tell you that some of YOU ARE THIEVES breaking God's holy Commandments, and stealing from GOD--which surely is far worse than holding up and stealing from a bank!! I want you to think this over. I don't know WHO you are --I have just been informed that a shocking number of members and ministers ARE NOT PAYING TITHES, and are giving either NO offerings, or a comparatively small amount.

I want you to look at it as GOD looks at YOU!

Jesus said to the Pharisees, "Woe unto you, Pharisees! for you tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these /tithing/ OUGHT YE TO HAVE DONE, and not to leave the other undone" (Luke 11:42).

You who have neglected tithing have NEGLECTED "SO GREAT SALVATION" (see Hebrews 2:3).

The living JESUS CHRIST put TITHING in God's Church from the very beginning of this Philadelphia era, and it has been in God's Church EVER SINCE 31 A.D.

Heretofore I have made NO EFFORT TO CHECK OUR COMPUTER RECORDS TO FIND OUT WHO TITHES. I surely never wanted to "snoop." But it is A LAW! Neglect or refusal is MAJOR SIN!!

I am not pussy-footing! Commandment breakers won't get into the Kingdom of God, and I am commissioned to blot out the spots and iron out the wrinkles (Eph. 5:27) to make God's Church READY when He comes (Rev. 19:7).

Brethren, we are not like other people. We are not like those in the more than 250 Protestant "Christian" denominations. We are not of this world. We are CALLED OUT to be a separate, and a holy people.

HOW WONDERFUL! HOW WE SHOULD PRAISE GOD AND REJOICE that He has called us to be a separate and a peculiar people! Nearly all our ministers, and I would estimate 99% of the lay membership have proved 100% LOYAL, standing faithfully with me and God's leaders in the terrible, illegal and unconstitutional onslaught of the State of California, trying to DESTROY God's Church and Work, take over our beautiful properties at Pasadena, and themselves personally PROFIT by taking the money. But GOD WAS WITH US, and YOU were with us!

Yet, during recent years a few "LIBERALS" at Pasadena used my son Garner Ted, manipulated authority even Ted did not have, in order to water down GOD'S LAW within the Church.

If a minister does not obey God's LAW he simply CANNOT HAVE GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT! The Bible speaks of the Holy Spirit which God gives to them that OBEY HIM.

How, then, can a minister who violates GOD'S LAW AGAINST STEALING, preach God's TRUTH--lay hands on, anoint and pray for the sick? Is not the reason that some few ministers were so vehemently opposed to God's promise of healing, were those who were not obeying God in the matter of finances?

HOW can such a man be minister to, and pastor of, a congregation of TITHE-PAYERS?

If you are on the payroll, unless tithing begins with the very next paycheck, YOUR PAYCHECKS WILL BE CUT OFF WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE.

Don't say you can't afford to tithe. You can't afford not to. If you owe other debts, PAY GOD'S TITHE FIRST, AND PRAY FOR HIS PROMISED BLESSING TO HELP YOU ON THE OTHER DEBTS. THERE CAN BE NO EXCUSES for not tithing. Failure to tithe is STEALING--COMMANDMENT BREAKING. It is without excuse! Keep current with God and HE will keep you current with your other obligations!

This matter of STEALING FROM GOD is one matter that Christ is CLEANING UP IN GOD'S CHURCH NOW! No delay! And no excuses!!!

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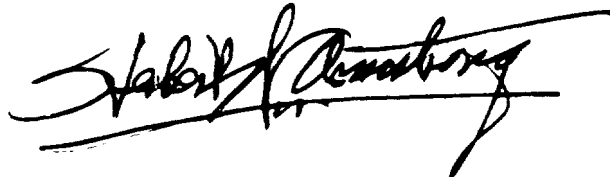
FURTHER RE: STANLEY RADER

It has been brought to my attention that some ministers hostile to Mr. Rader and influenced by Garner Ted Armstrong, may say: "Mr. Rader gave Mr. Armstrong orders to write that."

Mr. Rader knew nothing about what I have written about him in this /last/ issue of the Pastor's Report until he read it in proof copy ready to be mailed. Tears came to his eyes.

Let me say flatly and on the AUTHORITY of Jesus Christ, I will NOT TOLERATE any more character assassination in God's Church. Of course, if you leave God's Church I have no authority over you.

But if I hear of any hostile character-assassination remarks against Mr. Rader by any minister, I will require that minister to come to Tucson and present to me in person his EVIDENCE against Mr. Rader. And if he HAS NO EVIDENCE (and I feel sure none has) he will learn that I am truly the PASTOR-GENERAL with full power to terminate such character assassinator on the spot. I am simply indignant at all this UNCHRISTIAN hostility against a man WITHOUT CAUSE in God's Church. The living Jesus Christ is CLEANING UP God's Church. That job is not yet completed, but it's definitely ON THE WAY!



