

The Bulletin

of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College



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SEPTEMBER 9, 1975

Church Administration

Greetings Again:

I simply have not had the time to cover all the things I mentioned in the last *Bulletin*. However, I will mention a couple of short items — then Dennis Pyle has prepared some pertinent material which will make up the balance of this column.

There are a few changes at this time within CAD I want to announce.

Mr. Art Mokarow, formerly the head of M.E.T., is now working in the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation. Dr. Kuhn, as an executive director of AICF, needed a competent individual to develop a new concept in this vital dimension. Dr. Kuhn felt Mr. Mokarow's previous business and educational experience equips him for this responsibility. (This comes at an appropriate time since budgetary constraints have forced us to temporarily curtail M.E.T. programs).

In AICF, Mr. Mokarow will develop a program to promote AICF and Human Potential among extensive audiences across the U.S. He will be communicating with you directly and information will be available during the Feast explaining how any members who so desire can have a substantial role in promoting AICF and Human Potential among friends, relatives, business associates, etc. Again, as we have stated before, I repeat that *no* member need feel obligated to participate in this program. This is not a program to promote AICF among the membership but rather to enable members to promote the Foundation and Human Potential in the community. It is very important to me that we always make clear to our members that they are respected as the "family" of God.

They are required to obey God and do those things necessary to qualify for the Kingdom of God. But, as we branch out more in our activities, become more involved in the community, etc., members are encouraged to participate only insofar as they wish, can afford or feel qualified to do (in promoting this program there will be *no* cost to the members but rather the chance to earn some money).

We feel sure that AICF and Human Potential is an exciting program that can only succeed. All that we can do to make it as successful as possible is being done. We simply want our membership to have the opportunity to understand the program and involve themselves as they choose, hence this new dimension Mr. Mokarow will be directing.

I sincerely appreciate the efforts Mr. Mokarow gave to the M.E.T. program and know that he will contribute very effectively in the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation. Art will continue to be involved with us in an "unofficial" way. His continued counsel and thought input will be valued.

This semester, I will be teaching Pastoral Ministry class in college. This class was handled last year by Art Mokarow and the previous year by David Antion, assisted by Les Stocker. The class is made up primarily of men who have come in from the field for ministerial sabbaticals and has traditionally been conducted by the Director of CAD. I am pleased with the opportunity that it affords to relate directly with the ministers involved. More importantly, since it falls my direct responsibility to oversee the activities of the field ministry, it is essential that I have a forum in which I can generate the concepts and programs deemed vital to the growth and development of the ministry.

In the Pastoral Ministry class, we are devoting the major part of the first semester to the "professionalization" of the ministry. I feel strongly that

all of us over the past several years have come to realize that we must have specific training equipping us to effectively carry out the responsibilities of a pastor. After our first two classes, we've humorously summed up the opinion of the class toward professionalism by saying: "None of us wants to be considered an amateur, but we're not sure whether or not we want to be considered professionals! (Read the MET column in this issue and then give some thought to that *question yourself!*)"

We are planning to utilize much of this same material in the upcoming MET columns in the *Bulletin*. I think all of you will find it beneficial and interesting.

Now for the material Dennis prepared:

— C. Wayne Cole

I'd like to update you concerning several things that have transpired in CAD. First of all CAD has now completed the move to the Office Facilities Building. We now have the executive offices of CAD right across the hall from Ministerial Services. Additionally, Human Resources, TRP (Theological Research Project), MET (Ministerial Education and Training) are within the same complex of offices. Since all these areas are part of CAD it means we will now have opportunity for better communication and contact as part of the same division of the Work.

Mr. Gerald Waterhouse and Elbert Atlas are now actively contributing as members of the CAD staff. The task of handling scores of calls per week was just too much for Paul, Burk and myself. We are pleased to have their assistance in handling the myriad of details that are our responsibility.

Behind the Scenes

However, with the addition of two more men it creates some complications behind the scenes. Ideally we would like to handle all requests, telephone calls, etc., *immediately*. We know, as well as you, that this is often not the case.

Understanding helps "lubricate away" the friction that can develop in relationships. In order to ease some friction that might have developed, I want to show you what has gone on behind the scenes in the past, and what we're doing about it presently.

Five men are specifically assigned the responsibility of communicating with field ministers (Messrs. Atlas, Flatt, McNair, Waterhouse, and myself). It is our responsibility to process all incoming requests concerning the start of new Churches, Bible Studies, requisitions for fleet cars, ministerial assistants, ordinations, etc. As well, the

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EDITOR IN CHIEF

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

EDITOR

GARNER TED ARMSTRONG

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

C. WAYNE COLE

SENIOR EDITORS

DAVID JON HILL, HERMAN L. HOEH,
ROBERT L. KUHN

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ASSOCIATE EDITORS

CHARLES V. DOROTHY, BRIAN KNOWLES

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five of us serve as advisors or counsellors when problems arise where pastors need additional counsel — such as divorce and remarriage cases, disfellowships, lawsuits, etc. Last, but perhaps most important of all, we serve as a "contact" between each pastor and H.Q. and try to provide (though difficult by telephone) a certain social contact between peers in a united effort. *That's a large order to fulfill by telephone!*

In the past, when a man would call requesting a fleet car (or some other specific need) one of the *three* (now five) team members would receive the call. In order to make unified decisions within budgetary allowances the team member receiving the call went through a complicated process of counseling with all other members of the team about the request.

Adding two men to the CAD team fulfills a critical need but in addition it added two more men to this communications process. As a result, if actions were not taken, the multiplication of communications problems would rise geometrically — but we're taking action. We are *eliminating* the complicated process of one-on-one communication and decision making.

All decisions that affect the Church Administra-

(Continued on page 464)

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91123

Herbert W. Armstrong
President and Pastor

September 5, 1975

Garner Ted Armstrong
Executive Vice-President

To all fellow ministers and key supervisory personnel in God's Work:

GREETINGS from Headquarters once again. This is the last Bulletin before the Feast of Tabernacles -- and some few of you may not actually read this until either during or after the Feast.

I'm expecting to be in Salem, Oregon, for afternoon services on the Feast of Trumpets (tomorrow), and then in Richmond, California, for the combined central California church services on the Day of Atonement.

I won't repeat everything I said in the somewhat lengthy "Personal" in the latest edition of the Worldwide News, since I assume all of you receive and read the WN.

On a constructive and creative theme: I think many of you know I have been talking for some time about the need for much greater emphasis on youth programs, and paying special attention to the youth of God's Church of all ages, so the terrible attrition rate which has been all but ignored in the past can be stopped.

Shocking though it may seem, until the beginning of more emphasis on our youth with many local church programs oriented toward the young people, plus the creation of Y.O.U. and many other such attempts to appeal to the youth of the church for meaningful church-oriented programs (such as S.E.P. and the Challengers program), we were losing approximately 10 out of every 12 of our young people!

That's a fact! Shocking as it may sound, only one or two out of every dozen of the young people who virtually grow up in the Worldwide Church of God environment, coming to Sabbath services and Bible studies with their parents, perhaps attending the Festival of Tabernacles, would eventually become converted and full-fledged members of God's true Church!

I think it was perhaps because we placed almost the entirety of the emphasis upon the responsibilities of the individual parent in each case, and, following our custom of abandoning practices which could not be proved to be specifically biblical (such as the conduct of "Sabbath schools" or "Sunday schools" by other church organizations), the net result was a virtual ignoring of the youth from a purely church-organization point of view.

But for a long time now I have been pondering the possibility of the creation of an entire youth-oriented program, with emphasis

not only on hobbies, crafts, creative writing and athletics, but even special services, Bible studies, lectures, or "rap sessions," including the formation of various clubs and organizations for specific purposes which can represent a total youth-oriented program which can begin at the very earliest ages to instill within each youngster the very deepest possible awareness of the existence of God, of the meaning of basic church doctrines and responsibilities of each individual to live a clean and wholesome Christian life and to somehow combat the enormous siren call of the pressures and pulls of society, of peer groups in public schools, and of the avalanche of crime, pornography, and the "drug scene" which are continually poured into the minds of young people throughout all society.

Lacking any strong, vital program to combat these manifold (and terribly attractive, to most young people) forces, the church would be found guilty of virtually abandoning its young people.

Much of this thinking is still in the formulative stage, but I wanted to announce to you all, prior to the Feast of Tabernacles, that I feel we should all collectively and unitedly begin pooling our ideas and suggestions toward the formulation of special services for various age groups so that during the Sabbath day, or on perhaps other occasions, such as concurrent Bible studies in a different room or in a separate part of the same hall, our young people could be given special instruction and special attention of an upbeat, exciting, and interesting character, rather than have the very understandable approach so many thousands of them have come to adopt: "aww, ma, do I have to go to church today?"

