

# Bulletin



of the Worldwide Church of God

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JULY 22, 1970

## Church Administration

RODERICK C. MEREDITH

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings from Kansas City! I am writing this particular letter from here because Margie and I are here for the district conference. We have just come from the Detroit conference. We had a fine visit there and profitable meetings with a total of 49 in attendance. Here in Kansas City we have about 63 in attendance in our conferences — including ministers, Elders, assistants and wives.

Each time I come out to be with you fellows, I appreciate more the work you are doing on a daily basis — and the very fine attitudes and loyalty of God's ministers overall. I realize that it is very helpful for several of us from Headquarters to come out and spend time with you Field men, really get to know you, and share your thoughts, concerns and problems.

One point that I have been stressing in these meetings is one you all need to be concerned about. This is the potential problems in "mixed marriages" — that is, cases where one mate is not in God's Church while the other one is. Most of you remember the problems arising from the Bradesku case in Akron. It took many hours of executive time and concern from several of our top men. It took from God's Work many thousands of dollars in lawyer fees and related costs. And it resulted in a fair amount of bad

publicity for God's Work as a whole, as well as the Akron-Cleveland Church area.

Even now there are two \$100,000 lawsuits against two of our ministers in the Fort Worth area. They are being sued for alleged "alienation of affection" of a non-member's wife. Although this particular charge is virtually without foundation, we will still be out a great deal of time and expense just in being forced to gather facts, hire attorneys and go into court to answer this charge.

The best answer to these problems is the right kind of *preventative medicine*! Mr. Armstrong is very concerned about this problem and wants us to institute programs to see that these kinds of lawsuits *do not come up*, if at all possible.

So from now on, let's begin following a *consistent policy* of exercising great caution, care and concern with any whose mates are not in the Church. If they will respond, try to "befriend" the unconverted mate in every mixed marriage situation. Let him or her know you are *his* friend, too. Try to find out the non-member's hobbies and interests, show a personal interest in these and try to build a common bond of friendship and respect in your dealings with them.

With prospective members ready for baptism, let's be sure to counsel them to use wisdom and caution so as not to offend their non-member mates. Give them some definite guidelines and do's and don'ts. In addition, the minister himself should have both a pre-baptism and post-baptism conference with both the new member and his unconverted mate present. This should be a *separate* conference from the Scriptural "count

(Continued on page 33)

# Personal NOTES

## BABY NEWS

• When reporting these important events to us, would you please include the name of the woman who bore the child.

We don't always remember, and certainly wouldn't want to edit in the name of the girl somebody here *THOUGHT* you married! We also feel the mother has earned the right to be mentioned by name! — thanks.

## NEW CHURCH

Here is GOOD NEWS! A new local Church of God in the Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, area. And as soon as the new Administration Building at the Wisconsin Dells Feast Site is completed, that will be where the Church will be privileged to meet.

Mr. Raymond Cole, the Vice President for Feast Site Development in the United States, and Mr. Bill Freeland, who is also pastoring the Richland Center Church, will be the pastors.

## WHAT TO DO ABOUT POLLUTION

In recent months, the broadcast and some of our literature have encouraged a personal crusade against pollution. This is fine. Some of us, however, have gone from one ditch right into the other!

There is a balance here. We are to be *lights* — not fanatics. We are to be conscious of the pollution problem — but not call attention to ourselves as extremists. Neither are we to base our salvation on degradable or reusable packaging — much as we do not stake our eternal lives on whole wheat bread! (Rom. 14:17.)

Rather, we should do things within reason — we should do what we can to cut down pollution in our own private lives. Remember, we are trying to set the proper example — we are *not* trying to start some "movement."

We need to remember — and to definitely instruct our congregations — that God's Church is not commissioned to become "active" in the affairs of *this* world. We in God's Church know that mankind will never solve man's problems

Ministerial

# Bulletin

of the Worldwide Church of God

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*man's way.* We know that only God's Way — God's Government — can save mankind from what he has already done to himself. We look to *God* for the only solution.

