

The **Bulletin**

of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College



VOLUME 4, NUMBER 7

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JUNE 15, 1976

AICF WELL RECEIVED

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Dateline South Africa

I have found the many hundreds of members in South Africa already familiar with the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation and are enthusiastic about it. They feel this is a big step forward in God's Work and want to be solidly behind it.

This leads me to want to express my personal appreciation and gratitude to the two men whose enthusiastic, diligent, and tireless energies have been primarily responsible for bringing the AICF into being and developing it into its great success. They are Stanley R. Rader and Robert L. Kuhn.

Although they give me full credit as founder of the foundation — I would like you to know they are the ones who came up with the *idea* and whose diligent, almost night and day efforts, launched and developed this important phase of the Work. About all I have contributed to it was to approve the *idea* and each step in its launching and development when they sought my approval or rejection was to say: "Okay — great, go right ahead." They did all the work of masterminding it and directing its development and then they tried to give me all the credit. ☐

"Well," said Mr. Rader, "you gave us the inspiration." And I reply, if so, then I am grateful to have had that much to do with it. *I'm* inspired by what it has done for the Work and I know God is well pleased.

Not enough credit has been given to these two men so staunchly and loyally behind Garner Ted and me. We both love them beyond words and they certainly have our unqualified and implicit confidence and I want credit to go where credit is due.

Our Work is in God's eyes the most important activity in 1900 years. God has raised up and is tremendously using these men. *Pray* for them constantly as well as Garner Ted and me. ☐

THE SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGICAL PROJECT

A Progress Report

by Robert L. Kuhn and Lester L. Grabbe

The Systematic Theology Project — a project wanted and needed for many years — is off the ground. By this time many of you have already received assignments. In most cases you volunteered. We are *very happy* about that. (In some cases you may not have exactly volunteered... but since that was undoubtedly due to modesty on your part, we gave you an assignment, anyway. We hope *you* are happy about that!)

The Project is very much a group effort. There has to be a structure for taking care of the mechanics of the project and there have to be editors. Yet the Project is very much a *Worldwide Church of God endeavor* in general — and a function of the ministry and Ambassador College theology departments in particular. Without contributions from many different writers, it could not be done.

By the way, before going further, any reading this who have not volunteered are welcome to contribute. Just let us know what subjects you are interested in.

Progress Since the Conference

During the Conference, an outline of the "STP" was passed out. It is almost exactly one month later as you read this. During that time we have gone over the outline again and made some

improvements, though most of these have been in detail rather than general structure (your assignments were marked on copies of the most recent outline). A good deal of time was spent in assigning topics to various writers since only a minority of the topics were specifically requested and a number had requested the same topics.

Two weeks ago assignments were marked on copies of the outline and mailed to all contributors. These included all Area Coordinators and Senior Pastors, all theology faculty of both campuses, other interested personnel of the Church and College, and all ministers who volunteered. (If you fall in one of these categories but have not received your assignment, please let us know.)

Since we felt it important to receive contributions from more than one perspective, we have sometimes assigned the same topic to more than one person, with the idea that each will approach it differently. This should allow a more thorough treatment of each topic and make sure nothing major is overlooked.

The Project From Here

About now, all those with assignments "should be" finishing up their first paper. After the first paper, due July 1 at the latest, another subject should be written up each two weeks until all topics are finished.

Many may feel they need more time for research — and perhaps logically so in some cases. But for those who have been preaching basic doctrine for many years, it should not be difficult to cover a basic subject in short order. Just use your old sermon outlines, any basic literature, and put the thoughts down. Writing style is not important at this stage. What we want now are your thoughts and experience on paper to give us material to work with.

As papers come in, they will be sent to various of our experienced editors, including Mr. Brian Knowles, Mr. John Schroeder, Dr. Dorothy, Dr. Hoeh, and Mr. Dart. For specialized topics other people with expertise in the area will be asked to edit as well. When various editors have had a chance to make comments and suggestions, a final paper will be produced on the topic.

Generally, the emphasis will be on concise statements similar to the paper on Race Relations given out at the recent conference. On more speculative or historical subjects, however, various possibilities or alternatives for understanding may be presented. Thus, the final product will be somewhat encyclopedic in form rather than an exclusive "article of belief."

Our object is to have a first draft on all topics in

The Bulletin

of the Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College

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the STP outline by the Feast of Tabernacles (thus the emphasis on haste). Naturally, this draft will not have the depth or maturity of reflection ultimately desired. But it will be a *working draft* to serve as a *basis* for the mature product to come later.

Once we have the first draft, it should be circulated to the ministry and other qualified individuals for evaluation, critique, cogitation, and homilization. For a period of time — perhaps six months — you will have the chance to use it and consider it. Then, after you have thoroughly analyzed it for improvements, we would hope to produce a second version which reflects the collective mind of the leadership in God's Church. Perhaps that version may be made available to a wider audience than just the ministry. We've begun some preliminary thinking on publishing a substantial hard-cover book — to be distributed to book stores around the world.

This does not mean that at that time we can rest on our laurels as if no further doctrinal work needed doing. There will always be room for growth, deeper understanding, and even a re-evaluation of various beliefs when necessary. The Worldwide Church of God can never cease to grow and change.

(Continued on page 143)

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91123

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
President and Pastor

GARNER TED ARMSTRONG
Executive Vice-President

June 11, 1976

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

GREETINGS! As you will see from the many excerpts in this Bulletin, there have been warm and glowing comments from almost all who attended the conference, either verbally or expressed through memoranda and letters subsequently. Without attempting to overly belabor the point, I merely want to tell you that I read each one of the letters or notes sent to me personally, and this kind of communication, of sharing with one another as brothers in Christ's Work, the depth of our feelings of satisfaction and appreciation for a job unitedly well done is very much appreciated. It truly was "the best conference ever" in many important respects. I was particularly impressed by one statement in an article written by Russell Chandler in the Los Angeles Times in which he mentioned the word "maturing." While I cannot agree that the Church of God is ever going to mature into what might be a traditional mainstream religion, meaning just another "denomination," I am very pleased to see that there is definite progress being made in the ministry and the church in our internal doctrinal, administrative and pastoral procedures, as well as in our attitude and approach toward the outside world.

I think this is most clearly seen in the doctrinal statements I read to you and the AICF discussions regarding our dimension in the local community (such as community involvement programs, community service, relief for disaster victims, local pastors becoming involved with their various service organizations, volunteering time to help patients in hospitals whether members of the Worldwide Church of God or not, speaking before public groups, promoting cultural events, etc., etc.).

As you will see from the article in this issue, plans are rolling along for the development and ultimate completion of our Systematic Theology Project, and we are truly amassing the very best cross-section of talent and research ability in the entire ranks of the church.

This will finally bring to fruition something I had hoped for now for nearly 15 years. Many years ago I voiced that it was a tragedy for an organization as large as ours to expect both its supporters and/or the general public, reporters, even enemies to glean points of doctrine and statements of belief from scattered bits and pieces of magazines, articles, co-worker letters and member letters, which were primarily seasonal, crisis-oriented, exhortive and corrective, written from the point of view of convincing the world of the truth, rather than in scholarly, exegetical or doctrinal form.

Finally, as was evidenced in some of the points brought up several years ago, those apprehensions of mine proved to be reality. Even to this day, as we continually strive toward far more formal presentation of what I hope are maturing doctrinal views, enemies and dissidents still seize upon articles or letters in order to "prove" some alleged error.

