

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

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FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

International News

Members' Safety in Geneva Mr. Dibar Apartian, Regional Director for the French-speaking areas of God's Work, received a telex from the office manager in Geneva, Mr. Bernard Andrist, relating a recent incident that is a sign of our times:

"On the Sabbath, 10th of October, just after I gave a sermon on: 'Put Your Trust in God,' Mrs. Dind, the manager of our meeting hall, came to see me. She was upset and told me that she just received a phone call from somebody asking if the meetings of 'Le Monde A Venir' (World Tomorrow) are at 10 a.m. Then the voice on the phone said: 'Tell them that they too will receive their parcel.' We are certainly associated with the Jews--in Switzerland Fascism is lifting its head too."

Please pray for God's protection for our membership and the halls we use in Europe as conditions deteriorate.

Philippines The Philippines office reports that last August 24 an ad was placed in Panorama Magazine, the Sunday magazine of the Bulletin Today newspaper. The booklet, "Does God Exist?" was offered plus a six-month subscription to The PLAIN TRUTH. The ad seems to be doing well because after one week 1262 responses came in. Cost per response is presently assessed at ₱4.30 (US \$0.59). It is hoped that this figure will go down as more responses come in.

With special thanks to continued Canadian and U.S. support, the Manila office says the superb glossy PT magazine really attracts. Newsstand displays of The PLAIN TRUTH in full color and in high quality glossy paper attracted almost 1,500 new subscribers. In the past, combined newsstand responses averaged only 500 per month.

A total of 2904 new requests for PT subscriptions came in during August --73% more than the total of new requests during the previous month.

Mr. Adair's PT lecture on the "Middle East In Prophecy" attracted 69 new people on August 31 in Muslim Samboanga City, Mindanao, some 850 kilometers southwest of Manila. The lecture was Mr. Adair's sixth for this year. Thirty new people attended the follow-up in the afternoon of the same day.

Cumulative income as of August 31, 1980 registered an increase of 27% over the same period last year.

German-Speaking Area The Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day were the highlights of the fall feast season. One hundred and sixty feast goers, sixty of which came from overseas, kept an inspiring as

well as physically blessed Feast in Karlsbad, Czechoslovakia. Satan's attempt to ruin the Feast by initially thwarting the attendance of our East German and Polish brethren was unsuccessful.

High spirits and gorgeous weather marked attendance at the other German-language feast site in Bonndorf, in West Germany's Black Forest. An exhilarating feeling of unity and comradeship was present, inspiring the members attending as well as leaving a good impression on the community. (Many Bonndorfers said our congregation was "the neatest and best organized" of all the various groups having used the Bonndorf Convention Center.) A total of 600 members attended at Bonndorf; of these, 50 transferred from other areas. The offerings on the first and second holy days showed increases of 18.9% and 76.1% respectively; attendance for the feast site was up 6.8% over 1979.

As a result of a letter to 1600 donors offering the German GOOD NEWS magazine, we have added 300 new subscribers to the GN list.

Also a letter from the German Regional Director, Mr. Frank Schnee, to more than 5800 co-workers and donors, offering the German edition of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong's book THE INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL, brought 2241 requests in September. Requests are still coming in.

The mail income for the month of September was up +28.3% over September 1979. The year-to-date mail income total is up +19.6% over 1979.

Members Thankful for Ministerial Refreshing Program

Dearest Mr. Armstrong:

Thank you very much for giving all of the ministry the opportunity to go back to Pasadena for the Ministerial Refreshing Program!

Mr. Dan Rogers and his wife just returned to us after spending the last three weeks in Pasadena. He seemed so revitalized and so renewed! It's hard to describe the difference that was there, but it was as if he had just been "refreshed"; like taking a cool shower after a grueling hot and sticky day. I'm sure all of the others going to the Refreshing Program have come out of it in very much the same way. Love from New England.