Let's encourage our members to become more active in the most effective way — by putting their time, and effort and money *into God's Work!*

## ABOUT THE BULLETIN:

Several of you have written in requesting the Bulletin be sent to Local Elders. You will remember Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong's letter to you explaining the purposes and use of the Bulletin before it came out. In that letter he explained specifically that only those ordained men *in our employ* would receive the Bulletin.

This Bulletin is *highly* confidential. Each of you is responsible for how you use it, what you pass on to the brethren, your assistants, Local Elders *NOT* in our employ. Certainly Local Elders could peruse your copy with your guidance. We don't have anything to hide, but we do want to be able to plainly say what we need to within the private confines of the ordained *and* employed ministry in this Bulletin.

Therefore, Local Elders *not* in our employ and ministerial assistants will *not* receive the Bulletin. This cuts down on its circulation and prevents possible *misuses* of the material it contains. Use this *positively* — it's an opportunity for closer contact with your men, it inspires them to respect *your office, your contact with Pasadena* — please pass on to them the instruction and news you receive in the Bulletin.



## WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIAHERBERT W. ARMSTRONG  
PRESIDENT and PASTOROFFICE OF  
GARNER TED ARMSTRONG  
Vice President

July 22, 1970

Ambassador, Texas Campus

The following was dictated and typed from ad-libbed talk; so let me apologize in advance for any strangely constructed sentences!

Dear Fellow Ministers:

First, I would like to tell you about the campaigns and clear up a few misconceptions, answer a few questions and just report about them from the point of view of their history.

The idea originally came to me while I was talking to Mr. McCullough one afternoon. The Work was right in the very depths of the financial crisis. We suddenly began to realize -- it had been dawning upon us gradually, but now the facts had become hard, cold facts that we could not avoid -- that we might have to drop major functions and projects. Believe it or not, it had come to the point where we had to consider whether we could maintain all three campuses, whether we might have to take such drastic measures as to close one or more. As you know, we had already reduced the PLAIN TRUTH to an every-other-month publication, the same thing with TOMORROW'S WORLD, but alternating them so that each month the members and those on both lists would receive at least one magazine a month. We put a 10- to 20-percent (depending upon rank) salary reduction into effect. We put both airplanes on the block, neither of which was sold because of no buyers.

At that time and in that context I began to wonder whether or not we were a lot nearer the end of this Work than we had thought -- despite our warning the brethren, "Don't bet on 1972!"

But, thinking of all of these things, remembering back, we had begun to wonder whether or not we really had just two-and-a-half or three years or so to finish this Work. Maybe we have five, maybe six, maybe eight -- all of these thoughts were going through my mind and I began to wonder if it was time -- maybe past time -- to really get out and reach the cities of Israel by just saying, "Here we are."

I would now like to take you "behind the scenes" in my thinking and explain eight purposes around which the campaigns were designed -- the reasons for our saying, "America Listen, Before It's Too Late!"

1) To see how big, how widespread, how well-known this Work of God is. To see what its impact would be in the major cities of the United States. We would be able to sample that impact directly by audience measurement, by telephone and on-the-street surveys, by ad response, by the kind of press releases we received, etc.

2) To show this nation, and to forever demonstrate as a matter of record and practical fact to all dissenters and persecutors, that we are neither anti-American nor are we anti-Christian! We have been accused of being both by people who don't know what they are talking about. We weren't waving the flag to pretend. I'm as much of an American as anybody! I feel that with the Spirit of God, the knowledge of God, knowledge of Biblical prophecy -- of what may and will happen to this country -- that we all become more American, more TRULY PATRIOTIC, than any other group of Americans.

When I saw the movie "Spartacus," I got a message out of it that has had a real impact on me. I thought what might happen to our country and I sat there and just bawled. Now, does that make me an American? No. Not by itself. I'm an American because my parents were and their parents were. But even if I had been a naturalized citizen, I still am, and nobody can tell me that I am not, an American. No one can say that I don't love this country without being 1) a liar, or 2) an ignoramus who doesn't know any better!