This very large systematic research project in which we are enlisting the aid of so many of you is of very great importance--and I want to encourage all of you (who either volunteered or who were volunteered) to give it your very best, because I believe the systematic cataloging and exposition of the doctrines of the church in a formal manner is one of the foremost projects we should speed to completion.

In another sense, of course, such a project can never be truly complete, simply because we do not have all of the truth--nor will we in this age; that growing in grace and knowledge is a process; and just as in the case of those spoken "judgments" which had to be rendered from written "statutes" in the days of Moses were voiced by those in positions of authority to cover changing human attitudes and conditions, so in this rapidly changing space age there will come before the ministry of the church various challenges in the form of shifting values and circumstances which will render it necessary for a continual upgrading and improvement on such statements of belief.

Here's more exciting news! I had a meeting with Henry Cornwall just the other day, in which I was able to go over more new radio and television avails and approved a number of them. While contracts may not have been signed in all cases, and some of the arrangements are still tentative, nevertheless, as soon as the necessary paperwork can be completed, we should be able to reach many additional hundreds of thousands with a powerful message over radio and/or television in the following areas:

WHLM - Holland, Ky., Mon.-Fri. - 6:30 p.m.
WENT - Gloversville, N.Y., Mon.-Fri. - 7:00 p.m.
WBUK - Kalamazoo, Mich., Mon.-Fri. - 8:00 p.m.
KVOW - Riverton, Wy., Mon.-Fri. - 7:05 p.m.
KWJJ - Portland, Ore., Mon.-Fri. - 9:15 p.m., Sun. - 9:30 p.m.
KHSL - Chico, Ca., Mon.-Fri. - 7:30 p.m.
KHSL-TV - Chico, Ca., Sun. - 10:30 a.m.
WLIL - Lenoir City, Tenn., Mon.-Fri. - 8:00 a.m.
WRD - Hammonton, N.J., Mon.-Fri. - 10:00 p.m.
KLCL - Lake Charles, La., Mon.-Fri. - 10:00 p.m.

I hope it is not necessary to set up some separate vehicle whereby each local pastor can be encouraged to announce in church services two weeks or so consecutively of the fact that the program is now heard over a new station in your area, but I encourage all of you in areas affected by these announcements, either in these pages or in the Worldwide News, to remember to announce it publicly so that everyone is informed.

Just last Sabbath, I did another standup sermon before our television cameras in the Pasadena Auditorium on the subject of "Why God Hides Himself" and the many proofs available to physical human beings that there is in fact not only a spirit world, but that there are countless, hidden, unseen laws by which we live and function, and that these forces, energies and living laws are just as real, even though unseen, as anything we can come to know. I hope we will obtain at least two radio programs and possibly two half-hour television programs or a one hour special out of that sermon. I have already selected a good cross-section of what we felt were the best television programs of the past season, plus one or two which have not yet been released (resulting from earlier sermons videotaped), and so am now already working on television programs for the next fall season.

On Sunday morning I flew to Portland for Pentecost afternoon services with the combined Oregon churches of Portland, Salem and Eugene, and spoke to a crowd of just under 2,000 brethren and remained over for a combined church dance that evening. The visit in Oregon was very enjoyable, the brethren very warm and friendly, and of course the excitement generated by the recent conference still obvious in all the ministry up there who send their greetings and love to all the rest of you around the world. Larry Haworth and his wife, together with other officials with the "Bikecentennial"--cross-country bicycle tour--were present, and pictures were taken in a park adjacent to the hotel prior to their departure (some days ago now) from the seashore near Astoria, Oregon. As you probably noted in the Worldwide News, approximately 90 cyclists including students from the colleges as well as members who volunteered and wanted to become involved will dip their rear wheels in the Pacific Ocean at the sea coast near Astoria and ride on a cross-country route which will take them all the way to the Atlantic Ocean.

I have been in close communication with my father since his trip to South Africa, where he is presently remaining at the time of the writing of this Bulletin, and everything is going exceedingly well there. In a letter received from him the other day he described his visit to Oman, and subsequent arrival in South Africa. He has been having quite a number of meetings with officials at various levels, and seems to be in very fine health and accomplishing much for God's Work in that part of the world. In that connection, I received a telex from Bob Fahey, requesting the American edition of the PLAIN TRUTH for South Africa, because even though the British and European edition is extremely well designed for our British reading public, current political conditions, most especially British factions and political attitudes toward southern Africa have meant that British content in the PLAIN TRUTH does not go over very well in South Africa.

I have received, by the way, either personal letters or telexes from quite a number of our office managers in far-flung areas, and hope all of you will be remembering your brothers who are laboring in the Philippines, Australia, South Africa, Europe, Canada and elsewhere.

Now I am going, hopefully, to try to spend a few days as I can here and there during the summer in as much solitude as I can find to continue work on "The Real Jesus" book which I sincerely hope can be completed sometime prior to the end of the year. Mr. John R. Schroeder, Assistant Managing Editor of the GOOD NEWS and the booklets--and truly one of the "unsung" heroes of God's Work--is proving to be invaluable help in special research I have asked for, and while I think it may be necessary to rework material two or three times, I hope that the final product will be a very valuable contribution to the Work.

That's about it for now.

Your brother in Christ,



ABOUT THE BULLETIN

As a result of the recommendations of various ministerial and HQ executive personnel, it has been decided to begin publishing *The Bulletin* on a once a month basis. The format will remain the same. However, each issue will probably be a little fatter due to accumulation of management and ministerial news. Of course, we can and will publish "special editions" whenever the need should arise. We solicit all of our readers to let us know how they feel about *The Bulletin*, and how you think we can improve it to serve you better. (Please notice our new column, "For Your Interest . . ." in this issue.)

With the coming issue we will also begin printing the first sermon outlines as per Mr. Ted Armstrong's desire which he expressed in the April 6 edition. As you will recall, Mr. Armstrong suggested that all ministers begin to occasionally send in a sermon outline which they feel would give others ideas for sermons along similar lines. Mr. Armstrong made a similar request during the conference. I'm sorry to report that the response thus far has been slight.

We would like to encourage every minister to review Mr. Armstrong's comments in the above mentioned *Bulletin*, then give thought to one or more sermons which he thinks would be of benefit to other congregations, and send us an outline or two. As Mr. Armstrong stated in his letter, "In this way, we will have an immediate reservoir of excellent topical material from which to select various sermon outlines which would be disseminated to you all."

Your response to the above items will certainly be appreciated.

— Managing Editor



DIXIE COLLEGE

ST. GEORGE, UTAH - 84770

FERRON C. LOSEE
President

*Office of
The President*

June 2, 1976

Dr. Garner Ted Armstrong
300 West Green Street
Pasadena, California 91123

Dear Dr. Armstrong:

Let me join the many who have expressed such positive reaction to your stirring address at our Baccalaureate services on May 28. We have received numerous favorable comments, all high in praise for the manner in which you treated your subject, "Where Are You Going?"

In addition, your magnetic personality, and splendid, rich singing voice have also been topics of continuing conversation.

All in all, your fine contribution in making our Commencement Week interesting, successful, and one long to remember, was greatly appreciated.

We hope your stay in St. George was enjoyable, and your return flight to California pleasant.

Again, our thanks.

Sincerely,

Dan C. Watson
Commencement Chairman

(Editor's Note: We thought to reproduce the above letter of appreciation from Dixie College for the interest of all our readers.)

Pastoral Administration

Greetings from headquarters! By now I suppose everyone is settled back into his routine after a ministerial conference that was anything *but* routine. I don't recall any conference since I have been in the Work that has generated so much enthusiasm across so broad a front. I know all you fellows appreciated the conference, but are you aware how much *we* appreciated your *response*? Believe me, it was *most* encouraging!