I think we all realize that the youth of each individual congregation will be as turned on as is the local pastor and his assistant toward the youth themselves and any teen programs -- or as turned off as any local pastor himself might be toward that activity.

We are all different, with different backgrounds, different hobbies and tastes in our personal lives, different talents and energies when it comes to going out of our way to work with young people. This is not to say that any one person is at fault more than any other -- for I think we all have shared somewhat equally in the entire responsibility -- but I believe it is time, and past time, that we get about the business of seriously considering the creation of separate and special meetings for various age groups of our young people, including clear down into the pre-school areas, to be able to TEACH our children positive and solid church values, beginning perhaps with as rudimentary a subject as biblical geography taught in exciting and interesting ways, such as map-making and topographical maps to be painted and colored by the tinier children, on up to quizzes and contests and open discussions and "rap sessions" on subjects involving teen activities, teen dress and modes of life, necking, smoking, drugs, and the entire panorama of the right principles of living.

I know you all realize how thoroughly grateful I am for the proficient and professional help I am being given by those who are

working so hard in the Y.O.U. (Youth Opportunities Unlimited) program. It is a terrific start, and I think it is coming along very well -- but a great deal more is still needed.

We will be having meetings at various levels at Headquarters, and we are going to go to various professional organizations and even look into the practices of some other church organizations (which have a fantastic record of a majority of their young people going straight on into their own church organizations) for youthful guidelines which can be adopted.

In the meantime, any and every one of you who would care to write in any notes of encouragement or suggestions along these lines is more than welcome to express yourself.

Remember, as such programs begin to get underway, it is going to call for a great deal more time and concern on the part of many of the members of the congregation; perhaps some of your deaconesses or leading wives of stable members of the church will be called upon to teach classes or conduct children's sessions; perhaps one of the young assistants will be called upon to conduct a teen club or a youth "rap session" concurrent with the afternoon services; perhaps those among the church brethren who are professional educators could be called upon to conduct classes which, while not necessarily heavily exegetical in nature, would nevertheless be spiritually oriented; perhaps even some of you wives of the ministry would have special talents or special knowledge and be able to impart a great deal of what you know and have learned to the teen-age girls in the congregation.

The task before us is enormous -- the variety and amount of knowledge to be imparted to our young people is staggering -- but I believe by unitedly getting started on the program we can achieve a tremendous amount of success and stop the totally futile and useless amount of attrition which is resulting in the vast majority of the younger people in God's Church ending up as turned-off dropouts from church attendance.

About the Feast of Tabernacles: I hope all of you who have either an active or inactive part of the Feast of Tabernacles will do your utmost to insure you are there with zeal and zest outwardly displayed on your face and by your mannerisms; that you will be a turned-on, bright shining light of enthusiasm and dedication to Christ's service and to the Church of God as an example to all who see and hear you! This goes for everyone reading this Bulletin -- and for all Headquarters employees and for people at all levels everywhere in God's Church.

I know you all realize that the formulation of the preaching schedule for the Feast of Tabernacles was finalized and approved by me personally, and even though I wish with all of my being there was opportunity for a great number more of you to speak, I had to consider the total congregation and our number of Festival sites, and even though I wish many of you could have been invited to speak at

the Feast, and I know will experience some degree of disappointment, we had to make the decisions as we did.

This does not mean you will not be an active ambassador of good will and have a vital part to contribute at the Feast of Tabernacles! I hope all of you men who might be song leaders, handling introductions or opening or closing prayers, giving short sermonettes or perhaps just serving in other quieter capacities, will pitch in with me and all the rest of your fellow ministers in striving mightily this Festival to be an outstanding example of love, encouragement, dedication and loyalty, and to INSPIRE and INFUSE these same moods and feelings into the brethren we serve!

When you get up to give a sermonette -- BE EXCITED ABOUT IT. Carefully go over the material and PRAY about your subject, and please remember that I have always felt a sermonette is far more difficult to preach than is a full sermon!

Sermonettes should be from 12-15 minutes duration, and NO MORE! They should nearly always deal with an analogy, a simile, an object lesson, a short story, or some outstanding comparison or description which will not tend to be lost by the lengthy hour- or hour-and-a-half sermon on a massive or important subject, delivered by perhaps a more experienced person, which may follow.

I have heard some truly fantastic sermonettes at various Festival sites in the past, and I have heard, quite frankly, some very poor ones.

For all of you fellows who will speak at the Feast of Tabernacles, I would like to pass along some suggestions. It is a thrilling and exciting opportunity to stand before mass thousands of people -- a ONCE-A-YEAR opportunity for the vast majority of all of you who are not accustomed to speaking before such sizeable crowds, and I know you will want to make every moment and every word truly COUNT!

So streamline your thoughts, reject all superfluities, go over your sermon with your wife or perhaps another person, seek new ideas by discussing your thoughts and sermon preparation with other people, especially stay on your knees and ask God's inspiration, and please help me and all the rest of us to inspire, to uplift, to exhort, to rebuke (gently and with love), to infuse with zeal and to edify and upbuild the Church of God in this upcoming Festival season!

If you don't have opportunity to speak, you DO have opportunity for inviting smaller groups of brethren, even from other church areas, to dinner, to visit among old friends and to make new ones, and to be a sparkling light and a shining example wherever you are! If your job is merely one of ushering, of helping with the work crews, working with traffic or registration, or any of the myriad and manifold tasks which must be accomplished, you can remember to plaster a great "Festival attitude" on your face and attend to your job with a zeal and a zest which is going to be an obvious example to everyone around you.

We all know the Feast is a time of hectic and feverish activity from a "behind-the-scenes" point of view, with all of the preparation and all of the work crews to be coordinated -- and even though we might feel OUR PART is the most exhausting and hectic one, we need to realize there are other hundreds and thousands equally as involved and working just as hard as we are.

I try to take into account, as I am coming to each Festival site, the entire picture and panorama of all the events from a "behind-the-scenes" point of view which go into conducting a successful Feast of Tabernacles at each given Feast site.

As never before I hope our sermons, sermonettes, announcements, song leading, prayers, personal conversation -- whatever -- can be tremendously inspiring and uplifting, helping our brethren to be grounded and settled in the faith; that we can all hear and share in strong meat from God's Word, and that we will experience a tremendous outpouring of the Holy Spirit during these upcoming Holy Days, and can actually know and understand that God has answered from heaven and that His Church is more stable, more dedicated and more filled with zeal to accomplish His great Work than ever before.

You make a great team -- maybe someday when our work is accomplished we can all sit down and have a great Feast together for, say, a few thousand years or so!!

Your brother in Christ,

Samuel L. Armstrong

AICF RECEIVES FAVORABLE PRESS COVERAGE!

The 75-76 concert season, sponsored by the AICF, has recently generated a considerable amount of *favorable* publicity for both the Foundation and the Church.

During the week of August 31-September 5, the story of how the Foundation began and its goals and objectives was carried over three Los Angeles' TV stations, two radio stations, and run in numerous newspapers.

On Monday, September 1, Dr. Kuhn, Executive Director of AICF, was interviewed on the "NOON-TIME" program by well-known newscaster, Mario Machado. In this 8-minute interview over KNXT, Channel 2, Dr. Kuhn was able to explain the Foundation's inception and upcoming concert season. According to the ARB (American Research Bureau — standard rating service for TV stations) the "NOONTIME" program is seen by approximately 117,000 households in the Los Angeles area.

Tuesday, September 2: Mr. Blackwell (no, not Dean Blackwell), a well-known radio commentator over radio station KIEV, spent 1½ hours with Dr. Kuhn discussing the *entire relationship* of the Foundation to the Worldwide Church of God, as well as the Church's belief in the Bible and its doctrines — especially relating to the human mind and potential. During the 90-minute interview, Mr. Blackwell kept trying to find a legitimate "controversial" aspect of the AICF. But, as he admitted several times, he could find nothing to criticize and later concluded, "I can't see how anyone could criticize a series like this."

It has *not* been our intention to focus the attention of the public upon the Church through the activities of the AICF. We have always stated that the two are *separately* incorporated, with the Foundation fulfilling the Church's responsibility for humanitarian and cultural activities. But it seems the news media finds a very unique story in the fact that all costs of the upcoming concert season are underwritten by the Worldwide Church of God. The result? They want to know more about the Church!

The interview with Mr. Blackwell on KIEV was so comprehensive it resulted in five series ticket sales over the telephone *during* the time the show was on the air.

Wednesday, September 3: the AICF was featured on the Tommy Hawkins show over KHJ,

Channel 9. Tommy Hawkins, former Laker basketball star, spent about 10 minutes talking about the Foundation with Dr. Kuhn, again focusing upon the relationship of the Church to AICF. It was evident to everyone that Mr. Hawkins was very impressed with such a vast array of classical artists and the extensive list of worthwhile and well-known charities who will benefit from their performances. The Hawkins show, a public service program format, is broadcast into an estimated 22,000 households in the Los Angeles area.

