

# God Opens Doors for The SPANISH WORK

by Charles V. Dorothy

Madrid, Spain

**G**REETINGS FROM the cultural capital of 270,000,000 Spanish-speaking people!

Exciting new "firsts" have occurred in the Spanish branch of God's Work — "firsts" I'm sure you'll want to know about!

God has given us new radio stations, new letters, new jobs, and most important, NEW PROGRAMS made by a new broadcaster I want to present. But before explaining these remarkable *breakthroughs*, let me report what is happening here, and tell you why we do not yet broadcast from Spain.

## Religious Freedom?

Recent headlines in America and Britain announced new relaxation of restrictions, new religious freedom in Spain . . . Jews attended synagogue openly and legally for the first time in years. But there is a "catch" to all this apparent freedom of religious assembly and expression. The catch is found not too deeply buried in fine print of the ten-point "Texto" (short name of the long-titled document on religious liberty). The "Texto" specifies that all religious assemblies (other than Catholic, of course) *must list the names and addresses of all people attending*. This list, as Rabbi M. of the Madrid synagogue explained, must be published and tacked to the outside of the assembly building in full view of the public. Some freedom!

The church unity movement (Ecumenism) is surprisingly in evidence here. About 37 miles north of Barcelona in the rock-fast monastery of Monserrat, Catholic "divines" work for the return of their lost Protestant daughters. Still, Catholicism dominates the Iberian peninsula religiously. Radio stations in

Spain are government controlled. Since Catholicism is the only government-recognized religion, *El MUNDO DE MANANA* — *The WORLD TOMORROW* in Spanish — could never be broadcast from *inside* Spain under present conditions. But God's Plan cannot be *thwarted*.

## The Solution: Above and Beyond

High above the arid Spanish plain, nestled in the Pyrenees Mountains, beyond the reach of Generalissimo Franco's Falangists, lies the toy-like republic of Andorra, with its superpower radio transmitter. This station may well be our only channel into Catholic Iberia! Here in Madrid (*central* Spain), Radio Andorra can be heard loud and clear. I am also told of Andorra's good reception as far as Andalusia, the *southern* coast. Apparently, Radio Andorra blankets all of Spain! Also, God is apparently opening the door to Andorra, as you will see in a moment.

Figuratively speaking then, the solution to the Iberian Curtain is to go *above* the territory, *beyond* the governmental restrictions, then "blast" the truth over the peninsula from the *outside*. God has already opened that type of door in other areas, notably in Great Britain, where giant-power, off-shore radio ships blanketed England. At least from here, *outside superpower radio* looks a lot more promising than *inside religious liberty*.

We anxiously look forward to such openings, and now have good reason to prepare for it. You brethren need to know — and judging by many requests I have received, apparently *want* to know — more about God's Work in the Spanish language. Here is a brief background and history leading

up to the exciting "firsts" of this summer.

## In the Beginning

After *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcast went international (Radio Luxembourg) in 1953, Mr. Armstrong began to think more and more of going international in foreign language broadcasts — especially in French, German and Spanish. The fledgling Spanish Work was blessed with a number of "firsts" — first translation of English articles and booklets, first foreign Bible Study (Tijuana, Mexico), first foreign language broadcast. Then in 1957, Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong and Dr. Benjamin Rea traveled the vastness of the continent of South America to start the broadcast in Spanish. That year we received a total mail response to those early stations of 282 letters. Not bad for strongly Catholic countries!

By 1958 we had received our first donation (from Peru) making the total income for the year \$2.80 (American money)! *El MUNDO DE MANANA* was now heard in Peru, Paraguay and Uruguay. The entire mailing list totaled the round figure of 525.

In 1960 Radio Monte Carlo beamed our program from Monaco into Spain, and Radio Swan from Swan Island to all the Caribbean. These were soon silenced by government pressures. In 1961 Radio KALI was added in Los Angeles. The list of Spanish literature subscribers increased 101% to stand at 1,334.

The year 1960 also found the Spanish Work being carried out from the green belt of Hertfordshire, England. Our broadcaster, Dr. Rea, was promoted to the Dean of Faculty office at Ambassador College, U. K.

Two years later, Dr. Rea took the first baptizing trip ever taken, as far as we

know, by one of God's true representatives into Latin America. Describing five baptisms in Puerto Rico he wrote: "The night had fallen — it was pitch black and storming. Six of us, the five candidates for baptism and I, assembled on the river bank in complete darkness and pouring rain. Lightning flashed across the skies, and the grown mountain stream roared as it plunged to lower valleys. I asked God to give us the direction of His Holy Spirit in this act, that we might glorify Him. And one by one, each was immersed in the water, as the sounds of a tropical downpour, lightning, and rushing waters filled the night. A tremendous sight I will remember as long as I live."

From South America Dr. Rea wrote: "... The woman whom I baptized in Barranquilla, Colombia, said she had been praying for two and a half months God would send someone to baptize her. She didn't know I was coming until she received my letter (sent two weeks earlier) the same morning I arrived. She was thrilled and overjoyed at the opportunity of becoming a member of God's Church."

