

PASTOR'S REPORT



PUBLISHED BY THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

VOL 2. NO 21

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 13, 1978

Greetings Again Fellow Pastors:

I am writing this letter on a plane while returning to Pasadena from New York City. Yesterday we had a combined service in Manhattan with approximately 2000 people observing the day of Pentecost -- the birthdate of the Church of God.

The overwhelming impression that left its mark on me as we observed this annual Holy Day was the strength and durableness of God's people. The brethren in the greater New York City area are solid in the faith. In this they are representative of all our brethren -- God's children -- around the world. They are tried and proven, having already been tested in about every conceivable way. Yet, they remain basically stable, responsive, loyal and always anxious to see God's Work move forward, with new programs developed as needed, and the Work being done.

These remarks are intended as a sincere tribute and recognition of the faith and dedication of the people of God around the world. The members of God's Church have, in the main, done their part well by their faithful prayers and generous support through troubled times as well as times of blessings and rejoicing. They remain committed to seeing this Work grow and reach out to humanity with God's message more effectively. They certainly deserve our expression of gratitude and encouragement.

Motivation, conviction, second and third effort are natural by-products of action, accomplishment and success. The greater the Work's effort in genuinely trying, and the more we actually do, the greater the enthusiasm, support and motivation we have among our people. But whenever we bog down or spin our wheels, when programs become stagnant or don't bring adequate results, then the people begin to lose momentum. They tend to languish, grow indifferent, lose the will to press on, wondering whether it's all worth it or not.

We have seen this phenomenon in action for some years. The Church seemed to lose its way. Growth was minimal and finally became nearly non-existent over the last year. Our efforts to accomplish seemed to fizzle out. Drastic changes were sometimes effected in the hopes we would recapture a winning way. But you ministers, more than any others, know we have been struggling to once again establish a winning combination. Because of this, your work of keeping a "turned-on" membership, a "with-it" support base, "a motivated people of God" has been increasingly difficult.

I sincerely believe this will be turned around. I am convinced that through Jesus Christ our Head and Master directing His servant Mr. Herbert Armstrong, the collective work of God's church will bear

the kind of fruit God is looking for and reap the harvest in human lives committed to God's Way of life. In the weeks and months ahead, we hope to see new programs inaugurated which should cause the church to go forward as never before in fulfilling the commission of Jesus Christ!

.

It is now Tuesday morning, and in just a few minutes we will begin our first meeting with the area coordinators in my office. By now most of you have probably heard various rumors about recent developments regarding Mr. Ted Armstrong. Instead of trying to recount some of the details in this letter, I am having an article that appeared in this morning's Pasadena Star-News reproduced in this Pastor's Report. You can feel free to discuss parts of the article with the members. Use your own judgment as to how much of it you read to your congregation.

That's it for now. I must go to the meeting. Keep encouraging the people of God.

In Christ's service,



C. Wayne Cole

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS UPDATE As many of you may already know, Mr. Herbert Armstrong has started making half hour television broadcasts on the weekly Sabbath in Tucson. They will begin airing either at the end of June or the first part of July, finishing up the contracts that we have had for the Garner Ted Armstrong program. The new program will be titled "The World Tomorrow with Herbert W. Armstrong," as it had been in the past. A new 13-week schedule for Mr. Armstrong's programs is being scheduled with our agency, with time buying slots to be made starting in July or August of this year.

The programs will obviously be more religious in content and will be consistent with the PLAIN TRUTH magazine which will be correlated with a positive religious approach emphasizing the coming government of God. All programs will then be directly correlated to focus on a consistency of content between television, radio, PT, booklets, and the subscriber development program. In doing so we anticipate considerable shortening of the cycle between the time when a person first responds to the media and his first direct contact with the Church. This will not only save money, but most certainly should affect the direct growth of the Church.

With the recent decisions made by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, various budgetary improvements have been realized for the Church. First, the recent decision to close the undergraduate program in Pasadena and formulate a new academic structure geared more to the present needs of the Church has resulted in millions of dollars worth of annualized savings. This will not only help balance the 1978/79

budget, but will also greatly enhance future monies to be channeled into first line priorities for Church-related activities.

Next, an unpredicted and unscheduled heavy income response was netted by Mr. Herbert Armstrong's recent co-worker letter which has certainly been a boost to the June income figure, one day reaching the \$358,000 level! Income in general has continued very good and is still positive for the year, running approximately four percent above actual for last year.

