

The **Bulletin**



of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College

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Ambassador College International Cultural Foundation and HUMAN POTENTIAL

by C. Wayne Cole

TIME marches on! The Work of the Living God marches on! There has never been a more exciting age in which to serve our Creator. It is exciting to understand the plan God is working out here on this earth — a plan in which you and I have a direct and personal part.

Just think of it — we live at the time approaching the end of man's self-rule and his efforts to solve his own problems, as well as the imminent coming of Jesus Christ to set up the government of God here on this earth.

Fellow ministers, we all know it is easy to get tired. As our end of 1974 Church Report showed, it is easy to "become weary with well doing." This trend has appeared among some of our brethren and perhaps among a few of us. But, what is the alternative? Is it to let down, give up, quit? NEVER! That solves nothing. It is our job to keep these brethren stirred up and enthusiastic for the Work of God. And, of course, to do that we must be stirred up ourselves.

As the Work progresses there are new and exciting things to look forward to. Why should any of us feel we are in a rut?

A new magazine has just been born! Mr. Armstrong will soon announce this new publication in a letter to the "brethren in Christ."

Can you think of a better title than *HUMAN POTENTIAL*? Frankly I cannot!

But one might well ask, why another magazine? When you understand all the reasons behind the formation of this latest publication and the objectives it will accomplish, we are sure you will be as excited about it as we are.

A few days ago at our mini-Ministerial Conference in Big Sandy, I went through many of the reasons and objectives for the newly formed Ambassador International Cultural Foundation and this excitingly new magazine, *HUMAN POTENTIAL*. After these remarks many ministers and wives present expressed their enthusiasm and wholehearted support of this new development. I want to share most of those same remarks with all of you.

I realize that Mr. Armstrong is covering these new projects in his letter, and much more material will be expressed in this and undoubtedly other following *Bulletins*. But, I feel I must add whatever I can to share with you my own enthusiasm for this extremely important and vital development, and to help you with ideas to share your excitement with the Church members in your areas.

Taking Our Message to the World

Years ago many of us pondered the question of how the good news of Jesus' gospel could ever be

preached in nations like China, India, Indonesia, Japan, the African nations and many others. We used to talk to Mr. Armstrong about this — he didn't know — it seemed impossible.

I personally got quite close to this situation. During the 1960s I and others in the Australian Office were able to take several baptismal tours into Southeast Asia. A few people were baptized in Singapore, east and west Malaysia, Indonesia, and Ceylon. A very few in India became members of the Worldwide Church of God. We were reaping the extremely small harvest of a few years' broadcasting on Radio Ceylon. But, we all knew we had not reached these countries even enough to be called a "witness."

But, God had a plan! In His greatness to move "in mysterious and marvelous" ways He began to open the doors — little by little — to make it possible to reveal the message of the Kingdom of God to all nations.

In 1968 when the meetings with members of royal families, heads of state, members of government cabinets, and other top people began to open, Mr. Armstrong did not know "WHY?"

It is now more than obvious to us in the Work why God is opening these doors. God was now moving in a miraculous way to make it possible to reach out to mankind around the world with the way to peace, to the fulfillment of human potential with the happiness, success, and the love of God towards our fellowmen.

Of course, there were those on the sidelines, "Monday morning quarterbacking," second guessing and forming their own opinions about whether God was in this new thrust and work of Mr. Herbert Armstrong. Some said, "I don't think God is opening these doors," "I don't think God would do it that way," or "Why doesn't Mr. Armstrong stay home where he belongs and run the Work in Pasadena?"

But, there is an old saying that, "There is more to it than meets the eye." And indeed there was a lot more going on in the way God was moving and opening this way than met the eye. This is a great lesson in faith! When we walk by faith we realize we do not always understand where every step is leading and just why. But we are following the directions God is guiding in confidence and in faith that God will show the reasons.

To any who felt God was not leading Mr. Armstrong through these new doors, I can only say that there are so many Biblical examples to clearly show that God worked in just as mysterious a manner that did not appear plain to the observer at the moment.

The Bulletin

of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College

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Take the case of Joseph for example. If you had been contemporary with the young man Joseph, you would have had a hard time accepting the fact that God was directing the steps of this bright teen-ager in revealing dreams to him, causing friction with his brothers, being sold to a Midianite caravan and later sold as a slave in Egypt, bought by Potiphar the captain of Pharaoh's guard, framed by Potiphar's wife, thrown in a dungeon, bound in fetters, telling the meaning of the dreams of two fellow prisoners, and then later brought before Pharaoh to reveal the meaning of his dreams. All this happened to prepare Joseph to be the prime minister in Egypt at a time of the great seven years' drought.

It would have been hard to accept all of this being of God — but it obviously was. There are so many other examples in the Bible that reveal this same principle.

Certainly, at this most critical time in the history of man when we sit with the capacity and the imminent danger of man's self-destruction, it should not be difficult to accept the realization that God is working in marvelous ways to disseminate His truth as a witness to the nations around the world.

(Continued on page 298)

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
PRESIDENT and PASTOR

June 2, 1975

To all ministers and key supervisory personnel:

Greetings in Jesus' name!

You will be receiving an announcement mailed to all members, but I hope to reach you with the announcement first, through the BULLETIN. It will explain the new AMBASSADOR INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL FOUNDATION, and announce a NEW MAGAZINE, made necessary by this NEW PHASE of the Work.

In my letter to all members, I'm asking them how they would have planned and managed, if God had called each, personally as an individual, to START and carry on this Great Commission, of proclaiming Christ's Gospel MESSAGE IN ALL THE WORLD for A WITNESS TO ALL NATIONS. If each, as an individual, had received that call and Commission, I asked, how would he have thought out plans, and the way to go about it?

Forty-two years ago that call came to me. I did know how to start. A smallest-powered radio station had opened to me in October of 1933. I had found I had a radio-type voice. It was difficult, but I did find a way (where there is a will, there is a way!) to start reaching a wider audience in the local area of Lane County, Oregon. I found a way, February 1, 1934, to begin publication of The PLAIN TRUTH. I had no money. I had to hitch-hike to preach in a country school house. But I started The PLAIN TRUTH on a borrowed mimeograph.

The Work then started to GROW steadily. After forty years I found that, by radio and T.V., by print, and by what personal preaching and evangelism I and others were able to do, with a growing staff, we had reached ONLY those nations that now constitute the "lost sheep of the House of Israel." And we have not yet reached them with real thoroughness.

Since 1953, I bought time on a number of radio stations around the world -- the only ones open to us. But they turned out to be primarily of the "fly-by-night" variety, located in small countries close to the borders of the countries I wanted to reach -- China, India, Argentina and such large-population countries. But we never really reached those countries.

After forty years I had to realize I had not known, when called forty years before, how to PLAN to reach the big Gentile countries around the world, anymore than our average member would have known.

However, after this forty years, God has been opening new doors before me. He has been showing me THE WAY. Beginning in 1968, God had been opening doors for personal meetings with Heads of many of these governments -- kings, presidents, prime ministers, emperors. At first I didn't know WHY, but I knew that it was of God, because God was giving me UNUSUAL favor, even in cases to the point of affection in their eyes.

By two to three years ago, God was showing me how to develop these open doors into large-scale Public Appearance campaigns reaching thousands of the leaders of these nations. I learned that the Commission to take the Good News of the soon-coming KINGDOM OF GOD in all the world for a witness to all nations could only be accomplished THROUGH THE VERY HEADS of the governments. These nations control their own radio and T.V. They have no freedom of the press -- in many cases, no freedom of speech.

But in these past two or three years, we have had to learn many lessons. We've had to learn HOW to do it. Two subjects stir up controversy and opposition -- politics and religion. I had to learn to present Christ's Message as completely outside the realm of religion or politics.

Actually, the very fact that the REAL, TRUE Gospel Christ taught HAS NOT BEEN PREACHED since the first century, was all in my favor. Christ's Message centered on a WAY OF LIFE. It is the fact this world lives CONTRARY to God's Law, that has CAUSED ALL of this world's evils and its problems. What has been palmed off on the public as the "Gospel" does not teach God's Law -- His WAY OF LIFE. The REAL Gospel is concerned with world conditions, their CAUSE, and how the problems will be solved, and the evils cured, by the KINGDOM OF GOD, based on God's Law, as a WAY OF LIFE. I do not CALL it "God's Law." I call it the way of "GIVE," of serve, help, share, cooperate as opposed to the self-centered way of vanity, lust and greed, envy, jealousy, competition, strife and war.

That does not sound "religious." It doesn't sound like what the world supposes is the "Gospel." I announce that I am speaking on what SCIENCE has never discovered, what RELIGION has never revealed, what Education has never taught -- the CAUSE of all our troubles and wars, and THE WAY to peace, prosperity and SUCCESS.

Most of these mass-population countries, like India, south-east Asian nations, those in Africa and South America, are utterly DIFFERENT from the United States. In America we can speak to the general public -- they are virtually all people of reasonable education. But in these other countries, as high as 87% of the people are illiterate -- cannot read or write -- their minds not much above dumb animals. Preaching God's Message to them would be like preaching to millions of cows, horses and chickens. These countries have virtually NO middle-class people -- just the educated who run things at

the top, and the tragically poor and ignorant at the bottom. Those whose minds have been developed, and are able to comprehend our Message, are the minority who run the government, industry, business, education, and the professional people.

And those are the very ones I am now reaching with the Bible Message -- speaking at dinners, luncheons, before such organizations as Rotary Clubs, Lion's Clubs, etc., and in the Personal Appearance campaigns.

Fellows, the way this has opened up is absolutely MIRACULOUS! It is, indeed, GOD'S WORK, and HE is opening doors, guiding, showing the way! Nothing like it has ever been done before!

But it is NOT ONLY my personal human responsibility, it is ALSO YOURS, and that of all the brethren to STAND LOYALLY BEHIND ME in this tremendous undertaking.

This gruelling ordeal of constant travel -- the body-upsetting time-lag of up to nine hours on a single flight, the constant work of speaking, writing, even in flight, press interviews, radio and T.V. interviews, often speaking as many as six or seven times a week, is no vacation.

You have no idea how much your constant prayers, and those of your congregations, help me to keep up the zeal, vitality, drive, good health, and speaking power that is GETTING THE JOB DONE. Words can't tell you how much I appreciate that. I know how much I need it and must depend on it! THANK YOU, and your combined worldwide congregations for it!

Now about the Foundation and the NEW MAGAZINE.

One thing has been a serious handicap, and caused me and my touring team no little embarrassment. We have had to say that we represent either Ambassador College, or Worldwide Church of God.

I am regarded as an Ambassador for WORLD PEACE. But if I represent a CHURCH, immediately that shouts to them "RELIGION!" and that sparks prejudice and competitive religious prejudice. If I try to get away from appearing to be a religious crusader by representing Ambassador College, they ask, "where is this college? How many students do you have?" A college even with two campuses, having enrollments of only some 500 to 700 sounds pretty small, compared to the universities all over the world each with from 5,000 to 68,000 students.

Christ said we must be "wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." Some weeks ago I authorized the forming and incorporating of a new FOUNDATION, named "The Ambassador International Cultural Foundation." It is non-profit, dedicated to serving humanity worldwide.

Foundations, such as the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Foun-

dation, etc., are regarded with great respect. I still mention Ambassador College, but also explain that we have now formed this new Foundation to sponsor our worldwide educational program for all peoples at all levels. In time, we may, in this worldwide new dimension of the Work, drop all mention of Ambassador College, except as one of the associated institutions. Furthermore, for accreditation purposes, it is necessary that this phase of the Work be removed from Ambassador College, as it now will be legally.

Already we are finding that this new Foundation is giving great added prestige, credibility and favor. It is something NOBODY CAN CRITICIZE! It carries no RELIGIOUS connotation!

Further, another imperative NEED! Under the auspices of the new Foundation, I have authorized the publication of a NEW MAGAZINE, particularly edited as a part of this new dimension of the Work -- a magazine that will GO BEFORE KINGS, AND HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS. It will be bi-monthly, six issues a year. It will have a larger page-size than the original PLAIN TRUTH, of the very highest quality in every way -- in paper stock, full-color printing, etc.

It will contain articles on the very PURPOSE of human life upon the earth. On the awesome HUMAN POTENTIAL! On the WAY to WORLD PEACE, and how it will come in our time. It will carry the true Gospel MESSAGE, in the same plain and understandable -- yet non-religious sounding language I use in my speeches and lectures, and in conversations with world leaders. It will put emphasis on revealing what SCIENCE has never discovered, RELIGION has never revealed, EDUCATION never taught.

This new magazine, of necessity, will have only a limited circulation -- edited primarily to CONTINUE REPEATEDLY EVERY ISSUE that which I reveal in my present meetings and campaigns. Its circulation will be limited primarily to top government and professional people in such countries as Japan, India, Egypt, Israel, Thailand, Jordan, Indonesia, etc. Also in America, Britain, Europe.

I have just been presented with the first "dummy" edition, and, as we used to say, "it's a SMASH!" Simply beautiful, and absolutely TOP QUALITY! Larger in physical size than our other magazines, more pages, high quality paper.

The title? What could be better than "HUMAN POTENTIAL"?

Developing our incredible potential is what the KINGDOM OF GOD is all about! It is THE REASON we are alive, on earth!

