

The Work of God in Canada!

This is the beginning of a series of informative articles to bring you the interesting details, some candid pictures and a thumbnail, background sketch of the overseas offices of the world-wide WORK OF GOD!

by David Jon Hill

THE sun never sets on the offices of this great Work of the Almighty God! This Work is fulfilling the commission given to it by Jesus Christ—"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached IN ALL THE WORLD..." (Matt. 24:14). Five overseas offices on four continents ring the globe. This world-circling Work is being carried on by the living Head of this great Work—Jesus Christ. As Head, He directs this very Work.

YOU are a part of this world-wide organization! YOU are a part of the very Work, supervised by the Almighty God—a Work that is changing lives in every corner of the globe!

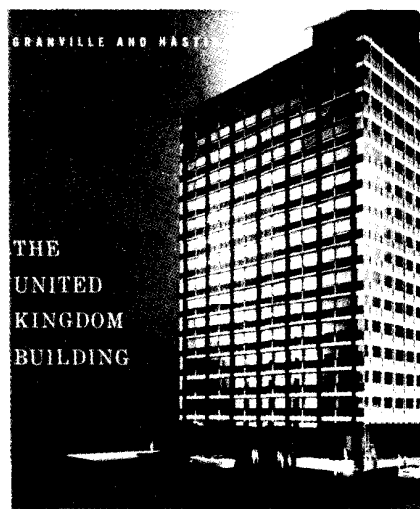
YOU should be vitally interested in the Work of God. Praying for it, thinking about it, thanking God for YOUR PART IN IT!

Need For Offices Abroad

When this Work was just becoming nation-wide, there were some who criticized Mr. Armstrong for his interest in and service to the people God was calling, beyond the confines of the local Oregon area. "Don't tell us about what's happening in Texas," they would say. "What concern is that of ours..."

THAT'S WHERE THOSE PEOPLE CEASED TO GROW! They are no longer with us! The Work of the very Living and Active GOD is still growing—reaching out, fulfilling prophecy, carrying a warning message to a dying WORLD! It is not the idea of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong to have overseas offices—it is the DEMAND OF JESUS CHRIST! HE is the One Who said that this message must be preached "IN ALL THE WORLD!"

In the summer of 1955, the response to Radio Luxembourg and to a previous evangelistic campaign held in the British Isles, made the need for our first overseas office imperative! Mr. Richard David Armstrong, assisted by Mr.



This beautiful building in the heart of downtown Vancouver provides our Canadian Work with fine offices.

George Meeker, established this first foreign office! For years it was a lonely outpost of God's Work, seemingly far away from the mainstream of activity of the Work of God in Pasadena. Now, of course, the real need for the establishing of that office is very apparent!

Instead of an outpost in England, we now have a whole new Ambassador College with over a hundred students, five congregations of the Church of God being ministered to (well over five hundred members attending), and an atmosphere of bustling, dynamic, active growth! Surely the hundreds of members and the thousands of Co-Workers in England and on the Continent would vociferously deny that there was no real need for the office in Britain!

Christ Demands More

By that summer of 1955, God's ministers were beginning to see the vast scope of the international effort that was going to be required of this Work by its Living Head, Jesus Christ! Australia was next on His list—then Canada; the

Philippines; Düsseldorf, Germany—and soon in other far-flung areas, where and when God shows the need.

Canadian Office Begins

Two years ago the burgeoning Canadian response demanded our establishing an office there. Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong winged to Vancouver, B. C., and officially began the Canadian office. Then Mr. Dennis Prather, a graduate of Ambassador College, and his wife immediately flew to Vancouver and took on the managerial responsibility of the Canadian office.

The office consisted of a beautiful suite of offices, located in the new and prestige-laden United Kingdom Building, in the heart of pulsating Vancouver. The location was ideal—within ready access of all the needed facilities to help God's Work progress efficiently and rapidly. The Vancouver office site has saved the Work days and weeks of time and work. Many are receiving literature and answers to questions days in advance of what they normally would be received.

The Canadian office started with only a small mailing list. But it very rapidly began to grow. Soon there was a demand for more help in order to carry on the job. Again, God provided. In June, 1961, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pinelli joined the Prathers.

More new stations were added and the work increased. The demand became greater. More people were writing in. The mailing list had more than DOUBLED in one year! The spring of 1962 came. We became short-handed once more. Again, God added the necessary manpower. Mr. Merle Boyes, a Canadian graduate of Ambassador College, and Mr. Wisenden, a local church member in Vancouver, were added to the office staff.