In all, *nine people* were baptized during that tour.

Early in 1965 Dr. Rea died. God's Church suffered real loss, missing this man who always went *above and beyond* literally. The Spanish Work suffered a slump. In Big Sandy, I was commissioned to carry on — to keep alive our mailing list of 2,000.

#### Stateside Beginning and Growth

By 1966 after the setback of transferring from England to Big Sandy, after the handicap of having to repeat old tapes and reorganize the department on the Texas campus, our report for July read: "This has been a good month for us! The letter count has risen over 200% compared to last month! That is the highest count since June 1963, when we received 192 letters. This has occurred in spite of such handicaps as lack of a new broadcaster, scheduled

broadcasts being played for the 4th and 5th times, lack of a steady outflow of literature."

The growth continued! The August report said: "Our 'mustard seed' is finally growing!" Again in October our report read: "Would you believe... this month establishes our *all-time HIGH RECORD* for white mail and money received! As far as we know, there is no *physical cause* keeping the list even *alive*, not to mention *growing*." November brought 212 letters and the report went: "Believe it or not — and this may sound repetitious — November was the best month we have ever had!" By the beginning of 1967 we had a mailing list of 3,200! Dr. Rea's tapes were going into the *eighth* and *ninth* repeats! *GOD was keeping the Spanish list alive!!*

#### Meet Señor González

*Ten* years since the first Spanish broadcast went out to Latin America, and *twelve* years since the department actually started, God provided us with the voice of Mr. Pablo González — now broadcasting the message of *EL MUNDO DE MANANA!*

Pablo (Paul in English) González is a native Puerto Rican with a lovely wife and two little girls. In the printing

business for fifteen years, he was called by God to come to Big Sandy to help propagate God's truth to his own people. And no sooner had God led Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong to decide on Mr. González for our Spanish broadcaster, than He opened the 200,000-watt door of Radio Antilles with a potential Spanish audience of 20,000,000 people!

Situated in the island of Monserrat among the Lesser Antilles (not to be confused with Monserrat, the monastery near Barcelona, Spain), Radio Antilles reaches all of Central America (including Panama), the Caribbean Islands and even northern South America. The interesting thing about the Antilles station is this: *the owners are also proprietors of RADIO ANDORRA* in the Pyrenees! That dual ownership may be *our wedge INTO SPAIN.*

A number of other new Spanish stations were added just since June — inside the United States itself. Serving Spanish people in New York City we have WBNX; in Miami, WFAB; and in El Paso, Texas, XEWG. This last station also reaches many Mexicans across the border in Mexico's fourth largest city, Juárez.

Another *first* is the ten-thousand-watt station of XESM in Mexico City and  
(Continued on page 23)



Ambassador College

Sr. Pablo González with the guidance of Dr. Dorothy prepares a new broadcast for EL MUNDO DE MANANA.

## The SPANISH WORK

(Continued from page 4)

WIAC in San Juan, Puerto Rico where — as far as we know — truth is now preached in power for the first time in all history!

Our present total weekly radio power — 300,000 watts!!!

We have received mail from *all* of these new stations (strongest response so far from Mexico City and New York) before the end of June. The Big Sandy office has been humming and hopping since I left for Europe.

### A New First for God's Work

Since I returned from Spain, a new breakthrough has occurred, a tremendous leap forward — a "FIRST" in the history of God's Work. At Mr. Ted Armstrong's request, our PLAIN TRUTH photographer, Lyle Christopherson, and I left Big Sandy on the same day Mr. Ted Armstrong and Mr. Enrique Ruiz (a 1967 graduate from Pasadena) also left for the same destination: MEXICO CITY. We proposed to walk "through open doors" (the Spanish Work motto) and if God would allow, establish a *brand new FOREIGN OFFICE — a first in the Latin world.*

We faced three hurdles: finding a bank to accept our foreign account; persuading a lawyer to represent our corporation; finally, and most difficult, obtaining *official government permission* to operate as an educational or nonprofit institution. Our first day was consumed just presenting our story to bank officials. Talk about "bankers' hours"! Mexican banks open at 9:00 or 9:30 and close at 1:00 for siesta — never to open again!! Again on the same day, that is. After a day and a half, we had a brand-new, bona fide bank account established in Latin America.

Our next step was delayed due to a large legal concern deciding not to take our case. The third day brought success

— we are being represented by the large and influential Sepulveda Lawyers' Association. Through circumstances it became obvious God was opening doors. Also obviously, God was using Mr. Ted Armstrong and Mr. Enrique Ruiz to establish His Work south of the border. No other team of individuals could have been more successful.

Now we have official confirmation: the Mexican government will permit us to operate within their borders! We can certainly thank God for this precarious, but nevertheless crucial toehold in the Catholic world.