The day following the conference, we had a meeting of the area coordinators to get down to serious discussions of some of the questions many of you have been raising. The agenda included ministerial trainees, the "Sabbath school" concept, the Pastoral Administration budget, and several miscellaneous topics. The first item we discussed was the "Youth Educational Services" (Sabbath school) as it is one of the leading subjects in the mail we get from members.

If having an intense interest in the project were all that it needed to get it off the ground, this one would be fully established. Unfortunately, most every program that's been suggested so far is prohibitively expensive. After prolonged discussion, we felt that this was one area where we could not afford to take the plunge all at once, but rather would have to ease our way into the water. With that in mind, we decided not to cancel any existing programs, but to introduce new programs with some caution.

For the time being, we have decided that the basic Sabbath service format of the Church must remain intact. Whatever activities we conduct, they should not exceed the two-hour maximum Sabbath service limit. In other words, we do not want a "Sabbath school" established for one hour before Sabbath services where the kids have got three hours in some form of regulated activity. Alongside of this, we felt that under no circumstances should the time allotted for the sermon be reduced to below one hour. Ideally, we felt that such programs might run thirty to forty-five minutes, at the end of which time the young people would return to the Sabbath service where they would spend the next hour listening to the sermon.

Some have questioned any necessity for the children being at services, but that question was answered long ago when Sabbath schools were first abandoned. In principle, we have historically

held that families should be at church *together*. That principle remains. I think all of us have been surprised from time to time at what our children have gotten out of services. Some of their insights and questions have been absolutely astonishing when we thought all they were doing was sitting on the floor coloring.

We also felt that it was not necessary for a youth program to take place every Sabbath. Therefore, we are setting a temporary guideline of twenty Sabbath services per year during which up to one hour of the allocated time may be spent in an educational program. All such programs must be approved at the area coordinator level, and all other Sabbath services should follow the traditional format.

Under no circumstances should any program involve any extra expenditure. Even with all the economies we can institute, next year's church budget is staggering!

As time goes by, we want to carefully evaluate the programs we have, improve them, and gradually develop the expertise to have a first-class youth educational program.

We also discussed the problem of making written material available for parents or teachers to use with children and the attendant costs involved. It was suggested that we might produce a correspondence course for parents to use to teach their children at home. Obviously, the costs on this would be prohibitive *unless* we are able to charge a modest price for them and perhaps distribute them through the college bookstore.

I'm including all this in *The Bulletin* so that you will have an opportunity to pass on your impression and suggestions to your area coordinator after, perhaps, discussing them with other pastors.

Other things discussed with the area coordinators were the format for meetings, the relationship with the senior pastor and area coordinator, the role of assistant/associate pastors, the open-door policy in the churches, the work load of the ministry, and the systems for handling ordinations and new churches. We hope to have another meeting around July 26 so you have until then to make your feelings known to the area coordinator on any of these subjects.

Be sure and give your attention to the material you'll find in this issue of *The BULLETIN* regarding the Systematic Theology project. I am really impressed with the thought that has gone into this and with its potential for making our job a lot easier. We'll sure appreciate your prayers *and your involvement*.

By now, you've all learned of the difficult decision we had to make regarding the termination of all the ministerial trainees in the United States. We discussed this with the area coordinators and, while we felt it would hurt us in our work load, we still felt we had to do it. Even though the income is presently up slightly, we've been picking up new radio stations as rapidly as we possibly can. As a result, we're well over the budget for radio and television this year. Needless to say, the money to make up that overage has to come from somewhere, and we are only one of many departments that have had to chip in. In any case, after much discussion with everyone concerned — and especially with Mr. Ted Armstrong — the decision was made. I have little doubt there will be certain inequities in it, but believe me, it was the best decision we could come up with in a hard circumstance. We will appreciate your support of the decision.

As is often the case, a few members interpreted the layoff of "their" ministerial trainee as an indication that he has somehow failed, and they immediately rose to his defense. Actually, none of the men that we are presently letting go is a failure. All of them have been performing quite well on the job, and *we don't want them to leave the ministry*. Mr. Ted Armstrong hoped that they would all try to find work in the area where they are presently living and continue to serve in their same capacity as ministerial trainees. Under no circumstances are their *opportunities* to be diminished simply because they have gone off the payroll. If they were giving sermons before, they should continue giving sermons. If, for any reason, their speaking opportunities are diminished, it is the responsibility of the pastor to explain to the man *why*.

It's our hope that the young men we are letting go will consider this a challenge rather than a penalty and realize that they have the opportunity to win the same kind of reward the Apostle Paul was after by making his service to God's people "without charge."

One of the greatest feelings the ministerial trainees will have to fight is the feeling of rejection that naturally follows in this circumstance. To all of them I say that we still want and desire their services in the ministry every bit as much as we ever did. But we simply cannot afford to pay them for the time being.

This week we are preparing the 1976-1977 budget, and even after the laying off of the ministerial trainees, it has held some unpleasant surprises.

Rising costs have really presented us with some problems. Not only do we have to cope with the rising costs of gasoline, communications, auto repairs and hall rentals, but we also have to cope with the problems of growth — new churches, additional lease cars, etc., etc. On top of all that, we have to cope with the increase in your personal cost of living — if we ignored that, you'd be feeling the pinch even more than you are.

In spite of the budget crunch, we have been able to make some salary adjustments. The Business Office is making available a sum which we are going to distribute as equitably as we possibly can. Our basic approach this year is to try to adjust somewhat to the increase in cost of living and make compensation for changes in responsibility. We are not able at present to adjust our compensation based on a man's performance as we have no valid ministry-wide evaluation of performance at the present. We are, however, working on such a program right now.

Probably the most serious budget constraint after the laying off of the ministerial assistants is that we are not going to be able to add any new salaries for the coming fiscal year. Previously, I had thought we could budget for a very few and had told the area coordinators that we would be able to bring a few — perhaps eleven — full-time men back in during the coming year. Now, it appears that we will not be able to do even that. This could be discouraging, but I think we should consider it a challenge instead. We may not be able to work harder, but perhaps we can work a little smarter and redistribute our manpower to be more effective. I hope that the ministry will continue to grow in the next twelve months, but the growth will be qualitative, not quantitative. As the weeks go by, we'll be letting you know where the most serious manpower needs exist and we'll really appreciate your cooperation in freeing up any surplus manpower to move into those areas.

Our first impulse in being called on to do this will be an anguished cry. I guess we're all entitled to that — providing we all turn with a will to solve the problem.

We'll be looking forward to hearing from some of you to let us know where we might pry loose a little available manpower to help out in some of the really hard-pressed areas. Let us hear from you as soon as possible.

Thanks for all the letters of encouragement and support. Your cooperative spirit makes our work a joy.

— Ronald L. Dart

MINISTERIAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT SUMMER SEMINAR

Pastoral Administration is pleased to announce its first program under the new ministerial career development concept as presented during the conference.

This newly innovated project is designed to help the whole man. Its objectives consider theological growth, pastoral and ministerial effectiveness as well as consideration of personal needs of each person committed to the ministering of God's people.

Our first seminar is scheduled between July 26, 1976 and August 4, 1976. It will be held at the Big Sandy campus.

The seminars will fill 7½ days of classes and will provide 37½ hours of college level instruction. Social and recreational opportunities will be provided, such as fishing, swimming, boating, horseback riding, social get togethers and more. This will present an exciting and unique educational development program. We invite those of you who will be attending to bring your wives and children if possible.