Thursday evening, September 4: the *biggest* media story of all was aired. Ruth Asheton Taylor, a well-known reporter for KNXT, Channel 2 (CBS), did a report, lasting for several minutes, on the AICF and upcoming concert season. 330,000 households in the Los Angeles area saw film footage of the Auditorium and College environs while they heard the remarkable story of the Foundation and Worldwide Church of God featuring favorable comments on both Mr. Herbert Armstrong and Mr. Ted Armstrong.

In every case the publicity was *highly favorable*, the reporters were extremely impressed, and *multiple hundreds of thousands* of people were exposed to the story of AICF and the Worldwide Church of God "DOING GOOD WORKS."

In addition to the television coverage, over 880,000 adults over 18 years old heard the Foundation story over radio station KMPC between Tuesday, September 2, and Friday, September 5. KMPC, a leading Los Angeles station, broadcast several public service news announcement spots per day describing the Foundation and concert series.

Thursday, September 4, ended with a Press Preview Concert at the Ambassador Auditorium in which over 250 editors, reporters, publicity directors, and other influential media people attended. According to most of the comments the impression they left with was a most favorable one, and this, too, should result in more awareness and publicity of the Foundation.

The week ended with a 15-minute televised program over KWHY, Channel 22 (UHF). This resulted in several telephone inquiries and at least one, possibly two, charities joining with us this season. Although we hadn't realized it at the time, KWHY, according to its management, reaches approximately 30,000 households of highly educated, upper-income people. Our interview was "sandwiched-in" between the stock market reports so the viewer interest was probably very keen.

All of the major daily newspaper and most of the weeklies in the Los Angeles area have now

SUMMARY OF PRESS COVERAGE FOR AICF (AUG. 31-SEPT. 5)

TV/RADIO

Date	Program	Media	Length of Interview	Estimated Audience (ARB)
Sept. 1	Noontime (Public Service)	KNXT-2	8 minutes	117,000 households
Sept. 2	Tommy Hawkins (Public Service)	KHJ-TV Channel 9	10 minutes	22,000 households
Sept. 3	KMPC Radio (6-8 spots daily) News Announcement (Sept. 2-5)		1-2 minutes each spot	880,000 adults over 18 years
Sept. 3	Mr. Blackwell (Interview)	KIEV Radio	90 minutes	3,000 adults
Sept 4	6:30 News (Ruth Asheton Taylor)	KNXT-2	5 minutes	330,000 households
Sept. 5	Let's Face It	KWHY-22	15 minutes	30,000 households

NEWSPAPERS CARRYING ARTICLES ON AICF*

	Circulation		Circulation
L.A. Times	1,190,516	Wilshire Press	42,250
Herald Examiner	418,803	Griffith Park News	9,600
Variety	N/A	La Canada Valley Sun	5,000
Pasadena Star-News	58,310	San Antonio Express	85,314
B'nai Brith Messenger	61,950	Cincinnati Enquirer	289,316
Israel Today	52,000		(Sunday)
Jewish Heritage	32,000	Heritage	32,000
Hollywood Independent	188,560	Community News	N/A
Duarte Dispatch	3,322 Free	Montebello News	4,400
The Pasadena Guardian	16,500	Evening Outlook	38,958
L'Italia Americano	5,000	Critique	N/A
Temple City Times	7,528 free	The Enterprise	5,061

* Many additional papers have featured articles on the AICF but clippings have not yet arrived to verify the coverage.

carried articles — 90 percent of them **HIGHLY FAVORABLE** — about the Foundation and its relationship with the Church.

This wide-reaching press coverage is resulting in **THE MOST EXTENSIVE FAVORABLE PRESS COVERAGE** our organization has *ever* received on a regional basis within the Los Angeles area — and possibly within the entire United States!

Our program of public awareness is based on a

time frame of 6-18 months to achieve full awareness and public acceptance. The progress made in just the last 3 weeks is extremely encouraging but we recognize there is much yet to be done considering the negative publicity and marginal coverage over the last few years.

We're very thrilled with the acceptance of the Foundation among the media and are all looking eagerly forward to an even greater crescendo of

public awareness of the many activities that we are all a part of.

If any of you ministers come across local or even national articles on the AICF, please clip them and send them to: Ambassador International Cultural Foundation, 300 West Green St., addressed to the attention of Terry Warren. We'll keep you posted of our progress. Thanks for your support.

— Terry Warren

Advertising and Publicity Coordinator

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

(Continued from page 456)

tion Department budget will be co-ordinated in a monthly meeting of CAD team members. Decisions pertaining to new churches, ordinations, hiring of personnel, transfers, assignment of fleet cars, etc., will be made once per month.

Monthly Format

At the end of each month we receive a print-out of the CAD budget. It tells us how much we've spent up to that time and how much money remains in the budget for the remainder of the year. Our meetings will be synchronized with this computer generated report (around the seventh of each month.)

CAD team members will accumulate all requests over a period of one month. They will then sit down at a conference table with all requests from the previous month in front of them. Decisions will then be made according to need, priority, and *budget*. Using this format decisions can be made in a unified manner, based on needs and careful budgetary considerations, not in one-on-one telephone conversations. At the conclusion of each meeting, one of the team members will be assigned the responsibility of calling each pastor involved and give the decision on his request.

In the Ministry

Since we are all part of a huge family scattered around the country, and having common roots (educationally and spiritually) and common goals, I know the intense interest of all of us to know what is transpiring among our peers.

Rather than let information (and often erroneous information) concerning ministers changing vocations, etc., be generated on the grapevine and thereby create "questions," "wonderings," and "rumors," we are going to begin to communicate these things to you in a very open and forthright manner. We trust we are all mature

enough to simply accept such information for what it is — personal information between associates and friends.

Mr. Arch Bradley, pastor of the Pasco, Washington Church, and Mr. Terry Swagerty, Pastor of Boise, Idaho and Ontario, Oregon Churches, have requested permission and assistance in changing vocations. (Arch is going to begin work as a high school guidance counselor October 1, 1975, and Terry plans to being some type of career in farming around January.) Those of us responsible for the administration of the Church have appreciated the services of these men and will miss them as full-time fellow ministers, *yet* we would not discourage them for a moment when it comes to making decisions that affect their personal lives. We simply wish them the best and look for their active support as Elders in the congregation.

I am sorry to report that Mr. Bryce Clark, pastor of the Sacramento and Chico, California Churches has resigned from the ministry. In a meeting with Mssrs. Cole, Raymond McNair, Brian Knowles, Lester Grabbe, and other members of the CAD team Mr. Clark acknowledged that doctrinal changes concerning Pentecost and Divorce and Remarriage have caused him personal uncertainty. At first Mr. Clark thought he would take a leave of absence to get these uncertainties cleared, but after later consideration he submitted a letter of resignation.

Fellows, I hope all of you realize that we live in a very trying time. It is *mandatory* for the sake of God's Church that we stand firm in our relationship to our God and the organization He is working through.

As shepherds of the flock you have been the first personal contact with *many* people. You have baptized them, taught them and led them through the ups and downs of human experience. More than ever during the trials at the end of this age God's people need devoted shepherds, willing to lay their lives on the line for them.

By way of conclusion I'd like to clarify a statement in the last *Bulletin* concerning the amount of second tithe you will receive in 1976. We are planning to give each of you two-thirds of the allotment you received this year (not one-half).

— Dennis Pyle

BIRTHS

Rod and Ruth (Bauer) Matthews (Burleigh Heads, Qld. Australia): We are thrilled to announce the arrival of our first son and child, *Timothy Rod*, born at 6:15 p.m. (how considerate!) on Tuesday, July 29th. Tim weighed in at 3371 gm and was 53.3

cm long (Australia has gone metric), or for the uninitiated 7 lbs., 7 ozs. and 21 inches long. Everyone is prospering. Being the first grandchild on both sides of the family, and first nephew of 6 uncles and 2 aunts, he is an important little fellow.

Academic

PASADENA

If we have counted our fingers correctly this is Ambassador College's 29th year. And it started out just great!

This is the first year we have had a New Student Week. It was a busy week for both of the Armstrongs as they shuttled back and forth between here and Big Sandy, thus spending needed time with faculty and students at both campuses.

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong took the opening Forum period during New Student Week. He addressed not only the entering students, numbering about 325, but nearly all returning students as well. The following week Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong spoke to the assembled student body at the first regular Forum for the year. These Forums helped establish the tone and character of the activities for the beginning of college.

In addition to the Forums, there was a faculty get-acquainted dinner party and dance, a faculty reception for new students, and a full scale soc hop and sing-a-long. Also during New Student Week new and returning students had the opportunity for academic counseling in a greatly expanded advisement program. Classes began on schedule with more enthusiasm and excitement than I have seen for a long time.