Also, Mr. Armstrong has directed the sale of certain peripheral Pasadena campus properties that had been purchased for the future expansion of the Pasadena academic complex. These have been put on the market and for the most part have now been sold. These sales in no way affect the main campus property. Add to this the fact that Mr. Armstrong has put on the market for sale our feast sites at the Ozarks, the Dells, and the Poconos as well as the Big Sandy campus. Please note that this will not affect our fall Feast schedule in any way.

The Citation aircraft, which we were recently instructed by Mr. Armstrong to sell, was in fact sold this past Friday. This will not only inject money into the cash flow of the Work, but will also reduce operating expenses in Flight Operations.

Finally, I'm very happy to report that the Pentecost holy day offering has been exceedingly good and will most likely reach our budgetary projection of one million dollars. We expect the average will be between \$13.80 and \$14.00 per person, which is a very good offering and one for which our generous brethren should be thanked.

The budget for the 1978/79 period is shaping up very well. Finalization should be taking place in the next several weeks. As priorities are adjusted and set by Mr. Herbert Armstrong, the resulting decisions are being translated into income projections and budgetary impacts.

In light of all I have reviewed here with you, the financial outlook for the Work looks very promising, of which the new program for generating growth in the Church is the long-term key. Your continued support of Mr. Herbert Armstrong and your positive encouragement of the brethren will obviously be vital factors in our achieving maximum results. Remember that the world still has a crying need for the truth we have been given. So together let's rededicate our lives to getting on with our Commission.

--Ray Wright, Financial Affairs

THE DIPLOMA PROGRAM In the wake of recent announcements establishing the Ambassador College School of Biblical and Ministerial Studies, we have received a number of questions about our Diploma Program. These queries were not seeking clarification of facts, but rather focused on the purpose behind the Diploma Program.

The Certificate Program has clear rationale in providing for the continuing professional needs of the ordained ministry. The M.A. Program has purpose as a vehicle for developing future leadership for the Church. But why the Diploma Program?

As you know, higher education in the western world has undergone some enormous upheavals in recent years. Some of the time-honored institutions in this country are examining their real purpose. Educators want very much to make higher education relevant to today's world. As the scientific achievements of the post-war world have become more commonplace, the larger questions of life continue to loom on the horizon -- Why are we here? How should we live our lives? Is there a supernatural power? What about morality and ethics? -- all are very cogent questions of the 1980's.

Those of us on the administration of Ambassador College appreciate the challenges placed before us when Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong wrote the policy and purpose statement creating the new school. As the weeks have gone by since Mr. Armstrong's announcement, we have increasingly realized the opportunities before us. What in reality has occurred is that we are now privileged to develop an entirely innovative type of program. Centering on those distinctive qualities which truly made Ambassador College unique over the years, we will now have a program which will give young men and women of the Church a foundational education in the more penetrating and significant dimensions of life.

Higher education has many varied forms and directions. Each individual needs to assess his or her own goals, but all students should have a firm understanding of why they were born, where they are going in life, and how to get there. Our new diploma program will retain those courses which have been so successful over the years in dealing with such subjects. Principles of Living, Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, Old Testament Survey, Marriage and the Family, and a number of other courses like these will form the core of the curriculum for the program.

For this entire 30-unit program (whether taken during the regular school year or in summer sessions), the student will concentrate on these areas without being compelled to pursue other areas of study such as a foreign language, American history, or English. In fact, the whole purpose for this type of program is to help the student better understand life and "find himself" as they say in the vernacular.

Another important element of the program will be a thorough career guidance system. After this diploma program, a student may well feel that further college is not for him. Maybe entering a trade will be in order. On the other hand, this student may realize that additional college is very necessary -- but not just any college program. Using the resources of our career services office, the student will be better able to select the college or university which will best serve his or her needs. Regardless of whether or not this person will ultimately earn a college degree, he will have received a solid foundation in the most important knowledge of life.

Another direct benefit of this type of program will obviously be in the social and recreational opportunities for young men and women in the Church. As you know, so many of our scattered congregations do not offer very many chances for social interaction among young people of like faith, simply because of geography.

Personally, I see this diploma program as a rich opportunity for my own son (or daughters, for that matter) who is still some years away

from college. I would like him to obtain a bachelor's degree, but this program, offering foundational understanding might be just the thing for him during these formative years of life. He could enter immediately after completing high school, or as a meaningful "change of pace" sometime during his academic program at another college. I feel that this would be vital not only in terms of his future career direction in life, but in terms of his spiritual and moral development. And who knows, he might even meet that one person at Ambassador College who, at some future date, will become my daughter-in-law!

