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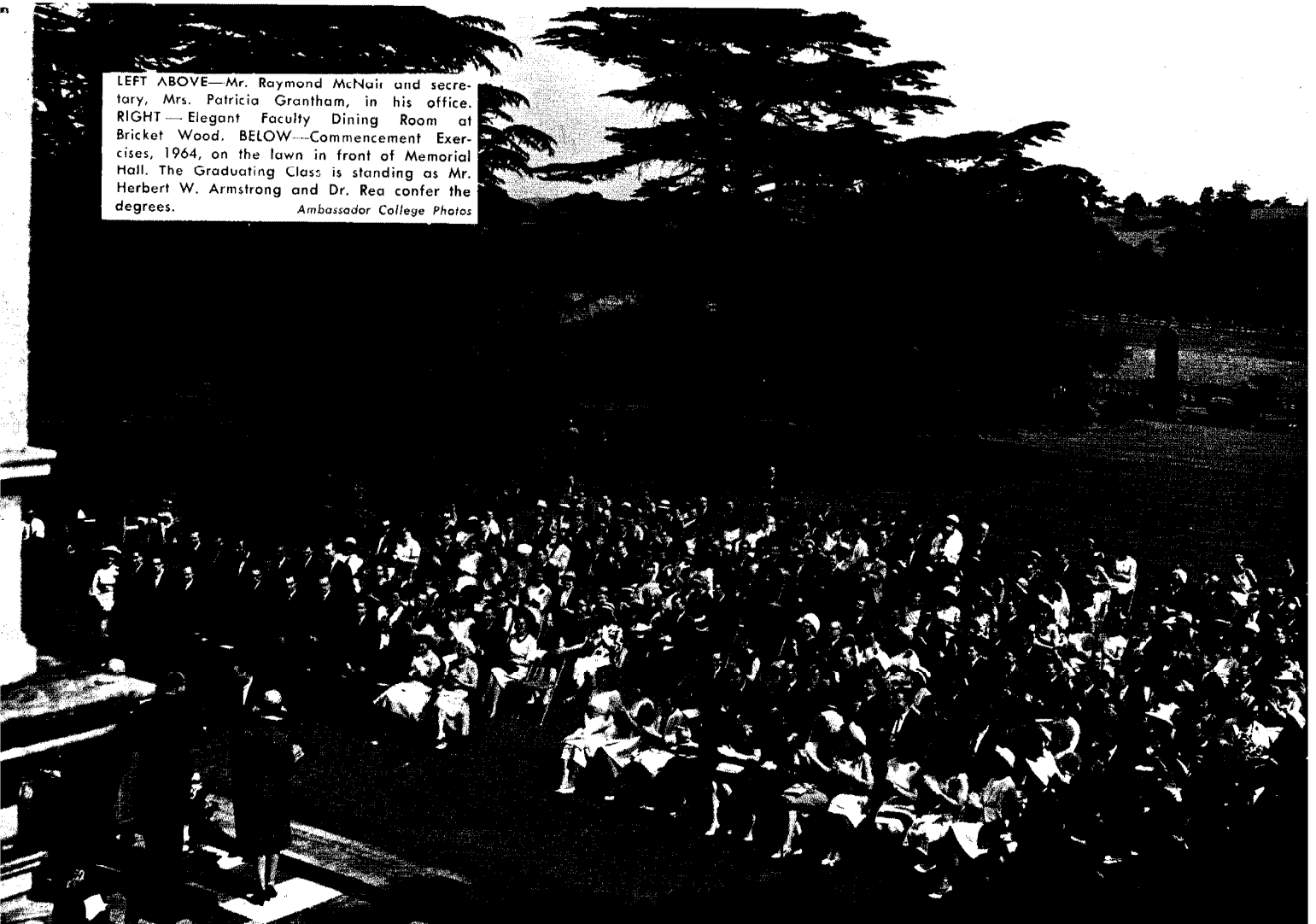
Good News