While we have not yet compiled the final statistics, we have approximately 725 full-time-equivalent students. The actual head count is somewhat larger since it takes several part-time students to equal a single fulltime student. A summary should be available for the next issue of *The Bulletin*.

The first week of classes was not only punctuated with bibliographies, homework, lectures and getting back into the rigor of scheduled college life, but it was also the time for basketball tryouts. It should be quite a good year for the Athletic Department. Coach Petty seems pleased.

We have not only varsity and junior varsity men's basketball schedules, with some very tough competition, but also varsity women's basketball. About eleven intercollegiate games are scheduled

for women. Of course we will be fielding varsity teams in other sports as well, but basketball is presently drawing plenty of excitement. The teams should be posted by the time you read this column.

That brings up another matter. It is not possible to keep those of the field ministry interested in Ambassador's intercollegiate accomplishment posted through this column. And I was told that there is limited interest by the Worldwide News readership, so apparently that vehicle is not the best source available for complete sports coverage, although selected items will be included.

So, I would like to tell you about the new weekly *Portfolio*. We have made arrangements with a local printing company to print the paper on Sunday. It will be distributed on campus by noon Monday. Our own weekly newspaper — tabloid with 8 pages each issue — was born the first week of classes.

Expensive? Not at all. By going to a printer that specializes in newsprint we are able to get the job done for about a third of what it would cost to print it ourselves.

The paper is entirely new this year. The new staff understands that a newspaper does not normally have an adversary relationship with its publisher. The *Portfolio* will not be a vehicle for axe grinding but for effective communication on campus and among alumni and friends such as you, for the exchange of ideas, and for the promoting of unity and a sense of community for faculty and students at Ambassador College. It is not a student paper in the traditional college sense, but a campus community newspaper. I think you will be pleased.

If you want to follow campus events, especially up-to-date sports information, *The Portfolio* is the best source. Remember that you will be reading material written by students and that they are learners — that is, they make mistakes.

Request the paper from *The Portfolio*, Pasadena, California 91123. The subscription is complementary to *Bulletin* recipients.

Now for one final note. We want you to know we appreciate the young people you are sending to Ambassador College. It is a pleasure to meet and to talk to dozens of new students who have been part of Worldwide Church of God families and realize that these are the finest young people on earth today. As their pastors you have helped them tremendously. Thank you for your assistance in bringing them to Ambassador College.

Have a good Feast!

— Michael P. Germano

Mail Processing

The August letter count ended the month with an encouraging 13% increase over July! Summer months have usually been low periods for mail so such an upswing is always welcome and greatly appreciated.

The Red Horse of Revelation — War! is still a strong contributor to our mail tabulation. Returns are now showing a 24% response from co-workers and a 16% response from donors, both groups having received our recent letter announcing the booklet.

Returns from the Building Fund letter and brochure are just beginning to come in, but at this point it is too early to report an estimate of final response. We are hoping for an overwhelmingly positive response to this letter. Financial Affairs can possibly give more information in a future *Bulletin*.

Special Report

The following brief update was prepared by a long-time employee in MPC, Mr. Bill Butler, who assists me as our Communications and Training Officer. I'd like to share his memorandum with you since it helps to illustrate how scientific and technical means have been made available to accomplish the Work:

"Processing the many thousands of letters and phone calls coming into Headquarters each year is an increasingly complex task. With each year that passes, more sophisticated equipment and systems are needed to accomplish it, and because of these improvements, increasingly more work is being done per person while maintaining high standards of quality.

"We are now receiving and processing an average of 8,000 letters, as well as 1,000 phone calls each working day, in addition to mailing out over 80,000 pieces of literature daily.

"If we were to divide the number of letters received in 1974 by the number of employees assigned to process *incoming* mail, it would work out to be over 33,000 letters a year per person (this includes supervisors and secretaries). Dividing the total number of items *mailed* by those doing the mailing comes out to be 840,000 letters a year per person.

"Comparing 1969 to 1974 we saw an increase in letters being processed per man-hour of over 104%. This 'letters per man-hour' figure is the average for all hours used, including supervision, quality

control, training, etc. Improvements in the system made it possible to absorb an increase of 23% in mail between 1969 and 1974 while decreasing man-hours by 40%.

"Even with this *increased production* the error rate of our employees is as good or better than other organizations doing the same type work.

"These statistics show that the efficiency of the Mail Department and those backing us up in the Data Processing Center has shown an increase in the last few years.

"We feel that this kind of progress is necessary to serve God's people in this fast moving, end-time age."

— Richard Rice

LETTER COMMENTS

RESPONSE TO TITHING BOOKLET From Members

"I received my new booklet on TITHING and am happy with it. Thank you very much. It really answers questions that many have wondered about. Probably all of us can learn from this booklet."

— Mrs. Ruth Parker
Clovis, CA

"I have finished reading your booklet on TITHING. Thank you so much for it, because I've always thought tithing was right (since I've come into the truth about it four years ago) and never thought it was wrong, but your booklet has shown me a deeper meaning in tithing.

"Instead of just paying God what He says to pay Him, it is a way to 'respect,' 'love,' and 'worship' Him by giving freely.

"When thinking of it this way, a person likes to give even more for the Work, just in case we might have forgotten something. God has always abundantly blessed us, not only materially, but spiritually (the way that really counts)."

— Patrick L. Gorman
Prescott, KS

"Could you do me the favor of conveying to the others at Headquarters the delight of myself and my friends in the Church over the new TITHING booklet? I was most pleased to read it and to have, in one format, the whole picture. May I suggest that, either publicly, or for private sale, similar works be published that would give, in anthology form, all the sides and stories of an item? It would be most helpful and handy."

— Mark Allen Kellner
Rego Park, NY

(Continued on page 472)

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.

COMMENTS BY THOSE VISITING FAIR BOOTH

We just concluded a most successful five days of exciting Fair Booth activity — our first and God willing not the last! We set up a schedule of three four-hour periods in which two people operated the booth, giving out free copies of *Plain Truth* and signing people up to receive booklets. All those who served in this way have requested to be assigned when we occupy a booth at the San Luis County Fair later in August.

The questions generated by those who would stop to examine our material were sometimes very fascinating and even humorous at times. Mr. Charles Crain, who by the way has been the "cheerleader" in promoting enthusiasm, offered to take down any unusual comments for posterity. Following are some of those comments:

"Do you claim to have the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?"

"Garner Ted makes me mad because he forces me to think, though I don't agree with 78¼% of what he says."

"I listen to him all the time on radio — he's our favorite minister because he tells it like it is."

"Is Garner Ted here at this dinky little fair today?"

"One of the best tales I have ever heard."

"I don't go for it. They think they know more than anyone else."

"Garner Ted should run for President because he knows all the answers."

"I sure have to laugh when he makes a monkey

out of all the evolutionists."

"Far out!" (from a long haired listener of some years)

"He doesn't jump up and down and wave his arms like Billy Graham and Oral Roberts."

"I can't remember which booklets I don't have. I keep them in the bathroom so I'll have something to read."

"Can I leave my lunch here. I know it will be safe here!"

"I listen to Garner Ted quite a bit. He makes sense every now and then."

A young man reading title of booklet *Why Were You Born* quipped, "It was an accident!"

"If he would only leave out sex. Everything is sex, sex, sex. This would be a better world if there were no sex!"

I like Garner Ted — he's my hero." (comment from a very elderly lady.)

I hope many more of you fellow ministers get the "fair fever." It is extremely profitable for the Work (we were able to sign up 233 new subscribers), gratifying to those who serve in the booth, and promotes much enthusiasm among all the brethren. In other words it's Far Out!

— Les McColm

Santa Barbara-San Luis Obispo

ADDRESSES BAPTIST TRAINING UNION CLASS

On a recent Sunday evening, I had the unique experience of being able to conduct a 45-minute session of the Baptist Training Union Class of the First Baptist Church here in Little Rock.

This particular class is covering the different denominations and their beliefs. Since one of our members works for a man who attends this Baptist Church, they decided to get a firsthand report from one of the Worldwide Church of God ministers — thus the invitation to come speak about our church.

I spoke for about 30 minutes and then answered questions for 15 minutes. The director of the class told me if I went over 45 minutes that the people would get up and leave. He warned me that it wouldn't be because of my speech, but simply that they needed a smoke before the main services began.

It was difficult at first to know exactly how to approach this class. I decided to begin by telling

them of the doctrines that we held in common. I emphasized that we believe Jesus Christ is the central figure of our church — that through Him only can we have eternal life and only by His sacrifice can we have forgiveness of sin. I assured them that we don't have animal sacrifices as some people think. By this time, I seemed to have the interest of everyone there.