I wanted to clearly demonstrate to the nation and to any future, past or present dissenters, persecutors, or people who want to write articles against us that we are not anti-flag. I salute the flag; I wanted a chance to say that, to go on record saying it. It's a matter of record in newspaper articles now. I said, "I don't worship that symbol. I worship GOD but I honor the flag! I salute it." I said that before thousands of people -- not once but several times.

3) To show the nation that we are not afraid to speak out about the problems of this country on a face-to-face, people-to-people basis. We don't just always hide behind the microphone. We're not operating off in an attic saying, "Send me all your cards and letters." And, we are not afraid to get involved. We're not afraid to be right out here among the people, to shake hands with the people, to listen to them, to talk to them, to let them see us, touch us, talk to us, know that we are real.

4) To say, here's a cross section of Ambassador College students. They are real. They are not faking it. Their happiness is genuine, and there is a cause for the way they feel and the happiness they have. They are not artificial, they are not china glass. They're not hippies, but they are dissenters and



protestors. They don't like the way the world is, they protest the Viet Nam war, they protest the conditions in this country, the spoilage of our air and water and land. They don't like the chicanery in government; they don't like the racism and hatred; they have a brother-sister attitude; they are real, here they are, take a look at them. That was a part of what we felt we wanted to achieve.

5) To attract some press, radio, television, and newspaper notice -- to let them say whatever they wanted to say so that we could find out what they would say. To determine whether they would be caustic and critical, whether they would try to nail us, make fun of us and ridicule us, or whether they would perhaps support us. We wondered whether something might begin to happen so that perhaps other areas of the press, such as magazines, Sunday supplements, etc., would become interested -- we wanted to determine the extent of the impact we have on people.

I wasn't going to go out of my way to achieve any publicity -- and I did not. I never contacted a single radio station, not once. I never called a television station. I never called a newspaper reporter. I had nothing to do with any of it. When we got to town, when the billboards were up and the ads started, they contacted us. We didn't get what you'd call bad press -- what we got was very little of anything. Only on the opening night in Nashville and a couple of little articles from Cincinnati. Nowhere near as much as I really would have liked.

And my voice was such a hideous problem I missed several opportunities for TV and radio interviews. So press was only maybe 15 or 20 percent of what we thought it might have been.

6) To batter down the ideas that all this Work does is bad-mouth the country, talk about problems, problems, problems and never offer solutions. I did offer solutions over and over again and I showed how I and those Ambassador College students are collectively living the solution. I was very glad in the final campaign meeting up in Cincinnati to be able to go in depth into a lot of things we are doing and putting into practice at Ambassador College in Big Sandy.

7) To "get our feet wet" -- for experience to see whether this kind of campaign would really reach people. To see whether they would respond. I knew we would make mistakes, have to change the format, the music, the ads, nearly every facet of the whole program. We have learned a lot and I am definitely going to do it much differently next time. I hope to use motion pictures because that would be even more effective than the slides we used this time.

About the third night in Cincinnati I went through a whole series

of scriptures. They were 1 John 3:4 "Sin is the transgression of the law." Ezek. 18:4 "The soul that sins it shall die!" Matt. 5:17; Matt. 19:17, etc. Shocking scriptures! "It just can't be true, because I've always been taught otherwise," goes the thinking of the audience. Yet there is that scripture staring them in the face and they couldn't hide from it or hide it from the others there. The next night I told them that somebody was bound to say, "Armstrong said, 'the soul that sins, it shall die!'" And they all got a laugh out of that. Because that wasn't what Armsrong said. That's what that BIBLE said and they all saw it with their own eyes! That method is very, very effective for any subject.

Interestingly enough, I was discussing some other topics -- and I was going to introduce the scriptures a little bit later on -- when I saw about 15 or 20 of these hippies get up and start out. So we rolled the screen down and turned the lights down quickly and all the hippies stopped. They stayed there for the whole time through all of those scriptures!