The Renaults

Ministers' Appreciation for Refreshing Program

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

"Thank you" just isn't enough to express our gratitude for the Ministerial Refreshing Program. It has done more than anything else to stir us in the ministry to more zealously fulfill the job we've been given to do. It's been like a three-week Feast of Tabernacles with the opportunity for the ministry to draw closer to one another and to hear in the classes how each area of the Work is being "set back on the right track." It has provided a much needed "shot in the arm" for the ministry. It was very uplifting and gratifying to see for ourselves how the team working

(Continued on page 4)

Mr. Attorney General of California:

Congratulations! You did mean what you were saying!

Appeared in the Los Angeles Times October 23, 1980

WE TOOK YOU at your word. And you kept it. While you were lobbying against the Petris bill in the California legislature, you were saying—and your deputies were saying—that if this bill passed you probably would find it necessary to drop your lawsuit against the Worldwide Church of God.

This statement was made to members of the California senate, to members of the assembly, to the governor, to newspapers and to news people of TV stations throughout the state.

In this nationally famous lawsuit you had been claiming, based on your interpretation of a formerly existing California law, that you, acting on behalf of the state, should own, supervise and monitor ALL CALIFORNIA CHURCHES, their properties and church activities! This, in violation of the United States



HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

Constitution and the First Amendment!

The Petris bill rescinded the former law on which you based your unconstitutional lawsuit and claim to ownership and control of all California churches. You lobbied vigorously against the Petris bill, which rescinded the law on which your contention and lawsuit were based.

The Petris bill was passed in the senate by a vote of 52 to 1. In the assembly 50 to 12. It was signed into law Sept. 30 by Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. Apparently they took you at your word that this would cause you to decide to drop your unconstitutional lawsuit against this Church.

Your office had selected the Worldwide Church of God as its test case. We were to be the

first domino, and if we fell, all other churches would follow.

Although their doctrines and practices differ somewhat from ours—even as they do from one another—the major and minor church denominations came to our legal aid in this state vs. church lawsuit, as also did the American Civil Liberties Union.

We take no part in partisan politics.

We are grateful to the major and minor churches who came to our legal aid. We thank the lawmaking body of California for taking you at your word and giving you this MANDATE!

We too thank the living GOD for giving you, Mr. Attorney General, the courage and moral strength to KEEP YOUR WORD. You are, indeed, a man of your word!

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
Pastor General
Worldwide Church of God
Pasadena, California

with you in Ministerial Services (and other depts) is totally dedicated to carrying out the directives Christ inspires you to give them.

Also, thank you very much for sending the wives in for the program. As part of the team, they need a "recharge of the batteries" as much as the men do. We both appreciated the uplifting class about the calling of a minister's wife.

Marc and Carolyn Masterson

Mr. H. W. Armstrong:

My wife and I just returned from a very enjoyable three weeks of classes and fellowship at Pasadena, and want to join in with all the others who have expressed their thanks. We do appreciate what you all do for us. These classes are very much needed throughout the ministry. It is very evident we were not all speaking the same thing. We now have definite direction. It should really help to solidify the whole Church.

One of the biggest enjoyments other than the classes was the opportunity to get together in fellowship. We have not had opportunities like this for a long time. Everyone in for the Refreshing Program, along with the instructors, seemed to enjoy the fellowship and opportunities to get together in good, clean fun. We missed having you with us. We know this was not possible, but if there was one thing missing it was not being able to hear directly from you. Mr. Tkach and all the others did a very fine job of relaying all your instructions to us. Thank you again.

Jim and Alice Reyer

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Always it is refreshing to receive information that is true, correct and Godly. In the years prior, for those of us at Pasadena, it was not always this way. We were encouraged by inuendo or point blank threat, to digress from what we had always been taught by you from the beginning of our contact with God's True Church. While we never intentionally acquiesced, still the constant barrage of insidious half-truths did tend to lessen our determination in various ways.

To return to Pasadena after being away only seven months, was like a breath of fresh air. The personal cooperation and thoughtfulness on the part of everyone, was in stark contrast to what had been the norm for years. Before, there were those who were always thoughtful and cooperative, who were the majority, but there was a healthy minority who had a somewhat different and unusual ability to create disturbing situations. They always had enough "authority" to make you wonder if they were really right.