Next, I went on to point out some differences in our churches. I explained that we keep the Saturday Sabbath and the Holy Days and explained briefly about the plan of God.

After my 30 minutes they asked questions about the trinity, tithing, voting, and several other issues.

Incidentally, after the session was over the director of the class showed me the latest copy of the BTU magazine. In it was an article about the Worldwide Church of God which contained a lot of false information. The director himself admitted the error and went on to say he wished the author could talk to me to get his facts straight.

All in all it was a unique opportunity for me — a chance to preach the truth of God in a different way.

— Ray Wooten
Little Rock, Ark.

GIVING ENCOURAGEMENT

I was stunned to realize that 46% of those registered for the Feast last year were under twenty. That's a lot of young people! I have always enjoyed working with teenagers and heartily endorse the Church sponsored Y.O.U. (Youth Opportunities Unlimited) program which I feel has vision and fills a great need.

I want to offer an observation that I've made this summer while working with some of our young people, and I hope to hear from more of you concerning this vast subject.

I had the opportunity of taking some thirty boys to a Scout summer camp and then taking a group on a white-water kayak trip. On both of these adventures I noticed, as did others, that our group was very respectful, and showed good discipline overall. I never worried about tent ropes being slit in the middle of the night or rebellion in any form. On one occasion a Scoutmaster remarked that he didn't know how we were able to keep our large group under control so well when with his 7 adult leaders they could hardly get a handle on their contingent of 13 boys.

I must admit that overall our parents have administered discipline well to produce generally good results. However, on the other side of the coin, I found it very hard to motivate these young

ones. Many opportunities were not taken advantage of. I was amazed to see such little internal motivation, although when encouraged strongly they always seem to enjoy the activity. Many badges were within reach but few pursued them. One exception was a guest, not associated with us, who worked almost constantly on advancement.

More recently with the Y.O.U. contests I again found it hard to stimulate serious involvement. (I don't intend to generalize because I know there are exceptions to this point — I know of a few myself.) I overheard one girl say, "I can't do anything" and another, "I'm not good enough." I know no teenager wants to be put on the spot, but I see more to it than just cold feet. I feel that in some cases parents have come down pretty hard on "Thou shalt not" and letting the negative "you can't" part of child rearing dominate with the resultant spanking and correction for infractions. Another way of putting it is that our children are not shaming us, because we are not sparing the rod, but they are not glorifying us either. Are their eyes full of that sparkle and zest for living? Do we have highly motivated young men or highly dominated ones who secretly rebel?

One of the most important ingredients in building confidence is engineering success in the life of young ones, and giving ample approbation and encouragement. I don't feel that as a church there is any program we can structure that can totally substitute for good parents. Our programs on the local level can certainly supplement parental training, but the lion's share must come from informed parents who see child rearing as a challenge and an adventure rather than a chore and a painful responsibility; parents who have the vision to see that the emotional as well as the physical and spiritual needs are satisfied.

As a minister I hope to inspire parents to give positive opportunities and encouragement to their young ones so that next Feast those 46% will be more bright-eyed and motivated to live a successful life!

— Lawrence W. Greider
Barrie, Ontario, Canada

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES AFTER SABBATH SERVICES

Sabbath is for children too, and in an effort to make the Sabbath more interesting and enjoyable for our young folk at Church, we obtained permission to have something especially for children after services. The problem concerning age groups was resolved first.

Even in small church areas, it would be difficult

to have all youngsters (those too young to be baptized) in one group. The problem is somewhat akin to those problems experienced during church services — that is, it is most difficult to interest all ages in the same subject at the same time, especially when they are not converted. With a limited number of teachers in addition to limited resources, we decided to start with the 3-6 age group as a pilot, and work from that vantage point. The program has been interesting for the little ones, for the adult teachers, and for the deaconess in charge.

At first we tried a program that would allow these youngsters to let off steam in a controlled environment, not as a babysitter might (because this was not to be a babysitting project), but in an educational way. The process was fun for the teachers and interesting as well as educational for the kids, but with our limited resources it was soon apparent that even the 3-6 year olds would tire of a program without goals.

An obvious fact is that little children are like good blotters: They not only absorb, but they absorb without hesitation. Properly disciplined, they appear to be mostly eyes and ears and of a wanting-to-learn attitude.

Our goal is to maintain a Sabbath-like attitude in a teaching atmosphere, but without being didactic or preachy. Yet the program is intended to teach Biblical principles, but without the semblance of the normal 9 months-a-year school classroom. For example, when we study creation we intend for each child to bring something from creation — a type of show-and-tell with the emphasis on creation by God.

One session (approximately 45 minutes) might include the following:

1. An activity song or two which will allow them to move around after sitting for some 2 hours in Church services.
2. A moral or Christian lesson from a story, a game, or a poem that will teach a simple, cheerful and helpful lesson.
3. A craft, if it is simple and can be related to Christian living.
4. A Biblical lesson that is basic, such as the faith and obedience of Noah and Abraham.

Our material comes from *The Bible Story*, Bible records, the booklet *Teach Your Children About God*, and tips on the use of flannel graphs and puppets. An immediate hope is that we might have more adult assistance in making props that can be used in these sessions.

Our teachers are parents and other adults, and they are learning as well as experiencing lead-

ership. And our young folk are learning to be followers first and fun-loving kids second. The teachers are rotated and a spin-off from the program has been a noticeable increase in fellowship among the brethren after services.

— Ted Gangnath
Pasco, Wash.

PLENTY OF WORK — FOREVER

Last Sabbath [Aug. 23rd] Mr. Armstrong told the new college students that it is man's ultimate destiny to inherit the entire universe. I recently came across some information as to the size of the universe which I found quite fascinating and felt it would interest you as well.

Astronomers claim there are over 40,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 (forty sextillion) stars which are suns to other planets. God says He knows the exact number and has named each (Psa. 147:4): "He telleth the number of the stars; He calleth them all by their names." Now consider the following: There are over 500,000 words in the unabridged Webster's dictionary. Since God has every star named, then there are enough names to fill around 80,000,000,000,000,000 (eighty quadrillion) books that size (approximately 3,000 pages each). Incidentally, the Pasadena Library contains about 480,000 volumes, most much shorter in length.

It has been estimated that 40 billion people may have lived since Adam until now. It would be difficult to accurately estimate the number of people who will be born and ultimately enter God's Kingdom during the Millennium. There no doubt will be multiple billions since conditions will be ideal for reproducing and sustaining life for one thousand years. If we were to pull a figure out of the air, say 200,000,000,000 who would ultimately be in the God family, this could mean that each member would be responsible for 200,000,000 stars and their attendant planets!! Boggles the mind, doesn't it?!

If our estimate is anywhere close, then the sons of God will have ample work to keep them busy for eons of time — developing, maintaining and preserving the innumerable planets of space. Certainly, the size of the universe and our *human potential* is breathtakingly awe-inspiring!

Do you suppose it is also in God's plan to transform all dead, barren planets into living, colorful habitations like the earth so that the *whole* universe will eventually become a veritable paradise?

— Richard Rice
MPC Manager
Pasadena

ACTUALLY OVERHEARD

When we came into the Church, it was during the time that eating whole-wheat bread was the "thing" to do.

But our second daughter, Carol, couldn't stand it. She just loved white bread. Nevertheless, we dutifully made her eat bread which my wife, Peggy, had made from wheat purchased through the college.

One day Peggy came home with a carton of big brown eggs. When Carol saw them, she looked up pitifully at her mother and exclaimed, "Oh, no! Not 'whole-wheat' eggs!"

Since then, when we purchase anything through the college, we jokingly refer to it as "whole-wheat."

— Ray Wooten
Little Rock, AR.

PERSONAL LETTER FROM FELLOW MINISTER

Many of my friends from college and other fellow ministers don't know that I've been sick for the last two years. The *Bulletin* seems like the best place to inform everyone, and answer questions some have asked.

I got sick around Feast of Tabernacles time in 1973 with what seemed at the time as the "flu." However, I never got better. I remained very weak, and every so often became horribly nauseated and developed a temperature and more severe weakness. As time went on much pain developed and continually bothered me. Also, my glands in my cheeks, throat and abdomen became swollen and painful. It seemed my whole body chemistry was in disarray.

At first I was diagnosed as having hepatitis. But as the illness lingered, other diagnoses were considered — including some surmising that I had Addison's Disease (a partial failure of the adrenal glands). This was ruled out after more tests. I really don't know what is wrong, in spite of about 7 or 8 doctors and a three-week attempt at diagnosis in hospital.

Perhaps it is glandular — tied in somehow with the intricate endocrine balance. It is in this area that most tests were conducted. This theory ties in well with my own observations about weak spells I've had off and on for the last 10 years or so and leading up to this illness.

At the height of the illness I was completely bedfast. I am now mostly up and around but still not working. Progress is slow with setbacks — pain and swelling and weakness linger.