As I mentioned earlier, this new diploma program which Mr. Armstrong has established is quite innovative. It is not an academic degree program, but it does allow us to deal directly with some critical issues central to the development of college-age people.

--George Geis, Dean of Faculty

TO BE READ TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Ministerial Development: Festival Seminars for local elders and ministerial candidates.

Due to the positive response to last year's elder seminars at Tucson and St. Petersburg, Mr. Wayne Cole has approved holding them at the Feast again this Fall.

Since these sessions are an opportunity for additional ministerial training at a time when there is no job conflict, we are going to extend these seminars to include ministerial candidates who are employed outside of the Church.

We will probably have more people registering this time since it will be open to both elders and ministerial candidates. To accommodate the additional registrants, we will be holding the training sessions at Seattle, Lake of the Ozarks, and the Savannah, Georgia feast sites.

The time allocated during the Feast will probably be from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on October 17, 18, 19, 20 and 22. This will allow ten hours of solid class instruction by three or four qualified Ambassador College Certificate of the Ministry instructors. These sessions should prove to be extremely beneficial.

It would be appreciated if all interested elders and ministerial candidates would write to Ministerial Development, to the attention of Art Mokarow, suggesting specific subjects you would like covered. With only ten hours of instruction we want to be sure you receive what is serving your ministerial needs.

All who would like to attend these sessions please write to Ministerial Development for registration. It is necessary that you get your Pastor's approval written on your request letter before consideration can be given. Any of you who want to attend the sessions but are assigned to another feast area should write to the Festival Office as well as Ministerial Development.

Your requests will be processed as soon as received and you will be notified regarding acceptance as soon as possible thereafter. Please write soon and don't forget to include the subject/s you want covered.

--Art Mokarow, Ministerial Development

PUBLISHING SERVICES UPDATE You find us this week very busy, as usual. The main topic, of course, is the preparation of our department budgets for 1978/79. We are continually trying to find ways of being more cost effective in our publishing areas. As the budget permits, we plan to do even more to expand our Plain Truth circulation this coming year. One relatively new idea for the Plain Truth we've tried recently is the use of outside mailing lists. We purchased a trial list from Prevention Magazine and mailed a promotion offer of a trial subscription to the Plain Truth. This has proved to be quite successful and opens up a totally new avenue for spreading the gospel. Initial response has been very encouraging. The respondees are progressing so fast that quite a large percentage have already requested the Correspondence Course.

Another point of interest: our printer for the Plain Truth and Quest/78 recently informed us again that the quality of the film we supply to them for printing is better and more consistent than the top publishers including Time, Inc., Ziff Davis, NBC, etc. They say that our packages are better organized and reflect very well on our organization. Comments like this are very encouraging to our fellows in Printing Services here in Pasadena who handle the total preparation of film for the over 20 printers we deal with worldwide.

--Roger G. Lippross, Publishing Services

GOOD NEWS FORMAT AND SUBSCRIPTION POLICY Effective with the June 5 edition of The Good News, all head of household members of the Church will receive the GN free of charge. This publication is intended to be sent to members only. However, the June 19 issue will also be sent to all Co-Workers as a special issue.

Requests for subscription and renewals need not be made since all head of household members will automatically be placed on our mailing list. New members will be added automatically.

Co-Workers who subscribed to The Worldwide News will continue to receive The Good News in its place until their WN subscriptions run out. Co-Workers will also continue to receive the Co-Worker Newsletter which contains a digest of the information published in The Good News.

All pastors of churches will immediately be placed on an airmail list and should receive The Good News only a few days after it is printed.

We would like to ask at this time for any input the ministry may have for the revived Good News. We are especially interested in your feedback on how The Good News can serve the members now that we will be adding a more spiritual and instructional emphasis to existing copy. Your thoughts on the matter will be most appreciated. Please address all correspondence to The Good News, Box 111, Pasadena, California, 91123.

--Dexter Faulkner, Good News Managing Editor

FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

Retention of Expense Reports: We've had the question raised lately as to how long you should keep your expense reports. It is recommended that you keep them as long as you retain your tax returns. The minimum

is 3 years and you might want to keep them for 5 years in case you should ever want to consider income averaging.

Please Note: If you have any questions regarding an inactive member, Danny C. Stamey, please call Ministerial Services. ©

New Area Lines: The following map shows the new lines defining the area coordinators' areas of responsibility.