Some classes will deal with human development, preaching, community involvement, marital compatibility, law, finance, counselling, as well as church doctrine and others.

These schools under ministerial career development are open to everyone serving ministerially in local areas. We are attempting to make them accredited so these credits can be applied toward the certificate of the ministry if some come to Ambassador in the future.

This field seminar will be open to application from any graduate of Ambassador who qualifies as a ministerial candidate, or any elder or local church elder who is able to secure time off from his job. Of course, it is also open to application from all full time ministers. Approved applicants will be provided full expenses for the seminar they will attend.

Under the ministerial career development program all men serving ministerially, ordained or non-ordained, fall into two categories. One is the career ministry (in our employ) and the non-career ministry (not in our employ). This summer ministerial school is open to both categories. All non-ordained men in the program are considered *ministerial candidates*. As Mr. Dart indicated during the conference, this program has a broad, well lit, two-way street. It also allows a non-career

minister to become a career minister if it fills the needs of the man and the church.

For those who will remain in the non-career ministry, the program will provide optimum educational opportunity for individual and ministerial development as well as personal career guidance.

If you are interested, please write a personal letter to us expressing your desire, and we will accept it as your application for registration. Be sure to receive your pastor's signature for approval, and mail it quickly to headquarters. Write the following at the lower lefthand corner of the envelope: Attention: Pastoral Administration, Ministerial Seminar Program. Remember, you must write this letter even though you might have already written to headquarters about it.

Please hurry since time is short. We will notify you whether or not your letter of application is accepted for this school session.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

New Telephone Service

Here's a piece of good news that we hope will help many of you. A new piece of telephone equipment now available to us is going to allow you greater freedom in calling those you wish to contact at headquarters, and at the same time possibly save the Work many thousands of dollars.

For short calls — up to five minutes — you may call 800-423-4444 and after identifying yourself, ask for your party. The operator will then bridge the call through directly to the desired individual or department.

An additional service that is being made available also is allowing you to utilize WATS for calls in your local area. We hope that many of you will avail yourselves of this service because it could mean a considerable saving for the Work (possibly as much as 15-20 thousand dollars per year).

For a trial period we will provide you the opportunity to use WATS for all *local calls* on which you are *charged a toll*. (For any non-toll calls in your area, of course, there would be no benefit.) To use the service call 800-423-4444, identify yourself, and give the number you want called. The operator will then dial the number and bridge the two calls together. It's simple enough to do, and shouldn't take but a few more seconds to complete your calls. At the same time, it will greatly help the Work's telephone budget which is 50% overspent. Use this system for calls that are generally under five minutes in length.

It may seem strange that it can be cheaper for

you to call HQ on an in-WATS line, then be bridged to an out-WATS line, and speak to a party in your own church area, yet that's the case because the WATS lines are already paid for. The cost to the Work equals about what it would cost you to make a local area call. So for any calls for which you would pay toll, we can make a savings.

We're making this a trial program because we don't know how effective this approach can be. Hopefully, it will be a service you can use effectively without hindering your ability to function smoothly. Unfortunately, this system will not apply to calls originating in or destined for California, Hawaii, Alaska or Canada. The calls should be made during the hours of 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. your time from Monday to Friday.

The system is intended to be voluntary. By no means must you make all your calls through WATS. If you can use the system for at least some of your calls, it will benefit the Work's telephone budget considerably.

— Ted Herlofson
Ministerial Services

Interview Form Waiver

Since we began using the new interview form for prospective college students, there have been some questions regarding the waiver. We would like to take this opportunity to clarify some points and avoid possible misunderstandings.

The purpose of the waiver is to protect the confidentiality of your recommendation while at the same time complying with the so-called Buckley Amendment. However, the waiver is just that — a *waiver* — and is therefore voluntary. It is not mandatory for the applicant to sign the waiver. It is not mandatory for you to ask the applicant to sign the waiver.

Briefly, the two main points to keep in mind are these.

1. If you do not feel that it is necessary to protect the confidentiality of your recommendation, you do not have to ask the applicant to sign the waiver.

2. If you want to protect the confidentiality of your recommendation but the applicant does not want to sign the waiver, you should not insist on the applicant signing the waiver. However, you should indicate at the bottom of the form that you do not want the applicant to see your recommendation, in which case we will destroy the interview form as soon as a decision has been made by the Admissions Committee.

Thanks again for all of your help in meeting with prospective Ambassador College students. The ministerial recommendation is important to

the Admissions Committee in evaluating applicants to the college.

— William Stenger
Director of Admissions
Pasadena

Returning Cassette Tapes

During the Conference several ministers stopped by our office asking about returning the cassette tapes of Mr. Armstrong's sermons and messages to be played in all the local Churches, which they have been sent from Headquarters. The question generally is "Do we want the cassettes back?"

The answer is "We can reuse them and would like to have them returned to us, provided it doesn't cost more to send them back than we can buy new ones for.

Since we purchase in very large quantities we can get the C-60's for 55¢ and the C-90's for about 90¢. So even if postage costs came to half these amounts, it pays to have them returned.

We do not recommend paying anywhere near this amount, however, since they can be sent back much less expensively. What we recommend is to accumulate them till you have a small bulk package of one to three dozen and send them in one package book rate, library rate, package rate, or whatever is the most economical in which ever area of country you are in.

And time is not a factor. If it takes six months or so to get them back to us, that is no problem. We have so many thousands circulating all the time that some come in every day. Even though we always send new tapes for playing in the Churches, those being returned are rerecorded and sent back out to others for other purposes at the rate of 15,000 each month.

The recording is done in the Education for the Blind Department on the Pasadena campus, and that is where we would like them returned.

— Hugh Mauck

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY PROJECT

(Continued from page 134)

Again, let us emphasize the *importance* of this project. It will be of great value in giving stability, maturity, and identity to the Church as a whole. It will be of special use to the ministry in achieving unity in teaching and providing the basis for ministering to the Flock of God.

Your contribution is important. Don't treat it lightly. We want and need your help. If you don't have an assignment, why not drop us a line. You might find the fishing good. □

Publishing

PLAIN TRUTH PLANS

Between sessions at the recent '76 Ministerial Conference, there were some fine opportunities for our worldwide *Plain Truth* personnel to meet and discuss future planning. Here, very briefly, is what's ahead for *The Plain Truth* in the U.S. and Canada, as well as overseas:

The U.S. and Canadian edition is being written and designed as a "front line" publication aimed directly at the general public — with new readers and newsstand distribution foremost in mind. Editorial content will be based very obviously on God's Word and its application to modern times. *The Plain Truth* will point readers toward the GTA radio broadcast, telecasts, the GN, CC and religious booklets where the "meat" of doctrine will be readily available.

This edition will once again be 48 pages, with full color available throughout. It will be printed and mailed by R. R. Donnelley Press in Chicago.

Overseas editions of *The Plain Truth* (with the possible exception of the Spanish) will all be patterned after the 32-page format used in England. U.S. articles will be edited for local readership, and some new material will be written by our overseas writers. Each language editor will also have the opportunity to contribute articles and to edit material for his particular readership. The final contents of this *international* edition will be determined in England, under the direction of our UK Regional Editor, Frank Brown.

Other key staff responsibilities will be handled by Dr. McCarthy (Dutch), Dr. Behnisch (German), Ray Kosanke (French), Don Abraham (Australian), Peter Nathan (South African), Ken Ryland (Spanish), Pike Mirto (Philippines) — with John Dunn and Phil Stevens in England coordinating the production with Roger Lippross in Pasadena.