We are already receiving enthusiastic responses from some of our friends in the Middle East, the Philippines, India, Japan and Thailand. These top people in government, education and industry, who endorse what I stand for and proclaim, will be writing articles that will be read by other world leaders in the new HUMAN POTENTIAL. This alone staggers the imagination. An editorial policy without precedent in the entirety of international journalism and publishing!

Our new magazine -- HUMAN POTENTIAL -- will be in a class by itself! My personal articles will provide the spiritual dimension, and biblical UNDERSTANDING. And the world leaders will read it, I assure you! HUMAN POTENTIAL magazine is the real FOLLOW-UP of my personal visits and meetings. It will perform a necessary job which the PLAIN TRUTH cannot. The P.T. is a mass-circulation magazine of more than THREE MILLION copies.

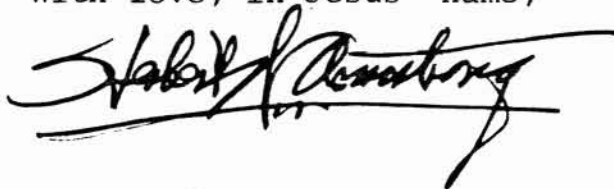
The new magazine will be edited for a different audience and will have a different approach. The number of copies must be limited, for it is an expensive magazine to produce and mail. This magazine will be financed by paid memberships in the Foundation -- a minimum donation of \$15.00 each, tax deductible, of course. HUMAN POTENTIAL will be sent to all Foundation members.

This method of financing, similar to that of National Geographic, will allow for subscription growth without impacting the day-to-day radio, T.V., PLAIN TRUTH and GOOD NEWS budgets. We will soon begin to actively promote memberships in the United States, as well as worldwide, regardless of one's affiliation with us in other respects.

Ministers, I need your constant, intensive prayers and supplications for this whole new phase of the Work, now reaching many countries worldwide we never were able to reach before. While HUMAN POTENTIAL is NOT a magazine just for Church members, but rather a follow-up of my personal meetings, speeches, and campaigns around the world, I feel that many, if not most of you will want to receive HUMAN POTENTIAL. Everyone will receive my letter and more details shortly.

Thanks once again, fellows, for your loyal, dedicated service in God's great Work!

With love, in Jesus' name,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Armstrong", with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Herbert W. Armstrong UPDATE

Nairobi, Kenya, May 29

We were received by President Kenyatta at the State House in what was truly one of the most memorable meetings we have ever had with a Head of State. President Kenyatta was truly a larger than life figure, and it is easy to see how he has been an inspiration for his people, both prior to the independence of Kenya and during the past ten years as its president.

It is truly amazing how quickly the rapport was established between Mr. Armstrong and the president. They are both men of eighty-three, or there about, who respectively belie their age because of their tremendous vigor and vitality. It was perfectly obvious that the President is a man of tremendous personal experience — the kind of experience one gains by living a very hard and dramatic life — the kind of experience that sometimes is referred to as bitter experience. (His life included many years in prison, and it was reported to me by his niece that during his years in prison he read the Bible constantly for strength and hope.)

The President asked Mr. Armstrong about his Work — his Mission, which he had heard so much about — his efforts on behalf of world peace and the activities now being carried on by the Foundation. The President could not agree with Mr. Armstrong more, as Mr. Armstrong explained the root causes of humanity's ills, and he said that human beings will never be satisfied until human nature can be changed. After all, Adam and Eve had everything that God could give them in the Garden of Eden, and, despite its beauty and everything that human beings could ever hope for or need, it was Eve who said, "I am not satisfied." Human beings have not changed, and it is a pity, because they cannot take that which they acquire with them, and yet they want more and more, and they bedeck themselves with fine jewelry and the like and spend most of their time amusing themselves and playing. They build expensive battle-ships and other weapons of war, not for hunting in order to eat, but to kill other men, and as they spend vast sums of money on such activities, even in the developed countries millions do not have enough to eat, do not have adequate shelter or proper clothing.

The President did seem to be a little more pessimistic about man's ability to change his nature, but Mr. Armstrong explained that each individual can change his own nature, but that it will probably take the strong hand of God to intervene and save mankind from itself.

Mr. Armstrong asked me to explain the work of the Foundation in its many activities throughout the world, and the President was duly impressed by these concrete evidences of humanitarian concern for others and a definite manifestation of a willingness to help others to help themselves — the latter being particularly important to the President, who believes, as does Mr. Armstrong, that one should help only by helping one to help himself. We expressed our interest in establishing a permanent relationship with the people of Kenya in a project that would be meaningful both for the people and for us. I had explained carefully to the President, as well as to his advisor prior to the meeting, that Mr. Armstrong was the spiritual leader of thousands of people in the United States and other parts of the world who do have a concern for the welfare of others less fortunate, and who live each day by practising those principles of the Bible which are often ignored by others — to do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Mr. Armstrong had previously explained that he has practiced for some forty-two years the principle of give, having contrasted for the President the difference between the *get* principle which has led mankind for its entire history into war and conflict, with the *give* principle, which he stresses in his personal appearances around the world at every level.

The meeting lasted almost an hour, and, after leaving the President's office, he introduced us to the Attorney General, having previously introduced us to the Minister of State who was also present at the meeting itself. Earlier, while we were waiting to be received, we spent thirty minutes with the Minister of Defense (who was also waiting to see the President). The Minister of Defense is the senior member of the Cabinet and the longest and closest friend in the government of the President. The television cameramen were called as well as the still photographers, and we are waiting to see the telecast this evening and tomorrow.

The President, having first offered Mr. Armstrong a lovely rose from his garden for his lapel then presented Mr. Armstrong with a bouquet of carefully cut roses from the same garden and personally invited Mr. Armstrong to attend the National Day Parade Sunday, viewing it from the

presidential stands. I think you can all see how successful a morning this truly was.

We arrived on schedule in Nairobi on Monday, after spending the night in Athens in order to break the journey into two parts and make the arrival in Kenya at a more appropriate hour of the day. We were greeted by Mrs. Mugo, the niece of the President and the wife of the Kenyan Ambassador to Addis Ababa. Both His Excellency, Ambassador Mugo, and his wife are dear friends of our very old and devoted friend, Ambassador Mekasha from Ethiopia, who, I am pleased and happy to say is safe and has now been reposted from India to Egypt — another *blessing* not only for the Mekasha family, whom we have learned to love as our own family, but a blessing for the Work as well, because Ambassador Mekasha will be of invaluable assistance to us in Cairo in the future. As you can see, all things seem to be possible when one has faith in God, and people who are associated with us — even without being members — seem to benefit when their hearts are right.

On our arrival we were greeted by a battery of television and newspaper reporters and Mr. Armstrong and I, as well as Professor Gotoh and Dr. Singh, were interviewed. Dr. Singh and Madame Singh accompanied us from The Hague, and, as a member of the International Court of Justice, he has certainly enhanced our visit here. Dr. Singh, being a life-long advocate for world peace through law and one of the world's leading citizens, has done so very much for us worldwide that it transcends our ability to thank him or to show our appreciation. He has tremendous confidence and faith in Mr. Armstrong as a *great spiritual leader* and recognizes that God is working through him. He thinks of Mr. Armstrong in these spiritual terms just as he would of other religious leaders of the past and the present. For example, the Aga Khan, who is a dear friend of Dr. Singh, is the spiritual leader of a very important Moslem community with adherents all over the world, but primarily in India, Pakistan, the Arab nations and East Africa.

The following evening we had our first public appearance on the Voice of Kenya of the government controlled television station, and Mr. Armstrong and I were interviewed for forty-five minutes by two very fine television commentators — the program will be aired at the peak prime hour for Nairobi and seen by most of the important people, as well as the man in the street. Immediately following the television appearance Mr. Armstrong was the guest of honor at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Jaycees of Nairobi.

Mr. Armstrong has come to recognize, by the way, that the Jaycees in each community are oftentimes the future leaders of that community, because it is self-evident that young people between the ages of eighteen and forty (and most of them are younger than thirty-five) who are so interested in rendering devoted community service will be interested in continuing to be of service to their community and will undoubtedly play significant roles all of their lives in that community. It was a very *unusual* evening because after Mr. Armstrong delivered a very powerful message of some thirty minutes, a question and answer session began and the formalities disappeared. Being only fifty people or so in attendance (almost the entire Jaycee group, however) it was like a family dinner with discussion following with much give and take. The young people asked us intelligent and meaningful questions, and Mr. Armstrong, Professor Gotoh and I answered them for more than one hour. It was the kind of discussion that all of us could benefit from — the kind of discussion wherein all of the basic values of life are in evidence in one manner or another.

On Wednesday at luncheon Mr. Armstrong was the guest speaker again at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Lion's Club of Nairobi — which was the first Lion's Club in the entire district which encompasses many countries. Mr. Armstrong's remarks were again very well received and, as the evening before, I, too, had an opportunity to speak about the activities of the Foundation worldwide and our new publication, *Human Potential*, and our plans for the future. Representatives of the press were present and the coverage appeared in today's newspapers, as did the coverage of Mr. Armstrong's arrival on Monday.

Later that afternoon Professor Gotoh and I met with about four hundred people at the Kenyatta Conference Center where Mr. Armstrong will speak next week on the 6th, 7th and 8th of June, and we screened Mr. Armstrong's film (Ambassador for World Peace), which highlighted his successful appearances last year in Manila. Professor Gotoh and I then answered questions for over an hour from people who are interested in what we are doing and what we plan to do in Kenya.

Today Dr. Singh addressed the National Council of Women at a luncheon, and he invited me to accompany him. During his very appropriate remarks, Dr. Singh paid special attention to Mr. Armstrong, who was not present, and gave me an opportunity to speak a few minutes about Mr. Armstrong, his Work, his purpose for being in

Nairobi and the future plans for the Foundation worldwide. Dr. Singh and I were literally besieged afterwards by the ladies and both of us would like to think it was because of our charm, as well as the substantive aspects of our comments! The luncheon was a regularly scheduled affair, and the Chairman of the National Council of Women is the oldest daughter of the Minister of Defense. She was educated at Boston University and McAlister College in St. Paul, Minnesota (she, thus, has a *very* strong Presbyterian background). At this particular luncheon I *stressed* that Mr. Armstrong is a spiritual leader who has an important message for all of mankind — a message of hope — and that he has behind him devoted brethren and devoted ministers who have a mission to fulfill and who are dedicated to that effort and that effort alone.

Last week we were in The Hague and we had tremendous success there. But, once again, the most recent events overshadow that which was of such significance the week before. A week ago Wednesday Dr. Singh invited people to a luncheon and dinner to meet Mr. Armstrong and to introduce the work of the Foundation as well as the new publication, *Human Potential*. At the luncheon we had various members of the World Court, as well as Ambassadors from Tanzania, Nigeria and India. The Ambassador from India was so impressed by our plans for the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation of India and the fact that Dr. Singh, Admiral Nanda and the Vice Chancellor of the University of Bombay were its Trustees, that he offered his services — assuming his government grants him permission to serve while posted in the Hague.

In the evening Dr. Singh really managed to introduce us to the elite of the Hague. The Ambassadors of the following nations were present: Japan, Tanzania, Egypt, Kuwait, Pakistan, India, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Morocco, Bulgaria, Romania, El Salvador, Belgium, Canada. There were also six representatives from the United States Embassy and six from the Russian Embassy, as well as other members of the International Court of Justice, including its president, His Excellency, Justice Lachs, and on my immediate left was the Papal Nuncio, who was terribly impressed by *Human Potential*, a copy of which was available to him at the table, and he spent a significant amount of time reading the magazine to his two dinner companions, the wives of the Ambassadors from Bulgaria and Tanzania — particularly the article on the excavations in Jerusalem. It was a very distinguished group of

people who were in attendance to hear Mr. Armstrong speak at some length and to introduce for the first time before the public the very ambitious plans for the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation (AICF) and *Human Potential*, and to introduce Mr. Armstrong. Dr. Singh said he was certain that Mr. Armstrong would make the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation the best known Foundation in the world — alluding also to the fact that the other American Foundations are very well known for their great works.

Tomorrow evening Mr. Armstrong will be introduced in Nairobi to the political, academic, social and industrial elite at a dinner hosted by Ambassador and Mrs. Mugo, a nephew and niece of President Kenyatta. There will be many Ministers and Vice Ministers in attendance, as well as permanent Secretaries, and, having just met the President today, I am sure you can see that Mr. Armstrong is not only welcomed in Nairobi, but is being given every bit of moral support that it is possible for a country to extend to a man with a mission and to an organization such as ours, particularly where freedom of religion has such high values in the state.

— Stanley R. Rader

AICF & HUMAN POTENTIAL

(Continued from page 290)

This Work of Mr. Herbert Armstrong has grown and developed over the past few years to the place where Mr. Armstrong is now known and respected by leading citizens and national leaders throughout many nations. The way has been prepared for him to proclaim the message of God in clear, plain, up-to-date (non-King James Bible) language in power.

A New Magazine Is Born

Mr. Armstrong and several of us at Headquarters recently realized the pressing need of a new vehicle to help him do this job. Hence, the formation of this brand new magazine — *HUMAN POTENTIAL*.

HUMAN POTENTIAL is going to become one of the most prestigious publications on earth. Not only is it going to be beautiful with color throughout and with a heavy color cover, but it is going to have meaningful, relevant up-to-date articles about world conditions, the way of life God has revealed — all of this and more explained in the kind of language Mr. Armstrong uses in his meetings.