8) To inspire the brethren. Now this was last, and in a sense the least reason for the campaigns. I think that to a lot of the brethren in the church this became the really big thing, but this was just a little "spin-off" -- it was an aside -- but an important one. I felt that the brethren of this church would be inspired by such a campaign. I think that they were and I think they are. I did not do the campaigns for the purpose of inspiring the brethren. I did it for all of these other reasons. But I think that if we had any way of measuring the amount of extra offerings, the dedication, the prayer, the zeal that found its way permeating the entire church before and during these campaigns -- if you had any way to assess that you'd discover a real church-wide Spiritual boost. I know the colleges got a real big spiritual boost. Now, all of that is an aside. That is a blessing that just falls out as a result of serving fellow Americans, the country and the Work. The first commission is the Work. I think that if we had any way to appraise or to assess our brethren's motivation for sending in their extra offerings during that terrible financial crisis (which we still are in), we would find that the excitement engendered by the America Listen Campaigns contributed a fair measure to their generous response.

I know we all have the Big Goal in mind but we also need temporary goals. God didn't make the weather static throughout the year. You look toward seasonal changes, changes of day and night, changes in the environment around us because God knows the need of the human mind for temporary goals, plateaus and levels of growth, experience and understanding.

Now, please believe me that if just serving ourselves, inspiring the brethren, had been the main motive in these campaigns, God



would not have blessed them -- because they would not have been worthwhile. I don't think they would have been allowed to have been conducted -- but that was not their purpose. That was an aside. That's the same kind of a blessing that I think a minister receives from being able to preach because he learns more than the people who hear him. That's the fall-out. That's the spin-off. That's not the primary reason -- otherwise he could preach in a room all by himself and he would still learn a lot, but the people wouldn't be able to hear.

So now in the future we will appraise the results of the campaign. Cincinnati didn't stagger. They didn't straighten out a single road, straighten a single building, fire the police chief, get rid of the ghetto or correct any of the problems there. Not a single one that I can recall. The inner-urban ghetto is still there and the Appalachian whites wait for the Negroes on certain street corners just like they always did. Basically, the people who came to Cincinnati were not Cincinnati people anyhow, but people from out in the environs and around the countryside of Kentucky and Ohio -- people who were long-time listeners of the World Tomorrow program.

Some hippies came, some students came, some people came no doubt just out of curiosity.

The campaigns are now a matter of history. They are something this Work did. The pictures we took, the brochures we will develop, the newspapers and press we did receive will become a part of the promotional literature for any future campaigns -- if and when we do them.

I frankly think that if we do them again I will only do three: Friday night, Saturday night, and Sunday night and that will be it, instead of five -- and I am certainly never again going to try to do two on the same day because my voice will not stand it. So what we do and say about it in TOMORROW'S WORLD, in the GOOD NEWS, the sending of the tapes and possibly some of the motion pictures that we got out of it to yet inspire people -- in Australia, South Africa, other Festival sites -- that will be a blessing and a benefit to those people and they will feel, too, like they are sharing in another aspect of the Work.

Don't misunderstand. Campaigns are not going to finish the Work or save the nation or the world. We're not going to get hundred-thousand-people crowds in this age. Because what we say is just not popular. When Billy Graham goes into an area with complete backing of all the churches, all the right-wing conservative Republicans, and the whole community for hundreds of miles around, he's going to have a huge audience. When you see those 11- and 12-year old boys coming up front to get all that blessing he is going to hand out -- and I've seen a lot of them that age tripping down there

if you have watched on TV -- that's all set up months and months in advance. People out beating the roads and ringing door bells; preachers in the churches telling their congregations to be sure to go.