The condition seems to respond only to moder-

ate exercise and a meticulous well-rounded diet of natural food. I have come a long way, but still have quite a ways to go. My wife, Arlene, and two girls are in good health. Arlene has been a faithful nurse and loving companion. We anticipate complete recovery and return to work speeded by your much appreciated prayers.

— Bernie Schnippert
15215 117th Street
Edmonton, Alberta,
CANADA

Telephone: (403) 456-1092

BOOK REVIEWS

Papa Hemingway by A. E. Hotchner, Bantam Books, \$1.25

I'm a little late in catching up with this fascinating book which was originally serialized back in 1965 in the *Saturday Evening Post*. It's been reprinted several times in book form since that time. If you're building a personal library, I'm convinced this volume should be a part of it.

Papa Hemingway is essentially a character study of the later years of one of America's greatest-ever writers. A. E. Hotchner was one of Hemingway's closest, personal friends and confidants and he writes with warmth and obvious insight.

Hemingway was a larger-than-life, *mucho-macho*, charismatic figure who automatically attracted a perpetual personal entourage. An expert marksman, world traveler, all-around sportsman, Hemingway wrote out of his own experiences. He was a man of abnormal personal courage. The spirit of adventure ran rich in his veins and his powers of observation were honed to a fine edge. He missed nothing and retained everything.

Hemingway lived to write and wrote to live; "...writing is the only thing that makes me feel that I'm not wasting my time sticking around," he told his friend Hotch.

As long as Ernest Hemingway could live life on his own terms his motivation remained high. His health was good and though he consumed substantial quantities of alcohol he was blessed with a high tolerance. He told Hotch, "There's only one requirement to being a successful writer if you have talent — stay healthy."

In the late 50s a series of circumstances began to take a heavy toll on Hemingway's health. Two air crashes, in Africa, seriously damaged his kidneys. He was never the same after that. Castro's rise in Cuba threatened his working environment (he had lived in Havana since the thirties and was more productive there than anywhere else). A Cuban soldier ruthlessly clubbed his faithful canine com-

panion "Black Dog" to death on the front steps of Hemingway's *finca*.

Finally Hemingway and his wife Mary were forced to return to the United States. Ketchum, Idaho became the new base of operations. Things were different however, and Hemingway's mental health began to follow the same course his physical health had been going for several years. He developed unwarranted suspicions. "The Feds are out to get me," he said. Everyone was plotting against him.

The death by cancer of his long-time friend Gary Cooper didn't help matters either. Hemingway began to develop self-destructive urges. He told his friend A. E. Hotchner, "Hotch, if I can't exist on my own terms, then existence is impossible. Do you understand? That is how I've lived, and that is how I *must* live — or not live."

Psychiatric treatment, including shock therapy at the renowned Mayo Clinic had no lasting effect. On July 2, 1961, Ernest Hemingway, winner of the Nobel and Pulitzer prizes, shot himself to death in his own home in Ketchum, Idaho — the victim of a shattered, personal world. Torn from the Cuban environment he loved, wracked by pain from his kidneys, beset with suspicions, fears and obsessions, Hemingway could no longer write. He had lost the will to live. In a sense he died twice. He had died *creatively* and that was the prelude to his physical death. His words to Hotch in 1959 summed it all up:

"The worst death for anyone is to lose the center of his being, the thing he really is. Retirement is the filthiest word in the language. Whether by choice or by fate, to retire from what you do — and what you do makes you what you are — is to back into the grave."

— Brian Knowles

GN/Booklets Managing Editor
Pasadena

The New Testament Documents (Are they reliable?) by F. F. Bruce, Inter-Varsity Press, February 1972, 120 pages, \$1.40.

In reading various books that seek to uphold the authority and authenticity of the Bible I noticed that the authors kept quoting from one book more than any other — *The New Testament Documents* by F. F. Bruce. After reading it I soon found out why. Dr. Bruce, it turns out, is one of Britain's leading conservative scholars and the Professor of Biblical Criticism at Manchester University in England. He has the knack of getting at the heart of the matter *and* in understandable prose.

His opening chapters on New Testament cano-

nization are replete with fascinating statistics and sound analogies. "The evidence for our New Testament writings is ever so much greater than evidence for many writings of classical authors, and the authenticity of which no one dreams of questioning" (page 15). How? Dr. Bruce points out that classical scholars have so far discovered only 9 or 10 good manuscripts for Caesar's *Gallie War*, twenty manuscripts for Livy's *Roman History* and eight manuscripts each for the Greek histories of Thucydides and Herodotus. How many for the New Testament then? "About 5,000 Greek manuscripts," says Dr. Bruce. "Fortunately if the great number of manuscripts increases the number of scribal errors, it increases proportionately the means of correcting such errors, so that *the margin of doubt is in truth remarkably small*" (page 19).

Papyrus fragments of various gospels and epistles are another source to check the authenticity of our New Testament. The John Rylands Library at Manchester has preserved a fragment of John 18:31-33 dated about 130 A.D. [Editor's note: most scholars agree it is at least earlier than 150.] in Egypt, showing that the Fourth Gospel was in circulation perhaps as early as forty years after it was written. This knocks in the head the idea that John's gospel was a Third or Fourth Century gnostic production — a common assumption of 19th Century Higher Criticism.

Another interesting point Dr. Bruce hammers at is that when the Catholic Church councils finally codified and collected these New Testament books, they were only codifying what was "already the general practice." They accepted books that were obviously authentic. So God's Word has not suffered at the hands of those who didn't understand it.

There are some interesting chapters on the authenticity of John's gospel, the proof of the resurrection, the evidence of Jesus' existence from extra-Christian sources and a remarkable defence of the writings of Luke, showing that Luke was a carefully accurate "historian of the first rank." Indeed there is so much useful, corroborative information in the book that it's hard to believe it encompasses only 120 pages.

Dr. Bruce has done his homework well.

— Neil Earle

Brandon, Manitoba
Canada

THE HANGING JUDGE MENTALITY

I don't know what judgments are being meted out by the Supreme Court of heaven, but I do

know that the lower — and unauthorized — courts in the minds of many members are clogged with cases. We seem to be "hanging judges" who are engaging in the kind of judgment and condemnation Christ warned about in Matthew 7:1-5, and Paul wrote against in Romans 14.

If I thought this were a peculiarly local, Pasadena problem I wouldn't be writing this. But I don't think it is confined to Southern California. My conclusion is based on conversations with members from many church areas and a number of heart-rending letters that have crossed my desk. It has been reinforced by the subject content of rumors on the grapevine. (In spite of — or because of — its evils, I have found the grapevine to be an accurate index of the problems, hangups, and misconceptions of members.)

To act as the judge, jury, and hangman of other people's lives seems to be a ubiquitous part of our mental makeup. We all pre-judge people on the basis of outward appearances or circumstantial evidence. We all comparison shop to find people with sins worse than ours so that we may feel less guilty. We all are too quick to accuse and condemn while too slow to forgive and forget.

But right now the problem seems to be particularly acute and widespread. Why? I dunno entirely, but I would like to advance a theory:

Of recent date, we have dumped a number of do's and don'ts about makeup and personal grooming. We have come to a new and better understanding of what is important in "being a Christian" and what is inconsequential. We have discarded some artificial yardsticks for measuring pseudo-spirituality.

Unfortunately, some people are still using these yardsticks, these immature modes of thinking, to pass value judgments on others. I guess it's the old story of time lag between a dramatic, fundamental change and the understanding, assimilation, and acceptance of it. To paraphrase Mark Twain, you don't throw old ideas, concepts, and habits out the window at once; they must be coaxed down the stairs one step at a time.

As I see it, the problem of judging unrighteously and over critically falls into three areas:

1) People are being judged on matters of *faith* — matters between them and God alone. The most egregious examples relate to healing and medicine. Members are being condemned behind their backs — and in some instances, even to their faces — for "lacking faith" when they resort to operations or medicine.

2) People are being criticized for their *life styles* and *personal tastes*. The bill of particulars here

includes dress styles, makeup, hair rinses and toupees.

3) People are being tried, convicted, and condemned for *personal weaknesses* and *shortcomings*. A woman recently wrote of being ostracized, for all practical purposes, by members for her personal problems. She stopped attending church and lapsed back into smoking. She would like to quit smoking, would like to return to the fellowship of the church. But where are the strong who will "bear with the failings of the weak" (Rom. 15:1) rather than criticize and shun?

So much more could be said, but I won't attempt to catalogue all the causes and manifestations of the problem. Neither will I propose a sweeping generalization, a neatly packaged cure-all for the problem. It's not that simple to treat; the problem varies in degree and nature from area to area and person to person.

I just hope that ministers will consider to what extent the "hanging judge" mentality exists in their congregations and what they can do to combat it, for I fear that this mentality may cause more members to fall by the wayside.