International Magazine of The Church of God





LEFT ABOVE—Mr. Raymond McNair and secretary, Mrs. Patricia Grantham, in his office. RIGHT—Elegant Faculty Dining Room at Bricket Wood. BELOW—Commencement Exercises, 1964, on the lawn in front of Memorial Hall. The Graduating Class is standing as Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and Dr. Rea confer the degrees. *Ambassador College Photos*



IT HAPPENED IN BRITAIN

They said it couldn't be done—to thunder Christ's Gospel by radio DAILY to Britain! It COULDN'T—by human planning or maneuvering. But the living Christ DID IT! Read how God's Work now leaps forward in Britain!

by Raymond F. McNair

STOP AND THINK A moment! The British people are, after all, God's chosen BIRTHRIGHT people. In a sense the Birthright promise went to Ephraim and Manasseh jointly—yet God placed Ephraim ahead of Manasseh! Britain is modern 20th Century Ephraim. The United States is Manasseh.

WHY, then, should the all-important last great Work of God, preparatory to Christ's coming, start in the United States? Why not in Britain?

And WHY did it appear, even three short years ago, utterly IMPOSSIBLE to get this all-important last Message of this age in massive power to the chosen Birthright people?

We could understand why God *began* His End-Time Work in America. ONLY in the United States was there the general widespread prosperity to finance such a Work by the tithes and offerings of God's own people. ONLY in the United States was there a free currency, with the doors open for sending money to carry on the Work in *other* countries.

But WHY was every door slammed shut, so that, even from America, we could not *reach* the very Birthright chosen people of God? Had God forsaken His people Ephraim?

Seemingly Impossible

Back in 1947 Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Armstrong went to Britain, France, and Switzerland for the dual purpose of checking sites for an overseas branch of Ambassador College and surveying possibilities of broadcasting the Truth to Ephraim-Britain. What did they find? All radio *government*-owned or controlled. NO POSSIBLE CHANCE to broadcast *The WORLD TOMORROW*.

Then, late in 1952, Mr. Armstrong learned of opportunity to get the program, one half-hour a week, on Radio

Luxembourg. It was an afternoon time on a wave-length reaching Europe—with very few listeners in Britain. Then a little later, a Monday night time opened on Radio Luxembourg's famous "208-meter" band, beamed directly into Britain. But the time was very late—11:30 to midnight.

But people did begin to listen. An office was opened in London to handle the mail—send out *The PLAIN TRUTH* and requested literature. The Work grew—very slowly and gradually. A second half-hour opened on Radio Luxembourg—the same late 11:30 p.m. hour, on Tuesday nights. A small church was established in London in 1956.

The Work in Britain grew—slowly. Very slowly. Luxembourg is a long way off. 11:30 to midnight is very late—after most Britons have gone to bed. Two nights a week at that late hour was not getting Christ's Message to Birthright Ephraim in great POWER.

The College was started in 1960. The broadcast time was changed to 6 p.m., competing with BBC news (7 p.m. daylight time in summer)—but reception at that hour was very poor. The mail response dropped sharply. As late as 1962 or 1963 it looked as hopeless as ever that any facilities could open for hitting the British Isles with Christ's Message IN REAL POWER—and DAILY! But we were PRAYING. We relied on GOD!

Then it happened! The *unexpected!* The IMPOSSIBLE! The INCREDIBLE! They called them "pirate ships." They were *not* pirates. But they were not legal. On the other hand, they were not illegal. They were anchored just *outside* any nation's *legal* boundaries or jurisdiction.

TODAY, God's Work is LEAPING AHEAD in Britain!

Christ has NOT forsaken "His people which He foreknew."

The living, miracle-working, all-powerful Christ has OPENED DOORS!

But the ever-vigilant Satan has been angered by all this! He is especially angry with God's people right now (Rev. 12:12, 17). Outright persecution has appeared a few times from certain elements of the British Press. There has been effort to besmirch, discredit, and destroy God's Work in Britain! We in Britain need the earnest, prevailing PRAYERS of our Brethren around the world!

On the other hand, in better elements of the British Press, some very favorable things have been said.

The Oldest Branch

The British *branch* of God's Work is the oldest of this Philadelphia era of the Church of God. From the beginning, this branch has grown slowly but surely. Cutting through notorious British "red tape" has not always been easy! We have had many delays, hindrances—and quite a bit of outright persecution! It has been an uphill climb all the way, but God has continued to prosper His Work in Britain.