FROM PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings, this time from smoggy Pasadena! I hope all of you out there in the field are in good health and keeping up the good work. All of us here are fine, except for the smog and human problems which will always be with us.

I just returned last evening from an excellent campaign in Phoenix! Even though we had no advertising whatsoever--not even one scratch in the newspaper or one word on radio or TV--we, nevertheless, had larger crowds than any so far in the series of "mini-campaigns." There were 105 enthusiastic new people attending the first night and 90 the second. Total attendance was 540 Friday night and 525 Saturday night. Both the new people and the brethren were very enthusiastic in their response--and I am sure that the Phoenix church will be a wonderful place in which to place a number of new people whom God may be calling. Mark Cardona, our local minister, was the M.C. and did a very fine job as did Ross Jutsum and John Beaver on the excellent music and John Prohs on the audio and overall whole organization and back-up. They are a fine group to work with, and we all felt the program went very well and are thankful to God for it.

One of the prime benefits of these small campaigns is the encouragement and enthusiasm it engenders in the local brethren! I hope all of you in the larger areas are thinking about having a campaign in your church areas and get your church people solidly and enthusiastically behind it once it is announced.

On the way over, my wife and I stopped by Tucson and had a fine visit with Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Armstrong. It was Shyrel's first opportunity to really get acquainted with Mr. Armstrong and his wife and she enjoyed it very much--plus the fine luncheon we shared together.

Mr. Armstrong is in excellent health and we were able to have intensive discussions about a number of things in the Work for a period of over four solid hours. He is taking a great personal interest in the Y.O.U. and Y.E.S. programs and is going to direct them personally more than ever before. This should certainly be an inspiration to our brethren and young people and help a great deal in building toward the future of God's Church.

As you should have read in last week's "News Summary," the thorough audit by one of the most respected C.P.A. firms in the country, Arthur Andersen and Company, is virtually completed, and we are grateful that in this area and in the various court activities which are proceeding, absolutely NOTHING illegal has been uncovered regarding Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Rader or God's Work. Although the confrontations and legal "explosions" --which we did NOT start, remember--are winding down, our team remains vigilant and dedicated to preserving the integrity of Mr. Armstrong and this Work. All of us ministers should be more grateful than we have been for the fine work done by Mr. Rader, Mr. Helge and the excellent legal defense team they have put together. Many of you out there perhaps do not realize the tremendous job they have done under adverse circumstances, and the massive amount of work and long hours they have had to put in--often working FAR INTO THE NIGHT--in order that we can have the type of "peace" in God's Work now to continue getting out the gospel from our own beautiful campus here in Pasadena.

Even though some of you may not have understood some of the methods employed, or the type of genuine Church-State crisis that was involved, I hope you can sincerely appreciate the result that--in the end--God is giving us. So let's be genuinely supportive of one another in God's Work and appreciate the efforts and sacrifices involved in the lives of each one who is supporting Mr. Armstrong in this worldwide work.

Now, fellow ministers, I would like to discuss something that is becoming an increasingly critical problem within the ministry and within God's Church as a whole--especially here in the United States. Increasing numbers of our church members are beginning to divorce their mates for, it seems, almost ANY conceivable reason! What's more, they then expect to "remain in the Church" and probably REMARRY someone else in the Church--perhaps their former friend's wife who has, by now, divorced him, and is also "still in the Church."

We are going to have long doctrinal and theological discussions with Mr. Herbert Armstrong to cover and thoroughly understand any legitimate reasons for divorce and remarriage. However, as of this writing, there are only THREE that God's Church has officially recognized as legitimate: (I) Porneia--that is gross immorality involving unadmitted fornication before marriage or a very serious or continuing type of adulterous or homosexual or similar relationship after marriage, (II) Fraud--this is the case where one is "tricked" in some way and we have always understood and recognized this as an action that would in fact "annul" a marriage since God would never bind a union based on fraud in the first place, (III) Desertion--by the unconverted mate--although this was accepted and taught by the Church long before his action, a classic example of this would be Mr. Raymond McNair's situation. His wife refused to be a wife to him for over two years--to sleep with him, cook for him, or even civilly communicate with him in a decent manner. Rather, she had left God's Church and was actively FIGHTING God's Church and Mr. McNair, turning his children against him and literally cursing him to his face. Finally, upon advice of Mr. Armstrong and Ted Armstrong, he was finally forced to make legal the already existing FACT that she had deserted him and was no longer his wife in any way whatsoever.