The Work in Canada has continued to grow at an ever-increasing rate. The



Here Mr. Dean Wilson, manager of the Canadian office and pastor of the Church of God at Vancouver, dictates an answer to one of our Canadian listeners.

are now hearing it for the first time. The result has been a flood of new listeners to The WORLD TOMORROW program.

Many of the areas now have a local station such as Edmonton, Alberta; Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Toronto, Ontario—with a recent addition, the powerful 50,000 watt station at Winnipeg.

Just as this article goes to press, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong announced in a student forum that he had negotiated and confirmed an important change in time for the Windsor, Ontario, station, CKLW. Instead of 5:30 a.m., The WORLD TOMORROW will now be heard at 10:30 p.m. (C.S.T.). Station CKLW is one of the leading stations in listener response.

A minister was needed for the people who had been converted in the Van-

church and manager of the Canadian office. In seven months the membership has grown by a third—and new requests for visits by a minister are coming in regularly! In February of 1963, an average of EIGHTY people were attending each Sabbath.

In January of 1963, the demand for a minister on beautiful Vancouver Island became more apparent. Mr. Wilson began a Bible study in Victoria, the capital of the province of British Columbia. Now, every Friday, some FORTY-SEVEN people attend the Victoria Bible study!

Baptismal Requests Increase

With the tremendous upsurge in listeners and readers of The PLAIN TRUTH all across Canada, the interest (Please continue on page 14)



Mr. and Mrs. Prather, the pioneers of the Canadian office, are shown here carrying on the Work in the small quarters we began with...



BELOW: A candid photo of the congregation at Vancouver. Services had been dismissed, but as in God's Church everywhere, the brethren were engaged in the pleasant fellowship every Sabbath affords.

mailing list has once again DOUBLED! Two more personnel have been added to the staff of office employees.

Radio Coverage Increases

In the past two years God has been swinging the door of radio wide open to the Canadian people! Radio stations all across Canada have begun to open up to The WORLD TOMORROW program.

At present, SEVEN powerful Canadian radio stations blanket many of the major cities from Quebec to Vancouver! This doesn't include the many super-power American stations that penetrate Canada.

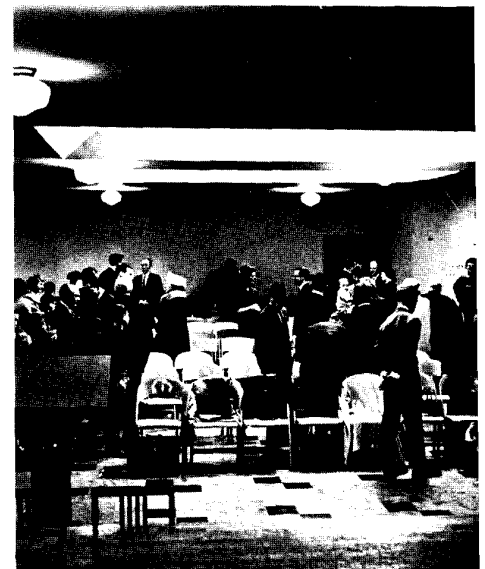
Many thousands who have never had the opportunity to hear the true Gospel

cover area. Mr. Jimmy Friddle, pastor of the Seattle-Tacoma Churches of God, was called on to fulfill that need.

Bible Study and Church Begin

In March, 1961, Mr. Friddle started a bi-monthly Bible Study. Soon there was a need for a regular pastor—and a Church!

By June, 1962, the need for a regular minister to pastor a Church in Vancouver became acute. Mr. Roderick C. Meredith officially opened the first Church of God in Canada on Friday night, June 15, 1962—with FIFTY-THREE in attendance. Mr. Dean Wilson (ordained Preaching Elder) and family officially immigrated to Canada the following week to become pastor of the local



Christ living in YOU, are winning the most gigantic encounter of your life?

Examine yourself!

If your answer to the above is a weary shake of the head, then—WAKE UP! Prod yourself! You have robbed yourself of joy—real happiness—long enough. If you need help, cry out to God in earnest prayer. Confess your sins to Him. Lay out your problems as Hezekiah did (II Kings 19:14) before the eyes of your King. *He will respond abundantly!*

If you need inspiration, encouragement, exhortation, contact one of God's ministers immediately—or one of His representatives in your area. Get busy and *solve* your problems quickly so you can begin to LIVE and, once and for all, to *work the WORK OF GOD!*

In the words of our Saviour, "These things have I spoken unto you, that my JOY might remain in you, and that your joy might be full!" (John 15:11).

This is the measure of the Church's responsibility. *How about doing yours?*

Christians Fight?