The fruits being borne through this branch of Christ's Work are very gratifying. Already literally dozens who attended Ambassador College in Britain have been used full-time in the rapidly expanding, worldwide Work of Christ. About twenty who attended the British College have been ordained into Christ's ministry.

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong have both made numerous trips to Britain since the Work of God started. Their continued, direct, on-the-spot supervision has been necessary in working out many details of this branch of God's Work.

Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong usually

spend two or three months of each year here at the college in England. God's people in Britain have greatly appreciated the love, inspiration and guidance which we have all received through their presence here at the college. We've been grateful that they have been willing to make these many tiring trips between England and the United States in the interest of furthering God's Work!

A thorough understanding of the development of God's Work in Britain will surely inspire you to pray more fervently for the Work of God and for His people—our own brethren—in Ephraim!

Gospel Thundered to Europe

The British branch of God's Work began to bud on the first *Thursday* in 1953. On that day (4:15-4:45 p.m.) *The WORLD TOMORROW* program was first beamed into Britain from Radio Luxembourg, Europe's most powerful radio station with about 450,000 watts. (In October, 1965 the power of Radio Luxembourg was increased to 750,000 watts.)

From that moment, as Mr. Armstrong's voice was *thundered* into Britain, thousands of lives began to be changed. The people of Great Britain were once again privileged to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ preached in power—for the first time since the days of the New Testament apostles! This was truly *good news!*

At a later date, *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcasts were moved to *Tuesday evenings*. Still later, we were able to get time cleared on Radio Luxembourg on both *Mondays and Tuesdays* at 11:30 p.m. And in the early part of 1962, *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcast acquired the earlier and better time of 6:00 p.m. each Monday and Tuesday.

The results of our broadcasts over Radio Luxembourg the past thirteen years have been very encouraging. Until this very day, Radio Luxembourg has remained the main door which God has opened for us in reaching the people of the British Isles.

Evangelistic Campaigns and *The Reader's Digest* have also been employed by God's Church to reach the

people of Great Britain. But it is mainly through Radio Luxembourg that this branch of God's Work has been built.

Commercial Radio at Last!

While here in Britain in February, 1963, Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong—the Director of all the Overseas Branches of God's Work—urged us all to pray fervently for God to open up commercial broadcasting in the British Isles.

Our united prayers have already been partially answered; but let us continue to earnestly pray that the doors of British Radio will be opened still wider!

Members of the Church of God understand that God often works out His plan according to the 19-year time cycles which He Himself set in the heavens.

The Gospel was preached in Palestine and Asia Minor for one 19-year time cycle (31 A.D.-50 A.D.), after which God opened a door by which His Gospel was preached to Europe during the second 19-year time cycle.

God opened a door to the apostle Paul in 50 A.D. (see Acts 16:9 and II Cor. 2:12, 13) by which he was permitted to *begin* preaching the Gospel to Europe for the first time. This commenced the second 19-year time cycle during which God's early New Testament Church was empowered to preach the Gospel to the world at that time.

At the end of the second 19-year time cycle (in 69 A.D.) the Church of God, with headquarters in Jerusalem, fled that city. Jerusalem was razed to the ground the following year, in 70 A.D. This ended the organized, dynamic preaching of the Gospel.

During the centuries that followed, the Gospel has continued to be preached here and there in small ways—by a persecuted and scattered Church.

But in this end time, God Almighty raised up Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong to direct the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world before the close of this age, as Jesus Christ prophesied (Mat. 24:14, Mark 13:10).

In January, 1934, God opened the door of radio by which the Gospel was preached to North America during

the first 19-year time cycle—ending in 1952.

The second 19-year time cycle began in January, 1953. It is interesting to see how God opened the mighty door of Radio Luxembourg by which the true Gospel once more began to be preached to the peoples of the continent of *Europe*—at the beginning of the second 19-year time cycle allotted to God's Church in this end time.