I repeat, these three exceptions are the ONLY ones recognized by God's Church as biblical reasons for people who are already converted to divorce a mate. Perhaps even we in the ministry need to realize more vividly the meaning of Jesus' statement: "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matt. 19:6).

We must genuinely FEAR to "water down" this ringing declaration of the Son of God in any of our own cases, or in situations involving the brethren over which God has given us responsibility. Because, fellow ministers, God will hold us all RESPONSIBLE if we in any way undercut, "water down" or lessen the BINDING quality of Christian marriage which Jesus Christ emphasized so fervently!

In Malachi 2:15-16 (RSV), our Creator states: "Has not the one God made and sustained for us the spirit of life? And what does he desire? Godly offspring. So take heed to yourselves, and let NONE be faithless to the wife of his youth. 'For I HATE DIVORCE, says the Lord the God of Israel, uncovering one's garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts. So take heed to yourselves and do not be faithless.'"

Fellows, our God--who does NOT change in these spiritual principles --says he HATES divorce!

Do we??

I do not feel it necessary, at this time, to print an entire written article on the subject of binding marriages to you ministers who should know this subject pretty well anyway. But, in love and as your servant, I feel I must bring this absolutely vital matter to your combined attention. Ever since the attitude and approach of "watering down" and "loosening things up" began under G.T.A. back in 1973/74 after his return to power, it seems that "Pandora's Box" has been opened and individual people and occasionally even ministers and/or ministers wives are taking unto themselves the authority to divorce and remarry for almost ANY conceivable reason! This must now STOP!

We as a ministry are responsible to God for helping our brethren and co-workers to strengthen and BUILD their marriages in every possible way. We as a ministry must now make a MASSIVE effort to teach, preach, pray, counsel, set an example for, and in every way we can, encourage our brethren to picture the relationship of Jesus Christ and his Church in their marriages. Remember this absolutely vital analogy Paul gives us: "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the Church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the Church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, LOVE your wives, EVEN AS Christ also loved the Church and gave himself for it" (Eph. 5:23-25).

If we are genuinely on our knees as a ministry regarding this growing problem--this spiritual CANCER--within the very body of Christ, I am sure he will give us the faith, the fervency, the love and the wisdom to help our brethren and ourselves build the kind of marriages pleasing to him.

Therefore, I do now ask all of you ministers to give this problem top priority in your ministry and do all you can to emphasize the VITAL importance of strong, stable, loving marriages in God's Church. Do this, fellows, in your preaching, in your teaching and Bible studies and other occasions, in personal visits and in counseling after church and other occasions. Assign the sermonette men in your area also to cover various phases and facets of the meaning of marriage and building strong marriages in their talks and in their visits as well. Unitedly, let us work and pray with all our hearts to stem the tide of this swelling flood of selfishness, vanity, lust, bitterness and all-around CARNALITY, which is the real cause of the increasing frustration and bitterness between so many husbands and wives.

Truly, we must come OUT of this world and be separate. And our entire approach to marriage is certainly one of the most important areas in which God's Holy Spirit--if we yield to it and exercise it--will make us truly different.

"Thanks for listening"--and thanks in advance for putting this program into effect. We will get back to you as soon as we can with more details, but building solid marriages from the foundation up is the core of the ultimate solution. Keep up the good work, and a number of us will be

seeing many of you out there within a few weeks in various area conferences.

With Christian love,



Roderick C. Meredith

P.S. Mr. Armstrong and I have asked Mr. Raymond McNair to coordinate all doctrinal questions that come to us, and bring them to God's Apostle in an organized fashion. So please note carefully Mr. McNair's accompanying letter, and send in any questions you have regarding doctrinal or policy matters re. Divorce and Remarriage that need to be clarified. Address your letter to Pastoral Administration, Attention: Raymond McNair.

MR. RAYMOND McNAIR'S LETTER

The Pastoral Administration Department (PAD) needs the cooperation of all of you ministers. Repeatedly, we get reports that there is a certain amount of confusion concerning the handling of divorce and remarriage problems.

Of course, any doctrinal or policy matters will be decided by Christ's Apostle. Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has expressed to some of us on various occasions his deep concern over reported abuses in the actual administration of our teachings concerning the Bible grounds for divorce and remarriage. Mr. Armstrong has wanted some of us (Mr. Meredith, myself, etc.) to get together any facts which should be taken to him for his decision in this important area.

We would like you to send in various questions, problems, specific examples, etc. which you feel we need as input in order to be able to take them to Mr. Armstrong for further instruction and clarification.