Also in Pasadena, of course, our News Editor, Gene Hogberg, and Features Editor, Dexter Faulkner oversee the majority of editorial content, with Allen Merager and his graphics staff (especially Monte Wolverton and Greg Smith) responsible for the physical design. All of these men deserve our vote of "thanks" for their hard work and dedication.

Publishing *The Plain Truth* each month in several languages and for several areas of the world is no easy task. There are many other "laborers"

that I haven't taken the time to mention by name, but all are necessary. I hope we appreciate their efforts as well.

Plain Truth Circulation: This aspect of our publishing arm needs to be mentioned also — for no magazine can be effective without effective distribution. Just recently, Jack Martin, who also serves as General Manager of *HUMAN POTENTIAL* magazine, was appointed worldwide Circulation Manager for *The Plain Truth*. Jack will be keeping you informed of circulation programs, subscription policies, newsstand tests, etc., as plans progress. We intend to take *The Plain Truth* to this world as never before, through every available avenue.

With editorial, production and circulation teams working together, you can expect to see an increasingly more effective magazine — worldwide. That's our goal. We think you'll be pleased with the results!

— Art Ferdig

GN & BOOKLETS

For this issue I would like to distinguish between the purpose of the GN and that of the PT, and to relate some other facts and plans regarding the GN and booklets.

Purpose of the GN

The Church really has only one commission. But that commission has *two aspects*: 1) To preach the Gospel as a witness and a warning and 2) To feed and develop the flock that is produced as a by-product of preaching the Gospel. Part of the job of the Church is to prepare a people — a nation of kings and priests — for the Kingdom (I Peter 2:9). The work of preaching the Gospel to the unconverted could not be done unless there were a church to do it. A Work of this size and scope needs more than mere money — it needs *human resources*.

The PT represents the *first* aspect of our commission: the *witness* and *warning* aspect. It goes to the world at large — the general public. It has to be more general. Like the radio and television programs, it's a form of "first contact" with people in general (i.e. the newsstand programs). Yet it very much reflects the *Church's view of the condition of the world*. It leads people to stronger literature (such as the GN, CC and booklets) if they want it.

The GN then focuses on that "hard core" of readers who want stronger meat — who are more religiously oriented. *The GN list* (now about 400,000+ people) *represents the future of the Church*. It represents *those most likely to succeed*

in terms of baptism and church membership. In that sense the purpose of the GN is quite different from that of the PT. But both magazines are compatible — *both are necessary*.

To summarize, the purpose of the GN may be expressed in 3 ways:

1. To encourage co-workers, donors and regulars to become more involved in the Work — financially and philosophically.
2. To "aid and abet" the process of conversion which God is carrying out in individual lives.
3. To educate, correct, encourage and teach the entire mailing list (including the church membership) in terms of our doctrines and basic beliefs. To expound the *way of life* that God has given us.

Foreign Language GN Insert

Beginning very soon we will be providing the foreign language editors with a standardized 8-page GN insert for the PT. This will go to a select list, of course, and will only be used as the various budgets permit. Some editors may want to use it every month, others every other month, some quarterly. It will be black and white, compatible. We'll take it to the photo stage here and then the foreign language editors will have to have it translated wherever they are.

The nice thing about this is that it's *standardized* everywhere in terms of layout and copy. This should be very helpful in bringing people along to baptism and ultimately will generate income because members become tithe payers. Hopefully, it will pay for itself in that sense in very short order.

We'll edit it so that all the Americanizations that would be offensive to other countries are removed.

We think this will prove to be a very valuable addition to the Work in the foreign language areas.

Booklets

The main purpose of the booklet program is to *follow up* Mr. Ted Armstrong on radio and television. If there is any "booklet philosophy," it's *to respond to the needs of media*. We want to be able to provide any kind of booklet — "secular" or religious — whenever it's needed. So, in that sense, whatever direction the broadcast takes is the direction we want to go in the booklet area.

The hardest thing in the booklet area is to control the paper budget. There are *so many* users of booklets that it's difficult to co-ordinate such a hydra-headed monster. We have all of the international and foreign language offices, for example,

each with different and unique needs. We have direct mail programs, television, radio, advertising, publications advertising, fair booths, campaigns, etc. Everyone has his own idea of what's "top priority" or important for his purposes.

So the main thing we're trying to do now is to *gain control* of all of the factors involved — including the printing costs and schedules. We're trying to get the costs down and have a really efficient program that will do the job and be cost effective at the same time. That's why we have to be a bit hard-nosed about ordering of booklets for a while. But I think we're close to getting it all under control.

— Brian Knowles

Mail Processing

THE NEW "SUBSCRIBER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM"

Exciting developments are in progress in MPC as we prepare a new program of assistance for our subscribers. It is designed to facilitate their growth from the status of "regulars" to more advanced levels of involvement with the Work. It's our hope that this new program will work to put *many more* prospective members into your hands — and be a significant help to the growth of God's Church.

The new "Subscriber Development Program" has the green light from Mr. Ted Armstrong and his top advisors and we are all encouraged by the potential possibilities before us. It's been a team project — and Messrs. Ray Wright, Jack Bicket, and Tim Sakach are deeply involved with us in the implementation of the program as are many others too numerous to name. The following is a *very brief* overview of the program as it is presently constructed:

Program for Regulars

In the first month, when a new listener writes in, he will receive a sample issue of the *Plain*

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

To help expedite requests for ministerial assistance from people needing IMMEDIATE help, we are going to begin marking such serious letters with a bright RED LABEL. All other routine letters, without a pressing time factor, will continue to carry the normal yellow label as they do presently.

Truth and an introductory letter explaining the goals and benefits of the magazine. For those new subscribers who contribute, an additional thank-you letter with their receipt will be sent.

Once a new listener has responded to the sample issue of the *Plain Truth* and confirms his desire to be a regular subscriber, we will send him a full year's subscription to the magazine, and begin to work with him in a systematic way to evoke further interest in this Work and the Way of Life God has ordained.

In the fourth month of his subscription, a letter will be sent to the new reader which acts as a further "Welcome!" to him and begins to introduce, in a small way, the Work and our goals of helping mankind. More detail will be provided as to the Work's purpose, its organization and facilities and services, and a brief background sketch of Messrs. Herbert W. and Garner Ted Armstrong will be included. Enclosed with this letter may be the "Radio-TV Log" to facilitate his following the programs, and also included can be an attractive offer of appropriate literature.

During the eighth month of subscription, a more advanced letter, designed to bring the Bible and the Church to the attention of the reader in a more direct way, would be sent. Mention in this letter will be made concerning trends apparent in the world, how global events are showing the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, and the impact this Work is having upon the world — the good that is being done. In this letter we would offer additional literature such as "How To Study the Bible," a sample copy of the *Good News*, or other appropriate articles and booklets.

In the twelfth month (or preceding it) one to three renewal letters will be sent to the subscriber to confirm continued interest in receiving the *Plain Truth*.

This is part of the basic "Subscriber Development Program" for our "regular" *Plain Truth* readership. The concept is on producing a QUALITY mailing list which has a genuine interest in this Work of God. We understand, of course, that different individuals will have different levels of involvement. Thus, our program is designed to help each reader develop as quickly as his interest allows to that level of involvement God is calling him — from "regular" subscriber to "member" of God's Church, or any level in between.

