

PASTOR'S REPORT

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WHAT GOD NEVER DID--NEVER WILL--

ALLOW TO HAPPEN

by Herbert W. Armstrong

This thought came to me as I was eating breakfast this morning: In all this world's history God has never started an important Work, or Special Activity through a chosen human, and then, after that Special accomplishment is well-advanced, ALLOWED His chosen human leader to be overthrown by Satan--or in any way to turn false!

Yet those promoted high within that Work or special activity for God, have been allowed to turn false, against God's chosen leader.

Start with Moses--specially called and chosen by God to lead the Israelite slaves out of Egypt and to the promised land. Moses was human. He had human faults and weaknesses--but he also had human strengths, and God gave him the extra strength needed.

Moses' brother, Aaron, had been elevated high as Moses' spokesman (since Moses had a speech impediment--he stuttered). Aaron, with his sister Miriam, did once turn false and say to Moses, in effect: "Who do you think you are? We are just as high--on a level with you." God punished.

Then there was Korah. He and others associated with him in a rebellion had been raised to high position in the nation Israel--a nation emigrating from Egypt with 2½ or more million people (600,000 men age 20 and above, plus women and children).

There was real organization within that nomadic nation, but none equal to Moses in top authority under God--and no "number two" man, in authority over all except Moses.

Yet Korah and his fellow-dissidents were not satisfied with their already lofty positions--they wanted to "GET"--take to themselves MORE AUTHORITY, EQUAL TO MOSES. God caused the earth to swallow them up.

But the man God had prepared in advance, the man God chose as His instrument in STARTING the tremendous project of moving some 2½ million people to the promised land--was never allowed by God to go wrong.

Yet Moses was abused, accused, criticized.

The same with Joshua, the man God chose to take over after Moses' job was completed, and pilot God's people across the Jordan river into the promised land. Joshua remained FAITHFUL!

Jesus Christ appointed Peter chief apostle to Israel, and Paul chief apostle to the Gentiles. They were falsely accused, opposed, criticized--but neither was allowed by CHRIST to turn wrong--though some under them did turn wrong.

In our time, God first prepared, then called me unmistakably, to raise up the Philadelphia era of God's Church--at this END-TIME just before the end of this world--and to proclaim the GOOD NEWS of the World Tomorrow and the Kingdom of God. That was 46 years ago--though God called and chose me 52 years ago.

But what has happened in that 46 years? My elder son, Richard David, was taken in death--dying "in harness" on a baptizing tour--the most loved of the ministers in God's church, because he exuded so much LOVE! But then my second son came along, "prepared" in all the evils of enlisted men in the U.S. Navy, and made number two man (this was MY mistake, not yet then realizing God has never used a "number two" man in authority). I delegated considerable authority to Ted, but he went way beyond what I delegated, and assumed TOTAL AUTHORITY, trying to cut me off completely--which meant also cutting off all above him (which meant cutting off Jesus Christ and God Almighty). There were also others that were either POWER-hungry, or money-hungry (probably mostly the former).

I came to LOVE, to ENTRUST AUTHORITY to, to honor and respect Albert Portune, David Antion, C. Wayne Cole, Raymond Cole, Ron Dart--all men high in God's Work today, as Korah and his fellows were in Moses' day. And now WHERE ARE THEY? All are trying to DESTROY the very WORK OF GOD they once sought to climb the ladder in its SUPPORT. Today the living Christ, Head of the Church, is SETTING IT BACK ON GOD'S TRACK, yet these dissidents would have you think Christ's apostle and even the Church has gone sour--and, like vultures of the sky, they figuratively hover over it, waiting for this that and the other member to DIE SPIRITUALLY, so they may gobble up the remains! They no longer seek to build--they seek to DESTROY!

Well Brethren, just where do we stand AT THE MOMENT? During the past year this Church of the living GOD has been at least 75% set back on God's track. We are getting frighteningly close to the END of this age. This church was drifting into a Laodicean condition. (Incidentally, both the "Sardis" and the "Laodicean" eras of the church were GOD'S CHURCHES--NOT SATAN'S!) Someone spread the false rumor that I have said these others were or will be Satan's churches. The Sardis era in the main had become spiritually dead--had rejected too much of GOD'S TRUTH--was accomplishing virtually NOTHING in spreading the true Gospel to the world (indeed had no clear conception of what that Gospel is). The Laodicean church will be characterized by spiritual lukewarmness--half of its membership (Matt. 25: 1-13) will be shut out of the Kingdom of God.