Unfortunately, according to persistent reports, there is a certain amount of confusion and disparity of practice in administering the Church's teaching regarding divorce and remarriage.

In the meantime, please remember to do everything (in sermons, Bible studies, personal counselling, etc.) to build solid marriages, teaching the permanency of that God-ordained institution, and the awfulness of divorce, regardless of how it comes about.

So please send your questions, problems or specific examples to me so that we can go over this material, organizing it etc., for the purpose of taking it to Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong for further clarification.

Thanks very much.

--Raymond F. McNair

TRANSFERS/COST OF LIVING

Since we're in the middle of summer transfer time again, I thought it might be helpful to make a few comments regarding a major aspect of

ministerial transfers; area cost of living differences. Even though you yourself may not be moving this year, you are still affected by area cost of living differences.

Probably most of you have heard of Murphy's Law: "If anything can go wrong, it will." Well, those of us in Ministerial Services feel there must be a humorous corollary to this relating to ministerial transfers. It goes something like this: "Whenever transferred, a minister will only be sent to a higher living cost area." At least so it seems.

Although this obviously isn't the case, there are reasons why it seems to be true. As a nation (speaking basically of the United States, but it probably holds true to some degree of others as well), we are programmed to expect and hope that each move we make will raise our quality of living. It is natural for an individual who is moving to desire to upgrade his living standard. It's part of our success-oriented culture. However, such things as a little larger or somewhat nicer house or apartment in a slightly better neighborhood can significantly affect a person's living costs. Consequently, a substantial increase in the cost of living in the new area may be partly a reflection of an increase in the standard of living and not totally a result of higher living costs.

Also, certain costs are brought to your attention at moving time that have not been a concern in some time. They include such things for the new home as rugs, drapes and curtains, and other necessary items for a different home. Also, the cost of general items such as food and utilities are brought to our attention simply because it is necessary to find new sources for these basics. For instance, I know how aware of prices I am when I visit a new grocery store, I automatically begin comparing prices.

Obviously, sometimes ministers are sent to areas where the cost of living is higher than before. However, even though it might be hard to believe in this day and age, there are lower-than-average cost areas as well as average and higher-than-average cost areas. Those moving from lower-than-average cost areas are likely going to experience a jump in living costs no matter where they go. In such cases, they are losing the special benefit of living in a low cost area. Those who have this benefit often don't realize what a benefit it is until they lose it. Consequently, it hits them hardest when they move to an average or higher-than-average cost area.

Another reason it seems that new areas are high cost areas is that most individuals lack the information upon which to make accurate comparisons. Experience has shown us that two different individuals can have dramatically varying opinions on the cost of living in the same area. All we can do in such cases is chalk the difference up to variations in individual perception.

We realize that higher costs of living in new areas are not experienced by everyone, but for some there are real increases that aren't due to increases in living standards, or from having been formerly in low cost areas, or from a lack of proper comparisons. Some locations just simply are more expensive places in which to live. In another Pastor's Report, we would like to explain what is being done in studying cost of living patterns across the country; and what ideas are being considered in an effort to help with problems associated with ministerial transfers.

PAY RAISES PUT ON HOLD

(Editor's Note: From time to time management and employee memos from various departments are circulated throughout all the offices here in Pasadena, but never reach the field ministry. It is the desire of Ministerial Services to begin reproducing in the Pastor's Report those memos with special relevance to the ministry. Below is a memo to all department managers from Personnel. It was dated May 30 and concerns the subject of pay raises.)

We have been advised that no merit increases, cost of living increases, and/or bonuses can be allowed at this time because of present budgetary constraints.

We realize that inflation and the accompanying escalating cost of living is causing concern for you and your employees, and we hope that the present situation will not last too long.

INTERNATIONAL NEWSUnited Kingdom

On June 5, 6 and 7 all the full-time ministers in the U.K., plus two non-employed local elders, gathered at the Heathrow Hotel near London for a conference to update them on the prospects for the Work in this part of the world. Mr. Harold Jackson, the minister in Lagos, Nigeria, was also able to attend. The conference proved highly profitable, with ministers appreciating the chance to have explained to them how we are taking advantage of the avenues that are open to the Work in this area.

The financial picture again looks bright. Mail income for the month of May was up 21% over May 1978. The increase for the calendar year to date is 20% and continues to hold steady. The Pentecost offering was up a healthy 24% over last year although attendance remained about the same. Mail flow generally was well up due mainly to the advertising program.

Total responses from our current advertising campaign have reached 9,231 as of June 15th, most popular booklets being Why Were You Born? and The Seven Laws of Success. We were able to obtain a cut-price half-page space in a popular tabloid, "The Daily Star," to advertise the Plain Truth. Cost per response has been quite encouraging.