The Gospel was preached to Britain through Radio Luxembourg for twelve long years before any further doors of radio were opened to the British Isles.

But on January 5th, 1965—almost twelve years to the day after the Gospel first began to be preached on Radio Luxembourg—a commercial ship-station, *Radio London*, broadcast the first *WORLD TOMORROW* program.

By a special arrangement, many of the ministers of God's Church (who were at Headquarters for the Annual Ministerial Conference) were assembled in the Radio Studio in Pasadena, California, in order to hear this first program relayed to our Pasadena Radio Studio via telephone.

Then on May 9th, 1965, another commercial ship-station, *Radio Caroline*, began broadcasting our program. Next, *Radio City* started broadcasting *The WORLD TOMORROW* program on July 19th, 1965; and finally *Radio 390* began broadcasting the first *WORLD TOMORROW* program on November 1st, 1965.

And on Sunday, December 12th, 1965, *Radio 390* started broadcasting the program *twice* daily, seven days per week.

These four stations—together with *Radio Luxembourg*—now bring nearly 300 letters a week from people who write in for the first time!

Will Commercial Radio Be Silenced?

These daily broadcasts, plus the twice-weekly broadcasts from Radio Luxembourg, are stirring up Satan's wrath! He would like to scuttle these ship-stations—to silence our programs once and for all!

Recently, Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Britain's Postmaster General,

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GOD'S WORK IN BRITAIN

(Continued from page 6)

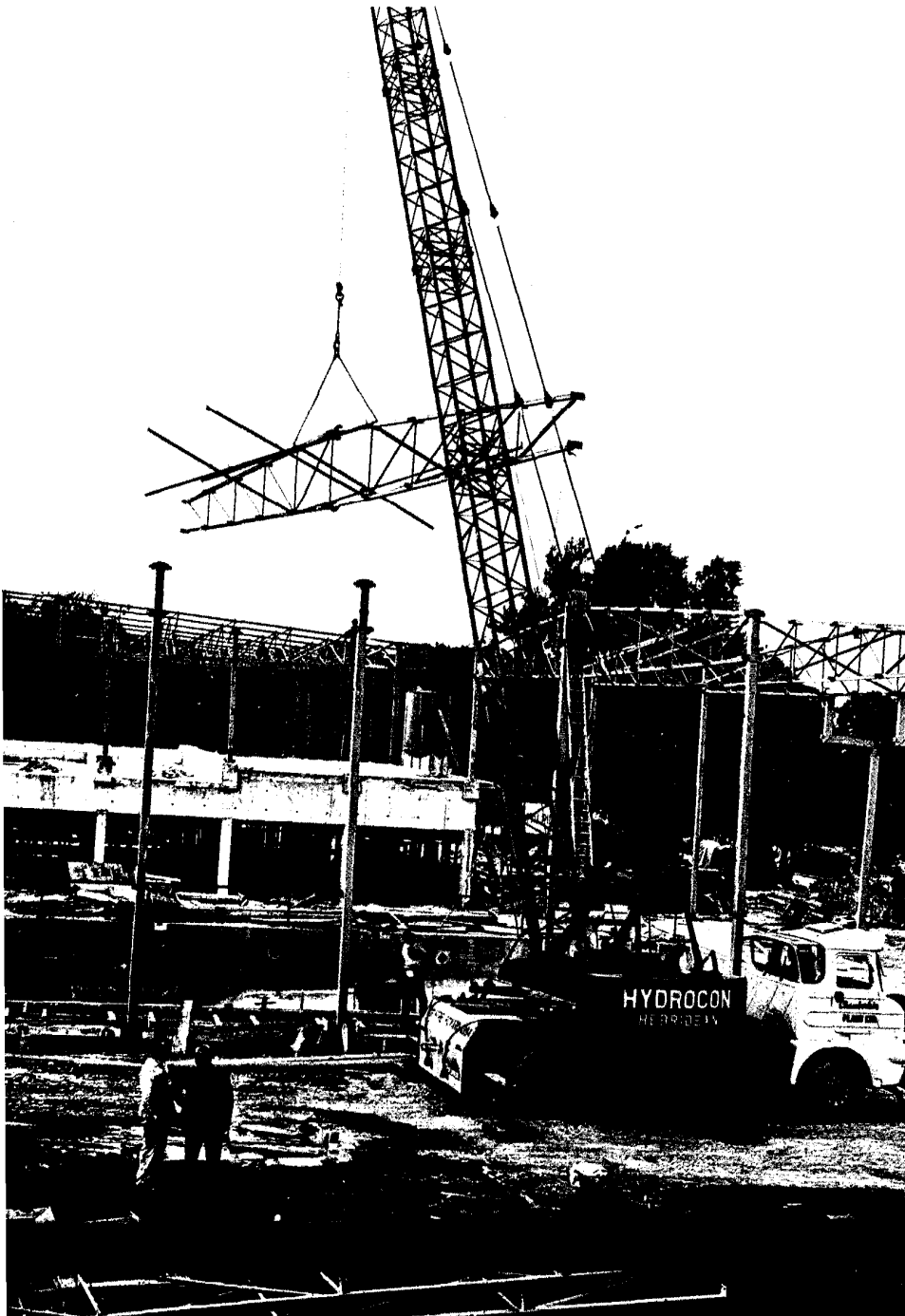
said that certain off-shore commercial radio stations (undoubtedly referring to Radio 390 and Radio City) would be prosecuted unless they quit broadcasting immediately! These stations currently carry *The WORLD TOMORROW* programs (*The Daily Telegraph*, Dec. 9, 1965).