But, the BAD NEWS, as it appears today, my dear brethren, is that we, undoubtedly of the "Philadelphia" era--my son's ridicule notwithstanding--are in serious danger of BECOMING also the "Laodicean era." I am personally much concerned about that. If YOU are NOT concerned, then indeed we are in mortal DANGER!

Satan is pulling out ALL STOPS now to DESTROY THIS CHURCH OF GOD! No matter how angrily and vehemently they deny it, SATAN is USING these former

leaders, and they are yielding completely to Satan's will! I no longer hesitate to call a spade a spade!

But what Jesus Christ raised up is the CHURCH OF GOD. Today it encompasses the earth, so we call it The WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD! Garner Ted bragged to me that HE built this Church. It was BUILT when he was 3 years old! Much, much later, my son was allowed to have microphones before him that went out on hundreds of stations. But what CHRIST BUILT through his father placed those microphones before him. He STARTED nothing! He pioneered NOTHING! But a letter from one woman member illustrates what happened. She first heard of us through one of my son's TV programs and wrote for literature. She read booklets that I wrote, on what is Salvation, what is the Kingdom of God, What Do You Mean, "BORN AGAIN?" etc. And THESE BOOKLETS led to her conversion. There have to be many like that.

Let me close with one thought. It is now a little late in life for me to turn to Satan's way, as so many others in high places have done.

God never yet has let one through whom He STARTED a great project turn wrong--and He has never yet let such an appointed leader of His die until his job was FINISHED!

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The PLAIN TRUTH
About Stanley R. Rader

WHY I keep Mr. Rader on as my assistant, in spite of the biggest character assassination campaign in God's Church.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

W H Y, I ask, WHY has Stanley R. Rader been persecuted, with a bitter campaign of character assassination against him as no other man in or associated with the Church.

Those who have HATED Mr. Rader could not tell you WHY. I think it's time the Church membership and pastors come to grips with this question.

The fountain source that has spewed out this bitter hatred is my own son, Garner Ted Armstrong.

But if I ask this, that, or the other minister or church member, "WHY?" They can't answer! Much of this character assassination has taken place in the faculty locker room in Pasadena, guzzling beer. Little personal snide remarks have built up a giant wall against Stanley Rader.

I look at the "fruits" and they are virtually all VERY GOOD!

There's an old saying to the effect that "He who steals my purse steals trash, but he who besmears my character steals the most precious and valuable thing I have."

But, even though snide remarks and character assassination statements have been freely spued out, I still have to ask, "W H Y" HAVE SO MANY IN GOD'S CHURCH BEEN WILLING TO BELIEVE THE WORST against Stan Rader? I want to answer that, and once for all set the record straight.

I have to go back fifty years or more, to explain, because there is a resemblance to this unfortunate situation in my early experience with the Sardis people in Oregon.

Jesus Christ called His people "sheep" who seriously need leadership and protection from competent and honest shepherds.

Jesus said, "the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light" (Luke 16:8). Those of this world know better how to deal with others of this world than God's sheep.

In the autumn of 1926, when my life-changing challenge came, I was one of the "wise of this world." I had been in business. From age 18 to age 34 I had no interest in religion. I think I was upright and honest and sincere--yet very much a part of this world. I had not neglected education and did possess the equivalent of post graduate degrees.

The brethren in Oregon began immediately to look to me for leadership --especially in giving the Gospel Message to the world. The ministers worked against me every way they could. They were jealous. Wherever God used me in speaking, FRUIT WAS BORN--THERE WERE CONVERSIONS, newly baptized members brought in. Yet, of the Sardis ministers of that time there was not one single conversion brought about that I could find, and I specifically asked at least two of their oldest and most loyal members if they knew of any conversions brought about by their church ministers.