From the exhibitions we have appeared at so far, over 1,000 Plain Truth request cards have been returned. We remain confident that renewal rates for this group of trial subscribers will be relatively high in view of the direct exposure to the magazine people have received at the stand. The exhibition series continues next month when the Plain Truth display will be featured at the Devon County Festival in Exeter (July 20-28) and the Royal Welsh Show in Llanelwedd, Powys (24-26).

The Spring edition of our local "Newsletter" (a quarterly publication for Co-Workers, donors and members) drew some interesting reaction. As an experiment we included the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all full-time ministers in the British Isles and invited readers to contact their local minister if they wished to attend a Sabbath service. Reports from the recent conference indicate that in almost every case a steady number of phone calls and letters were received. A small number of baptisms were triggered off by the announcement (one man had been in contact with the Work for 14 years) and many are now attending Sabbath services as a direct

result. The PCD mail flow has also been higher than usual, probably reflecting in part the last Newsletter. We believe that one of the reasons for the success of this experiment was the low-key way in which it was handled, leaving the onus on the individual to respond.

--Submitted by Rod Matthews, International Office

HISTORIC OUTPOURING OF SUPPORT!

Although the bad publicity, negative comments, and the receivership crisis have had an impact on our members and co-workers, MOST are still standing behind Mr. Armstrong, helping "hold up his hands." We wanted to share this positive side of the coin with you, as it is reflected in our mail.

The Mail Analysis section of MPC reports that in all its years of reading and gathering comments from the mail, it has never seen such a tremendous outpouring of support as has come in since January 1979! Thousands and thousands of letters have been received from members, co-workers, and donors in support of Mr. Herbert Armstrong and the Work of God.

Below are just a few representative examples of the kinds of letters we are receiving:

Mr. Armstrong, we are 100% behind you. We know that this is God's true Church. We are praying for you and the Work. Even our five-year-old daughter prays for you and the Work. Thank you for opening our eyes.
--B.L., Greensburg, PA

So happy to hear Mr. Armstrong again on the radio on half-hour programs. I always missed those so much during the time of the five minute /broad-casts. Happy, Mr. Armstrong, to hear that you are able to travel abroad again, and that it will soon be possible for you to go to China. The doors are surely being opened now. I pray for you and Mr. Rader and all the faithful workers. I am sure, without doubts, that you are doing the Work of God. May God grant you strength to go on.
--C.T., Elkhville, IL

I cannot put into mere words how I feel listening to you each Sunday morning at 11:30 a.m. on Channel 12 in our area. It is so good to hear the true Word of God being preached again.
--L.J., Hyannis, MA

I usually don't include a letter when mailing my tithe. I don't think I fully realize the importance of mailing you a letter of support along with my tithe. I often just send a check, thinking that that shows you that I am backing you and supporting God's Work. But that doesn't tell you that I am continually praying for you, your health, for the ministry, for the Church, for the effectiveness of the means by which the Church spreads the gospel, and for the coming Kingdom of God...I strongly believe that you are God's ONLY apostle here on earth and that the Worldwide Church of God (and no other churches) is the true Church of God....
--B.D., San Antonio, TX

Overall, the mail comments present an attitude of RENEWED ENTHUSIASM in the Church (and among the co-workers) over the new direction the Work is

taking. The vast majority are glad that Mr. Armstrong is putting things "back on the right track," and they are supporting him with confidence.

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

PUBLISHING SERVICES UPDATE

This past week we had another visit from the people involved with the Special Olympics and the Kennedy Foundation which sponsor and are the driving force behind the games. AICF is involved through our "Outreach" Program and Publishing is producing the souvenir games program which is going to be a very fine production. The Kennedy Foundation people have been very impressed with us as individuals and with our facilities here in Pasadena. They were even more impressed that during our darkest hours during the struggle with the State of California that we still had time for them.

The Quest advertising staff in New York sold about \$40,000 worth of advertising space for the program and at the special dinner recently Mrs. Ethel Kennedy was making very complementary remarks about Quest and the Ambassador Foundation to Phil DuVal, our advertising director.

The Special Olympics is for mentally retarded children 8 years of age and older. These young people love the chance to show what they can do--in fact the games in past years have changed the life of many of the participants.

--Roger Lippross

PT/BOOKLETS UPDATE

Mr. Armstrong has now approved the layouts on sigs 2 & 3 of the August PT. Sig. 1 and the cover will be sent to him shortly.