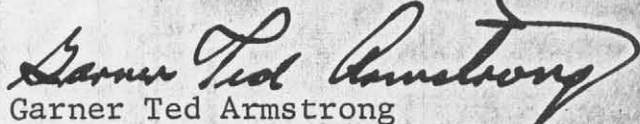
Now, what happens when we come to town? In Nashville every one of the Baptist ministers made his people take a vow, a pledge, that they would not attend any meeting where Garner Ted Armstrong spoke. If the people felt fairly buffaloed by their church or their minister they probably took that pledge and of course they didn't come. So it was basically just the people who have been listening to the broadcast and who were either curious or fairly familiar with us -- or else really mad at us.

Again, don't misunderstand, these campaigns didn't change America or convert it -- they were just an experiment, a study, a help toward the goal of Matthew 24:14.

We've learned a lot of lessons from these campaigns. I have much material from them I can use on the broadcasts and TV. I feel I know much better what the mood of people in general is by this face-to-face contact. I learned even more deeply how much I must depend on God for everything I do -- even my voice to speak His words to people. The lessons go on and on -- too numerous to mention in this already long letter.

Again, thank you, and thank all your congregation for their enthusiastic support for these campaigns. Now let's get on with the Big Work of reaching the millions around the world with radio, ads and TV with more dynamic zeal than ever before -- applying the lessons we've learned from the thousands we've served in this face-to-face campaign.

With sincere thanks, in Jesus Name,

  
Garner Ted Armstrong



# News from the FOREIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE

Office of  
RONALD L. DART

## BRITISH ELECTION — IMPORTANT FOR GOD'S WORK

The recent general election in Great Britain may turn out to be very important for the Work. Over 90% of the Conservative MP's are on record as supporters of local commercial radio.

If election promises are fulfilled, and if the sale of program time is allowed, then *The WORLD TOMORROW* broadcast could be on the air in Great Britain. One possible hitch is that they may set up their radio stations much like their commercial television stations are now — they may only sell spot announcements, no program time.

We are already on one commercial radio station in the British Isles, however — Manx Radio on the Isle of Man. There is some hope that the Conservative Government will allow a power increase. 50,000 watts from the Isle of Man would effectively cover the entire British Isles. At the moment, however, it barely reaches the shores of England and Northern Ireland.

## NEW ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Arthur Docken, for 5 years the director of God's Work in the Philippines, will be transferred to HQ. Replacing him in Manila will be Mr. Colin Adair. The Philippine assignment has been a problem for the Docken family since their 4 daughters have had to lead a somewhat isolated existence. (They had to have private tutoring due to the rather inadequate Philippine school system.) The Adairs on the other hand, do not, as yet, have children and therefore will have more freedom in a region which demands a great deal of flexibility, adaptability and mobility. To Mr. Docken, we say "Well done!" — it was under his effective leadership that God's Work in the Philippines experienced its real growth. To Mr. Adair, we say "Godspeed!"

Dr. Roy McCarthy — the past student body president in Bricket Wood — has, upon his recent graduation, been ordained a preaching elder and

given the responsibility of pastoring the Utrecht, Holland church. Congratulations.

## CANADIAN WORK

Mr. Dean Wilson sent the following communique to HQ:

The Canadian work for the first six months of 1970 was better than expected. 1969 had been a very good year, and coupled with difficult economic situations in many areas of Canada, we expected a difficult year from a financial standpoint. But thankfully it has *not* worked out that way! For the first six months of the year we have had a very fine 30% increase in income — basically maintained by the members' wholehearted support for God's Work. On the other hand we find the Co-Worker income has slipped by upwards of 15% for the year to date, while income from new contributors has slipped even more.

The letter count has also been unexpectedly high. We had had an excellent year in 1969 with over a 100% increase in mail. Nonetheless 1970 is also coming along fine (in spite of a long drawn-out mail strike or slowdown) with about a 45% increase in mail, much of it from people who are writing in for the second and third time. [Recent developments indicate a prolonged mail slowdown in Canada. For example, an average of one borough in Toronto will be on strike on any one day.]