The brethren knew that I was newly converted out of the world. I KNEW THIS WORLD! I KNEW HOW TO APPROACH AND REACH THIS WORLD. The Sardis ministers did not. They appeared as just so much "ignoramus foolishness" to the world.

The church NEEDED the leadership of one who had the "know how" to reach the world.

When I was completely converted, spring of 1927, I did not try to change my personality. I, with my wife, ABHORED any "put on" mannerism that could have made me APPEAR "religious."

I remember once when one or both of my sons brought to our house a neighbor boy. He later said to them, "Why your Dad does not seem like a preacher." I seemed just like any business man. I did change my attitude and basic interests and concerns with values--I did eradicate all slang words such as "darn," but I did not "PUT ON" any new sanctimonious appearance, I was just NATURAL--myself--although Jesus Christ was CHANGING that self.

Just as, in order to get God's Work moving, in GOING TO THE WORLD, the Work then needed one who could effectively reach the world, so in the early sixties, I came to realize God's Work needed the services of one who had expertise in finance, banking, borrowing and legal matters. We had started using Mr. Rader to a limited extent, on a professional fee basis, in certain

legal matters, and contacts with radio stations. He was distinctly the most brilliant of the men we had used in these areas. In due time, later, we discussed with Mr. Rader the matter of giving up his CPA and legal clients, and devoting full time to us. The Work needed him.

In 1972, when Garner Ted Armstrong was banished from the Church and College, and living in Colorado, all top-ranking ministers had turned against Ted--but Stanley Rader stood loyally with me as TED'S ONLY FRIEND, in working to bring Ted back into the Work.

But once back, Ted started a campaign of persecution and character assassination against Mr. Rader such as I have never witnessed, and have never found chronicled in Biblical history.

W H Y, I ask again, W H Y do some ministers and even some brethren lay members, think EVIL of Stanley Rader?

Could it be because he is "worldly-wise" and therefore able to give the Work a help none of us can give? Is it because he has not tried to "PUT ON" a religious or sanctimonious personality and appearance, and appears "more worldly" than we--even though I know for a fact some well recognized members or ministers are, in fact--especially Garner Ted--more "worldly" in ATTITUDE and WAYS than Mr. Rader.

I do not want Mr. Rader to "PUT ON" a sanctimonious or religious-type bearing.

To sum up briefly, when I look at the RECORD--at the FRUITS--I find them mostly GOOD--the GOOD far outweighing the bad. This Work could not have come to the state of success in God's eyes that it has otherwise.

Mr. Rader is not perfect--nor am I--nor are YOU! But maybe now, all of you who have GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT will have a little more KINDLINESS in your attitude toward the one my son would paint as Satan incarnate. "Judge NOT that ye be not judged!"

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HOW SATAN INJECTS FALSE

DOCTRINES

by Herbert W. Armstrong

In God's Church in our time I have seen how Satan cleverly and without their knowledge uses humans to destroy GOD'S TRUTH and inject false or counterfeit doctrines instead.

The record, in our time, has been written. And the record has been written of how it was done in the first-three centuries of the church.

The Church of God started out, 31 A.D., under the original apostles, taught personally by Jesus Christ, pure in doctrines.

Yet by about 58 A.D., the Apostle Paul wrote to the churches of Galatia, "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the

grace of Christ unto another gospel. ...but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Jesus Christ " (Gal. 1:6-7).

To the church at Corinth the same thing was happening. To them Paul wrote: "But I fear lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted" (II Cor. 11:3). Today, if one should suggest that a brother or minister in the Church has unsuspectedly been led in any degree by Satan, he will rise up in furious indignation and angrily retort that Satan can't influence him! That is to say, "I am stronger and more firm and righteous than Satan--Satan never could deceive me!"

But listen, dear brethren of God's Church. Satan is MORE POWERFUL, MORE CUNNING, MORE SUBTLE, than any human being on earth! Unless you and I are constantly on guard--close to God, in constant heart-rending prayer--constantly close to God and His Truth through Bible study--Satan CAN deceive you, blind your eyes to God's truth, and USE YOU! Satan has used and led, without their knowing it, even some of our ministers in past years.