With the addition of a new area coordinator, Mr. Ron Kelly, the number of pastors in several areas has been reduced. This should result in more effective administration and better communication in the areas affected.

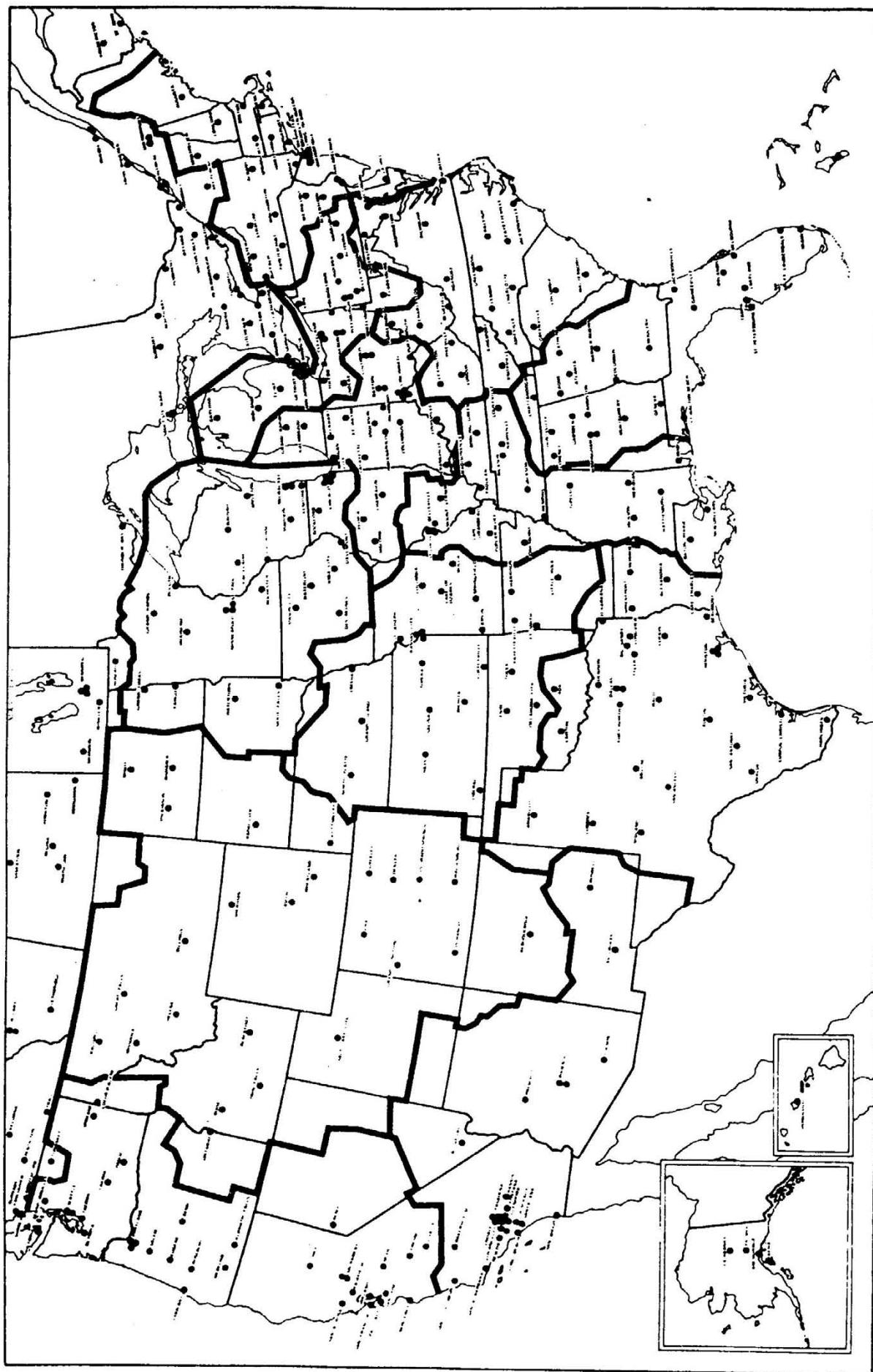
Also, we will return to the use of the largest city near the coordinator's home as the name of the area. With the realignment of areas, it becomes too difficult to maintain regional designations. The area names will be as follows:

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Atlanta | 5. Cleveland | 9. Nashville |
| 2. Big Sandy | 6. Denver | 10. New York City |
| 3. Charlotte | 7. Kansas City | 11. Pasadena |
| 4. Cincinnati | 8. Milwaukee | 12. Sacramento |

TO BE ANNOUNCED

From Herbert W. Armstrong to all ministers
to be announced this Sabbath, June 17, 1978:

"Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong is taking a leave
of absence from the Work. He will be absent
from his duties for the remainder of this
calendar year."