Mr. Armstrong recently displayed the first "dummy" issue of *HUMAN POTENTIAL* to those present at a dinner in the Hague. At this dinner were many ambassadors, counsel generals, government representatives, and other VIPs. They were very excited about the magazine. The Bulgarian ambassador sat and read the magazine. He said words like this, "We need this. We want to contribute to this and help circulate this." Similar responses were made by others present.

Just a few days ago, members of Jomo Kenyatta's government in Kenya expressed this same enthusiasm. They also want to participate in it, help write for it, support it and help circulate it.

When we say *HUMAN POTENTIAL* will become one of the most prestigious publications available today we say this because of the kind of enthusiasm I have just mentioned.

For this very first issue done only as a sample copy, Professor Mazar of Hebrew University, one of the world's foremost archaeologists, especially prepared an article.

Important people in Japan have stated their enthusiasm and support of this publication. They want to write for it.

Just think of it! Can you imagine a magazine with the title *HUMAN POTENTIAL* which leads us right into a plethora of subjects high-lighting the incredible potential of man — physical man today — as well as the greatness and the potential of the "new man" — the Son of God? And that this magazine is being supported, circulated and written for by important, professional people in Arab nations, Israel, nations in Europe, Japan and other Eastern nations, Africa and many other places as well?

How It All Began

Just how did all this develop? Where did it all begin? Let me now give you some important background to how all this has taken place. Many of these following principles, concepts, and commitments are vital to our understanding of how God is leading in this program to reach the world. You need to explain these things to the members in your areas.

For several years now, I have felt that many in God's Church — perhaps many of us in the ministry — have had an underlying concept that *whatever* the Work of God does should be rejected, besmirched, viewed with disdain and persecuted by the world. But, that is a *wrong* concept.

Jesus was a respected, honored, and admired member of His community. His fame spread abroad to many nations. He was a talented man of charisma, charm, eloquence and leadership.

True, His message, even though intriguing to many and captivating to the masses as He spoke, was ultimately rejected by all, except a few.

Daniel was a great man of the Chaldean Empire. He was brilliant, undoubtedly exuded self-confidence, poise, dignity and greatness in his leadership and his capacity to motivate. He became one of the chief administrators of the great "head of gold," the Chaldean Empire. Personally respected and admired and personally liked by kings. But, when it came to his convictions and trust in God — his faith and determination to be loyal to God — he knew no compromise. Joseph, we are told, was a great man. The Pharaoh said that only "in the throne" was he greater than Joseph.

Joseph knew what it was like to live in the splendor and the finery of a prime minister. Undoubtedly Joseph attended the finest cultural events, concerts, dances, etc. Yet, again, he remained loyal to his God through it all. I am also sure that the Apostle Paul did not lose much of the honor and the acclaim he had experienced prior to his conversion. True, his message — God's message — was rejected, but as a man his ability and his greatness were respected. While even a prisoner in Rome we are told some in Caesar's own household were converted (see Phil. 4).

The Ethiopian eunuch to whom Philip was sent to counsel and baptize was the treasurer for Queen Candice of Ethiopia. He was traveling in his chariot. He was an honored and distinguished man. There is no indication that Philip counseled him to resign from his position, to reject his position and its recognition. Yet, he was apparently repentant and he was baptized.

So it is today! Our message may not be accepted by the masses. But, the "way of life" God has given us should not cause us to withdraw from the world. We should not take on a persecution complex of rejection and manifest withdrawal symptoms from the communities around us.

Quite to the contrary, Jesus said, "go into the world" — let others see God's love for humanity *through us*. We are told to mirror God's character. Our light — not our words — should result in others wanting to walk this way as soon as their eyes are turned from their biases, their false concepts, prejudices, etc.

Fellows, that is just what the Church of God is doing on *many* fronts. Mr. Herbert Armstrong is certainly getting involved in many nations around the world. He is respected and admired as a person. His message is powerful and to the point and captures the interest of the hearers. Yet he is not

compromising his convictions. What the hearers do with what he says is ultimately up to them.

We all know that Mr. Ted Armstrong has long admonished God's ministry to get involved more. He has set an example for us in this. Certainly his TV and radio work, his personal appearance work, his public speaking at conventions and in schools occasionally are all examples of his involvement.

Ted has encouraged the ministry to get involved by "opening" up Church services more by making the time and places known in the community, by participating in local community affairs more, by helping in hospitals, visiting in prisons, offering assistance in schools, etc. We now have this current series of Bible Studies being conducted across the country and around the world to make our message known to ever increasing numbers of people.

Fellows, we can do all these things and at least be recognized by the community as being "good Christians," perhaps as "good samaritans" — "people concerned about people" — and yet not dilute, water down, or change any of the fundamental, immutable things God has given to our understanding, nor in any way compromise our convictions.

Our message may not be fully accepted, but at least our witness, our light, our example must be honored — if not now then certainly later. How on earth can we be a *light* that others may "glorify" God if what we do and what we are is totally despised?

I sincerely believe this is an extremely important concept to understand. I feel this is one of the most important principles that underlies what is happening in the work Mr. Herbert Armstrong is doing today.

The Concept of a Foundation

With this approach explained, let me now tell how the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation was established and how this has led to the formation of this new publication — *HUMAN POTENTIAL*. The story begins like this:

In his dedication remark at the opening of the magnificent Ambassador Auditorium, Mr. Herbert Armstrong made a commitment to the Pasadena and the greater Los Angeles community.

That commitment was to bring the finest musical and cultural talents in the world to Pasadena to perform in Ambassador's splendid performing arts auditorium.

It is Mr. Armstrong's, and indeed Ambassador College's, intentions to fulfill that commitment

and make the auditorium the center of cultural activities for the entire community. When we say "cultural," we use the word in its broadest allowable meaning which includes ethical, moral, and spiritual values as well as the more limited connotation of "culture."

Mr. Herbert Armstrong emphasized that Ambassador Auditorium cannot be commercialized. The Work of God has always been a giving work and will continue to be!

In considering the most effective way to fulfill that commitment for the Auditorium, Mr. Armstrong approved the formation of a foundation to be the organization providing the auspices for the programs planned.

Hence, AICF (Ambassador International Cultural Foundation) was established. We are confident it is going to greatly assist the capacity of God's Work to give. It is going to plunge us right into the middle of the community and indeed total humanitarian involvement.

Dr. Robert Kuhn has worked extremely hard in doing the coordinating work at Headquarters to bring this entire project together. Stanley Rader, working very closely with Mr. Armstrong during his travels, has contributed significantly in planning and developing the total package and, of course, checking every point along the way with Mr. Armstrong.

We have enthusiastic, professional help from experienced qualified people to make AICF a success. Men such as Mr. Bernard Soll, music critic of the *L.A. Herald Examiner*, Mr. Dick Stiles, music critic of the *Pasadena Star News*, Mr. John Edwards, director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and Mr. J. Bistrizky, director of the Israel (music) Festival, as well as maestro Carlo Maria Giulini, and maestro Arthur Rubinstein are *actively* involved.

In direct fulfillment of Mr. Armstrong's commitment for Ambassador Auditorium, plans are now in the final stages for Ambassador's first full concert season. Many, including professional people like those mentioned above, are saying this might well be one of the finest musical programs in the world.

The main reason why it is being hailed as such is because it blends an exciting cultural program as well as assistance to notable charities into one package. Some of the most well known charitable organizations are endorsing and participating in our program. It works like this: Each will sell tickets for the concert series and keep the proceeds for themselves. We have, of course, emphasized those organizations whose goals and objectives are

closest to biblical ideals. For example, the three major charities all help needy, sick, injured, or crippled children.

Can any of us deny the needs of many, many, fellow human beings? Can we deny that Jesus expects us to assist in the comfort, peace of mind, and physical well being of so many around us?

What did Jesus mean in the latter part of Matthew 25 when he said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it to me"? He obviously meant we should have compassion and love toward our fellowman, helping when we can, being a good neighbor and attending to the good of others as we are able.

The Apostle James instructed us to be generous in attending to the needs of others. In James 2:14-16 we are told that it is of no profit to say we have faith and not have works. If someone is naked, hungry, it does no good to say, "Go in peace, be filled, or be warmed."

As Christians we have the responsibility to help the needy. Throughout Christ's ministry He clearly reveals this attitude. Now, in a large and organized way we can show "good works" by contributing to worthy charities.

The largest charity in America, comprising over 300 separate charitable organizations in the Los Angeles region, is lending their prestigious name to ours — and this is the first time in their history they have ever given their name. The various boards of directors of the United Way read like a "who's who" of industry and government. Other participating organizations include the March of Dimes which helps children with birth defects, the Crippled Children Society, and many other similar groups.

One might assume that a great deal of money will be expended. In reality, the AICF will spend about the same amount of money we did last year — since the great majority of concerts will be solo recitals or small chamber music groups. Furthermore, our *own* charities will also benefit from the donations made by people attending the concerts, primarily a major student scholarship fund for Ambassador College students. In addition, AICF will now assume the responsibility from the Church and the College for funding the various worldwide projects which Mr. Armstrong has developed such as the now world-famous archaeological excavation at the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

So fellows, to briefly repeat, the AICF concert series has two basic objectives: 1) The presentation of musical events of the very highest obtain-

able standards and 2) To aid worthy charitable organizations. Both objectives exemplify and portray to the world the nature and the character of the true Creator God whom we worship.

What Mr. Armstrong was led to do in conceiving, designing, constructing, and utilizing the Auditorium will surely fulfill Matthew 5:14-16. As never before, God's Work will indeed let its light shine before men, so that all may know who we are and who we represent.

To me personally, and I certainly hope to all of you, it is very exciting to take on this new dimension. To be much more involved in this world, and yet to hold precious and immutable the tremendous purpose plan of Almighty God for all humanity.

As plans developed this far, it became obvious and exciting that the ideal valuable link (AICF) in God's Work was being accomplished. But, this still did not give Mr. Armstrong the kind of support he needed to assist in his international work.

So, after much deliberation and thought, ideas for a new publication began to gel.

HUMAN POTENTIAL was created. We who had an opportunity to be directly involved wanted it to be a magazine Mr. Armstrong could lay before kings. A prestigious publication, graphically beautiful, and up to date, with well edited contents. It is just this and *more*. It is the kind of publication that gives one a sense of proper pride in what we are doing.

Mr. Armstrong's letter explains the way *HUMAN POTENTIAL* will be supported — contributions to AICF. He also explains that this publication has not been produced as a "member" magazine. No member need feel obligated to have a copy. Yet we are confident many members will anxiously desire to contribute to the foundation and have their own copy every other month.

Fellows, for our members' sake I think we need to explain that as we grow larger and reach out further to mankind around the world, "Being all things to all men" as the Apostle Paul expressed it, there will be things for one area that are not directly required in another. Our members should not feel obligated to monetarily support *all* things, but certainly they should emotionally and prayerfully be involved and should be made most welcome to participate in and receive of all that God's Work does.

Before concluding this article there is a major philosophical principle I would like to develop and to share with you.

The Age of Discontinuity

We live in a time of hyper-criticism. Everything is subject to attack. It is so easy for us to all have

our strongly held opinions whether or not we have the facts to base sound opinion upon.

I personally feel we all need to urgently understand these following principles.

Peter Drucker characterized our time in a book entitled, *The Age of Discontinuity*. It is an age when all things seem to be under question. Traditions, the role of the family, marriage, government, etc., all appear at the point of breakdown. It seems no one believes in continuity or propagation of true values.

Listen to these startling comments: "In recent years the western world has witnessed wide ranging and continuing attacks on almost every ideal, institution, or tradition associated with the past. History has shown again and again that each succeeding generation rejects many of the ways and standards of the older generation. This tendency has affected not only government and legislation, but also dress, speech, manners, and values.

"Yet, the revolution in thought and behavior in the past 20 years has been more sweeping, more violent, and destructive than any in modern history. Disenchantment with the past has turned into open aggression and attacks on the foundations of society, the government, educational institutions, churches, and whatever constitutes the 'establishment' — institutions which have long been regarded as sacred, or at least honorable and permanent — such as marriage and the home, our judicial system, the traditional respect for law and the rights of others — all have been challenged, denounced and treated with contempt. These bastions of the common life, which preserved and transmitted most of the ideals and values of the past, have in recent days been assailed as out-moded, obstructionist, and unworkable" (Herman W. Wilson, *Pillars of Faith*).

With this virtual revolution going on around us in society we would be naive to feel the Church has not been affected. Throughout the last two years the Church of God has undergone changes, attacks, and criticisms. Some ministers' and members' disenchantment has produced open aggression, and rather than continue to work together for the preservation and propagation of the Church of God, they chose the course of discontinuity. That's a sad and tragic state of affairs, but nonetheless, it's a reality.

"Remember" is a common exhortation used throughout the Bible. Frankly, it would be good for each of us to look at our history as a "work" and "remember." I feel if we don't do this and *grow in wisdom*, each one of us is a prime candi-

date for "discontinuity." One of the most meaningful statements about the history of this Work is given on page 465 of the *Autobiography of Herbert Armstrong*. I quoted this before so bear with me as I feel it is filled with wisdom for you and me. "All I had in mind as the *World Tomorrow* program was being planned late 1933, was to serve God faithfully wherever He should lead in that local territory of Lane County, Oregon."

