

Church of God (Seventh Day)

GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFICES

P.O. BOX 2370

DENVER, COLORADO 80201

PHONE (303) 452-7973

October 12, 1978

Mr. John Kesler
736 Magazine St.
Lake Charles, LA 70605

Dear Mr. Kesler:

Mr. Herbert W. Amrstrong was a minister of the Church of God (Seventh Day) from about 1928 to 1937. He was first offered a Ministerial License by the Oregon Conference of the Church of God (Seventh Day), which was then an affiliate of the denomination with headquarters at Stanberry, Missouri.

In 1933 the Church of God suffered a split, with approximately one-half of the church remaining with the headquarters at Stanberry, and one-half establishing a new church with main offices at Salem, West Virginia. This group was controlled by an Elder A. N. Dugger. Mr. Armstrong accepted credentials from the Salem group, and then had them revoked in 1937.

Mr. Armstrong seems to make a point of the fact that although he carried ministerial papers with the Church of God (Seventh Day) he was not a member of it; that his membership, if any, would have been with the Oregon Conference. In those days the Church of God was loosely organized and did not offer denominational memberships as it does now. This implies that although he was not given a document, he was a member as were all other of our members.

While reasons given for his separation from the church concern doctrinal dispute, those remaining among our ministry who were involved in the revocation of his Ministerial Credentials cite non-cooperation as the reason. Being self-willed and reflecting continuing haughtiness, it was determined that his continuing membership with the Church's ministry was of negative value.

In the Houston, Texas area, our local church is located at 1203 N. Main Street in Galena Park. Steve Kurtright is the pastor, and the telephone number is (713) 676-0081. The church office phone is 674-5978. I'm sorry to report that we have no churches in Louisiana.

Thank you for writing. If we can serve further, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Ray L. Straub

Ray L. Straub

Following are a few reports of the work of Elder Armstrong three and four years after the organization in 1933 and published in our official publication, "The Bible Advocate and Gospel Herald", Entered as second-class matter November 10, 1933 at the post office at Salem, West Virginia. It continued under this name until we changed the name to, "The Advocate of Truth" February 20, 1950.

Bible Advocate Vol. 3, No. 11 March 23 1936

Evangelist Herbert Armstrong writes from Eugene, Oregon, as follows: "Two weeks ago I finished a six weeks' campaign at Eldridge School House 12 miles North of Salem. We had an attendance equal to the best we have ever had. All together there are twenty-three that we are hopeful of taking a stand with us, so far. Six have come out, five commenced keeping the Sabbath three weeks ago. One was a Catholic. I am preaching there each Sunday night, keeping the work alive. Next week we will organize a Sabbath School. Brother and Sister Runcorn of Salem will meet with this new company, and Chas. Henion from Jefferson, a young man, has been with me in this neighborhood, and I am placing him to supervise the Sabbath School. I have urgent calls for meetings in three other places."
--Elder Armstrong is also speaking regularly over the air from the Eugene station.

Bible Advocate Vol. 3, No. 18—June 29, 1936

Evangelist Herbert Armstrong is in the midst of a very promising tent meeting in Oregon. At last reports he said it was the most encouraging tent meeting he had ever held and the people were really hungry to hear the Word of life. The attendance was extra good and many were already deeply interested.

Bible Advocate Vol. 3, No. 20 — July 27, 1936

Evangelist Herbert Armstrong writes from Oregon about replacing the big tent with the smaller one, as the large one was shipped to Idaho for the summer campaign there, but says, "All things work together for good. Six have already been added to the Eugene Church, all new converts, and one other moved to Chicago. There are 20 or 30 regular attendants who rarely ever miss a night, besides the others who come and go, and shift and change....."

Bible Advocate Vol. 3, No. 24 — Sept. 1936

Evangelist Herbert Armstrong is laboring in Oregon, carrying on his broadcasting work every Sunday, and conducting evangelical meetings besides. They are purchasing a portable tabernacle to be used out on the Pacific coast in evangelical meetings, which can be moved and used both summer and winter in the work.

Bible Advocate Vol. 4, No. 11 — March 22, 1937

Evangelist Herbert Armstrong is still laboring in Oregon full time and a few new ones are being added to the church there. He is planning to begin an effort in a new field south of Eugene where an interest has been created through his broadcast. He wished a correction to be made relative to his broadcasting work, that with his recent hookup with three stations there he reaches practically all of the Willamette Valley, and the south west part of Washington, but the messages do not reach the north western part of Washington as was inferred by the recent statement that he reached most of the Pacific north west.

Bible Advocate Vol. 4, No. 19 — July 12, 1937

Evangelist Herbert Armstrong is conducting a tent meeting at Eugene, Oregon, which is expected to continue up until the Pacific coast camp meeting convenes there, beginning August 20th.