Mr. Armstrong instructed me to get the US & B book into print as soon as possible for church members and the mailing list. While the book is scheduled to be published by Everest House soon, a special paper-back edition will be printed for church usage. It will be approximately the size of the old full-size edition of some years back. The copy will be identical to that in the present PT series. This is not a reduced version but a full, book-sized edition. As soon as layouts are done and the graphics are approved we'll get it into production through Roger Lippross.

Mr. Armstrong is presently going over the copy on The Mark of the Beast and we hope to shortly get that back into print after many years.

The booklet Did God Create a Devil? is also being sent to Mr. Armstrong for rewriting. It has been in use for many years and he would now like to do a rewrite on it. The present edition has been withdrawn from circulation.

--Brian Knowles, Editorial Services

NEWS SUMMARY BECOMES "MEMBER'S HOTLINE"

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--Pastor's Report Staff

Armstrong still traveling

Last winter the front pages of the Star-News were constantly reporting charges by deputy attorneys general that Herbert W. Armstrong and his assistant, Stanley Rader, of the Worldwide Church of God were "pilfering" church funds by virtue of the fact that they traveled extensively in the corporate jet, conferring with heads of state and other dignitaries all over the world.

What puzzles me is that the Star-News apparently does not see fit to inform its readers that these same gentlemen are continuing their travels in the same manner.

For example Mr. Armstrong just returned from Morocco and Tunisia where he conferred with the prime ministers of both nations, presented them with the customary gifts, and laid the groundwork for humanitarian projects as he has with many other

nations. A senior member of the Japanese Diet accompanied him and discussed plans for cooperative projects in the domain of nutrition.

The deputy attorney general calls this "pilfering" and started a lawsuit over it. Yet, Mr. Armstrong continues about his business as if the attorney general does not exist!

I would think the Star-News should report on these facts so the attorney general may reflect on the merit and effects of his actions!

And certainly the good citizens of Pasadena would like to know when leaders of institutions headquartered in the area are received and honored by heads of governments abroad; and about significant humanitarian projects being planned by Pasadena institutions.

DAVID HUNSBERGER
Pasadena

(Editor's Note: The above letter from an employee of the Personal Correspondence Department here in Pasadena appeared in the "Your Forum" section of the June 24 issue of the Pasadena Star-News. We thought our readers would also enjoy reading it!)

Y.O.U. MAKING STRIDES

The Y.O.U. program is beginning to really roll once again. We are completing the second year of the International Exchange Program and have selected four girls (Jana Ledy--Michigan; Melissa Johnson--Indiana; Yvonne Duncan--Scotland; and Marissa Campbell--England) to participate in the program for its third year.

Y.O.U. Feast plans are now well underway and this year promises to be the best year ever for the young people.

One of the biggest news items is the full approval by Mr. Herbert Armstrong of the Y.E.S. program--which is the major educational phase of the over-all Y.O.U. program. We are all very excited about the potential and also about Mr. Armstrong's support of the program.

Another major item is the reinstatement, at least partially, of the national level programs. We have our fourth National Track and Field meet scheduled for Big Sandy on July 24 and 25th. We hope to be able, in a short time, to reinstate the whole national level program. (Our thanks to Mr. Bicket and Mr. Rader for their support and financial approval of the track meet.)

With all these things happening and with S.E.P. in full swing with about 300 in attendance, it appears Y.O.U. is ready to move ahead once again. Thank you all for your patience and continued support.

--Mike Blackwell, Y.O.U.

ON THE WORLD SCENE

While being engaged in a PLAIN TRUTH assignment overseas, I've asked my long-time associate, Don Schroeder, to submit the following "change-of-pace" topic in my stead this week.

--Gene Hogberg

THE FRACTURED FAMILY: Over thirty years ago, George Orwell wrote the book, 1984, describing the horrors of a thought-controlled totalitarian state. Over 100 of Orwell's 137 predictions about the future have already come true. Some of these include the development of think tanks, defoliants to strip the earth barren, helicopter gunships, voice analyzers, data banks, etc.

Orwell also predicted the breakup of the family and the dissolution of emotional ties between men and women and their children.

Already only one U.S. household in three consists of parents and their children (if we consider people living alone or apart from parents as a household). An increasing number of homes are already one parent, and they are growing much faster than two parent families.

One of the most perceptive articles on the alarming trends in the modern family unit was written by Armand M. Nicholi II, faculty member of the Harvard Medical School and on the staff of Massachusetts General Hospital. He writes in Christianity Today, May 25, 1979: "Early family experience determines our adult character structure, the inner picture we harbor of ourselves, how we see others and feel about them, our concept of right and wrong, our capacity to establish the close, warm, sustained relationships necessary to have a family of our own, our attitude toward authority and toward the Ultimate Authority in our lives, and the way we attempt to make sense out of our existence. No human interaction has greater impact on our lives than our family experience."