Mr. Armstrong never envisioned where this Work was going. He never purposefully intended it to grow to its present scope. He didn't plan to go on a radio station or stations in Mexico and beam a radio message to a young man and his family growing up on an Arkansas farm in 1952. He didn't plan for that young girl to hear the broadcast over WLAC, Nashville, Tennessee. Yet, they did and you did. At the time he did all those things often there was no one around to help him, to offer him moral support and encouragement. But, with the help of God, he had to expend the effort to get this Work off the ground.

We've all witnessed over the years the intense fervency of Mr. Herbert Armstrong for this Work. As years went by, people began to respond to the broadcast and they joined their efforts with Mr. Armstrong's to continue "walking through open doors" — *however they were opened*. It was always assumed that God opened the doors — and certainly if for some reason He hadn't — they would close.

God hadn't made decision-making a simple matter of enjoining the Urim and Thummin whether or not we should take certain action in the Work. The rule was do what you can to accomplish the Work, and if it isn't what God fully intends He can reveal that by the fruits.

As people from all across the U.S. pooled their efforts the work began to grow and expand. At times necessities were done without, "widows' mites" were donated, and tithes and offerings continued to support an effort that began to expand now worldwide. With expansion, other problems set in.

Twenty years ago you felt you were an intimate part of the Work because the Work was *small*. When you attended the Feast of Tabernacles you heard Mr. Herbert Armstrong give most of the sermons. In those days you met him personally and you talked to him. Perhaps he knew you by name. That was the "blessing" of "smallness." Opposite from that blessing was that the Work couldn't do all that much. It didn't have the numbers necessary to finance an expanding worldwide effort. God began to solve that by adding more

numbers to the Church. But, then, growth of numbers, expansion of geography, the territory covered, multiplication of responsibilities by those in leadership (including some of you), changes in personal lives, growth of families, processes of physical aging, good health or bad created negative factors almost at times, it seems, equalizing the positive. We began to lose the intimate family relationship and the sense of fulfillment, the purpose it gave to each one of us. With that loss, frustration and the force toward discontinuity began to rise.

But fellow ministers, this Work *has* grown! Now that it is large and the process of communication, understanding, and progress is slower, we all *must* retain our patience and our fidelity. When we came into this Work we prized it! We must continue to do so!

Maintaining OUR Continuity

You, fellow ministers, pastoring the flocks around the world, I, and those here at Headquarters, represent the continuity of the Work of God. Mr. Armstrong has dedicated his life's work to building this body. You yourself are a product of his energies (I Cor. 3). You and your wife, and the elders, deacons, and members represent the propagation of a lifetime of work. Frankly, if we believe we are doing the Work that Christ would have us do, and if we believe this Church represents the Church Jesus Christ built while here on this earth and has extended to our lifetime, we represent the continuity of the work done by our Savior. It is frightening to think that we have in our hands the continuity of that Work handed down to us through generations — the very Work of Jesus Christ! That is a tremendously satisfying concept that should give each of us a sense of peace and fulfillment.

During society's confrontation with continuity we've had our own to cope with in the Church of God. Certainly, we've made mistakes. Yet one would have to be blind not to realize that the great spiritual forces that sway this world and send it through revolution, war, and chaos can also entice us into the same frame of mind. We don't live in a test tube and Christians and members alike can be swept up in the spiritual emotion that sways the masses into discontinuity and into rebellion.

Growth is never easy. Life got its name "the school of hard knocks" because that's what it is. Christ didn't promise to take the work out of life. When Christ told Peter to walk on the water He didn't remind Peter that he could fall in and

drown. Christianity doesn't reverse the human processes we all live in. There are reasons for all choices and decisions that we make and difficult decisions are always made on a certain amount of probabilities and the absence of sometimes certainties. That's how this Work has grown over the last 48 years.

I hope these things I've said here have *meaning* to you! I feel they are the overview, or if you will, the backdrop, for many things happening within the Work *now*. We've always walked through open doors to get the Work done and that's what we're going to continue to do. This beautiful new magazine, *HUMAN POTENTIAL*, represents but another step though another door. The AICF and its honorable objectives and its aims give reason to have proper *pride* in God's great Work!

I hope you will be very encouraging and very positive in your presentation of these new, bold, steps forward in God's Work.

Well, that does it. *Can I say more?* □

Church Administration

Greetings again, fellow ministers! By the time you receive this *Bulletin*, we will have completed the mini-conferences for all ministers across the U.S.A. Denver, Colorado, on June 1-3 winds up this very successful series of conferences.

To just briefly rehearse the series: since early in December, 1974, when we began in New Orleans, 13 conferences have been held in New Orleans, Louisiana; Bartlettville, Pennsylvania; Hagerstown, Maryland; Cincinnati, Ohio; Chicago, Illinois; Kansas City, Missouri; Nashville, Tennessee; Pasadena, California; Lincoln City, Oregon; San Francisco, California; Orlando, Florida; Big Sandy, Texas; and Denver, Colorado.

All the full-time ministers and many of the local church elders have attended these meetings. In most cases, wives were also present, both adding much to the meetings as well as deriving a good deal from it.

Our basic topical matter has been similar in all meetings. Yet, each conference had its own personality and carried interest. The primary objective throughout this series was to have open, free-flowing discussions of all areas of common interest to us in the ministry and of concern to the Church. The sessions were in the main workshops and were

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NOW Publishing a NEW Magazine— HUMAN POTENTIAL

by Arthur A. Ferdig

AS MR. ARMSTRONG has explained in his letter, two valuable new tools have just been created that will give God's Work more international impetus than ever before — AICF and *HUMAN POTENTIAL* magazine.

Many of you have been active in the Work a long time, and have had opportunity to see its steady and firm growth — measurable progress — the FRUIT of God's direction. There have been ups and downs, mistakes and setbacks, of course, but there has always been steady PROGRESS in the right direction. Sometimes the progress has come slowly, sometimes in nearly breathtaking leaps ahead! Reflecting on my 13 years of experience in the Work, these recent events rank as GIANT leaps ahead.

I've had opportunity to be intimately involved in various discussions and planning sessions regarding AICF and especially the new magazine, *HUMAN POTENTIAL*, so you'll have to pardon my enthusiasm. I've had several weeks to appreciate the tremendous potential of this entire project, while many of you are just being exposed to it. I wish we had instant communications — and with it, instant understanding — but unfortunately we don't. I do know, however, that as the Foundation and the magazine develop, and as we strive to keep you totally informed, your appreciation of this new aspect of the Work and your enthusiasm will grow too.

Now, here are some specifics — and some background — about *HUMAN POTENTIAL*.

First, let me point out that no magazine can be effective unless it serves a specific need or purpose — it's simply a matter of an "SPS" (Specific Purpose Statement, from our old Advanced Public Speaking classes). The *Plain Truth*, *Good News*, booklets and Correspondence Course all are planned to fill a specific reader need. We don't hit the nail on the head perfectly, and there is always room for improvement. But we try.

I've been directly involved with the editing and production of the *Plain Truth* since the fall of 1969. We've experienced internal changes that have reflected different needs — both reader needs, and organizational needs.

If you will stop and recall, Mr. Armstrong cre-

ated the *Plain Truth* as a means of explaining step by step, to his radio audience the *plain truth* about Bible misconceptions — water baptism, heaven and hell, the immortal soul, law and grace, the Sabbath, etc. It was intended for, and served the needs of, a highly religious readership.

Over the years, as the radio broadcast (and TV) reached a greater and broader audience, we needed to broaden the mass-appeal of the PT, increase circulation, and reserve for our other publications certain heavy doctrinal material which might be initially offensive to many. Today the PT is serving basically three independent needs: helpful material for our regular readers, a natural follow-up to the radio broadcast, and in some areas it provides a first introduction to this Work via newsstands. For newsstand circulation, we have retained a black and white magazine format, but with full color cover. The *Plain Truth* will undoubtedly undergo other future modifications as reader needs and organizational needs change. It will, however, remain our mass-circulation publication (unless God has something planned that we don't know about).

HUMAN POTENTIAL, on the other hand, is a new magazine with a new readership. And this is an important key to understand: it was created because there was *already* an existing NEED — a need that our regular publications simply could not fill. Because of the tremendous new "international doors" God has opened for Mr. Armstrong during the last several years, this Work simply needed a new magazine of highest quality — with limited circulation, but with every opportunity to grow as finances allow. A magazine that would follow Mr. Armstrong through these doors with a *printed* witness to top government people, educators and business people, worldwide. And it needed to be published by an organization that could be *easily endorsed* by men like King Leopold, Prince Mikasa, President Marcos, President Sadat, etc. These leaders are all extremely impressed with Mr. Armstrong and his message, but find it sometimes difficult, on the other hand, to explain to their colleagues why or how they are affiliated with a small U.S. college or a "fundamentalist" church.

The Foundation erases that problem completely! It has already been a wonderful blessing to the Work. Mr. Armstrong is not hiding the church behind a "foundation facade" — he is acknowledged as a spiritual leader, the Pastor General of the Worldwide Church of God, and the founder of a college which teaches that the Word of God is the foundation of knowledge. Now he simply has one more credential — Director of AICF — and that, too, is based on the living laws and revealed knowledge of God.

Now a word or two about the editorial content of *HUMAN POTENTIAL*. We made up a "dummy" issue, and out of pure necessity used several articles that had previously appeared in the *Plain Truth*. BUT, let me assure you that the new magazine will NOT be warmed-over PT! I understand that all church pastors will receive a copy of the dummy (bindings may vary), and I would appreciate it if you would make that point clear to your congregations. I think I can truthfully say that the concept and the contents of the magazine will be unique in the field of magazine publishing.

We have many international figures who have already heartily endorsed the purpose and intent of the magazine — who are willing and eager to contribute in any way possible. That includes writing articles. I already have several articles in hand right now that will appear in future issues, and several others are assigned. We will have contributions by leading scientists, archeologists, world explorers, artists, musicians, government leaders, athletes, etc. — all contributing an aspect of human culture and achievement, and with it a better understanding of the human mental and physical development. Mr. Armstrong, of course, will supply the SPIRITUAL dimension — strong spiritual meat based on God's Word — revealing the plan of God and the ultimate human potential. And this will go to top leaders, worldwide!

I think you can begin to see the awesome potential of *HUMAN POTENTIAL*.

The Foundation and the magazine must be self-supporting. We certainly can't afford to give away a publication of this caliber, and as explained by Mr. Armstrong's letter, we will actively solicit charitable contributions for membership in AICF. This should make possible (with our collective prayers and God's help) sufficient finances to not only pay for the publication and mailing of the magazine, BUT WILL HELP defray the costs of many — if not all — of the projects that now come under the legal direction of the Foundation — the

Jerusalem Dig, the fledgling work in Japan, India, Thailand, etc. Even though this new thrust in the Work is definitely *FRONT LINE*, the Foundation is organized to be self-supporting. And there is, at present, no reason why it can't be.

We're hopeful that Church members, Co-Workers and Donors will grasp the tremendous importance of the project, will want the magazine, and will want to support it. A favorable response to Mr. Armstrong's member letter will provide initial impetus in building Foundation membership, and provide a financial base from which to grow. Mr. Armstrong doesn't, however, intend that the Foundation in any way become a hardship to the church membership.

Funds will be raised via several ways — all proven successful by other charitable groups: primarily through (1), selective mailings to top people in government, education, industry and other professions; (2) through the sale of commercial advertising; and (3) through possible sponsorship of fund-raising cultural events.

Circulation and publishing expenses in Japan, where we hope to begin publishing *HUMAN POTENTIAL* in Japanese this fall, will be financed by active fund raising drives by our new AICF sister organization in Japan. Our aims will be the same with AICF in India, and, as God opens the doors, in the Philippines, in Europe, the Mid-east, etc. We will strive to make every area self-sufficient as well. This is a tall order, but with a limited circulation — supported by enthusiastic people with above-average means — we feel that this method of financing is not impossible.

So, in September of this year, we are going to press with our first "LIVE" issue. And it will be an exciting publication, I can assure you — beautiful, full-color, larger 9x12 page size, and more pages than any of our regular publications. I personally feel it's a real privilege to have a part in producing *HUMAN POTENTIAL*, and we have a team of capable and hardworking people here at headquarters who feel the same way — dedicated to making this new tool of God's Work a smashing success. We fully intend, and have already begun, to call in outside professional help for advice and counsel in areas where we are short on expertise — fund raising, special mailings, advertising sales, etc. We aren't going to try to re-invent the wheel.

Initially we are aiming at a circulation of 100,000 copies in the United States and Canada. Most of us don't think that's an unrealistic figure. We'll know before too long, as a direct mail campaign will begin in earnest this summer.

The *Bulletin* brings you all up to date on AICF

and the magazine, for the present anyway. We'll try to keep you informed right along in future *Bulletins*, *Worldwide News*, etc. I hope we haven't left any pertinent questions unanswered, but if you have questions, please write. We know that if we've succeeded in making the purpose and operation of AICF and *HUMAN POTENTIAL* clear, you can't help but be as enthusiastic as we are. □

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

(Continued from page 303)

not planned, formalized lectures. In each series of meetings, adequate time was devoted to doctrinal update and discussion, inputting information from the ministers on the questions and the subjects most frequently asked by members and most in need of further study by the Doctrinal Team. (Mike Blackwell and Ron Dick were also present during the last five or six conferences to conduct discussions of the valuable youth program now established and growing.)