Paul continues, in his letter to those at Corinth, "for such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel, for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if HIS MINISTERS"--mark you, it is speaking of those who unwittingly become SATAN'S MINISTERS!--"also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness;..." (II Cor. 11:13-15).

In God's church in our day, self-appointed "scholars" rose up in what they called a "doctrinal committee," devoting themselves, NOT to discovering any NEW TRUTH--but trying to DISprove the TRUE DOCTRINES Jesus Christ put into His Church through His Apostle, and inject false doctrines into the Church of God.

This very thing happened in the days of the Apostle Paul and the original Apostles. And SATAN DID BLIND AND DECEIVE THOSE WHO, WITH HONEST HEARTS HAD ACCEPTED GOD'S TRUTH!

It happened again in the next two centuries. After the Apostle John wrote the Book of Revelation in the 90's A.D., Satan was using those at Rome to inject the pagan Easter instead of the Lord's PASSOVER! A disciple of John--Polycarp--engaged in a heated controversy on this question with the Bishop of Rome. Later, Polycrates entered into an even more heated controversy with a later Roman Bishop on the question--referred to as the "Quarto-Deciman Controversy." About the same time, Satan was using ministers in the Church to completely do away with the real work and function of the Holy Spirit, by calling the Holy Spirit a "Ghost"--a third Person in the Godhead--calling God a TRINITY; Father, Son and Holy "Ghost."

Brethren, do we think we are so superior to those of the first, second and third centuries that Satan could not have tried to pervert God's TRUTH today?

But praise be to God--even though so much of GOD'S TRUTH was distorted, changed and replaced with false doctrines in the very first three centuries, and remained hidden from God's Church until our twentieth century, God's original TRUTH was preserved IN HIS WORD!

And, beginning in the fall of 1927 A.D., God began an absolutely UNIQUE WORK in the one the living Christ had chosen to be His Apostle. He put me through the wringer that squeezed out all former misconcepts and untrue beliefs, using me to put His TRUTH into His Church that is to rise and meet the glorified Christ in the clouds as He returns to establish the Kingdom of God!

The END-TIME has come! God has restored original TRUTH! HOW PRECIOUS IS IT TO YOU?--or do you trample it underfoot as swine would trample into the mud the most precious diamonds, rubies, and precious stones, and go for the slop?

Yes, Satan has tried to WATER DOWN true doctrine--to turn God's Church to false truths. Apparently it is unhappily true that some willingly fall by the wayside, and shall not continue on to enter into the KINGDOM OF GOD! But I have not retired--I am still vigorously active. Jesus Christ is still on God's Throne, as the dynamic living HEAD of God's Church!

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The MOST FRIGHTFUL OF EARTH'S HISTORY

by Herbert W. Armstrong

TV NEWS and DOCUMENTARIES right now, inspired by the signing of SALT-II by President Carter and Brezhnev are picturing the imminent possibility of a war so FRIGHTFUL words cannot express it. Brezhnev was quoted as saying those left alive, in such a war, would envy the dead!

This OUGHT TO WAKE US UP!

There is no prophecy of such a war between the U.S. and the SOVIET UNION, but there is such an over-kill, super-frightful war in prophecy with a UNITED EUROPE destroying the United States.

Fellow ministers and wives, God called me and prepared me in a most unusual way. I know of nothing to match it in Biblical history. He SWEEP MY MIND CLEAN of all contrary religious beliefs and worldly beliefs, gave me HIS TRUTH, and raised up HIS CHURCH through me.

We have had, and survived, self-appointed doctrinal committees of self-professed "scholars" who were searching diligently, NOT to discover TRUTH or add new truth, but to try to prove these truths GOD GAVE ME AND PLACED IN HIS CHURCH to be false, and get rid of them. Instead the living Christ, HEAD of God's Church, has ridded His Church of those would-be scholars, and the original TRUTHS are being REemphasized!

The UNITED STATES IN PROPHECY booklet was one. There were originally a few isolated small errors in the original printing. I have been more willing to change and remove them than the "scholars" trying to destroy the MAJOR TRUTHS in that booklet. It will soon come out IN FULL (with those few errors corrected, of course) in book stores around the world where the English language is read. And perhaps within the year, that and other books I am putting on the market, may be translated and put into book stores in other languages.