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the original Apostles teach the same thing that Jesus taught, or did they change? Did the true Church as it started out follow the instructions of Jesus and the Apostles?

Did the Catholic Church follow these same teachings of Jesus and the original Church? What about the Protestants; did they reform and get back to the faith once delivered, or did they just perpetuate the practices of the Catholic Church?

There are so many people who consider themselves Christian today who are in military service, that it is necessary to have a whole corps of chaplains to take care of the servicemen's religious needs. Did the early Catholic Church have people in service like this? The amazing truth of history will be shocking and eye-opening.

Christ said He would build His Church and even the grave would not prevail against it. He prayed that His disciples down through the centuries would continue to be ONE, not divided and in confusion (John 17:20,21). The centuries intervening were not to divide His Church. Have Christ's words stood the test of time? If so, it is obvious that the confusion of today is not true Christianity, but that of a clever, diabolical, counterfeit kind of "Christianity."

The world has been in confusion too long. The truth must be exposed to

light. *Young men need to be SURE* of God's teaching so they will not continue to be deceived by today's religious confusion. They have a right to see this subject clearly and in the right perspective, and to know what to do in the trying times immediately ahead.

It is time to face this question squarely and stop avoiding it. You need to know what God expects of you—in this very end time—today.

The next installment will begin to unfold the startling but plain answer from the very Word of Almighty God. Then we shall see from history just how the present confusion came about. We shall see who started it.

We shall also see how there has been an *amazing change* in the teachings and practices of the churches. The results of this change are shocking! What will happen in the *future* as a result of this confusion of beliefs *will be made plain.*

(To be continued)

Canada Work

(Continued from page 12)

of changing and turning to the true way of God has been ever-increasing. In recent weeks, there has been an *unusually high number* of requests for baptism all across Canada.

The baptismal tours across Canada are going to be *busy* this summer! At present, there are over ELEVEN AND A HALF THOUSAND people receiving The PLAIN TRUTH magazine in Canada! ONE THOUSAND or more are studying the Correspondence Course. Many of these people will write in—requesting baptism. Many *will be baptized!*

Already, there are over ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE *families*—members of God's Church in Canada! Many will be added this summer. The need for *ministers* to shepherd these areas is going to be great! Christ commanded us as His people and Church to pray that God would send more laborers into the harvest (Matt. 9:38). The need is certainly great in *Canada!*

Let's become really engrossed in God's Work—interested in it. Mr. Armstrong has exhorted us many times that, "We grow *spiritually* in proportion to how much we have our *hearts in the WORK!*"

Pray for these men in Canada! That God will call the laborers—that He will call others to see His truth!! Get to know the world-wide scope of the Work of Almighty God! Become *vitaly* interested in it.

Church Growth

(Continued from page 7)

with our Negro brethren in this new challenge, and pray for their continued growth in God's service!

Also, soon after the Ministerial Conferences, Mr. Carn Catherwood—having first taken unto himself a new wife—raised up a *new church* in Cincinnati, Ohio! The first services were held on the Sabbath of February 23, with 190 brethren in attendance! This still leaves Mr. Catherwood with nearly 300 in attendance at the Indianapolis Church, so remember to pray for him in his new responsibilities, both with his new church and his new wife! Congratulations, Carn!

Three New Bible Studies

On this same week end, Mr. Raymond Cole started a new Bible study—leading to a church later—in Boise, Idaho! The first week's attendance was 43, but is definitely scheduled to grow rapidly as more of the brethren in outlying areas learn about it and become accustomed to meeting together each week. So *pray* for this new study, and rejoice that God's people in Idaho now have the opportunity to meet together!

On February 10, a new Bible study was begun in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with 112 in attendance! The brethren there were very enthusiastic, and hope that it may become converted to a church as soon as we have enough ministerial help. This, too, depends much upon *your prayers!*

Finally, a *special blessing* came to both the white and Negro brethren in Atlanta, Georgia, when they were able to meet *together* in a Bible study on February 10. These studies will be held at first only once a month—because of Mr. Arthur Craig's demanding schedule—but the attendance for the first meeting was 141!

Brethren, let us lift up our hearts and voices to God with great THANKS for these wonderful opportunities for so many of our scattered brethren who—after waiting for years—are finally able to meet *together* to worship Him!

Let us *work* and PRAY more earnestly that God would bless and empower His Church—*provide more ministers* for full-time service, and *rebuke* us, *chasten* us, *fashion* and *mold* us all, so that our SPIRITUAL GROWTH and *dedication* may equal the tremendous physical progress in churches, studies, and facilities which He is making possible for our use in preparing for His coming Kingdom!