Program for Donors

Once a subscriber gives us a voluntary *second* contribution within a 12-month period, we will

move him to the status of "donor" and involvement in the "Subscriber Development Program" at that level.

As our plan now stands, a donor will receive each month a *brand-new* specially designed "Newsletter" tailored toward their growth and interest in this Work. The Newsletter will be a brief (4 to 6 pages) but newsy condensation of Mr. Ted Armstrong's "Personal" column in the *Worldwide News*, as well as other features such as an appropriate "Answers to Your Questions" section, and sections providing updates and information on the Work's various programs and services.

This Newsletter will be mailed monthly to all donors, and can also carry advertisements of timely booklets, announcements of future campaigns, and systematic literature offers every three months which would aid in spiritual growth, etc. Occasional special letters from the Armstrongs will also go to the donors.

Program for Co-Workers

Once a reader has shown a definite interest in this Work and qualifies for the status of "co-worker," we want to give him a stronger diet of spiritual food and more inside information about the progress of the Work than we give to donors. The approach toward co-workers will more directly introduce them to the Church and the ministry. Mr. Ted Armstrong himself may write occasional letters to them, mentioning our "open Bible Studies" (or services) and invite them to attend.

According to our present thinking, new co-workers will receive in a year's time:

- (1) An introductory letter which welcomes them to the inner family of supporters who stand behind this Work and the Armstrongs.
- (2) Regular monthly co-worker letters from Mr. Herbert Armstrong, mentioning as they do the urgency of world conditions and the fulfillment of prophecy, as well as updates on his very important travels around the world.
- (3) Special letters which periodically would be written by Mr. Ted Armstrong, as his schedule allows.
- (4) The continued Newsletter (received also by donors), which could include monthly receipts and also carry periodic advance announcements of hot-off-the-press booklets.

So, that's our program in a nutshell. There is
(Continued on page 151)

International Division

Greetings once again to all of you from the many areas of the International Division. I hear through the grapevine that many of the members have appreciated the news you give them about the overseas areas. Thanks for the support.

Our overall growth overseas has been extremely encouraging. We have our problem areas, but in general everything is going very well.

Two years ago I mentioned at the conference a need for help in the Philippines. Several men talked with me about it and finally the best solution was to send a new graduate and his wife there. They are doing very well and have now moved so that he can take care of two churches.

Once again we have a need. It is somewhat unusual in its requirements, but I think most would consider it more enjoyable than the Philippines. We need a church pastor for Honolulu. Now, before visions of lush, exotic, romantic Hawaii sweeps anyone away, let me explain.

The congregation is small, around 100-120 in attendance. Tom Blackwell, who has been there for over six years, feels that there isn't enough work for a full time man. Tom and Patsy have been very happy in Hawaii, but would like to come back to the mainland now. Tom has been running his own carpenter contracting business as well as receiving half salary from the Church. When he needs to do special visiting or some work for the Feast, he can take a couple of days and go do it. The rest of the time he works for himself. The partial salary, according to him, makes up for any time he loses on the job. He has told me he feels this is by far the best way to handle this particular

church. Otherwise the pastor drives the people crazy by visiting each family every two or three weeks and finally ends up frustrated because he doesn't have enough to do. Actually, Tom is so convinced, he will be doing the same thing in his new assignment on the mainland.

Ideally we would like to find a man who is capable of following an established profession, building trades or whatever, and work with the church as well. He would help with some of the Feast planning, preach on the Sabbath and visit as there is a need.

As I said, the need is a little unusual. Perhaps most men would feel having to partially support themselves is too much to ask. I understand those feelings and it may be we can't find the ideal. But somewhere it says something about not having because we haven't asked. Can't hurt to ask.

If any of you are interested or would like more information, please give me a call and we will discuss it. There could be several possible alternatives which would help meet the need. If you have a suggestion, let me know. Mr. Dart is aware of the need and any ordained man who is interested, whether in the U.S. or overseas, is welcome to apply.

It has been some time since we have given you an update on the activity and growth in the West Indian, or perhaps more properly the Caribbean area of the Work. All of the men send monthly reports to the office to keep us abreast of what is going on and periodically they send a special summary. I'll try to pass this information on to you through *The Bulletin*.

At the end of December 1975, we had 555 baptized members throughout the area. There are five churches meeting every Sabbath: San Juan, Puerto Rico, Bahamas, Bermuda, Barbados and Trinidad. In addition, we are conducting twice-monthly services in Grenada (50 attending) Jamaica (70 attending) and St. Lucia (60 attending).

St. Lucia is perhaps a little special to me because of the dozens of letters I wrote to the area in the early 60's. Mr. Apartian and I also conducted the first baptizing tour into the West Indies which included a church service at St. Lucia back in 1963.

A minister visits these islands once a month for the Sabbath. The other meeting is directed by one of the leading local men who plays a tape from the services here at Pasadena. Since the membership in the West Indies is widely scattered, Mr. Bass is also conducting a cassette lending program. He has a cassette copier which is used to produce

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LIVE IN HAWAII!

tapes for 40 subscribers. They are then able to hear at least one sermon a month even though they can't attend a regular service. Response from the subscribers is very enthusiastic according to Mr. Bass.

In mid-year, we began to receive mail in six local post offices. During the last half of the year these offices received more than 7,500 pieces of mail, 2,200 of which were forwarded to the International Mail center here in Pasadena for further processing. The mail center processes the mail from several of the smaller national areas which represents a substantial savings for them. Most of this mail requires special handling due to the strange and exotic addresses, spellings or languages, and therefore can't be handled by the regular mail processing department. These mailing offices help to generate more local response than when one has to write to the United States, and also help in the receipt of local currencies.

The World Tomorrow and Garner Ted Armstrong television programs are being aired in an increasing number of areas. We are on TV in Bermuda and will be beginning a 13 week series in Barbados in June. Our radio outlets are in Barbados, Bermuda, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Trinidad. All these broadcasts are able to be paid for from funds generated in the local area.

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong conducted two campaigns in the area in recent months. More than 1,200 people were present in Jamaica to hear him speak last November. As a result of that campaign, there have been about a dozen more people attending local services.

In February, Mr. Armstrong spoke to another 1,200 people in the Bahamas. The Honourable Governor General Sir Milo Butler and Mrs. Butler were present the first evening. A *Plain Truth* article on the Bahamas also resulted from the campaign, so it was a very profitable two nights.

More than 510 members gathered for Passover observance this year. Our members in Guyana, where we now have a part-time representative, were able to take the Passover together for the first time. Actually Paul Krautman, an Englishman who graduated from Ambassador College in Pasadena last June, represents us all the time, but only works at it part-time while he supports himself by working for the National Library Service in Georgetown, Guyana. He doesn't conduct regular services but is able to help out with some of the members, and now with the Passover service.

Because of the political climate, Mr. Bass felt it inadvisable for a foreigner who is a white man to conduct church services for an all black group.

Many of the Caribbean political leaders have become, or are becoming, increasingly nationalistic and race conscious. Therefore we felt that Paul could be of more long-term help by visiting, counseling and holding private Bible studies for four or five people.

We were quite concerned last year about how to provide someone for the people in Guyana. Paul had worked in the area before and prior to graduation re-applied for a work visa to take a job with the National Library. His application was accepted for a three-year time period and he is able to assist the church as well. Otherwise we would not have been able to afford a man for the area.