### More Jobs

As a result of FANTASTIC FIRSTS God has granted, more letters, more demands for literature, *new work loads* are falling on our cramped office-booths, and on our dedicated staff. Incidentally, you should know at least a little about the fine men and women who actually carry out the Spanish Work to hundreds of Ambassador students in college and 4,000 subscribers worldwide. Let me briefly introduce those who work with me.

At the nucleus of our operations (we call it the Spanish Office) at Ambassador College, Big Sandy, Texas, *Mr. Lynn Martin* ably assists me in teaching Spanish and is a full-time faculty member. With a background of a baptizing tour and many trips in Mexico, Mr. Martin is a very capable right-hand assistant who supervises the office in my absence.

Also a Big Sandy graduate, and now married to one of our fine graduate girls, *Mr. Louis Gutierrez* is the circulation manager (handling all incoming mail and literature) as well as being the skilled operator of the Varityper on which he types all literature we presently publish, including the Correspondence Course, Latin edition.

Answering personal letters, editing broadcast tapes, and part-time teaching are the main jobs of *Mr. Victor Gutierrez*. Our smiling secretaries are Lydia Gutierrez, Lucille Duncan and Judy Craughan.

In Pasadena *Dennis Pebworth* and *Duane Cooper* — in addition to heavy visiting schedules among English-speaking brethren — maintain a Spanish-speaking visiting program and take care of all Spanish classes in the Pasadena college.

Dr. Rea's former right-hand assistant



Christopherson — Ambassador College

Left to Right: Mr. Ted Armstrong, Mr. Ruiz and Dr. Dorothy discuss the Spanish PLAIN TRUTH in their Mexico City hotel room.

and an ordained minister of Pastor rank, *Mr. Leon Walker* still teaches Spanish in Bricket Wood, though ministerial duties now claim the larger share of his time. We are all backed up by hard-working, highly dedicated translators who work somewhat thanklessly (humanly speaking) in the back-

Ruiz — Ambassador College

President Diaz Ordaz of Mexico, in a parade in Mexico City during our visit last summer.

ground, and who certainly desire and deserve your prayers. I refer to *Maria Louisa Sandoval* of Gardena, California and *Manolo Rojas* of Orlando, Florida.

WE ALL URGENTLY REQUEST YOUR PRAYERS — prayers for all of the foreign offices and their many, many problems.

### Why Prayer Is Needed

We desperately want to reach Latin America and Spain with the *warning*, with the *truth*. And brethren, we NEED TO REACH THEM — at least with a warning — BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE. Latins need that warning as much as anyone on earth. Here is why.

The Spanish world is today beset by some of the biggest problems history has ever encountered! Spain, never caught up in the Industrial Revolution, finds herself trying to revolutionize her economy so as not to be left out of the growing European Common Market. Latin America is under the constant tick of the population time bomb and the stark threat of famine. "In fifteen years," say William and Paul Paddock in their shocking and thoroughly documented book, *"the famines will be CATASTROPHIC and revolutions and social turmoil and economic upheavals will sweep... Latin America"* (Famine — 1975, Paddock, Little, Brown and Co., 1967; emphasis ours).

As the population locomotive roars full throttle down the track, the stagnating food production in Latin countries stands as an impenetrable mudslide across the rails. Many Latins know all this but they lack solutions! Govern-



ments come and go, but all fail to apply the brakes to sure disaster.

Even if there were no population explosion, the Spanish world still faces the disaster of "anachronism" — being out of step with the Twentieth Century. Latin America is a conglomeration of different historic ages living side by side, each encumbered by poverty and injustice, and all now rushing with accelerating and dangerous speed toward the modern world.

Latin America has a dangerous and staggering disparity of wealth and power. More than 100 million peasants are landless. Only half the school-age children go to school. Obsolete tax systems protect the privileged. As a result one third of all the income of Latin America is owned by approximately 5% of the people.

### Coming Solutions

Last April, nineteen hemispheric nations gathered for a summit conference at the Uruguayan gambling resort of Punta del Este. There two thousand diplomats faced the reality of this present as they struggled to work with a future. Witnessed by 1800 newsmen and attended by President Johnson, this summit conference was to be the

awaited "moment of truth — the final decision." Here diplomats had to come to the right answers for the sake of millions! Here presidents tried to keep apocalyptic symptoms from rearing ugly heads through the windows of misery, ignorance, famine and war.

How successful were they?

Was the future controlled at Punta del Este? Was the answer to Latin misery found? Were real solutions given?

No! The true future of Latin America and Spain is not in the hands of dictators and dignitaries! True solutions for the Spanish world disseminate — not from white houses and gambling resorts — but from Pasadena, California, and Big Sandy, Texas!

God does have solutions!

And you, God's servants, now have the future of the Latin world in your hands. Your part in that future is to support, in prayer and in spirit, the work of proclaiming and publishing those solutions in Spanish from Big Sandy, Texas. We desperately need new translators and *The PLAIN TRUTH — La PURA VERDAD* — in Spanish. We desperately need your prayers!!

May we count on you???