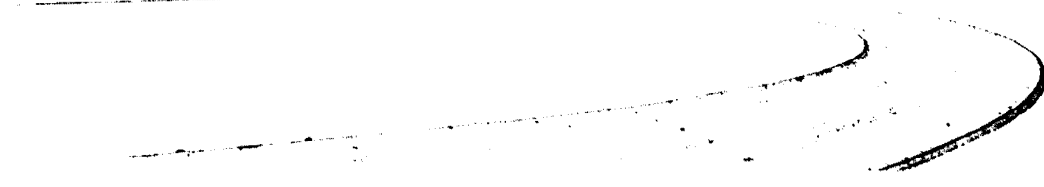
The Postmaster General also mentioned that Britain's Parliament is considering legislation which would enable

the Government to stop all commercial off-shore stations from broadcasting.

But the British Government is in a real dilemma. Millions of Britons have expressed their enthusiastic support for these commercial stations. Many are tired of listening to stuffy programs aired by the BBC.

And the British Government is well aware that any legislation which would rock the boats of commercial ship-





ABOVE—In the latter stages of construction the gymnasium begins to take shape. Notice the McAlpine construction firm's sign beside the scaffolding at the right. LEFT—Huge crane lifts steel girder cross beam toward its position in gym roof. CENTER—Complicated network of reinforcing steel rods insure structural strength—a factor unseen in the finished building.

Ambassador College Photos

stations might also topple the Labour Government from office.

This has been of real concern to Mr. Harold Wilson's Labour Party—whose majority is now down to two! And the British Government has had more urgent matters to occupy itself with, namely, its economic problems and the perplexing Rhodesian crisis.

A recent article concerning these off-shore stations mentioned that the Government might even consider granting them a license to begin broadcasting from land-based stations in England. However, the Postmaster General has denied this report.

"The Cabinet's broadcasting committee, whose Chairman is Mr. Herbert Bowden, Leader of the Commons, has taken what it regards as the realistic position that *it cannot advise Mr. Wilson to introduce legislation outlawing the existing 'private' stations.*

"The overriding political situation is simply that *so many Labour voters as well as people too young to vote yet like the "pop" programmes, and IT COULD BE SUICIDAL FOR ANY GOVERNMENT (present or future) TO STOP THEM*" (*Evening Standard*, Dec. 3, 1965).

It looks as though God has maneuvered the British Government into such a position that it will be unable to take any effective action against these off-shore stations for some time to come. But, let us urgently pray that God will keep these radio doors open in Britain!

Mr. Armstrong's Evangelistic Meetings

In September, 1954, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong conducted a series of meetings in some of the major British cities. This was primarily for the purpose of sounding out the interest which The WORLD TOMORROW program had aroused in Britain.