Since Paul has a rather large apartment, he was able to conduct the Passover in his own apartment for around 25 of the members. He may well find himself conducting some sort of Feast of Tabernacles as well! A government regulation requires that any government employee who leaves the country, even for a short time, must post a very large bond. This is to ensure that the badly needed trained people don't leave the country for good without forfeiting a large sum of money. A large number of our members fall into this category as teachers or some sort of government worker. They wouldn't have the cash to leave the country for the Feast, so we may have to call on Paul again.

Well, such are the problems of some of the exotic sounding places pictured in travel folders. It certainly makes you appreciate little blessings and freedoms we take for granted in our lives.

Thanks again to you and your congregations for your prayers which have helped in the growth overseas.

— Leslie L. McCullough

AICF NEWS

EXTENSION CENTER UPDATE

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA PRE-CHAPTER HUMANITARIAN PROJECT

The following is a letter from Steve Nutzman concerning a recent AICF Extension Center project. Jean-Pierre Hallet has an intriguing film and a lecture concerning saving the Pygmy People. ("To Save a People," PT 1975 and HP) The cost to Mr. Nutzman was a lot of hard work and the initial cost to AICF was an advance of

\$400.00 for hall rental. Before it was all over Steve had been in many TV and radio stations. He'd gotten an interview as an AICF representative. The first time he'd been on radio. With the able assistance of Judd Kirk, Steve Nutzman and Herschell Spurlock, AICF was able to sponsor a rousing success!

The involvement for the ministry and the people was complete and fulfilling. By shoe leather, word-of-mouth and "arm twisting," the members got friend, associate, relative and neighbor to come. These efforts combined with thorough TV and radio coverage and two long newspaper articles, brought people from as far as San Francisco and Oakland.

Mr. Hallet was able to give \$4,000 to the Pygmies (contributions are still coming in) and AICF brought in \$1200.

Contributions are also still coming in from people who desire to support further AICF efforts.

— Arthur Mokarow

* * * * *

Since the inception of AICF, many avenues of service have opened up to the ministry and local church areas.

In the San Jose, Bay area the Foundation had an opportunity — one of its first such opportunities in a local area to put into effect some of its goals in a very real way. The original idea was to show Jean-Pierre Hallet's film "Pygmies" to the local Bible Study (Dr. Hoeh introduced the college and Foundation to Mr. Hallet's work among the *Efé* Pygmies in Zaire Africa a year and a half ago.) Mr. Hallet felt it would be far more advantageous for everyone involved if the Foundation would sponsor a benefit for The Pygmy Fund which would include the hour and a half documentary and a personal lecture by him. The idea was not new — he had held other benefits in California before, but the concept was new — very new to us.

So, we contacted the Extension Center of AICF in Pasadena giving them a breakdown of the costs of sponsoring such a benefit, about \$1,000. This included the cost of a 2000-seat auditorium, the printing of tickets and flyers, and travel expenses for Mr. Hallet. Most importantly, we enumerated the benefits of AICF sponsorship: 1) The money raised would save lives, 2) Give AICF an opportunity to put into effect its goals on a local level, 3) Develop community contacts, and 4) Stir up local interest in starting a local chapter of AICF.

In other words, we tried to do our homework, and make it hard for Pasadena to say no! There were many factors to consider. Could we raise

\$1000 to pay for our expenses? Could we generate enough publicity in the Bay area to draw the needed audience? Did we have enough contacts in and out of the Church to successfully organize a large benefit? And finally, why risk our neck anyway, why not let someone else in another area with more experience, better ideas, more contacts, etc., etc., get involved in this new concept!

To our encouragement, the benefit was approved and now the real work would begin. After 6 weeks of frantic preparation, and with the ministerial conference thrown in for good measure, we felt we had done everything we could do to insure a successful benefit. A Church member, who owns his own public relations firm, obtained air time on the very popular A.M. San Francisco television show and an hour interview on a radio talk show. One of the interviewers is one of California's top radio personalities and is very well acquainted and sympathetic with the Work and now the Foundation (such connections do not hurt a thing!). In one day alone, 100,000 people heard about the Foundation and the upcoming benefit.

Hallet also spoke before the second largest Rotary Club in the U.S. in San Francisco and moved the audience deeply with his lecture. Other radio interviews were given, and free public service announcements were made on many area radio stations. We even invited President Ford to attend (he happened to be in town campaigning), but a letter was sent back to us saying his schedule couldn't permit his attendance.

The evening of the benefit arrived and thankfully, so did the people! The results of the benefit exceeded all our expectations. The total figure for ticket sales, program and book sales, and contributions came to \$5200. Mr. Art Mokarow, who introduced the program, took a survey of the audience. Approximately 15-20% of the audience heard about the show as a result of radio and television coverage, others came because of seeing the flyers, most were there because church members told them about it.

Hallet was able to give almost \$4000 to our Pygmy friends, money that will save lives in Africa this year. In addition to the money earned, a number of good friends were made in the community, including business leaders and radio and television contacts. Tremendous exposure was given to the Foundation, its goals and purposes. A number of members expressed how glad they were to take part in such a worthwhile cause and how fulfilling it was to let their light shine to the community around them. The local Y.O.U. also got involved

and earned money to defray expenses. It was a chance to see faith and works in action. The works were trying to do everything we could do and yet we knew that God simply had to oversee the entire affair and bless every aspect of it.

It was a tremendously gratifying experience and one that has been very inspiring to the local brethren. Hallet's personal dedication and total commitment to his life's work (he lost his right hand trying to save a starving tribe in central Africa) prompted us to reflect on our commitment to God and His Work. Each local area will have its own contacts and interests and once that has been determined, then many avenues of service can open up. We look forward to hearing about other AICF sponsored activities in the future.

— Steve Nutzman

For Your Interest...

SIoux FALLS CHURCH PERFORMS PUBLIC SERVICE

Our local involvement in the Sioux Falls, South Dakota area has met with fine success, so I thought you might be interested in how it came about.

On May 10 I conducted a public hearing before the Mayor, City Commission and 125 people, standing room only, in City Hall with television coverage. It was an overwhelming success, well received by the Mayor and accurately reported on four telecasts locally after the hearing.

The subject I presented was a proposal for city-wide recycling for the city of Sioux Falls. I spoke as the Chairman of the City's Environmental Protection Board of ten members.

Recycling might seem a strange subject, but it is a ripe plum for Sioux Falls and is an important aspect of right city planning for the World Tomorrow. So through recycling and the spiritual principles that are involved, I have been able to start working into preaching the Gospel from the top down in this city.

The project started nine months ago when I approached one of the City Commissioners and explained that I wished to do some *personal* service to the City on behalf of my church. I was asked to join the Mayor's Environmental Protection Board. A chairman had not yet been named, and three months later I was voted unanimously by the Board to that position. I proposed that we

undertake a feasibility study to determine for the City alternative ideas in the face of a looming garbage problem the City has.

God has opened doors all along the way so that the project has met with nothing but success. I was able to recruit top businessmen in the city to join in this public service project. These included the president of a major construction company, the operations manager of the City's biggest industry, and a public relations consultant who is now running for the State Legislature.

The Board's work has been advisory only, with the City making the final decisions. But God's Church, namely through myself so far, has grown from a total nonentity to the beginning of a good reputation.

We want to become involved in other ways that can include all the brethren. But this was a special situation that came my way personally. Through our earnest desire to serve the city, it looks like God is clearly beginning to glorify His name in this part of the country.