Emphasis was placed on the need to have a loyal, healthy ministry, one totally committed to the Church, which in turn can only result in a loyal, turned-on and involved membership.

Fellows, I can only say, and underscore for emphasis, that having been personally present for *everyone* of these conferences along with either Burk, Paul, or Dennis (one of whom was present for each meeting), that I am absolutely confident of the stalwartness, dedication and loyalty, the enthusiasm for growth and change, the general health and stability of the ministry at large. Sure, we have our areas of problems. There is some disorientation and confusion, a wrong attitude that surfaces now and then. But can we "home in on" the occasional negative area and then begin to have a negative perspective in the face of such a dominantly positive attitude and condition? I think not! The occasional problem is there to be solved — a challenge to accept and to work with. But most certainly it is not there to be viewed as the criterion for the norm.

Keep up the good work, fellows. Work, study and pray hard to be better servants. Keep your sermons relevant, up-to-date, and meaningful. Bear down on the need to live the true Christian ethic; to mirror the character and the love of God as much as possible. Also, continue to bear down and point the way for the membership in realizing God has not called us to be merely members of a Saturday social club, not merely members of a weekly meeting where we can get together to compare among ourselves and commend one another

on our own goodness and righteousness. But, rather, God has called us to be His sons and daughters — members of His family — and now expects (indeed, requires) that we join with the work of the God Family in offering this same family involvement to the rest of humanity. Mr. Herbert Armstrong is actually the spear point, the vanguard, in announcing this wonderful way of life, proclaiming the news of tomorrow's world to the many millions of today's world.

Public Bible Lectures

Excitement continues to grow here and among those of you who are already involved in the public Bible lectures. The invitation letters continue to bring excellent response. Across the nation the lectures are averaging 3.4% in attendance — that is, 3.4% of the PT subscribers receiving the invitational letter come to the lectures.

If that percentage rate continues, we should reach several tens of thousands of Americans with a powerful first-person witness by the time we complete the first round of these lectures. Men, that is exciting news. The eagerness with which numbers of new people are asking to attend regular Bible Studies or Church services is exhilarating.

Many of those who attend the lectures but don't feel the interest in attending services may well become more sympathetic by virtue of their acquaintance with us and our purpose, and, who knows, we may be building co-workers and future members among many of them.

Some subscribers who did not choose to attend at the first invitation may well decide to do so at some later date. We feel if we pique their interest with articles about the lectures in the *Good News* or possibly even the *Plain Truth*, we can still draw out some of those who for uncertainty or timidity held back from attending.

Every report we have received from men who have completed lectures bristles with enthusiasm. There is no other way to describe it! Ministers are saying how exciting and fulfilling it is to stand before their fellow citizens and reveal the highlights of the true Gospel to them. Some listeners have been literally astounded by what they have heard, and perhaps, just a little reminiscent of Acts 17:32, have said, "I want to hear more of this matter."

A number of times people have walked in off the streets, curious as to what was going on, only to end up sitting through the complete lecture.

By the way, the excitement of the lectures is not being lost on the members. Often those who

attend the lectures are besieged with questions and attention when the subscribers learn they are Church members.

Fellows, I don't think I can overstate the potential these lectures hold for you, for the Church, and for the tens of thousands of people who will have the Gospel revealed to them in this next year by this series of meetings. The potential for growth in Church membership, joining with us in this "labor of love," is a hopeful and wonderful possibility. For this Work to grow (something we feel God definitely does want) we need more members to share the load. While God certainly has to open the mind, it is our responsibility to spread the word to as many as possible.

There are a number of things I need to discuss with you relative to the lectures — such as changes in procedure, new ideas and techniques, etc. I will cover these in a separate letter. Thank you very much for your solid backing and support, your fine cooperation and your patience, as we work out the bugs in the lecture-support system here at HQ and really get this program into high gear.

That does it for another *Bulletin*. Please be sure to read the article explaining the purpose of the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation and enthusiastically relate this positive step forward in God's Work to those in the churches you serve.

— C. Wayne Cole

BIRTHS

Fred and Beverly Davis (Phoenix, Ariz.) After a hurried trip from Phoenix to Cottonwood (95 miles north) and convincing an Arizona Highway Patrolman that my wife really *was* in labor and that's why I wasn't driving 55 m.p.h., our third child was born at 12:30 a.m. on April 27th. *Cherie Elizabeth* weighed 8 lbs. and was 21 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. Mom and baby are doing just fine and Dad is thankful for a merciful Patrolman — no ticket!

Dave and Linda Fiedler (Liberal, Ks.): We are happy to announce the speedy arrival of our third boy, *Nian Roy*, at 1:00 p.m. on May 10th. What a novel way for a couple to spend a Sabbath morning! At 7 lbs., 14 ozs., Nian is enjoying all the attention from his big brothers. Everyone is doing fine.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Greider (Chattanooga, Tenn.): I am pleased to announce the arrival of a little princess. *Sharon* (Hebrew for Princess) *Lynn* Greider was born April 28, 1975 at 1:11 p.m. Our little Princess weighed in at 6 lbs. 2 ozs. All are doing well. Sharon is our favorite, and only child.

Gary and Pam Harvey (Auckland, N. Z.): We are very pleased to announce the arrival of *Paul Gary* on 14 April at lunch time, born in our own home in Auckland. He was 8 lbs. in weight, has a good solid chest and a healthy set of lungs! Now Paul is the youngest member of the Visiting Program in New Zealand.

Dave and Teddi Treybig (Cleveland, Ohio): Our first child, *Sharon Michelle* was born April 14, 1975 at 7:35 p.m. She weighed 7 lbs., 9 ozs. and was 21 inches long.

Mother and daughter are fine. Father is studying girls' basketball.

Financial Affairs

Greetings again from the Business Office! We are now in the throes of budget preparation for the fiscal year 1975/76. As Mr. Ted Armstrong mentioned in his last Personal in the Worldwide News, we will be adopting a very conservative posture towards next year's budget. Stated simply, we are going to go with a "no growth" budget as far as we possibly can subject to a major review immediately following the Feast of Tabernacles. Obviously, we cannot sustain a "no growth" position for too long because the rate of inflation alone will bring about an actual *decrease* in activity — we should at least try to stay up with the rate of inflation which is presently running at around 10%.

Most of you who are close to the churches realize that the United States is presently coming out of one of the deepest recessions since the late 1920's, but every economist now is postulating an upturn towards the end of the year. However, as one sage put it, "If all the economists in the world were laid end to end, they would never reach a conclusion!" Even as I write this, undoubtedly there is one group saying the recession will end in 30 days and at the other extreme someone is saying it will never end! Realistically, I do feel that we should see some improvement in the economic climate within the next six months and this will have a positive effect on God's Work. One "amazing" indicator to us here was the increase in the Pentecost Holy Day offering which should reach a 14% increase when the final figures are in. This to me is most encouraging and does indicate that God's people are just as generous in their responsibility to the Work as they have ever been.

We also realize that many thousands are really sacrificing to do their part.

The income picture for May is more negative than we had anticipated, with the Holy Day offering being the only bright spot. We do expect an upturn in June, however, which, again, I do not feel is an unrealistic expectation. I hope we can enter the new fiscal year on a positive note which can be sustained throughout at least the first four months. If this is the case, we will then be able to free up some much-needed dollars to some of the front-line activity in order to begin growing again.

We are presently preparing several contingency plans in this regard. Things are now organized in such a way that it will be very easy to step up activity on a planned, equitable basis very quickly. Thanks to good teamwork in Data Processing, Accounting, Publishing, and Media, we are able to gauge the effects of programs on a very broad front and, I might add, quite accurately.

Right now we are still living within our budget due to the tremendous cooperation from our Division and Department Heads, and although they have had a very tough year with layoffs of personnel and reductions in operations, they all appear to be very optimistic and positive in their approach towards the coming year. This has been, to me personally, a very satisfying twelve months — not from the standpoint of having to make reductions, but from the point of view of the wonderful teamwork and cooperation that has been developed. Believe me, it makes our job in Financial Affairs a whole lot easier.

One thing I should mention to you in closing concerns the Property Fund. Once again we find it slipping behind what we need to sustain our regular payments and any shortfall has to be made up from operating dollars. We would certainly appreciate your mentioning this particular need to God's people from the pulpit by way of a reminder. Certainly they have been very responsive in the past to letters from both Mr. Herbert Armstrong and Mr. Ted Armstrong and I know that a comment from you drawing their attention to this situation would be well received.

— Frank Brown

Media

The 1975 Summer TV Specials are now under way. The One-Hour Special of Garner Ted Armstrong in Portland, Oregon, has been scheduled in three cities:

Little Rock, Arkansas
Charleston, W. Va.
Las Vegas, Nevada

About a dozen more cities have been selected to air the Special and our Agency is currently negotiating for time. Most of these are in conjunction with a fair participation by the local Churches.

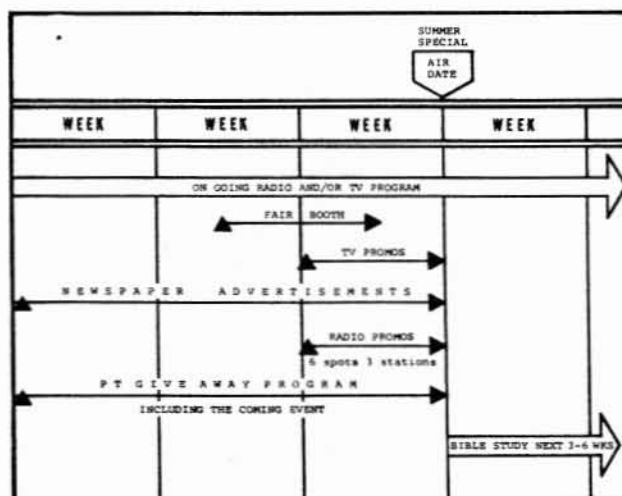
As each fair confirmation comes to us it is evaluated and the city considered for airing of the TV Special three to ten days after the fair is over.

Shortly after the Special, local ministers will be holding Bible Studies in order to take advantage of all the activity which has been going on in the area.

This summer, the emphasis will be on generating considerable activity surrounding the One-hour Special. We will be looking for increased member participation in building and staffing fair booths. Members are encouraged to give PT's away to friends, neighbors, and mention the Special coming up.

The One-Hour Special will also be heavily promoted in newspaper, *TV Guide* and on-air radio and TV spots.

This concerted effort will all culminate in Bible Studies after the One-Hour Special (see accompanying chart).



As of now, the quota of TV Specials has not been filled. There are still some slots left, especially in July and August.

If you are planning to enter a fair during this period, or even after August, please let us know as soon as you confirm your space.

Fair booth kits and building instructions have been sent to all of those ministers who expressed a positive "yes" desire to participate and have fairs available.

We will send further kits upon request. If you are planning a fair or would like to have a kit for future use, please contact us and we will rush it to you immediately.

— Dan Ricker

International Division

Greetings from the International Division. The last couple of weeks have been quite active with overseas visitors and minor conferences on many matters. Mr. Charles Hunting from England has visited Headquarters, and Dennis Luker and Gene Hughes from Australia were also able to stop by. While here, Dennis and Gene updated us on the latest developments in the Australian Work which, by the way, is making very encouraging progress.

Gene Hughes, who has loyally served in Australia for fourteen years, was able to bring his family back for a visit — something he had not had the opportunity to do for over three years. Gene has felt that after fourteen years he needs to bring his family back to the United States and allow his children to finish their education in the U.S. He feels they should be in the land of their nationality as they grow up and become of marriageable age. Art Ferdig of the publishing area has long valued Gene's talents and has approached him about assisting his staff. Gene has worked very well with the magazine over these years and has been a driving force behind the *Plain Truth* which Australia has produced for the newsstands. When Art offered Gene the potential job, Gene felt this would be a good time for his family to return to the United States. Art's gain in this area is certainly our loss in the International Division. Gene has served very faithfully over these many years and has done a tremendous amount for the Australian branch of God's Work. We know the Hughes' will be missed both as a family and as prime movers in the Australian Work.

Interestingly enough, as we were discussing this transfer with Gene, John Crabtree in England was

about ready to be let go due to cutbacks in the computer area of the Bricket Wood campus. John is an Australian with an exceptional service record at Bricket Wood. He comes with the highest recommendation from Mr. Hunting and those who have worked with him. John is very excited about his future job in Australia and the opportunity to return home. Thus John Crabtree will be replacing Gene Hughes in Australia, assisting Dennis Luker in the Work there. Just as Gene Hughes realizes the need to bring his family back to America, John Crabtree also needed the opportunity to take his family back to their native home. John's birth place was a small farming area approximately twenty miles from the new office in Burleigh Heads. All of us would like to offer congratulations to John in his new job. And I would like to express my gratitude publicly to Gene Hughes for the many hours and the selfless dedication he has given in serving God's Work in Australia.

I now have a report telexed to me from Clarence Bass that I wish to include in this section of *The Bulletin*. I think you'll find it very enlightening.