Now, thankfully, this is completely changed and this Refreshing Program again substantiates and reinforces our faith in God and our trust of you as His Apostle. The material presented in this course goes directly to the root and core of our spiritual life and re-establishes the foundational doctrines which God revealed to you as

the cornerstone of this church era. We rejoice that the ministry may once again speak with the resounding power and clarity which God makes available to us, when we all speak the same thing. Thank you, Mr. Armstrong, for following God's example and never changing in your determination to preach the truth as God alone reveals it to you.

Though my wife, Joanne, was unable to accompany me to Pasadena we rejoice together as we receive the benefits of this enlightening course. It is a redeeming joy to be reassured that what we had always accepted from you and believed from our beginnings in the Church, is exactly what God wants us to continue using for the development of His begotten children. We are grateful that Satan's attempt to pervert the doctrines of this Church has been a total failure. It has been a fateful lesson. A lesson we need learn only once. Now we turn with happiness to the building of the Church after having rejoiced all together at a Feast of Tabernacles more spiritually bountiful than any for years. For, in this year, we were truly all together.

Walter and Joanne Dickinson

Pastor Grateful for Prayers

Greetings Mr. Tkach:

Your prayers and those of all the brethren have been instrumental in saving my son's life! He is recovering remarkably fast. Even went to church under his own "steam" last Sabbath.

Please thank all who took the time to pray for him and our family. It's like having him back from the dead. At one point he had not breathed for a full 9 minutes. At the risk of sounding sanctimonious I must say: "Our God is Good and Upright," as we sing. Thanks again.

Les McColm

Y.O.U. Guidelines Look Excellent

Mr. Tkach:

Thanks for latest guidelines on Y.O.U. from both Mr. Armstrong and you. They look excellent. Looking forward to putting them into action following the feast.

Lyall Johnston

A Privilege to Speak at Feast

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Special greetings to you from Cleveland! I wanted to take this opportunity to write you and thank you for selecting me as one of the traveling speakers at the Feast of Tabernacles. It was a great blessing and privilege to be able to speak to God's people in both Savannah and Detroit.

Truly, this Feast was the greatest ever! There was more unity, harmony, and singularity of purpose among the brethren than I have experienced in many years. Everyone remarked about how inspirational and powerful the messages at the Feast were. God's Church is back on track, and Jesus Christ is using you mightily to make the Church ready for His return.

It was fantastic to see you live via the hookups on the first and last days of the Feast. I have never seen you more inspired and powerful. Your sermons delivered a tremendous spiritual impact upon all of God's people. We are all solidly behind you as you lead us in fulfilling the great commission in these last days....

Mr. Armstrong, we are praying for the success of your upcoming trips overseas. We are thankful that Mr. Rader is such a help and support to you. His visit to Cleveland and Akron last month provided a great spiritual boost for the brethren, and was a powerful witness for the area.

Penny and I pray for you daily, Mr. Armstrong. We continually thank Almighty God that He has called you as His Apostle to lead His Church under Jesus Christ in these latter days. We know that God will continue to grant you the inspiration, wisdom, knowledge, and robust health you need to shoulder the crushing load of responsibilities Christ has given you. It is our great privilege to be able to serve under you in this greatest Work on the face of the earth.

Guy and Penny Engelbart

Even the Unconverted Notice the Difference

Dear Mr. Tkach:

I thought I would take a moment and rush this to you ahead of my festival report. Mr. Armstrong might enjoy this observation from an unconverted local business lady. She has observed the Church's Feast of Tabernacles for several years while doing business.

She said, "The people of the Worldwide Church of God have always been happy, but this seems to be an unusually 'high' year. I really see a difference even over last year." And she added, "Is there some way you people can leave this happiness here? We really need it!"

James E. Kisse

Comments From Monthly Church Reports

CADILLAC, MI., GERALD WESTON: This was probably the most positive and harmonious Feast in the last 12 years or so. I don't believe every Feast has always been the "best ever," but this one has to be close to it for the largest number of people.