Mr. Armstrong's first one-night meeting was held in *Belfast*, Northern Ireland. Nearly 750 attended that meeting. About 450 to 500 attended his next meeting in *Glasgow*. He then conducted a one-night meeting (his third) in *Manchester*. Approximately 350 to 400 attended. In *London*, he held a series of three or four meetings. About 250 to 300 attended.

British response to the broadcast from Radio Luxembourg was at first very slow. Soon, however, mail slowly began to trickle into our Pasadena office from Radio Luxembourg.

I well remember how Mr. Richard David Armstrong (who was first appointed Director of the Overseas Work of God) was able for some time to keep all of the files for the British Work in a shoe box! This was the small beginning of this branch of God's Work. "For who hath despised the day of small things..." (Zech. 4:10).

Not long after *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcast began to be thundered from Radio Luxembourg, this trickle of mail increased until it became a sizeable amount of mail. (In 1965 we received about 135,000 letters!) It then became necessary for us to acquire the BCM AMBASSADOR address in London, so that all our Luxembourg mail could be channelled to that address. From London it was forwarded on to our World Headquarters at Pasadena, California. This proved to be a slow, tedious process!

London Office Opened

A few months later, it became apparent that we would have to open an office in London to handle the Luxembourg mail. *The PLAIN TRUTH* and other literature which were mailed from Pasadena took many weeks (sometimes several months) to arrive at their destination in Britain. This was seriously hampering the British branch of God's Work!

Mr. Richard David Armstrong, and Mr. George Meeker, Jr., were the instruments whom God chose to open His office in London, late in 1955.

In the summer of 1956 (about July) Mr. Armstrong conducted a four-weeks series of nightly meetings in London. This resulted in a very small Church of about eight or ten members being raised up and left under the charge of Mr. George Meeker.

Late in 1956 Mr. Roderick C. Meredith was sent to England to become the Director of God's Work in Britain. Mr. Meredith conducted a three- or four-weeks nightly campaign in London in order to help establish the small, struggling London Church.

After Mr. Meredith's campaign, regular attendance in the London Church rose to about 20.

Shortly afterward, Mr. Meredith was needed to assist in the Work of Christ in the United States, and was then transferred from London back to Pasadena—shortly after the Passover in 1957.

Mr. Gerald D. Waterhouse (who had arrived one week before that same Passover) had been sent to England to become the new Director of God's Work in Great Britain. He and Mr. George Meeker lived in London, where they continued serving in God's Work in Ephraim.

Under the dedicated ministry of Mr. Waterhouse, the London Church of God continued to grow until, by the end of July, 1958, it reached a regular attendance of about 45 each Sabbath—at which time Mr. Waterhouse returned to the United States to take up a ministerial assignment there.

On July 15, 1958, my wife and I and our 13-month-old daughter, Ruth, arrived in England. I had been sent to assume charge of the British branch of God's Work. (I might add that God has blessed us with two British-born sons since we've been in England. All three of our children speak English with a decidedly "British" accent).

A few weeks before my wife and I got to Britain, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest L. Martin arrived in England. Mr. Martin was scheduled to become the Business Manager when Mr. Waterhouse returned to America. Mr. George Meeker was to remain for a while in Britain, to assist in the office and in the visiting.

First Full-scale Baptizing Tour

During the summer of 1958, Mr. George Meeker and I conducted the *first full-scale British baptizing tour* in which we covered most of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. (Mr. Gerald Waterhouse had previously visited and baptized a few scattered individuals in England, but most of his time was taken up at the London office). I forget the exact number baptized on our 1958 tour, but I believe it was about 60.

If I recall correctly, in July, 1958,



Aerial photo of the Ambassador College grounds near Bricket Wood. Physical Education plant and Olympic track are in upper right with the Richard David Armstrong Memorial Hall left of center. In the center are the new dining hall facility and the women's dormitories. To the right are the new men's dormitories and International Common Room.

Ambassador College Photo

there were only about 30 baptized members of the Church of God in all of Britain! Today British membership is over thirty times that number—over 1,030!