— D. Paul Graunke
GN Associate Editor
Pasadena

LETTER COMMENTS

(Continued from page 466)

"Thank you for the TITHING booklet. It was very good, and I'm fervently praying that it will inspire many thousands to cheerfully give generously, so that God's great Work can continue to forge ahead, despite the renewed threat of inflation."

— Mrs. Pennie Koskela
Green Bay, WI

"After reading the recent booklet on TITHING I can certainly say it was an impressive one with the right impact. I have been tithing on Social Security and have certainly been blessed many times over.

"I will continue to tithe as long as possible. My tithes have increased from the first small one five years ago, of \$3.00. They have kept increasing over the years. It has been a joy to be able to help in any small way in God's Work but tithing has been the most tangible result of 'Prove me herewith,' etc. I will continue but list it as 'offerings' since I read that Social Security is not required to be tithed on."

— Mrs. Clarence Booth
Hueytown, AL

"Previously I have been tithing on my Social Security check, which was a drain on my budget as my rent has been raised much higher. After reading the current booklet on TITHING I find I should not pay tithe on my Social Security. However, I want to send in as much offering as I am able to. My rent takes all of my Social Security check, but I am trying to live on the \$109.00 third tithe check I receive, for which I am so grateful, and I do thank God for His blessings."

— Mrs. Octavia Hubbell
Endicott, NY

"Thank you very much for the TITHING booklet. I enjoyed reading it, however, we would not consider not tithing even if you said it was not commanded to do so. I can think of no greater blessing than being able to tithe. In this way we help others and also ourselves. Tithing insures that our 'love does not wax cold'."

— Mr. & Mrs. Jerry L. Thompson
Cypress, TX

"I've just finished reading the booklet on TITHING. It's very good and very informative. Thanks for sending it to us. We learned things we didn't know before."

"When we learned that we, the Social Security people, are not obliged to give the ten percent, then our desire to give God what is rightfully His was more than ever. We have so many things to be thankful for. Our Great God never forsakes us, so we must help this great Work of God. We are sending \$5.00 more than the usual \$20.00, because we love our God and we are concerned about the souls that can be saved with our little help."

— Mrs. Libby Herrera
Questa, NM

"I received my new book on TITHING which makes it very plain and I am pleased with it."

— Mrs. Helen Cottingham
Hummelstown, PA

"I received and read the new TITHING booklet. My only regret is that it did not also discuss second and third tithe. But thank you for sending the booklet."

— Judy Jordahl
Sacramento, CA

"I've read some of the new TITHE booklet and we have decided not to change any of our methods of tithing. We would rather continue tithing on our gross income. Somehow our finances do work no matter how tight things get. We aren't starving,

nor homeless and we have clothes to wear, gas to drive on. So far our real estate taxes have gone out of sight. But we are counting on God to guide us in these end times."

— Mr. & Mrs. Eric Anderson
Chicago, IL

"I read in your booklet on TITHING that a person receiving governmental assistance in the form of Social Security or Supplemental Security Income is not required to pay any tithe. The reason I mention this is because I am such a person and yet I still want to support the Work just as much as I have in the past. Although I won't be tithing I will send an offering whenever I can."

— Stuart Salo
Boise, ID

"Just a short note to express our deepest gratitude for the TITHING booklet! The thing that really stuck out in my mind after reading it was that tithing is based on the principle of giving! God is so very giving with us, and only asks 10% of us! It's incredible to think we can be His partner, His heir, His begotten child and He only asks for 10%! (It could have been 60%)

"I can only say how thankful I am to have a part in this Work — in tithes, but more than that — in offerings and prayers."

"Thank you again for the booklet."

— Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Wise
Aurora, CO

"I believe that the introduction to the TITHING booklet, through the section pointing out the seemingly obvious fact the NT references to scriptures and their validity are to the OT, should be included in all of your publications. I feel I have a reasonable endowment of common sense, but this simple fact eluded me until I read it in black and white in one of your past GN articles."

— Ed McFadin
Irving, TX

From Co-Workers

"I have received and read with much interest your new publication, TITHING, which explains what is to be Church doctrine on this vital subject. I must say the booklet leaves me refreshed and inspired, not without things to think about, of course, but ready to forge ahead to greater things in this great worldwide work. The booklet is written in, as was immediately apparent to me, a different tone than most of the other literature published by your organization. It is clear that much work was put into this project, and that

input was used from many varied sources. To me this signifies not division within the Church, but a kind of divinely inspired unity among the separate factions, that these matters can be handled sensibly by entirely serious and dedicated men, moved by a hope and a faith in what is right, and moved by a desire to act within the overall will and plan of God."

— Norman L. Shoaf, Jr.
St. Louis, MO

"Thank you for the booklet on TITHING, with your letter attached. We find it is interesting and explanatory, and I do believe in giving freely the 10% of my income, although at times, to be honest, I think about keeping that percent and spending it for my own needs, as the cost of living seems to be on the increase and even the cost of water — one very necessary thing we drink and use for many purposes — has recently more than doubled here. But then I hear you speak, Garner Ted, and also read the literature and letters, then decide it will be best used in the greatest Work on earth being fulfilled now."

— Mrs. James Berry
Oakley, CA

"I want to thank you for the new TITHING booklet. I give and know that it is the thing to do. Just think what this world would be like if we all gave tithes to God. I pray that this new TITHING booklet will produce fruit for Christ's Work. They would be happy in doing so. I know, for I am happy doing it."

— Mrs. John Addleman
New Philadelphia, OH

"Congratulations on the new booklet, TITHING. I really liked the way it was written. Thank you for making it all so clear."

— Margaret R. Leonard
Jacksonville, FL

"I received the booklet on TITHING. Well, that's nothing new. It tells all about it in the Bible. Thanks anyway. There are a lot of people that don't read that Book you know, but as for me, well, I am 82 years old and I grew up reading the Book."

— Inga E. Fisk
Watertown, SD

"I finished reading the new booklet on TITHING which was sent to me a while back.

"I suppose a lot of people who send in their tithes and offerings to this Work have their own particular reason why they tithe.

"I have often asked myself the question, 'Why do I tithe?' 'For what reason?' When I first started tithing I had the attitude that I might get something in return, but through the years that attitude has changed.

"Now I want to give to God because He commands it, and not to do so would be stealing from Him.

"Your booklet pointed out that it shows honor, love, respect to the Creator. This is exactly the way I feel towards Him. In this small way I can obey Him by paying my tithes to this Work.

"Your new booklet has helped me a lot, as I'm sure it will others. I'm hoping this Work will grow ever stronger."

— Reuben Dittus
Fargo, ND

"I truly appreciate your booklet on TITHING. It has opened to me new and forgotten understanding from our Creator God. I'm going to show how grateful I am by sending my full tithe and offering. Thank you so very much."

— Edward P. Buchanan
Seattle, WA

"The brand new booklet on TITHING is very good and it shows how merciful and good our Father is in revealing to us that if hardships exist in tithing from the gross, then we should tithe on the net of our income. It is a real blessing to the very poor in the Church.

"This booklet more than any other is going to unite us even more for now we know exactly what our Father expects of us. I sure hope that it will be translated into the Spanish language and other languages as soon as possible."

— Domingo Quilems
New York, NY

"Thank you for the important booklet — TITHING! We are sincerely grateful in knowing that this booklet will be read by tens of thousands of people, and we are praying with all the rest of you that the new Tithing booklet produces fruit for Christ's Work on this earth! We sure do believe in the power of prayer, and try to do what you tell us!

"Thank you once again for the booklet. I understand by reading your booklet that I am not required to tithe since I am totally disabled and I am receiving Disability Insurance checks for my wife and children and me — nevertheless, I am paying God His 10% anyway and I am proud that my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ lets me do so! I

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Ministerial Education & Training

THE MINISTERIAL SABBATICAL — HOW IT WORKS

The Ministry as a whole, and the pastors individually are an invaluable and dynamic part of the Church. The challenges and demands of their leadership and service are many.

So that our ministers can have a chance to return to H.Q. and be refreshed, and have the FREE TIME after several years of work to invest in study and in keeping up with the latest developments in their professional area, the Church is continuing its established program of ministerial Sabbaticals.

Mr. Armstrong has long recognized the need to improve the quality of our ministerial skills. It was *he who originated* many years ago the program of ministerial education and training to help insure a highly trained and competent ministry.

Because leaders in business are realizing how important it is, they are now, at great expense and dislocation of personnel, copying the Sabbatical principle. A notable example was the educational experiment carried out by Bell Telephone Company.

Bell took several of its top executives and gave them nine months off — away from the scene of business — the phones — the conferences — the sales — the contracts, etc. . . .

This cost the company a substantial amount of money and much juggling of personnel to fill the gaps, but the chief executives thought it was worth the price.