JACKSONVILLE, NC., DON ENGLE: Virtually every member I've talked with during and since the Feast has expressed the greatest appreciation for the meaningfulness and personal fulfillment that this Fe-

tival provided. Many have said that they feel there is a different spirit this year--one of confidence, reassurance and real happiness. Many appreciated the emphasis on family activities.

PADUCAH, KY., VICTOR KUBIK: Our fall holy day offerings are up over 50% from last year. The spirit of both the Paducah and Madisonville churches has never been more zealous than now.

PIKEVILLE, KY., WARREN HEATON III: I have noticed the people are more happy now that the Church worldwide is getting back on the right track. They do appreciate Mr. Armstrong's efforts!

MONTGOMERY, AL., PAUL KURTS: All here were very inspired to see the health and power Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong showed during his video transmissions at the Feast of Tabernacles. All I have talked to said this was truly the best Feast ever. God is blessing this area greatly. Attitudes and support of God's Work and His Apostle continue at an all-time high. I am very thankful to be able to be a part of this great Work and to serve here in Montgomery. This Church is solid and behind Mr. Armstrong 100%.

BELLE VERNON, PA., DAVID M. JOHNSON: We were really pleased with the way the Feast went this year. The sermons, while not being especially flamboyant, were solid and filled with good material. But the most inspiring thing to me was the changed attitude among the members. There was a genuine spirit of cooperation, caring, and helpfulness. Many commented that with the changed attitudes, it was a real pleasure to serve. Even the teens showed a different attitude at their dance and in services. It was really good to see all the genuinely friendly smiles again.

CANTON, OH., JOHN FOSTER: The Feast truly was the best ever! Everyone I've talked with has been encouraged--it's the way it used to be in the early '60's (also please thank Mr. Armstrong for giving us all an opportunity to speak at the Feast of Tabernacles).

Everyone was uplifted to have Mr. Rader come to the area. His interviews went very well and they brought the church areas closer together in our job of backing up Mr. Armstrong and our commission. We will be starting a spokesman club, leadership class and weekly Bible studies. We also want to organize Y.O.U. to fit in with our regular church activities.

CHARLOTTE, NC., GEORGE PICKNEY: Mr. Rader's visit was a tremendous blessing in every way!! -- In getting our message to the public, in educating and inspiring the ministry, in uplifting the members.

MEMPHIS, TN., ROWLEN TUCKER: People locally are already giving "rave" reviews of the Feast of Tabernacles 1980! Most said they were spiritually uplifted, experienced very few problems, and felt a greater sense of unity and common purpose than has been present in years.

AKRON, OH., MIKE SWAGERTY: I have never seen the attitude of the local church as being better. The combination of Mr. Rader's visit and the Feast of Tabernacles has done it. Now to keep it that way!

HARRISBURG, PA., JIM ROSENTHAL: The brethren came back from the Feast really charged up. All reports indicate to me a peaceful, invigorating time at all sites. Just seeing Mr. Herbert Armstrong restored (and "streamlined") and vibrant was inspirational. Surely God has answered our prayers for his health and strength, and all of us can start a new year on a high note.

Weekly Letter Comments

The Work's literature continues to have impact, as indicated by the first group of letters. It is educating readers in the true values and helping them to find real meaning in their lives. Next, radio listeners are recognizing God's truth in Mr. Armstrong's broadcasts. Their letters relate that the messages inspire them, answer their questions and provoke them to thought and action. In the final selection of letters members share their delight, thrill and gratitude for their calling and for having a part in God's great Work on earth.

Literature Has Impact

I would like to take this opportunity to say how much I enjoy your magazine and the various literature published by your church. It does give me a better understanding of the scriptures and world events in relation to Bible prophecy. And I must add that I agree with you 100% when you state that the second coming of Christ will be very soon, and I pray I will be worthy of entering God's glorious Kingdom.

Mrs. L. Conley (Charleston, W.V.)