Nicholi emphasizes, "What has been shown to contribute most to the emotional development of the child is a close, warm, sustained, and continuous relationship with both parents. Yet certain trends in our society make this most difficult today."

A major fracturing element is the trend toward quick and easy divorce /in some states, a "no-fault" divorce/ and the ever-increasing divorce rate which subjects more and more children to physically and emotionally absent parents. The divorce rate has risen 700% in this century and continues to rise. Over a million children a year are involved in divorce cases in the U.S. alone.

As a result of this high divorce rate, two Census Bureau analysts predict that 45% of all children born in 1978 will become members of one-parent families, at least for a period in their lives, before they reach the age of 18 years. This is a rate that already applies to black youngsters.

Then there is the increasing number of married women who have joined the labor force and work outside the home--especially mothers with young or preschool children. In 1948, around 18% of the nation's mothers worked outside the home. Today it is over 50%. Many colleges and universities, and the feminist movement in particular, pass on the notion that the role of wife and mother is passé, and to settle for such a role in life is to settle for second-class citizenship.

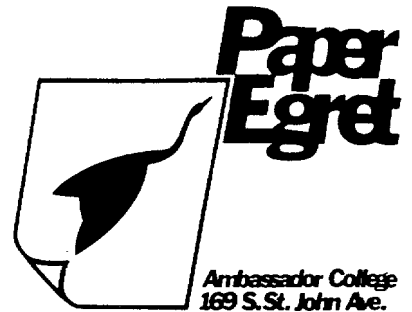
Lack of proper family upbringing is also reflected in the following grim statistics. The number of illegitimate births in the U.S. is over a half million a year, half of which are terminated by abortion. Teenage pregnancies have increased by 33% in the last five years. Of the teenagers that marry, 50% end in divorce within five years.

Nicholi points to studies that indicate that absent or non-influential fathers contribute to their child's low motivation for achievement, inability to defer immediate gratification for later rewards, low self-esteem, susceptibility to group influence, juvenile delinquency, and in some, passive effeminate or dependent sons.

Nicholi predicts as family life fractures, society will have a higher incidence of mental illness than ever before. We can expect the assassination of people in authority to be more frequent, and also violence "just for the fun of it." As battered children (if they survive) produce children, we can expect violence within the family to increase exponentially. And he says we will continue to witness changes in the expression of sexual impulses. "As sexuality becomes more unlimited, more separated from family and emotional commitment, the deadening effect will cause more bizarre experimenting and widespread perversion," predicts Nicholi. He predicts society will see much more experimenting with homosexuality.

As the home and church in society have declined in influence, child care and training has shifted to other agencies or social groups. But, concludes Nicholi, professional or peer relationships "can never give us the emotional sustenance and support that the close, warm, personal relationships within the family ought to provide."

Never was the need for the fulfillment of Malachi 4:6 greater than today!



Ambassador College
169 S. St. John Ave.
Pasadena, Calif. 91123

Dear Pastor,

Twice a year the Paper Egret will sell to the Worldwide Church of God libraries books listed in the current Mail Order Catalog at our cost plus postage (Soncino Commentaries not included). This offer is made only for your church library to help provide references for those who cannot afford their own volumes. We would like to ask that orders for individuals not be included with this special offer.

In order to hold down our costs by "bunching" the orders, we plan to make this special offer only twice a year. It will also give churches a time goal to raise money for their library purchases.

Our first sale this year will be from July 1-15. We will honor only those orders postmarked no later than July 15. Due to varying discounts from the publishers we would rather bill you for this sale and ask that you remit payment within a month of receiving your invoice.

We would also appreciate any suggestions for future books to be listed in next year's catalog. Please send a note if you have any recommended readings, reference books or Bibles which would be of value to the church members.

We hope this sale will be helpful to you and your church. Thank you for the opportunity of serving.

Paper Egret Staff

MEMBER'S HOTLINE

WORLDWIDE EDITION

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CAMPAIGN SERIES GATHERS MOMENTUM

The current series of Personal Appearance Campaigns is gathering momentum, with new attendance up considerably for the recent Phoenix campaign, reports Roderick C. Meredith, Director of Pastoral Administration. Phoenix was the third campaign for Mr. Meredith and the sixth of seven in this series of "mini-campaigns."

Mr. Meredith said 105 of 540 persons attending the campaign the first night were "new attendance," while the second night saw 90 new people out of 525 attending--all despite the fact there was "no /outside/ advertising whatsoever--not even one scratch in the newspaper or one word on radio or TV."