The Bell executives were given a liberal arts program including literature, music, and history. At first many of the participants had trouble with their attitudes. It all seemed so irrelevant and far away from the tough, practical world of business these executives had been used to. It was a full schedule for them and required a good deal of effort, although of a different nature. When it was all over and these men were back on the job, they were interviewed as to the benefits and the effects of the program.

The main benefits expressed by the executives were — a deeper sense of security and an inner relaxation. Their attitudes had been changed by

the curriculum. Business was more a *part* of life instead of being their *whole* life as it had seemed formerly. They still enjoyed their work but their lives now had a broader base with more facets. This had a very beneficial effect on their insights and judgments and executive decisions they made for the company. They had more depth and breadth.

Needless to say, the chief executives at Bell were more than pleased. They knew they had made a wise and valuable investment in upgrading the quality of their executive personnel.

And so it is with The Ministerial Sabbatical Program. It is not simply an annual ritual of the church. It is a multi-thousand dollar educational investment on behalf of the ministry, the Work, and the Church.

How the Sabbatical Works

The classes that make up the educational Sabbatical are conducted on a graduate level and in a graduate atmosphere. Many important contributions come from the thinking and experience of the fellows in the class. The format is not on the undergraduate level where you might learn 29 words from *30 Days to a More Powerful Vocabulary* and have a quick test on them. Neither are you quizzed on your memory skills with scripture references. The class format is of the seminar type where you can speak freely in a give and take atmosphere.

First Discussions

One of the first class discussions we usually have is concerning various attitudes that ministers have about coming to headquarters for a Sabbatical. There is a wide spectrum of attitudes and some of them fall into the negative area.

"I'm not good enough — I need more training."

"I've not been doing a good job."

"They think I am not loyal to H.Q."

"My superior called them up and gave me a bad report and now I have had it."

"They are taking me out there to give me a grilling and put me on a rack in the ministerial prison."

Several mature souls think from the positive angle.

"What a fantastic opportunity — a year free from field responsibilities" (just like the Bell executives).

"A year free to rest up and renew the health of myself and my family."

A year free to study and gain more knowledge will make me a more able and useful minister to the church in the future."

After a good class discussion on the subject, the men are more excited and positive about the program — convinced that the reason for their sabbatical is genuine Headquarters interest and investment in ministerial quality.

One of the subjects we are going into this semester is the somewhat controversial one of professionalism in the ministry.

“PROFESSIONALISM”

In his book, *A Minister's Obstacles*, Ralph G. Turnbull goes into what he calls the “spectre of professionalism.” This is the concept of “professional” meaning a paid professional — or a hireling. This connotation views the professional in a sinister light. He is a rather heartless, cold-eyed soul doing the job for money. Or, in another light, he can be a fossil from academea — formal, stiff, artificial, book-wormish, and impersonal.

This, of course, is true of some professionals. When the pursuit of professionalism takes away the spontaneity, the personal interest and involvement, the dedication and concern, it is time to throw it out the window.

Another concept is that of the professional in contrast to the amateur. That is, you are either highly trained and competent and know what you are doing, or you are an unskilled newcomer without training who is dabbling in the field — a sort of hammy amateur.

Roots and Origins

The root of the word professional or professionalism comes from an old Middle English word meaning “professed” or “bound by a vow.” In other words, a specially called or set apart group of people doing a job. It came to mean a group of people engaged in a special occupation.

Historically, the three learned professions were Theology, Law, and Medicine which have been joined by numerous others since the advent of higher education.

Professionalism usually implies a certain standard of quality in the sense of doing distinctly professional work. In a positive sense, it means the AIMS and QUALITIES and the CONDUCT that are characteristic of the profession — the profession being the body of persons engaged in a calling.

The Profession — a Unifying Institution

The profession as an institution can be a great force for unity within the Church. Unity is a great concern of most professions especially in the theological area.

Of course, by unity we don't mean conformity

necessarily. There is still plenty of room in a unified team-type structure for freedom of thought and speech and views as long as they are handled properly and directed along the appropriate channels. It is interesting to look into the effects that geography and administrative division have on identity and unity.

Geography, Administration, and Profession

Geography is a fact of life we have to live with. The ministry has to work in different geographical areas. This is a worldwide work. The ministry of God is at work around the world in widely separated geographical areas. We have representatives here from different parts of the world. If the geographical area you worked in happened to be outside the U.S.A., you worked in what used to be known as the foreign Work. Now it is called the international Work.

In the U.S.A. which has sub-continental dimensions, the Work has to be done in a number of different geographical and administrative regions.

The regions are sub-divided into church circuits and then down into local areas. All these geographical and administrative divisions are necessary for detailed efficient operation and care of the church.

There is, however, a built-in problem. You can start to develop a local identity — a short and narrow church concept and identity. This is usually a sub-divided geographical or administrative identity. “I am in the U.S. Work. You are in the foreign Work.” “I am in the New York church. You are in the Philadelphia church.” “I am in the Atlanta district. You are in the Detroit district.” And so on and on it goes. Local, regional, national, even *zip-code* administrative, *identities*, *loyalties* and *affiliations*. We must sub-divide because of geography and administrative needs. But we also need to synthesize and weld together all the subdivisions and parts and pieces into one unifying whole with which we identify and to which we give our allegiance.

For example, in ancient Israel because of lineage and geographical land inheritance, the people belonged to different tribes. “I am of Gad, you are of Naphtali.” They had sub-sectional identities. But, they also had an overall unifying identity — the nation of Israel. Regardless to which tribe they belonged, they were all Israelites. It is the same with the ministry. Regardless of the subsection of the work in which we are serving, we are all part of a larger overall institution — the ministry of Jesus Christ.

A profession is a body of persons engaged in a

calling. Lawyers, doctors, dentists, no matter where they work, have an overall identity with the general medical or legal profession.

We must realize we need to have a professional relationship with our fellow minister whether he works in Africa, Alaska, New Zealand, or Kentucky, whether or not we have even met him. He is not in a different Work because he doesn't work in our local/regional/national — or continental area.

The concept of profession is a very unifying one, because it synthesizes local and regional identities and builds them up into one overall identity — the ministry of Jesus Christ.

When a minister has this concept in his mind, local and regional needs and aims are subordinated to the needs and aims and the good of the entire group. The institution of the profession is at work.

When this happens, individual desires and interests are considered in the light of the common good. The equation becomes not "me and mine," but "we and ours" and *conduct* tends to *regulate itself* accordingly.

These are a few of the concepts we are studying into during this semester in the M.E.T. area and we would like your comments on the subject.

Please feel free to write up any thoughts you have in this area, and especially any research you have done or books you would like to recommend.

— MET Staff

LETTER COMMENTS

(Continued from page 474)

hope and pray that others will do the same as we are doing, giving God 10% anyway for His Work, whether they are working or not, for it prepares one in giving God His 10% if and when that person gets well enough to go to work!"

— William H. Higginbotham
Terre Haute, IN

"We have been blessed so greatly since we began to tithe several years ago. It seems each time an unexpected expense arises, we get some type of extra income. The Lord has certainly been looking after us.

"We were very excited to receive your new booklet on TITHING. There were a few questions we ourselves were confused about that were answered completely at the end of the booklet."

— Bill & Dorothy Heidenreich
Butler, PA

"Thank you very much for sending the booklet, *Tithing*. It was much needed, as I needed a reminder and a 'push' in the right direction, as I have not sent in the tithes I should have for a very long time.

"I have determined that tithing shall be first and any other spending shall be second. I have no excuse for letting down on my responsibilities to the Work."

— Loren H. Westcott
Springfield, IL

"Thanks for the booklet on TITHING. After reading it, we saw we were tithing monies that were not necessary. But we sat down and talked it over, and decided to go on giving as we had been. We enjoy giving to the Work of God, and so as long as it is possible we will continue to do so. As you have said so many times, one cannot out-give God."

— Mr. & Mrs. L. Perry
Punta Gorda, FL

"I received your book on TITHING. I believe if one would just read [Malachi] Chapter 3:8-9-10 KJV, he will have his answer. And a challenge to prove him.

"I have found it so — the first thing I do is to pay my tithe and give my gifts. I am a man in my 79th year and I tithe on my pension and any other gains."

— Mr. R. M. Chaddock
Glen Dale, WV

"I'm writing to thank you for sending me the booklet, TITHING. It cleared up a lot of things I was somewhat unsure of. Also I would like to include some accumulated tithes here, and now that I know, I will be sending them in more regularly."

— Milan Janicich
Redwood City, CA

"Today I received your latest booklet on TITHING. I haven't had a chance to read it all the way through yet, but I did read the chapter on 'Principles of Administration.' It has cleared up a few things I wasn't sure of."

— Paul R. Summers
Alton, IL