— Leslie L. McCullough

Caribbean Update

Since the last report in *The Bulletin*, growth in the Caribbean region has been steady. Our total attendance is up from 715 to 810. Total membership up from 414 to 479. Total number of churches meeting weekly, up from 4 to 5. In addition, there are two monthly churches and one outlying Bible Study.

In February, we applied for a work permit from the Bermuda Government for Mr. Roland Sampson. After a mix-up in which the permit was granted then denied, things have been worked out.

Arriving in Bermuda, and learning that the work permit had been denied, Mr. Sampson set out to correct the problem. It seems that the local Ministerial Association had recommended to the Government that the permit not be granted because they thought there was no church connected with the application. When Mr. Sampson took the two deacons with him to see the Immigration Officials, and explained that there was indeed a church of approximately 90 persons involved, the permit was granted.

After graduation from Ambassador College, Mr. Victor Simpson was assigned to the Region as a Ministerial Trainee. He and his wife and son will be living in San Juan. In addition, Charles Flemming, who is a graduate special student at Ambassador College, will spend the summer working in the office and church in Puerto Rico.

Last year we had three sites for the Feast of Tabernacles. This year there will be six. The reasons for the increase are growth in the various churches and increased economic pressures which inhibit travel.

Here is a listing of the churches, their pastors, attendance and member figures.

MEETING WEEKLY

	Minister	Attendance	Members
Barbados	C. Nieto	230	130
Trinidad	G. Harry	200	128
Bermuda	R. Sampson	80	50
Bahamas	K. Mather	80	40
Puerto Rico	C. Bass	50	27
	P. Gonzalez		
	V. Simpson		

MEETING MONTHLY

Jamaica	C. Bass	60	27
	K. Mather		
St. Lucia	C. Nieto	65	23
	C. Bass		

OUTLYING BIBLE STUDY (Meeting monthly on Sabbath, but not organized as a church).

Grenada	G. Harry	45	21
	C. Bass		

About 55 members are in islands and countries where they are not able to attend any kind of meeting. We have a plan by which we hope to reduce that number by 50%, but at this time it cannot be announced.

— Clarence S. Bass

Academic

It seems like things should be very quiet and serene around the campus right now. But the pace is as fast as ever in many areas. We have a fully developed summer session this year with a number of unique programs also being offered. Classes begin next week.

The United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has just sent us good news. It is a tangible result of our Candidacy for Accreditation status with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

We are now receiving \$35,000 in Basic Educational Opportunity Grants for the 1974-1975 school year which just ended. That sum reflects the amount of aid petitioned for by our students. We anticipate more than \$100,000 next year sim-

ply because our students are aware of this program and are taking advantage of it.

Such funds are based on the parents' ability to provide a son or daughter with a basic post-secondary education. The amount granted is primarily determined by the adjusted gross income of the parents and number of siblings. For next year this educational funding program can be worth from \$200 to \$1400 per applicant, depending on personal circumstances.

Perhaps more importantly, this \$35,000 fully authorizes us to handle B.E.O.G. requests. We will process applications and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare will stand behind the qualified amount. We will simply receive a lump sum.

Any prospective Ambassador students you know of should consider submitting such an application. This is one area of the federal budget which is not fully used. The funding is there. Most people are unaware of it, however.

If you wish specific information just write the Financial Aids Office. Or you may call (213) 577-5119.

— Michael P. Germano

Mail Processing

Because the MPC offices were closed over Memorial Day, we have some catching up to do and this report will be a little shorter than usual. Our letter count does not include the weekend mail which, of course, would boost our figures higher. As of May 23, we have received 98,260 letters for the month, bringing our total for the year to 874,124 letters.

Response to Mr. Herbert Armstrong's co-worker letter and Mr. Ted Armstrong's special letter is just beginning to come in. At this point it's too early to forecast the rate of return on these letters. We'll keep you posted as returns come in.

Famine Program Draws Response

Over the weekend of May 17-18, Mr. Ted Armstrong's TV Special on famine was shown as a rerun. The WATS area has received about 3,000 calls for this second showing which, interestingly enough, is about what the program pulled the first time around! Normally it might be expected that the response would be somewhat less for a rerun, but the program has had a moving effect on our TV audience and we are receiving about the same amount of returns as with the first airing.

Required Reading

The following is from an interesting letter we received recently. It just goes to show that our publications have a wide exposure these days and how a well-written and documented booklet or article can bring honor to our efforts:

"Your article 'The Silent Epidemic' (from the January 1972 *Plain Truth*) is *required reading* in my University Health course. After reading this superb article, I looked at the entire magazine and found it exceptionally good reading in all areas Am enclosing a small contribution and would like very much to be added to your mailing list I am not a 'usual' college student in that I have returned to higher education after seeing my two children receive their college degrees."

— M. Isom, Lubbock, Texas

— Richard Rice

LETTER COMMENTS

FIRST TIME REACTION TO CHURCH

Prospective members' initial contact with the church is always very refreshing. Following are comments of these reactions during the past several months.

"I must let you know how much I enjoyed Sabbath services. It was my first real contact with God's people. As is my custom, I sat in the back, not knowing anyone. Then I got hit with some of that outgoing concern that I have been reading about. Within minutes people just started coming over and introducing themselves. One family, on finding this was my first service, temporarily 'adopted' me and had me sit right in their midst up front. The service was excellent with a good strong sermon, but it was the warmth, friendliness and sincerity that really impressed me."

— Patrick Gavigan,
Trenton, NJ

"We've just attended our first Sabbath meeting at Chicopee, Massachusetts. Were we surprised! We never believed people could be so friendly and homey, even though we'd never previously met. It is most definitely the environment we want to bring up our 4-month-old daughter in, and to learn and grow in ourselves."

— Mr. & Mrs. Paul F. Greene,
Greenfield, MA

"I have just begun attending Sabbath services each week and I must say that they are unlike any other 'church' service I have ever attended in my

life. From the first time I went, I *knew* that this was God's Church, obeying His laws and commandments.

"The individual members are also refreshing. They are bright, attentive and thoroughly interested in what the pastor was saying (everyone was awake, I couldn't believe it) and taking notes. In contrast to most 'Christians,' the members of the Worldwide Church of God probably get more 'mileage' out of their Bibles than anyone I've ever seen.

"Also the members are so friendly. On that first week I went they greeted me, a total stranger. Now that gives you a warm feeling that makes you want to return again, and again, and again."

— James R. Hills,
New York, NY

"I recently attended my first Sabbath service at the Church of God in Greensboro, North Carolina, and it was one of the most wonderful experiences I've had in my lifetime. I'm so excited now I can hardly write this letter, but I had to let you all know. Everyone was so nice to me, and I loved every minute of it. I must thank you all again for helping me."

— Mrs. Joan Womack,
Keeling, VA

"Would like to say a few words about the Worldwide Church of God. I finally attended the Church after thinking about this for a long time. I enjoyed the visit very much. The people there were very warm and generous on handshaking. This to me is a feeling of sincerity, to let you know you are welcome. I was surprised to see a few people that I already know and have worked with in the past."

— John F. Plese,
Sacramento, CA

"Great things are beginning to happen for me. I have been going to Church at Bowling Green, Kentucky, and am invited to the Bible Study at Madisonville the 14th. The people are warm and friendly and the ministers are everything you said they would be.

"I know that many are praying for you, as I am also, that you will be able to continue so great a 'Work.'"

— Blanche Williams,
Powderly, KY

"I met with one of your ministers, Dan Fricke, and he answered some of my questions. Then I began to attend Church regularly, in Portland. I was impressed! Impressed by the people, the min-

isters, and their message, from their sermons. I was equally impressed by your campaign. And I would like to thank you for coming. I realize how valuable your time is, and how many other people would like to see and hear you in person. Thank you again!"

— Dean Hardester,
Astoria, OR

"Mr. and Mrs. Darris McNeely visited me at my home and invited me to come to the Worldwide Church of God. But I didn't have a way to come, as I'm a widow and cannot drive a car, so he told me he knew a lady that lived here in Granite Quarry who comes to the Worldwide Church of God. I got in touch with her and she said she would be glad for me to come with her on the Sabbath, so I went with her. I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed the service. Everyone there was so nice and friendly, I just can't hardly wait until the next service. I want to thank you so very much for sending my letter to Mr. McNeely. I'm so happy now that I'm attending the Worldwide Church of God as I know this is the Church for me."

— Mr. F. L. Allen,
Granite Quarry, NC

"Saturday I attended the Church of God located in Medford, Oregon. I was surprised at the difference between this Church and the other churches that I attended. I really was made welcome and what I noticed was everyone had smiles on their faces with laughter."

— John Doolittle,
White City, OR

"I am finally a member of God's True Church! I was baptized last week, and I am still trying to comprehend what has happened to me since I first heard the World Tomorrow broadcast five years ago. It is difficult for me to realize that I am one of the few people who have ever lived to whom God has given the truth about His fantastic plan for mankind, and I know that I won't really understand just how privileged I am until Jesus returns. Meanwhile, I intend to be as faithful a member as God shows me how."

— Steven Hilburn,
Mt. Vernon, IA

"After searching for many years and then finding what you have been seeking, about ready to give up, and all of a sudden it's there. You can't believe it, you study, you question and you know this is it. I'm happy, yet a little frightened. There is so much to do and know and so little time left.

There is nothing else worth trying for, but to do God's will. Praying to be a credit as a member of God's Church."

— Emma Jean Johnson,
Reisterstown, MD

"I was just recently baptized, and I feel as if a big load has been lifted off my shoulders. I feel so much closer to God and His Son than ever before. I have never been so sure of anything in my life as I am that this is the True Church of God. Thank God for you and your father and everyone who has had any part in showing me the way."

— Mrs. Everett Williams,
Warrens, WI

"On Tuesday, March 11, I was visited by Mr. Taylor, a minister of the Church. During our visit he went over in summary most of the doctrines of the Church. I said that I would like to attend a Sabbath day service. He told me he would get in touch with a family in Shippensburg to provide me with a ride.

"I attended my first Sabbath day service the following Saturday. I was truly amazed. I was very warmly welcomed and made to feel that I was one of them. Everybody introduced themselves and talked to me.

"Another surprise was the song books. The songs were taken directly from the Bible. This I never saw before. No offering plates were passed around. There were no long, tiring and agonizing prayers. During the sermon, passages were taken directly from the Bible and explained and some points brought out with emphasis. The people looked, acted and were happy, friendly, and seemed to want to be where they were and had purpose. I loved every minute I was there. This is the life I want."

— Edward Hawk,
Chambersburg, PA

"My sister had counseling the other day from a minister and his wife. She said that they both were graduates of Ambassador College. The most outstanding thing she noticed was the joy and happiness they both radiated. This to me seems to be enough to make anyone desire God's truths. What a wonderful world we will have when all this truly exists. Seldom do you see anyone smile anymore, let alone show peace and contentment. It would give me great pleasure to know people like the minister and his wife. I guess what I'm saying is 'thanks.' By their fruits you can certainly know God's people. What a wonderful feeling you all

(Continued on page 319)

OPEN FORUM

OPEN FORUM was created to continue the same give-and-take discussions conducted during the workshops of the May, 1974 Ministerial Conference. OPEN FORUM affords you the opportunity to freely express your thoughts, ideas, opinions and suggestions regarding any area which you feel will contribute to the edification and stimulation of your fellow ministers and department managers. We want OPEN FORUM to be encouraging, thought-provoking — a vehicle through which constructive ideas can be born.

But please remember — and pardon our disclaimer — the views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the official policies or procedures of the Worldwide Church of God or Ambassador College. Neither do they necessarily represent the views of the editorial staff of the Bulletin. Nor do they necessarily reflect any absolute conclusions or dogma on the part of the individual contributor — just food for thought and discussion. Send your OPEN FORUM contributions to the Bulletin, 300 West Green Street, Pasadena, Calif. 91123. Be sure to double space your copy.

"THE CHURCH'S MOST NEGLECTED ASSET"

I was intrigued by Will Wooster's contribution on "The Church's Greatest Asset." For too many years we have failed to recognize the tremendous resource we have in the membership for reaching out to new people. I am thankful beyond words that we have broken the barrier and are now allowing the members to help *directly* in the Work.

One of the reasons I was so interested in Will's comments is that my own initial contact with the Church was through a member — my brother-in-law. That initial contact caused me to start listening to the radio broadcast, receiving the *Plain Truth*, and writing for booklet after booklet after booklet. The combination of personal contact, the radio broadcast, and literature slashed to about one-fourth the time normally required for a person to come into the church.

It seems to me that a similar survey was taken on a broader base a couple of years ago in which it was learned that even more than 50% of the members, in many cases, came in through initial contact with members — i.e. word-of-mouth advertising. I think, however, a few ministers made a fatal mistake when they heard that and assumed that the broadcast, telecast, magazine, etc., were not significant. It seems they felt they could pull away a good-sized part of the congregation they had and then continue to grow on that word-of-mouth advertising. They were in for a rude awak-

ening! I differ slightly with the title "the church's greatest asset" for the membership of the church. Perhaps the members have been the church's "most neglected asset." But let us not repeat the error of assuming that the local church can "do the work" and sustain its own growth. God has given us an integrated work in which *all* the parts play an important role.

What is the church's *greatest* asset? Seems the scriptures put a lot of weight on the Holy Spirit.