I had always been a bit of a sceptic as far as religion is concerned, and indeed for the last four years I had given up going to church after leaving college. It was only a few days ago, however, that I stumbled upon a copy of your magazine dated November 1976. After reading it from cover to cover I feel that it has transformed my whole life. Everything about Christianity and the human race in general suddenly seemed to dawn on me for the first time in my life as having a definite meaning (to say the least) and above all, Christ's mission for mankind here on Earth.

PR (Dublin, Ireland)

First of all, let me say, I love The PLAIN TRUTH!! For once I can say I'm totally satisfied with a magazine. I am not a subscriber right now, but my husband has sent in a subscription and we're truly delighted. I was shopping one day when I came across your magazine at the Information Centre in the store. I picked it up and soon learned it was free. I couldn't believe it. I took it home and found it very hard to put down. My husband and I took turns reading your articles. I feel it was fate that I picked up your magazine and I'm very happy I did. Keep up the good work and we hope we get our subscription soon.

Robina L. (Toronto, Ont., Canada)

I learn something new every day as I read your literature and study God's Holy Word. Thank you ever so much for the knowledge that I gained through your help.

Mrs. Hubert Driscall (Kirbyville, TX)

Thank you for sharing your magazine with me. I love it. I used to go to a Catholic High school (I am graduated now) and the articles always gave my Theology grades a boost! I don't understand how you do it all free--but thanks! The reason for wanting all the books and articles is that they will help me throughout life.

Teresa Tvaroch (Warren, OH)

Broadcast Inspires, Comforts and Answers Questions

I can never thank you enough for your broadcasts. They are the highlight of my every day--so much so that I find myself looking forward to them almost from the moment of awakening in the morning. It seems as if every night I learn something new and the answers to some questions I've had.

Betty Rakasz (Springfield, MO)

Since listening to and seeing your broadcasts on radio and television, I have really gained knowledge of the truth. I am 23 years old and left my church at the age of 12. I was like a lost sheep because my questions about God were never answered. After the first World Tomorrow broadcast I heard, I was truly touched. I could not believe all that knowledge of God I was missing.

Ted Lenoski (Pittsburgh, PA)

I heard your broadcast on CKO Vancouver and was very alarmed by what I heard. I would appreciate copies of all your available pamphlets. I would also appreciate it if you could send me a copy of the Bible as I do not have one and cannot afford to buy one. Thanking you in advance.

Mrs. Pamela B. (Surrey, B.C., CANADA)

I am presently incarcerated here at Dallas State Correctional Institution. I was transferred here from Graterford Prison in Philadelphia. When I was at Graterford I remember hearing your TV show and your radio broadcast. This was about two years ago. The other morning I woke up about 5 o'clock. Since I couldn't sleep, I decided to put the radio on. And there, at 5 o'clock in the morning I heard your friendly voice over the air! Oh how happy I was to hear from you! It felt like I was finding a true lost friend.

Gerald Clark (Dallas, PA)

For sometime now I have been listening to your broadcast on Radio Jamaica with one of today's prophets, Herbert W. Armstrong. I am convinced that I have heard the right teachings of Christ. I would like to know if there is a branch chapter or church of your "Christian faith" in Jamaica because I would like to become ready and prepared to meet the second coming of my saviour Jesus

Christ. I have listened to many teachers and preachers because I always want to know the truth. Thanks be to God I have learned some, but never before have I ever listened or ever heard a teacher of such high knowledge, reasoning, learning and wisdom of God as Dr. H. W. Armstrong. May God give him long life, strength, and health to preach and teach.

Howard K. Charvis (Bridgeport, JAMAICA)

After not writing for a number of months, here I am again. We are listening to your program on CKO Vancouver every day. Now I have my husband interested. We met some friends that go to the Worldwide Church of God. We were most delighted to know that. So now we are going to the Church too. For me it is just wonderful. I thank my Creator God for guiding us so wonderfully. That is what I was praying for so many years.