A point of general interest would be the visit of Inspector Farley of the Vancouver Police Department to the office last week. He was here to pick up the first half of a batch of Crime booklets we are giving to the Vancouver Police Department. He had requested the booklet on the recommendation of the Winnipeg Police Department. He was very impressed by the office and the attitude we take toward the current national and international problems faced by our society. He mentioned that he didn't see how our society could continue to function if someone doesn't start to do something to change the current trends in crime and violence. Vancouver crime is up 35% so far this year. He really appreciated our free booklets even though he could not understand how we could afford to do it.

He offered his services and the services of the Vancouver Police Department in any way in which they could help us. We are now on their mailing list for reports and statistics of

crime in Vancouver which they put out weekly. He also asked permission to use our booklet and to discuss it on Channel 10, our local educational TV station. He is also going to recommend that the manager of the station get in contact with Pasadena in regards to free TV programs offered on the subject of crime and other related material. I asked him, if the occasion ever came up, would the Vancouver Police Department consider giving a personal interview on the subject of crime for our telecast? He said they would be happy to help us in this way at any time.

As he left he asked for several copies of the *Child Rearing* booklet, a copy of *This Is Ambassador College* and to be put on the mailing list for *The PLAIN TRUTH*.

## SOUTH AFRICA

Mr. Robert E. Fahey, the director of God's Work in South Africa, received the following memo from Mr. Dan Botha.

A few nights ago I went to the Leasks' house to anoint some of their children who had the flu. While I was there, Mr. Renouf, who lives next door, came over and asked me to please come to his house since his son Frankie, about two-and-a-half, was very sick. So I walked over to his house with him.

Apparently Frankie had a bit of a cough that afternoon, but nothing serious. Suddenly, later in the evening, it just got worse and worse. When I walked into his bedroom, he had a throaty, raspy cough the likes of which I have never heard before. He was holding his throat and screaming because of the pain. I picked him up and tried to comfort him, but he was uncontrollable. His mother then took him and I anointed him. The coughing was so bad I could not hear myself praying. The only part of the prayer one could hear was the "amen," after which he coughed twice, then stopped completely. He immediately relaxed. Soon he fell asleep. That was the end of his illness. He was at Church on Sabbath, completely recovered from his ordeal.

I personally have never seen such a quick intervention. It was absolutely immediate. One minute he was very sick, the next minute he wasn't.

## RHODESIAN TOUR

The following report was received from Andre Van Belkum, a local elder in South Africa.

We [Mr. Van Belkum and Mr. Bill Whitaker, a deacon from South Africa] have just completed a 3,700-mile trip through Rhodesia. The trip was very successful and we encountered few difficulties and problems along the way. I did not think that it was possible for a tour to proceed as smoothly as this one did!

We met over 100 people during the three

weeks and *baptized* 8. We were encouraged by the trouble some went to in order to meet us. Most of the Africans [the term "African" means "Black" in Southern Africa] earn a very low wage — many who live in the native reserves do not work at all — but they were still willing to travel hundreds of miles to see us. Some even sold their livestock in order to have money to pay for their transport.

One African who lives in a reserve was scheduled to meet us at a small place called Enkeldoorn which is situated about 140 miles from Salisbury. He missed the only bus that was scheduled to go to Enkeldoorn that day, but this did not deter him. He showed his determination to see us by getting on his bicycle and travelling over 40 miles. The journey took him close to 6 hours — in the hot African sun and along a road which has many ups and downs.

It was common to meet with others who had travelled 100 or 200 miles to keep their appointments with us. Only a very few we met owned cars, and consequently most had to rely on their feet and buses to get from one point to the next.

One of the biggest problems the Africans have to face is the Sabbath. In the first place, it is extremely difficult for them to find employment, and when they do, they find that most jobs do not offer a five-day week. The Sabbath really is *the* test commandment for many in Rhodesia!

There was one interesting case of an African who travelled 200 miles from the famous Kariba lake area to meet us. He was a sub-chief of the reserve and had been nominated as a representative to the Rhodesian parliament, but had refused because it would have meant working on the Sabbath. This is a job that would have given him prestige and status as well as a handsome salary.