Besides being the Director of the British branch of God's Work, I was also appointed the Pastor of the Church of God, London, England.

Mr. Ernest Martin was able to supervise most of the office details of God's Work. This left Mr. Meeker and me free for visiting not only in the Greater London area, but also in other parts of Britain. Soon the London Church began to have encouraging growth—at least by British standards. And not long afterward bi-weekly Bible Studies were established in Bristol and Birmingham.

College Property Purchased

In the early summer of 1959, I received instructions from Mr. Armstrong to begin looking immediately for a place suitable for a college. At first Mr. Armstrong did not intend to establish a full co-educational college in Britain. In fact, he had thought Switzerland might be the place where God wanted to locate another college. But,

as Mr. Armstrong has repeatedly stressed, *it is God who is the Overall Director of this Work!*

Mr. Ernest Martin and I checked with scores of Estate Agents, diligently looking for a location for the college. At first we confined our search to Greater London, but later began to look for a place within a thirty-mile radius of the center of London.

Later during the summer of 1959, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong arrived in England. We were just about to purchase a fairly large building in the center of London, near Regents Park, when we were led, providentially, to purchase the very beautiful Hanstead Estate where the college is now situated.

Here are a few facts concerning the wonderful, ideally located property which God led us to purchase in 1959. For the purpose of God's Work, the present 175-acre Ambassador College grounds are undoubtedly located in the most suitable part of all England.

The college is situated only about six miles from the edge of Greater London, or about nineteen miles from its very

heart. By auto, it takes only thirty to fifty minutes (depending upon traffic conditions) to drive to the very center of London.

Furthermore, Ambassador College is nearly equi-distant between the quaint old Roman cathedral city of St. Albans (population about 50,000) and the fairly modern town of Watford (population about 75,000). So one can easily "pop into" either Watford or St. Albans in order to do needed shopping. Both are only about five miles from the Ambassador College campus.

The college is in Hertfordshire—one of the most beautiful counties to be found anywhere in Britain—or the whole world! It is situated in the beautiful Green Belt district which encircles Greater London. The beauty of this part of Britain is very inspiring—but especially so in spring and autumn.

The college is only a four-minute drive from the main British super-highway (called the M.1) which leads directly to Birmingham, Manchester and further north. Other major highways are nearby, and a railway line runs near the College. The Bricket Wood railway station is in fact only about one-quarter of a mile from the main



Mr. Gerald Waterhouse at his desk in the London office in 1957.

Ambassador College Photo

entrance to the college. It only takes forty minutes to drive to the London Airport. Two smaller airports are near—one only a ten-minute drive from the college.

Architects have informed us that the main college building (called Memorial Hall—in memory of Richard David Armstrong—who first pioneered the British branch of God's Work, when the going was really difficult) would now cost about ten times as much to build as what we paid for it in 1959.

Facilities at Ambassador

In addition to Memorial Hall, Ambassador College now has a new Women's Dormitory (housing 28 women students); a brand-new Men's Dormitory and International Lounge—accommodating 140 to 150 men students; an older, but more stately dormitory building, which houses 30 to 40 women students; an Administration Building with many offices; a beautifully constructed Music Hall; a large, new Dining hall big enough to accommodate over 200 students at one sitting—and many other smaller buildings.

In order to keep the students physically fit, we have a fine athletic field with an Olympic-standard quarter-mile track, basketball court, three tennis

courts, soccer field, cricket pitch, two squash and handball courts and numerous other athletic facilities.

In March, 1966, we expect to complete construction of our badly needed, ultra-modern gymnasium and six-lane, Olympic-standard swimming pool. The gymnasium will be large enough to accommodate two basketball courts or two

indoor tennis courts. It will also serve well as an auditorium.

Other buildings which we hope to construct in the fairly near future include: an extension to the women's dormitory, an administrative building, an auditorium to seat about 500 and a large classroom building.

(To be continued)

Our first British Mailing office. Here are the Addressograph plate files for the PLAIN TRUTH subscription list, the booklets and PLAIN TRUTHS ready for mailing.

Ambassador College Photo