Mrs. A.H. (Pitt Meadows, B.C., CANADA)

Members Express Thrill and Gratitude for Calling

It is always a joy to be able each month to contribute to this wonderful Work God is doing through you (Mr. Armstrong) and your staff. It has brought such a tremendous change in every phase of my life, that I sometimes feel like it has to be a beautiful dream --it is so wonderful! I am now in my middle eighties and still enjoying every precious minute of life.

Mrs. H.F. Murley (Sherman, TX)

Each day I thank God for calling you (Mr. Armstrong) and revealing to you all of the truths which He has given you. I thank Him for calling me to know all these wonderful truths through you. I feel greatly honored that He has called me in these last days and has opened my spiritual understanding.

Mrs. Bessie M. Perrine (Akron, OH)

Since I became a member of the Worldwide Church of God, I have been the happiest I ever was in my whole life. I can just feel the love of everyone as I enter for Sabbath services. I live alone but never feel lonesome for I know that God is ever near me.

Mrs. Gladys Quinn (St. Petersburg, FL)

I am very grateful to be one who is privileged to be a part of the greatest Work on earth! I have been blessed over the past ten years of being a member of God's Church, and I continue to be amazed at the blessings that come my way. Just this week I received a raise which raised my first tithe a little, and also a new car was given to me. This happens to be the first new car I've ever owned and I appreciate it and I know it is a blessing from God who is providing for me and my family.

Mrs. James Manning (Americus, GA)

I was baptized March 13th, 1980. I truly do thank God everyday for choosing me to hear his truth. It really was a shock to learn that everything that I was taught was all wrong. It was just the

opposite way of the way God wants us to live. I can see now how deceived this world is and how I just went along with what seemed right with everyone else. God showed mercy on me and opened up my mind and ears to His truth. I feel so deeply about the ways of God and God's love, that I find it very hard to express my feelings in words on paper. I feel them very deeply in my heart.

Mrs. Nancy Walton (Cadet, MO)

There will never be any way I can repay the Eternal and the Church for what they have done in bringing a shipwrecked life to the surface and set it on course again. So I'd just like to say "Thank you" for the literature and even the privilege of association with God's true Christians. There is no way to express the gratitude I feel, and I hope the Church continues to grow and be blessed so that someday this sick world will come to a real healing.

Jerry L. Capps (Mountain Home, AR)

--JOE TKACH, MINISTERIAL SERVICES

*****NOTICE*****

Marc S. Masterson, pastor of the Athens-Gainesville, GA churches, reports that David Mitchell, also known as Boothe David Mitchell, has been traveling from area to area, requesting emergency fund help from the ministry. This man is disfellowshipped. Under no circumstances should such assistance be given to him without first calling Marc Masterson (404-963-8194).

--Ministerial Services

ENCOURAGE USE OF WORK'S ENVELOPES

Over the years we have always been impressed with how the brethren have responded to any requests regarding the processing of their donations and literature requests.

Occasionally we receive letters from members who offer to use their own personal stationery to save the Work money. While we certainly appreciate their thoughtful concern, more money is actually saved by using the pre-labelled and preaddressed envelopes due to our use of the computer. Each standardized envelope has all the computer information needed to readily process donations and requests with less likelihood of error.

We would like to encourage the brethren to continue using the Work's special return envelopes, especially those included with Mr. Armstrong's letters. Also, please remind the members to write in for extras before their supply runs out.

Thank you for your help.

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

PUBLISHING SERVICES UPDATE

Mr. Herbert Armstrong's new case bound book, THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY, is now printed and on sale in the bookstores around the country. The book is being published and distributed through our Everest House name. We are pleased to say that all Church Pastors will be receiving a complimentary copy via the mail. We think you'll be very pleased with Mr. Armstrong's first full-color case bound book.

The new printing of the four-color booklet, THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY, published by the Church for free distribution will be ready for distribution by the end of November. We think you will find this new printing a great improvement on the previous one. We have chosen better quality paper and more color pictures have been included. The print run will be 380 thousand. We plan also to print the German version of the booklet as a compatible "run on" immediately after the English language edition. This will save the German office time and money.