The last campaign of this current series will be held August 4 and 5 in Dallas, Texas, with Mr. Dennis Luker speaking.

MR. ARMSTRONG MAKES FURTHER CHANGES IN THE COLLEGE

Deputy Chancellor Raymond F. McNair informed the ministry that twenty-three members of the College administration and faculty had visited Mr. Armstrong in his home in Tucson. Commenting about the visit in the June 18 Pastor's Report, Mr. McNair said Mr. Armstrong encouraged and instructed the group to maintain God's way in the college.

"During our visit," said Mr. McNair, "Mr. Armstrong told us that he has come to realize that 'higher' degrees from this world's institutions have been detrimental to many of our faculty. For this reason, we are no longer requiring our faculty /as did the former administration/ to go 'outside' for degrees. In fact, the college will no longer subsidize any 'higher' degrees from this world's colleges and universities."

Mr. McNair also mentioned that in order for next year's students to receive a maximum of guidance and supervision from the faculty and administration, all undergraduate single students will be required to live on campus beginning next fall. Also, dual enrollment with other colleges and universities will be prohibited. "We feel that this will not only greatly enhance the unity of Ambassador's student body, but will also better enable students to participate fully in college activities," commented the deputy

chancellor. Enrollment for the new school year, which begins August 27, is expected to be between 350 and 400.

The ministers worldwide were thanked for their input regarding prospective students from their areas, and Mr. McNair reminded them that it still isn't too late for "promising young people" to apply for entrance into Ambassador College for the coming 1979-80 college year. However, they would have to send their applications in very soon. Although, as always, "we require that all applicants be able to do college-level work...we are once again looking more closely at a student's overall qualifications (leadership, character, etc.)," concluded Mr. McNair.

A WAY TO PROMOTE THE PLAIN TRUTH

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong recently mentioned that he would like to see ministers and members alike recommending The Plain Truth to friends outside the Church, encouraging them to become regular readers. Reminding the June 18th Pastor's Report readership that "the most effective form of advertising is by word of mouth," publishing director Roger Lippross suggested that members use this very powerful tool of personal recommendation and to pass along their own copy of The Plain Truth. "Or, better still, try to get hold of any spare copies of the newsstand issue from your local newsstand coordinator."

Mr. Lippross noted that the newsstand issue is specially designed to introduce people to the Work and to encourage a subscription. Although we do want to get the message contained in The Plain Truth into more new hands, he cautioned that Mr. Armstrong does not want us to in any way "push or force our message onto others," such as one religious group that goes door-to-door. So discretion and balance were emphasized as very important in promoting The Plain Truth. Mr. Lippross mentioned that yet other ways for members to promote and encourage broader readership of the "magazine of understanding" are being considered.

SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM DEVELOPED FOR MR. ARMSTRONG'S BOOK

In a recent Pastor's Report the Director of Publishing reported that the Work has found it necessary to develop its own distribution system for Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong's book, The Incredible Human Potential. Although we have recently contracted to have some commercial bookstore outlets (Dalton Books, Doubleday and Walden Books) sell the book, we really need much broader exposure for the book to get the size and quality of response we are looking for.

"Most religious books published commercially in the United States," said Mr. Roger Lippross, "are distributed through the Christian Booksellers Association. Unfortunately, The Incredible Human Potential has been refused entry into this private distribution system because parts of the book are not complimentary to the 'Christian' churches that back and support this association." And so the Work of God is faced with another challenge which "gives all of us another opportunity to overcome an obstacle which hinders distribution of this book and its message."

Our own distribution system has been worked out, and Mr. Lippross solicited each Pastor's support "to ensure that things go smoothly." This is the program: A small display box has been designed and manufactured to hold

six books and be placed on a counter or tabletop. The box has a glossy promotional card which carries a photograph of Mr. Herbert Armstrong and advertising copy. The card slides behind the books. A small sales kit has also been assembled to go along with this package explaining the how and wherefore of this venture.

One obvious outlet for these books is where The PLAIN TRUTH newsstand program is already in operation, i.e. supermarkets and stores that have our racks on display. According to Mr. Lippross, we are therefore asking each of our 300 newsstand coordinators to try to get these books placed in as many of our newsstand outlets as possible. The book sells for \$8.95, but the store owner or manager will be given a substantial reduction in price as an incentive to handle the book. Mr. Lippross concluded by stating that we want our "Plain Truth book distribution program" to be our "main thrust" because it holds the greatest promise of widespread exposure for Mr. Armstrong's book.

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