The following appeared in the June 13, 1978 issue of the Pasadena Star-News and is being reproduced by permission of the Star-News.

Banned by father

Garner Ted off air again

By DICK LLOYD

Staff Writer

Off-again, on-again Garner Ted Armstrong is off again, from the airwaves of radio and television, banned from evangelizing on the edict of his aging father, Herbert W. Armstrong.

But it is more than that, reliable sources indicate, meaning the silver-haired, silver-tongued orator is prohibited from making contact with any members of his father's Worldwide Church of God during what is to be an enforced six-month leave of absence.

As such, any member who makes contact with Garner Ted Armstrong is likely to be in trouble himself.

It is the second time since 1972 that the younger Armstrong, the voice of the World Tomorrow radio and television programs, has been blanked from the airwaves. The first was the result of alleged sexual improprieties by Garner Ted. He was brought back into full fellowship four months later by his father.

Hardly more than two weeks ago, the 48-year-old evangelist won a last-minute reprieve from his father, who was moving then to take his son off the airwaves for working contrary to his will.

But this time the exile is certain, confirmed Stanley R. Rader, the personal aide of Herbert Armstrong and spokesman for the elder Armstrong, the Worldwide Church of God and its educational arm, Ambassador College in Pasadena.

And before the younger Armstrong is restored to full fellowship and allowed to resume his evangelist role, said Rader, there will have to be full repentance, not just remorse.

"There is substantial difference between repentance and remorse," he said.

"If a person is not in the right attitude, he won't produce the right kind of results," said Rader.

Garner Ted learned of his leave of absence in a private letter from his father, said Rader. It seems to have its origin in actions of the son in governance of Ambassador College while he was president and in the manner in which he was handling concerns of the church while he was executive vice president.

He had made important decisions without consulting his father, said Rader.

But there is indication as well, say other persons close to the situation, that Herbert Armstrong felt his son, even after a reprieve, was out stirring up division between himself and his father.

Those factors are believed to have led Herbert Armstrong to remove his son from all positions of authority in both the church and college and to reassert his own personal leadership over both the church and college, responsibilities he had delegated to Garner Ted in 1974.

But the trend of radio and television broadcasting by Garner Ted also was of great concern to Herbert Ar-

mstrong, said Rader. "There was a powerful drift toward secularization of radio and television," Rader said.

And it is that secularization and absence of spiritual content, he said, that led to his removal from television and then the latest decision to take Garner Ted off the airwaves altogether.

At the same time, said Rader, the younger Armstrong was leaning away from the church by setting himself up as the authority, sending correspondence with Garner Ted Armstrong Productions on the letterhead with his picture instead of the Worldwide Church of God.

"God was being taken out of the work," said Rader.

During his six months away from "the work," said Rader, Garner Ted will be asked to contemplate on his future and his relationship with God and take time to restore his spiritual strength.

That was the direction he was given in 1972, the first time he was exiled to Colorado for alleged sexual improprieties. Four months later, he was brought back into the work to resume his schedule of radio and television broadcasting.

But an alleged lack of repentance on his part, plus growing differences in opinion among the ministry over doctrinal matters such as divorce and remarriage, medical treatment, day of Pentecost and others, opened a wide rift among ministers, resulting in secession of more than 20 ministers and the departure of several hundred followers.

There continues to be division in the church over supporters and detractors of Garner Ted.

Rader said the younger Armstrong's ouster "is not a new development," but a continuation of what was planned before, in which Herbert circulated churchwide a letter to his son advising him that he no longer had a part in the work, but that he "could" perhaps at some time in the future.

After the letter was published, Garner Ted prevailed upon his father to let him stay in broadcasting, agreeing to change the programming to suit the father. Subsequently, that agreement was rescinded.

"Mr. Armstrong realized that his son was not back on the track," said Rader, and a new letter removing him from the work was sent.

But with Ted Armstrong's absence, will the work of the church and its membership suffer? Rader is convinced it will not.

"The work of the church is not dependent upon the use of television or radio," Rader said. "It is independent of television or a particular person."

It was not true, said Rader, that the younger Armstrong was returned to radio and television evangelism in 1972 because contributions fell off during his absence.