— Charles Scott

TOWARD MORE EFFECTIVE PREACHING

One of the most important responsibilities we have as speakers is to present the truth of God in such a manner that it *sticks* and *stays* in the minds of our audience. *An effective sermon will linger for days and even weeks.*

A vital key, I feel, in achieving this goal is the ability to *mentally live what we say*. When properly developed, this mental outlook and involvement will manifest itself in our conviction and enthusiasm — as well as our empathy for others. As we speak, our minds will actually live the experiences, the hopes, the dreams of those situations our words describe. It is this attitude and approach which reflects a deep earnest concern with the audience, rather than merely an artificial "performance" as a speaker. Total mental involvement cannot help but result in successful sermons. In fact, it is the key that all powerful, persuasive leaders have learned to use effectively.

It is true that formal rules in speaking are important and should be used for proper effect and organization, but I see more and more that the most important part of speaking is not in the rules but in the *spirit* of speaking. "Eloquence," as described by one author, "may be defined as the speech of one who knows what he is talking about, and means what he says — it is thought on fire . . . Knowledge is of little use to the speaker without earnestness. Persuasive speech is *from heart to heart*, not from mind to mind. It is diffi-

cult for a speaker to deceive his audience as to his own feelings.... Nearly two thousand years ago, one of the Latin poets expressed this thought when he said: 'If you would draw tears from others' eyes, yourself the signs of grief must show' " (*Public Speaking and Influencing Men in Business*, p. 131 — Dale Carnegie.)

Our feelings for our audience must be genuine, and our love for them must be true if we are to stir their emotions. The finest thing in speaking is neither physical nor mental — it is spiritual. Jesus Christ revealed the epitome of true godly love to mankind, and the words of two disciples concerning His effectiveness is recorded in God's Word: "And they said one to another, 'Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the scriptures?' " (Luke 24:32).

A man who has truly grown to love people will reflect that inner emotion in his sermons and counselling. It will flow out from him in a way that cannot be stifled. His messages will have that warm aspect of sympathy and compassion. His genuine heartfelt feelings will be in the words that are spoken. The result will be that his audiences will sense his sincerity and intensity and will respond. God's Spirit will be able to work through the spoken Word. The Word of God will be "nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach" (Romans 10:8).

Of course, proper humor and lightness also plays a part in dynamic speaking. Such sparkle and viability is necessary, because too much of a diet of intensity, too concentrated a manner in speaking can be heavy for a congregation and can wear the emotional fabric. It takes a right balance of lightness, sincere love, and directed emotion and conviction. When these elements are employed in speaking, the end result will be dynamic sermons and speeches that will lead people toward that eternal goal of living for God in His Kingdom.

— Richard Rice

BOOK REVIEW

How to Live With Another Person by David Viscott, Packet Books, 1976, \$1.95

Living with other people is a fact no human being can escape. And although it is of prime importance, few take the time to inform themselves of the forces at work in our everyday relationships: marriage, business, religious or other.

This is a very practical book, written by a psychiatrist/marriage counselor whose years of expe-

rience are something akin to the book of Proverbs. He candidly deals with life on a day to day basis, with human agreements, conflicts, goals and most importantly, change. Living in a society where it's difficult to keep up with the changes it's even more difficult to understand and counter them.

Chapter titles include: when a relationship gets into trouble, when partners change, conflicts (how to resolve and learn from them), living with your family, just to give you the idea.

His experience and insight are of immense value in understanding and helping those with whom we live.

— Marilyn Kneller
Montreal, Quebec
Canada

MAIL PROCESSING

(Continued from page 146)

much, much more I could say about this program — its details and potential benefits — but space just does not permit. This whole project has been a team effort — as is the entire Work itself — and we wholeheartedly look forward to working in mutual cooperation with the other departments and areas of the Work as this new "Subscriber Development Program" is implemented.

The mail picture is quite good at this time due to a good response to the renewal-reply envelope in the June *Plain Truth*. I'll give you more details on that next issue.

— Richard Rice

LETTER COMMENTS

COMMENTS ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Several dozen enthusiastic notes and letters expressing appreciation for the recent conference have flowed into Mr. Ted Armstrong's office. The following excerpts are representative of the comments received thus far.

"Thank you again for the conference we've just had, but most of all for the clear, sound doctrinal statements we have been given. The statements are yet one more 'proof' of God's Church — sound, balanced, mature, and well-thought-out, giving beautiful summaries of God's mind on these things. Obviously God's Spirit is indeed *leading* His Church into all truth. It sure tastes good!!"

"Thank you for a 'super conference.' At last we have some concrete answers to the many sticky problems we face daily. I felt the whole atmo-

sphere was charged with enthusiasm and warmth I have never experienced to this degree before.

"I certainly hope and pray the theme — 'New Beginnings' — will permeate everyone in the coming months and years."

"Thank you very much for the very fine conference we just had. It was truly very uplifting; and more than any other conference it really seemed to give those of us in the field some very fine directions and encouragements on how to become more involved with giving the gospel message to our local communities."

"I would like to say thanks to all of you for making the conference a very inspiring and uplifting experience. It was evident a lot of prayer, time and hard work went into making it successful. It is encouraging to all of us to see the Work gearing up for future growth and we are enthusiastic about our part in supporting that growth. 'Full Steam ahead!'"

"Since I didn't get the opportunity to shake hands with you at the conference, I just wanted to write these few lines to say thank you for a tremendously uplifting and inspiring few days in Pasadena!"

"The conference, which was the most positive and the best that I have ever attended, gave us the broadest possible perspective of the Work and infused me with a desire to get on with the job. Please convey my thanks to Bob Kuhn, whose contributions, together with those of Mr. Dart and Mr. Cole, gives me great confidence in the leadership of the Church."

"Just a short note to tell you how much I enjoyed the conference. I heard several comments on how much more relaxed and confident you seemed. . . .

"I appreciated the decisive action you took and the positive approach you exuded. Keep it up!! I just felt I ought to write and let you know that your efforts are appreciated as you strive to lead us in God's Way of Life."

"Just wanted to take a few moments to express deep gratitude to you and your father for organizing the most inspiring and educational conference I have ever attended. Superlatives just won't describe the appreciation for *all* the sessions."

"Just a brief note to say thank you to you and your father and everyone else for the recent conference. It was especially gratifying for me as it was my first one to attend in Pasadena. I felt the meetings were extremely helpful and that we received a balanced approach toward many vital subjects. I know the three day whirlwind conference represented many hundreds of hours of work by you and countless others at HQ. Those of us in the field really appreciate the direction we receive from Pasadena. As I left the conference, I felt very inspired and very thankful to be a part of such a dynamic Work. Thanks again!!!"

"As the ad for Brut says, 'I needed that' — an apt response to the conference. The conference exceeded my highest expectations and marked a 'new beginning' for me personally as well as the ministry and Church as a whole.

"To witness the unified effort of the Headquarters team and positive response of all assembled was intensely stimulating and filled me with a renewed zest to 'do the Work' as a committee of one — thanks for giving so much to produce a very beneficial conference."

"I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for your efforts in helping to make the recent ministerial conference so inspiring and successful. Truly, it was the best ever!"

"It was tremendous to be updated on the state of God's Work by your father, to hear the reports about different aspects of the Work, and to receive the doctrinal overview.

"We certainly enjoyed being able to be together with so many ministers and wives after the meetings, at the cocktail parties, dances, etc. I definitely feel that this conference demonstrated more of a spirit of togetherness, unity, and camaraderie than ever before.

"With the new thrust forward in God's Work, the reorganization of the ministry, and the inspiration we received at the conference, we are all ready to go to work as never before!"

"So, thanks again for an absolutely great conference! Your example of dedication and zeal for the Work of God is a source of inspiration and encouragement to all of us in God's service."