— Ronald L. Dart
A.C. Vice Chancellor
Big Sandy, Texas

PUBLIC BIBLE LECTURES

So far I have not seen any comments in the Open Forum on any Public Bible Lectures that have been held in the U.S. Even though not many have been conducted, it seems like a topic very worthy of discussion. We are in the planning stages for a series in this area and hope to have one in July, with others following. So, I'm not speaking from experience — only in anticipation.

One thing that is really appreciated is the trust and confidence that has been placed in the field ministry by Headquarters. Along with that trust goes a tremendous responsibility. A part of the blood of the nation is directly on the heads of the ministry (Ezek. 33), and it is up to us to go to the public with zeal in the way opened up to us to "transfer" that blood.

In thinking (and trembling a bit) over our new responsibility, I couldn't help but notice that we have been preparing for this new duty for some time without knowing it. Certainly, dealing with smaller groups such as Spokesman Clubs, pocket Bible studies, and, in many cases, small churches has been good training. More importantly, the new assignment has put much of the turmoil and changes of the past few years into better focus for me.

What has been the *effect* of many of the changes in God's Church? The result of the decision on D&R, the lifting of the heavy pressure for visiting, the gradual decrease in routine (ugh) office work, and the gradual death of the "policeman" approach of the local ministry toward the congregation — all these point to one thing. For me it means *MORE TIME!* Responsibility is being put where it belongs. (1) The members are literally

being encouraged to work out their own salvation with fear and trembling. Apprehension — trembling, if you will — is a natural effect when responsibility is put on you, and this is probably why some of the membership may remain uptight and confused by the recent changes. (2) The ministry is now more responsible for the preaching of the warning and the Good News. Like most of you, I wouldn't have had *time* to prepare for, plan, and execute these lectures if not for many of the changes already listed. What a time consuming, agonizing chore it was to research and write up one D&R case. Now that time and energy can be directed into something a whole lot more motivating and exciting!

I am convinced that Christ has led us this way, allowing certain concepts and practices to develop and then be replaced for a lot of reasons. Certainly one of them is to give us the time now to do His Work. Now, as a result of the many changes, we should all be a more mature and balanced church and ministry, better equipped with "purer" religion than ever before.

The words of Matthew 10:23 are much more meaningful for me now after reading Mr. Cole's instructions. There are a lot of cities in Israel that need going over. It's a job we will never finish. And it looks like a more challenging (and fun) job than writing out visiting slips! Let's be "so doing." Now that I've committed all this to paper, I had better get in gear!

— Jim Rosenthal
Bridgeport-Hartford, Ct.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MET

It is not often that one has an opportunity to participate in a class that really stays with him. Prior to my transfer to Rochester, N.Y. in January, I had the opportunity to attend the Pastoral Training class at College conducted by Mr. Art Mokarow and the MET staff.

I have one word for those classes — *GREAT!* It was especially helpful to me as I had not worked in the formalized church organizations or in many pastoral situations. Being involved in the give-and-take discussions with men who came in from Pastorships around the world was truly exciting. Combine this with the diversified lectures concerned with every aspect of Pastoral training and working with people, and you have education and experience rolled into one!

I hope that every man in the field will have the opportunity to participate in these valuable classes. I am sure that to many it would be a refresh of things they already know and have experienced, but to be able to share then in this atmo-

sphere of "iron sharpening iron" is an opportunity all, I am sure, would benefit by and enjoy.

My thanks, congratulations, and "a job well done" go to Mr. Mokarow and the rest of the MET staff for the great service they are performing for those of us serving in God's Ministry.

— Joe Horchak
Syracuse, N.Y.

THANKFUL FOR PRIVILEGE

Letters which are only mentally composed never get mailed, which is merely another way of admitting that procrastination nets nothing. A long time ago Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong told our N.Y.C. brethren meeting in the Woodstock Hotel, when we numbered less than 200, that the sin of ingratitude was one of the most common sins to be found outside the church and within. It's high time that I said "thank you" to the administration — to thank you very much for the fantastic privilege of being able to attend classes with my husband during the 1973-1974 school year.

Time and time again, while listening to Mr. Dave Albert expound and clarify scriptures from Paul's letters, or hearing Dr. Dorothy or Mr. Jon Hill give some new insight to the books of the Old Testament in their inimitable humorous style, I would mentally compare Ambassador College, the place for acquiring true values, with the institution I had attended. No comparison.

Mr. Gunar Freiberg's and Mr. Keith Crouch's classes served to stimulate and prod some rather lazy brain cells. The excitement and thrill of attending these classes followed me right outside to the campus. It was a constant marvel seeing the variety of trees, some from Asia, and the beds of flowers such as the primroses which couldn't bloom any better in England. Did you ever experience the singular feeling that would bring tears to your eyes when you got up early in the morning at Big Sandy during the feast, and hear the "camp of Israel" stirring? To be with God's people at the place and time He selected — unique feeling — and this same sensation occurred when you looked down the dual avenue of Italian cypresses to see the House for God receiving its finishing touches.

It was a rare and distinct privilege to be in Pasadena. Thank you very much for the opportunity.

— Barbara Shaer
Albany, N.Y.-Springfield, Mass.

LOOK TO THE FRUITS

Are we ministers fully aware of Satan's strategies?

There is no question in my mind that the Devil continues to pull out all stops — trying his level best to undermine the *faith* of God's people — including the *ministers* of Jesus Christ!

What is his object? If Satan can sow rumors and *doubts* — especially in the ministry — he can thereby gain a foothold in the minds and hearts of those in God's Church. His goal? *Overthrow the faith* of God's people.

Recently, while talking to a young man, he mentioned that his mother is having *doubts* concerning God's Church. (He and his mother are both members.) She is apparently beginning to *lose faith* in God's ability to inspire and *guide* His servants along the path of doctrinal truth.

His mother had asked him: "Since the ministers have been wrong in the past, how can I know that God is guiding them *now*?"

This young man admitted he was *unable to answer* his mother. He and his mother had seen the church "*change*" its teaching concerning Pentecost, marriage and divorce, healing, make-up, tithing and other points. He confessed that he was unable to "give an answer" to his own mother — who, in this case, was *wavering*. She not only expressed certain *doubts* concerning the Church, but also indicated she wasn't all that enthusiastic about attending Sabbath services.

Never forget that Satan is more concerned about planting *doubts* in the minds of God's *ministers* than in the minds of the laymen. We ministers have the *right answers* — must be able to "convince the gainsayers" (Titus 1:9).

Jesus said: "Ye shall *know* them by their *fruits*" (Matt. 7:16). This is the only way we can really know who is of God and who is not — the only way we can distinguish the true ministers from the false — the only way whereby we can tell the true Church of God from mere organizations of *men*, or worse still, from Satan's churches (Rev. 17:1-5).

True, the Worldwide Church of God has admitted having *doctrinal errors* concerning Pentecost, Marriage and divorce, make-up, etc. — and we have been willing to repudiate those doctrinal errors — to *change* when proven wrong. Is this *bad fruit*? Or, *good fruit* — the fruit of God's Spirit?

Consider, for a moment, these important facts. This Church — this very Work — has continued producing abundant fruits for over forty years — ever since God called Mr. Armstrong.

During those years, God has continued to call many thousands into His Church. Multiple millions have heard the Word of God preached with power.

Thousands have been healed, demons have been cast out, and Christ's *true gospel* has continued to be preached through those whom God was (and *is*) using in this Work.

This very Work has, in actual fact, been like a giant fruit tree — which has continued, year after year, to be loaded with fruit!

Not so long ago, the husbandmen (God's ministers) began noticing that some of the doctrinal fruits of this tree were unsound.

Now what were God's husbandmen (His ministers) to do?

Since most of the fruit on this tree (God's Work) was sound, would God's true ministers reject the whole tree, or would they only reject those unsound portions of doctrinal fruits which God showed needed pruning?

As an example, most of what the church taught regarding Pentecost was good and true in every way. A close scriptural examination of our Pentecost doctrine revealed a comparatively small error concerning the manner of *counting* the correct day for the observance of this festival. So, God's ministers speedily *excised* the unsound portion of our Pentecost doctrine but kept the basically-sound teachings concerning that commanded Feast.

Not so with all (or *most*) of those "who went out from us" (I John 2:9). They have thrown away Pentecost altogether — no longer believe it necessary or good to keep this commanded convocation (Lev. 23, Acts 2).

Wise men do not throw away basically sound fruit, and neither do God's true ministers. We have retained the basically-sound truths concerning Pentecost, marriage and divorce, healing, tithing, make-up, etc. But, we believe we have excised *all* of the errors in these doctrines.

Furthermore, some unwise former "husbandmen" have foolishly rejected the entire fruit tree (God's Work), simply because they saw minor unsoundness in a small part of the produce of that "tree." How foolish! How utterly *unsound*.

God's true ministers remember Christ's words: "Wherefore by *their fruits* shall ye know them" (Matt. 7:20). We have looked to the fruits of this Church and this Work, and, if we are honest, we must *all* admit that the rich harvest produced by this Work is "God's doing"!

We must heed Christ's burning admonition: "If I [or if *we*] do not the *works* of my [*our*] Father, believe me [*us*] not. But if I [*we*] do, though ye believe not me [*us*], believe the *works*: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me [*us*], and I [*we*] in him" (John 10:37, 38).

Who (which church) is it God has used in this

end-time Work? And through whom did He call you and me?

Yes, through whom has He been preaching the true gospel to the world for these many, many years? Can anyone deny that God has called and converted literally scores of thousands through this Church, and this very Work? Dare anyone deny that we are preaching the true Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world?

Indeed, if we look carefully at the fruits produced by this tree (God's Work) during the past forty-odd years, we see the vast majority of the doctrines of this Church are *sound* and *good*. God's church still retains its true teachings concerning *obedience* to God (including all of The Ten), the true gospel, the mortality of man, our true reward, the fantastic destiny of man, etc.

Some foolish "former husbandmen" of this Church have unwisely rejected *Pentecost* (and all the holy days), *tithing*, *unclean meats*, *church government*, the truth concerning our *national identity*, *ad nauseum*. And a few very foolish ones have even rejected the keeping of the Ten Commandments (including even the *Sabbath*) as being unnecessary for salvation.

Yes, let us *look to the fruits!* Let us not *deny* God's Work and His Church, even though we have seen a few blemishes on some of our doctrines.

Can anyone who is truly honest deny that, in spite of personal or collective "faults," we are, nonetheless, God's Church — we are *doing* His Work — and he *is* producing rich fruits through us? True, by letting God "purge" us, we can produce even more fruit (John 15:2).

Let us never *deny* that Work, but let us accept and acknowledge both those *persons* whom God is using, and also the *works* God is doing through them.

Remember, anyone can pick and criticize. It is easy to find fault, to condemn — and it is all too easy, because of personal offences, to reject the one (or ones) whom God is using!

Christ wants us to look to the "fruits" and make sure we don't let Satan plant the seeds of *doubt* towards God's Church and His Work in our minds, and then through us, in the minds of others.

We need to heed James' admonition: "My brothers, do not crowd in to be teachers; remember, *we teachers will be judged with special strictness*" (James 3:1, Moffatt trans.).

Let us ministers cast aside, and help others discard, all *doubts* and negative thoughts. Let us look at the "fruits" which God's Work *continues* to produce. And let us all strengthen the hands of those whom God is using, looking always to *Him*

and to the everlasting fruits of righteousness which *He* is producing *through His servants!*

Yes, look to the fruits! And let us beseech God that we may never reject the bountiful crop of *fruit* — or the fruit-laden *tree* (the Work) itself — simply because we may have seen, or think we have seen, weakness or error in God's people or in His Church.

— Raymond F. McNair
Senior Editor
Pasadena, Calif.

POINTS ON ANOINTING

Should there ever be such a thing as a "routine" anointing? Should anointed cloths ever be handed out to sick people in services?

These two questions bear some examination.

The first thing one might ask is — What is a sick person doing in services? And secondly, why give him an anointed cloth?

I think anointing, whether performed personally by a minister, or by means of anointed cloth, is *never* "routine!" After all, we are calling upon the Great Living God, the Creator of the whole vast universe, to figuratively drop what he's doing and heal someone! That's no small thing.

The scriptures themselves support this view. James speaks of "raising up" the sick. This implies that the person is *really* sick. It indicates a *serious* illness which has the person down and almost out. I don't think it means post-nasal drip, a slight fever, canker sores or pimples. Even acne would not qualify unless it's terminal.

Also, James speaks of calling for the elders — plural — of the church. This indicates an illness or condition so serious that it warrants a special visit by the congregation's leading and most "spiritual" people. It implies an important gathering of elders to seek God's special intervention on behalf of a member who is critically ill. If you study the wording, mood and context I think you'll agree.

In the scripture that discusses the use of anointed cloths it says, "And God did *extraordinary miracles* by the hands of Paul, so that handkerchiefs or aprons were *carried away* from his body to the sick, and *diseases* left them and the *evil spirits* came out of them" (Acts 19:11-12).

These were anything but "routine anointings." They were extraordinary, special, unusual miracles. Paul did not hand the sick person a cloth. Rather, the cloths were carried away from his person by special couriers or messengers who delivered them to the afflicted person. Such cloths were even applied in cases of exorcism. Are we to

(Continued on page 319)

Ministerial Education & Training

With the new thrust into community affairs we thought you might like to hear about some public relations work that has been done by other fellow ministers. We have also gathered some material on the lighter aspects of life in the ministerial community and enclosed them all in this MET Pot-pourri of comments from our men.