Most of the Europeans we met recognized the potential threat of terrorists coming across the border from Zambia, but generally they felt the situation was well under control. Especially in the area near Kariba, we came across a number of police road blocks. They questioned us about the route we were taking, and peered into the car to make sure we were not hiding terrorists in the back! They were armed with automatic weapons, and you could see they meant business.

Most of the European population is centered in the capital city, Salisbury, and in the second largest city, Bulawayo. Those we met in the rural areas are mostly farmers, or engaged in private mining. Rhodesians are extremely hospitable individuals, and we were made to feel very welcome in nearly all the homes we visited.

There are a number who were very close to baptism, and we hope to arrange a follow-up tour some time during August.



# "AMERICA, LISTEN!"

## Nashville Post-Campaign Survey

After the Nashville campaign, 24 church members spent parts of the next three days calling a random sample of Nashville citizens. They placed 2600 calls and completed 933 questionnaires.

Of these, 2% had attended the campaign (this is also approximately the proportion of the population who attended — which verifies that our sample is a valid representation of the population): 68% of those who attended were very enthusiastic about "America, Listen"; 26% thought it was good overall; 6% thought it was "average." No one surveyed reported disliking it. (Our students reported the same general reaction among the people they talked with.)

Of the 933 completed questionnaires, 45% were able to correctly identify the name Garner Ted Armstrong among a list of nationally known commentators. This is up 13 points from 32%, the figure obtained when we did the first study last April before the campaign. 32% knew Mr. Armstrong had spoken in Nashville; an additional 15% knew of us through the name "America, Listen." This indicates that our publicity reached about 47% of the city.

### CINCINNATI ATTENDANCE

Saturday	5200
Sunday (afternoon)	6500
Sunday (night)	5500
Monday	5900
Tuesday	5400

## Church Administration

(Continued from page 23)

the cost and repent" session — where the disinterested mate should normally *not* be present.

In these conferences with a non-member mate present, stress that the Church is greatly interested in building and preserving happy marriages. Let the non-members realize you are more than happy to hear their side of any disagreement regarding alleged Church teachings or practices that seem to affect their marriages.

Let them realize that new members of many

different types of groups often become "eager beavers" and go beyond what the group itself actually teaches and that we want to help straighten out any misunderstandings of this sort on *either* side.

Entreat the members with unconverted mates to be wise and patient with them — to prepare them psychologically and with love for any problems that might arise over Christmas, Easter, tithing, Unleavened Bread, divine healing, etc. Encourage church members not to study, pray or fast at *awkward* times that disrupt their marriages and family harmony.

Finally, as I pointed out several weeks ago, try to prevent such wives from "using" the church or minister's teachings against her husband. Be sure she doesn't use religion as a crutch for her own self-righteousness, independence or frigidity.

Make *sure*, fellows — as best you can — that those wives do not look to you or the church in *any way* as a kind of protective "barrier" between them and their husbands. Do *not* give them the impression that we will "help" them financially if they leave their husbands!

Realize that, however unwittingly, a "climate" can be created in such a home where one of our women members feels a new sense of *independence* from her husband. She now looks to the minister or the church as her leader *instead* of her non-member husband. This is *wrong* and could subtly damage or wreck a marriage — especially one that is already weak, as many in this mixed-up society are anyway.

It is *your responsibility* to see that this does *NOT* happen. Mr. Armstrong is greatly *CONCERNED* about these recent lawsuits and has instructed me to tell you men that this matter is of *top priority*. We must take every possible step to *AVOID* extensive and damaging lawsuits involving this type of situation!

Make sure that our emphasis for each married person is on *helping* and *serving* their unconverted mate — becoming a *better* marriage partner than ever before through the help of God's Spirit *LIVING* within us!

That's it for now. I'll write more later and I know you'll be getting the rest of the church news here in the Bulletin.

Your brother in Christ,

*Robbie C. Merrill*