* * * * *

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Community Concert

We were able to present a teenage chorale concert which was advertised by the local weekly newspaper and word of mouth by the brethren.

The manager of the Auditorium, who is a very popular country-western singer and has regular country-western shows at his auditorium, commented very highly on the concert. There were many local business men and their families present. The comments varied from "Very enjoyable" to "What a pleasure to see young people so enthused in music and good entertainment." The audience gave the kids a standing ovation. I personally directed the chorale, octet, and sextet which was a thrill of a lifetime. Mr. Drennan, the manager of the auditorium, has offered us his facilities anytime we wish to present another concert — at half price!

Not a Closed Shop

Community: We've had two special Bible Studies. One involved an FBI agent who spoke to us, the other was a movie about the Jerusalem Dig. Some of the brethren invited friends. This lets the world know we're not a closed group separated from the reality of the world around us.

School P. R.

I have shown slides (taken in Australia) to a Geography class in the school my boy attends. I have now been asked by the principal to have a slide show for the entire teaching staff.

Friend of the Work

We invited the local police department (Des Moines) to send a man out from the drug section

to lecture the members interested in the local drug problem.

Found out the man listens to the *World Tomorrow* program and they have the PT at the station for the men to read. He seemed pleased with the CRIME booklet and the DRUG booklet. Have not called him back, but he seemed pleased with the group and spoke highly of the college and our work.

Police at Bible Study

Last month we invited a local policeman to lecture to the Bible Study about drug abuse. The policeman is head of the local crime unit concerned with organized crime. Not only did we all learn a great deal, but the man seemed genuinely glad we had invited him to talk to us. He was very grateful to receive the booklets on crime and marijuana, and stated he was in the market for good handout material.

I haven't heard whether he has requested any of the literature. I feel our having him come and talk to us was a good "P. R." activity for the local church, plus the fact that he was introduced to our literature.

Lights Good P. R.

When a theft occurred at the Garden Club in Orlando, we helped contribute four flood lights that lighted the dark areas around the building at night.

This was a rather small thing, but we found it to be very helpful in maintaining fine relations with the two places where we met, and feel it was instrumental in being able to use their places year after year.

Efficient Concern

When visiting in the hospital, I stop on the way out at the snack shop, buy a card, sign it and give it to the front desk receptionist. I have them deliver it the next day. This saves, 1) a stamp and 2) saves me from forgetting.

YOUTHFUL CLASSICS

No one can quite match the unique and innocent humor that comes "out of the mouths of babes." Here are some such statements from children of the ministry.

About Rahab

One Sabbath my family and I had been having Bible study. We had talked about how Rahab the harlot had been protected because of helping the Israelites. After the study was over I was asking

the children questions about the events. I asked who was the lady that had helped the Israelites. Todd who was then 5 said, "Daddy, I know. It was Rahab the *hornet*." We all got a big laugh out of it because at first it sounded like he was calling Rahab something other than a harlot.

Following In Father's Footsteps

After a wedding at my house recently, I found my son kneeling with two other children. He was laying hands on them...but I don't think the marriage would be valid.

Baby Food

As my wife Marilyn was nursing our younger son, Jared, when he was a baby, our older son Jeff, who was 3½ at the time, was watching intently and asked a very "logical" question: "Is he going to eat the other one too, Mommy?"

What Father Does

My oldest boy, Greg, is in school this year and everyone was telling what their father did for a living. He told them his dad *anoints* people.

"No No Man"

One time in a grocery store during X-Mas season there was a Santa Claus and Greg said, "Look, Dad, there's the *no no man*."

Helping One Another

One night as we listened to their prayers before going to bed, one of the girls prayed for her little girlfriend. She asked God to help her little friend not wet the bed that night.

The other girl had noticed how dogs used the shrubs around the campus, so thanked God in her prayers for all the bushes and shrubs He provided for the dogs in the neighborhood.

God Is Real

My oldest son at the time, 4 years, noticed the youngest son, age 2, eating some fat scraps from our plates after we had finished eating. The oldest, Paul David, looked up and said, "God, Chunky is eating *FAT*!"

Kiddie Definition

Our daughter was explaining what the minister's job was: "The ministers stand up and perspire the people."

MINISTERIAL PREDICAMENTS

The minister is usually supposed to be in a cool, unruffled state of control in discharging his church

affairs. However, everything doesn't always go off as planned.

Oil Shortage

Several years ago, I was called upon to anoint a sick woman. As most of us do, we begin our prayer and then reach for our bottle of oil. I took the bottle of oil from my pocket and continued praying. I discovered to my chagrin, I could not open the bottle. I grunted, twisted, turned with all my might, but to no avail, it just wouldn't budge. It probably was the longest prayer I prayed as I tried to unscrew the cap. So I just layed my hands on the woman, hoping God would answer my prayer.

The next day after opening the bottle with a wrench, she called to let me know she was better.

Spider Crisis

One Sabbath morning my alarm clock didn't ring (or I shut it off and went back to sleep) and woke up to find that I just had time enough to clean up, get dressed and get a few moments prayer in before leaving for services. I was scheduled to give a sermonette at the Summer Educational Program that morning. Upon arriving at camp we found that Mr. Ted Armstrong might be there. I was becoming progressively "shook" and locked the keys to the car inside the car.

Fifteen minutes before services Mr. Armstrong arrived (first time in my life I was sorry to see him show up at services. I felt anything but prepared). He had laryngitis and obviously wouldn't be speaking. He mentioned to the minister who would now be giving the sermon that he was glad there was someone there to take his place — that he couldn't talk (he was very hoarse). We smiled weakly.

My name was announced for the sermonette (I had never sung the hymns with as much feeling — one of the selections had been "A Supplication"). I walked to the lectern and launched into my subject. I had been thinking about the sermonette during the week but had had no time to prepare — didn't have any specific scriptures in mind. My mind was working rapidly and I decided the sermonette needed a point or two. I had been holding (tightly) onto the lectern. When I felt the first point should be made I raised my index finger in the air and said "My first point is..." At this point I stared dumbly at what was hanging from my finger. A spider had crawled onto my hand and when I raised my arm into the air the spider dropped from my index finger by one of her strands of web. I repeated "My first point is there's a spider hanging from my finger."

Thankfully, I didn't have to stay after the sermonette. I left for Duluth to start afternoon services there.

Sleep Visit

This is perhaps common to many ministerial trainees. This happened some years ago when I was first sent out into the field. It was a hot summer day in New Mexico and the minister and I went to visit a lonely widow in her very stuffy house. She was anxious to talk and he was carrying the conversation quite well. I was pretty tired and the heat didn't help. Soon my eyes started to lose focus. My head started to nod. I tried to fight it. I thought "You can't go to sleep. Show interest in this poor, lonely lady. You're one of the ones God is using to encourage the lonely. God certainly isn't pleased about this — wake up." Pulling the hairs on the back of my head and on my legs didn't help. Deep breaths didn't help. Holding my leg up off the floor about an inch or so for as long as I could didn't help. Finally the answer came in a way I expected least. "Sonny, would you like to lay down and take a nap," said the sweet, lonely little widow. "No, I'm fine. Thank you anyway," I replied. The minister held back his laughter — which I'm grateful for to this day. I'll tell you when that little sweet lady said what she did, it destroyed all my vanity and pride for that day — and for the rest of that visit my eyes were as wide and alert as they ever could have hoped to be.

Bible "Cover Up"

Time: December, with heavy snow on the ground; Place: the Reno Church, about one minute before Church services. I had my big heavy winter coat on and was laying our baby on the pallet on the floor *when my seat ripped out about 9" long.*

What was I to do! I did not have time to get it fixed and had no way to fix it anyway — so I wore my heavy coat all during song service and sermonette. But what was I to do when time came to walk up front to the podium! The only thing I could think of was my two-edged sword, *The Bible* — I held it behind me as I walked to the podium. What an experience. I will always remember *The Bible saved me from disaster!*

* * * * *

MET would be glad to hear from you along these lines for our Potpourri file. Thanks, and have a good summer.

— MET Staff

OPEN FORUM

(Continued from page 316)

assume that a demon-possessed person would apply the cloth to himself in such instances? I doubt it. More likely the person who delivered the cloth performed this using Paul's authority.

If we say that healing is the result of the applied stripes of Jesus Christ (I Peter 2:24) then we should not treat that aspect of His sacrifice cheaply. If anointing becomes a routine "duty" thing rather than an important personal act of faith, then we undermine the very sacrifice of Christ!

Many minor illnesses are "self-healing." The body has built-in mechanisms which take care of such afflictions. It is when these mechanisms are overtaxed and cannot do their job that a person becomes seriously ill. It is then that they should turn directly to God and seek His intervention. It is then that the "elders of the church" should be called in for special prayer and anointing.

I think it is a mistake to anoint for every petty illness that comes along. I also believe it is wrong to hand out anointed cloths out of laziness or lack of desire to personally anoint someone.

Surely, we ministers should educate our congregations to *respect* the sacrifice of Christ and the ordinance of anointing. We should teach them to call for anointing only when they are truly ill and when they are ready, in faith, to make a formal request of God to heal them.

— Brian Knowles

GN/Booklets Managing Editor

LETTER COMMENTS

(Continued from page 312)

must get from knowing God is on your side. Thanks to all of you again."

— Mrs. Barbara Rookard,
Benham, KY

"A while back I requested a visit from one of your ministers and you all sent my letter to Mr. David Mills and he got in touch with me to set up a time and place to meet. Usually I don't talk too much to people I have just met, but to him I just seemed to open up. He was courteous, open and confident. Thank you all for making it possible to meet him."

— Richmond Crisp,
Asheville, NC

"I finally requested a visit from one of your representatives. Yesterday I had the great plea-

sure of meeting and talking to Bill and Helen Gordon. They are both wonderful people. Today my daughter and I attended our very first Sabbath service. I cannot tell you what a thrill it was for us both. An answer to a prayer. We didn't know until we started getting the Worldwide News that there was a Church here. During the conversation we discovered that I worked at the "Wonderpark Motel" where the Church used to do its baptizing services. In fact, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon stayed at the motel while I worked there, and I didn't even know who they were. It's a very small world. In any case, I am happy that we have found the Church at last."

— Mrs. Wm. C. Wright,
Anchorage, AK

MEMBER SUPPORT

"For quite some time now I have been reading in your different personals about the letters of encouragement that the brethren and co-workers have written and I thought it was about time that I added my name to that growing list.

"There isn't really much more that I can say that the brethren haven't already said. I add my prayers to their's and send you and your father my (our) love. Continue in the Work that God has chosen you to do with all earnest expectation of that which is to come and your just reward from Christ Himself.

"We will see you at the Feast this year, and pray that you will remain strong and steadfast in the faith of Christ.

"Keep up the good works and continue to warn the people and preach the gospel of God's Kingdom with a strong voice. We pray always for you."

— Mr. & Mrs. Tom Miller,
Reno, NV

"Thank you for your recent tape you sent to us. We are beginning to love you as much as we do your father, because of all the love you show to us. I didn't think I'd ever love you as much as I do your father, but I do. Our prayers are with *all* of you every day."

— Mrs. Monnie Matthews,
Richardson, TX

"My husband and small children and I were vacationing in the L.A. area last week and we were so pleased to be able to come down to Pasadena and go through the breathtakingly beautiful auditorium.

"We came on Friday afternoon and so we were able to attend Sabbath services Saturday afternoon. We were so excited to hear that you would

be speaking. When we heard and saw you, there certainly was no mistaking that you were led by God's Holy Spirit. Our prayers are always with you and God's Work. We truly learned so much of God's Word through you on Saturday. We hope to visit again and maybe next time we can shake your hand."

— Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Burgess,
Filer, ID

AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE BROCHURE

The following comments relate to the brochure "Herbert W. Armstrong — Ambassador for World Peace." In the almost four months since the brochure has been available, MPC-Postal has mailed out 14,652. As a point of interest the status breakdown follows: Literature Only records (not on PT list) received 35; Regular Subscribers received 316; Donors 7,511; Co-Workers 2,055; Members 4,700; and Disfellowshipped 35.

"I just want to write and tell you how beautiful the Brochure 'Herbert W. Armstrong — Ambassador for World Peace' is. It is most gratifying to know about you and 'The Work.' I have been listening to the program since 1959 and I have learned much from the programs, books, booklets, *Plain Truth*, and the wonderful 'Good News' I started getting about a year ago.

"You have labored long and well and I hope you have many more years to encourage and teach the rest of us into a perfect way of life."

— Mrs. Floyd Taggart,
Hopwood, PA

"I wish to express my thanks for the brochure 'Herbert W. Armstrong — Ambassador for World Peace' which I received today. I read every page with interest. The accomplishments of Mr. Armstrong and his staff toward building bridges of understanding between nations is having worthwhile results, I'm sure. I, in my 80s also, can appreciate his enthusiasm, efforts and ability to work for world peace."

— Mrs. Pascal M. Kelly,
El Paso, TX

"I have just had the extreme pleasure of viewing the booklet on Mr. Armstrong and his work, which God is leading. It was magnificent, inspiring, and uplifting. It gave great insight into how God works. It is no wonder these nations respect him and his message because they see that they are from God."

— Mr. J. F. Fish, Jr.,
Follansbee, WVA