But the U.S. in P., as we called it, does picture what is prophesied to HAPPEN to our United States.

Let's not kid ourselves! We are in the LAST DAYS! Frightful times are ahead. SO, let us work while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work!

Let me add that the Russians make treaties ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF BREAKING THEM! Yes, we shall find it is a united EUROPE, not USSR, that will inflict the frightening blow, killing one third of our population, after another third has died of disease epidemics resulting from a soon-coming MAJOR DROUGHT!

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FROM PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings from Pasadena! We are all fine here and I just got a fine report on the Shreveport campaign.

We have cut the campaign format to two nights as it is more effective. So in Shreveport they had 576 people--with 71 new attendees--Friday night; and 333 total people--with 51 new--attending Saturday night. Mr. Ron Kelly, who acted as master of ceremonies, said everything went well, Mr. McMichael did a fine job and the brethren were very enthusiastic and much helped by the campaign in addition to a good response from the new people. We will be letting you know the follow-up Bible study statistics as we get them all compiled and will be planning more of these campaigns for the fall season after the Feast of Tabernacles.

Mr. Armstrong had a busy week last week and had long meetings with a number of our executives and administrators from Pasadena--plus talking to several of us here in Pasadena on many matters by phone. So he is certainly keeping on top of things.

By the way, following Raymond McNair's example in the British churches while he was in charge there, I would like to ask ALL of you ministers around the world to have a talk with your elders, deacons and leading men in each church area who lead in prayer. Remind them of Paul's instruction in I Tim. 2:1-2, and ask that the one who opens the church service in prayer specifically--as part of his prayer--lead the congregation in asking for God's blessing, guidance, wisdom, strength, etc., to be with Mr. Armstrong--the human leader and apostle whom he has placed over his Church and Work. Then, if the man who opens in prayer should by some chance forget to do this, be sure the man who closes with prayer does do it.

I sincerely feel God will be well pleased with this as we should especially pray for Mr. Armstrong in the high office God has entrusted to him. Doing this will help focus our brethren around the world on this fact, and tend to cause them to think more about the worldwide Work and so help all of us to be more unified in our thoughts and in our personal prayers to our Creator.

Also, I would like all of us, worldwide, to become far more acutely aware of the DANGERS of alcoholism in our midst. I have had two or three

fine talks with Mr. Dale Hampton recently--as has Mr. Armstrong--and we have both been impressed with the seriousness of the alcohol problem right in God's Church! Later, I talked to some of my grown children and other young people besides, and they very quickly admitted it is a BIG problem to many, many of our young people in various church areas.

One factor most of us have not focused on is that too many of our people think they "must" have liquor at an occasion for it to be "special" or successful. The idea of just getting together a group for an outside barbecue or an inside card party or gathering with lemonade or iced tea or some similar drink as the only beverage is passé with perhaps most of our people!

Somehow, the idea has been instilled that you're not "with it" unless you serve alcohol; that you are supposed to drink alcohol every day; that you have got to have that light-headed feeling or "happy glow"; that you must have two or three drinks before you can really "be yourself" and have a good time!

Fellows, that kind of reasoning is just simply wrong and in fact cunningly evil!

We, who should be FILLED with God's spirit--with a sense of brotherhood in our purpose and JOY through that spirit--should NEVER need to have our minds dulled by alcohol in order to relax with one another, to "be ourselves," etc. In fact, the "self" we become through alcohol may easily become a WRONG personality--one who is frustrated and insecure and afraid of reality and therefore seeks to blot it out through alcohol. Then, slowly and subtly, the NEED for alcohol often "sneaks up" on such a one and he becomes its absolute SLAVE--a confirmed alcoholic!

We must STOP this thing in God's Church, fellow ministers!

So let's cease working so hard to educate the "Bible Belt" types into drinking and spend more energy intelligently teaching and warning ALL our brethren about the increasing DANGER of alcoholism in this degenerate age of mankind. Teach them to have more socials and friendly gatherings without the presence of alcohol. And show them that "moderation" is NOT two or three martinis after dinner and then the ability barely to walk out the door without stumbling or falling!

Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Hampton, and others of us will give you more on this later, but I want you to know that we in Pastoral Administration are very serious about this matter! Working with Mr. Hampton and others, we hope to develop an alcoholism prevention program as well as programs to assist those already "over the brink."

So you also take this seriously, fellows. Set the example yourselves and start to give your congregations the biblical overview of what is becoming a major CURSE in western society and even a growing threat to many of our own people.

Keep up the good work overall that is being done out there in your areas! Thanks again for your loyalty and love and all your letters of encouragement. Keep praying for Mr. Armstrong and for one another.

With Christian love,



Roderick C. Meredith

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The following reports were compiled from letters to Mr. Walt Dickinson, Regional Director of the Spanish Work:

Mexico: The excellent figures of +13% increase in attendance and +53% in offering were reported from Feast of Pentecost in Mexico. This is indicative of the overall growth of the Work there. In Mexico City, Mr. Tom Turk pastors a church averaging 120 each sabbath (+40% over 1978) and has 132 outstanding visit requests on file (many in Mexico City). More are expected as a result of a promotional letter to longstanding P.T. subscribers, which also introduced the local minister and offered a visit.

In Guadalajara, Alfredo Mercado, the elder there is swamped with over 58 outstanding visit requests and is developing 2 Bible Studies in Tepic and Culiacan as well as conducting Spokesman Club and Y.O.U. activities.

In the North, Bob Flores, Jr. has 7 Bible studies in different locations every 8 weeks, and 61 people yet to visit. Overall, the labourers cannot keep up with the potential harvest at the moment and the most immediate need is one of manpower.

Central America: Mr. Herbert Cisneros, our resident elder in the Republic of El Salvador, has just completed a tour taking in many areas of Guatemala. He conducted a Bible Study in Guatemala City, attended by 19, was in Quezaltenango for a Bible Study of 38 coming from surrounding cities, and visited several very keen families en route.

On returning to El Salvador, Mr. Cisneros conducted a Bible Study in the city of Zacatedoluca for 30 people. Many of these will be able to attend a regular study commencing this month; and the studies in Santa Ana, Sonsonate, and San Salvador (the capital) are growing quickly too.

The members in El Salvador have had to face violence, strikes, rioting, demonstrations, stonings, etc. in their country for some months now. In fact, the government there has recently decreed a state of siege, suspending individual and group rights. The uprising has severely hampered a radio advertising campaign for La Pura Verdad in El Salvador which was bringing in over 70 responses each day.

Our members there need our prayers for their safety and welfare, and for the future progress of the Work.

Pentecost Worldwide: Reports coming in indicate an excellent growth in many areas:

PHILIPPINES: Attendance 1985, up 27% over 1978 (more locations this year) and offering up a staggering 59%!

AUSTRALIA: Attendance 4366, + 10.8%; offering +12.2%.

WEST GERMANY: Attendance 505, + 2.0%; offering +17.1%.

NEW ZEALAND reports a +32% increase in general income for May, being the 5th month in a row for an above 35% increase.

Year-to-date mail received is up 75% over 1978 due to a massive nationwide promotion of the Plain Truth which has more than doubled the PT mailing list there.

--Compiled by Rod Matthews, International Office

AMBASSADOR COLLEGE UPDATE

Greetings from those of us on the College Administration Staff!

In spite of any difficulties due to the imposition of the Receivership during the last semester of the college, we had a very good year overall. Both students and faculty agree that Ambassador is already "back on the track." We are recapturing the same spirit which we had on campus during the early years of the college.

On May 14 we held our Commencement exercises at which time 38 students graduated with Bachelor of Arts degrees and 23 received Bachelor of Science degrees. The ceremony was held in the Lower Gardens under beautifully sunny, Pasadena skies.

This summer we are offering five classes for the 35 students who will graduate in August after finishing their coursework over the next two months.

All of us are looking forward to the new school year which begins August 27. Enrollment is expected to be between 350-400.

In order for next year's students to receive a maximum of guidance and supervision from the faculty and administration, we will require all undergraduate single students to live on campus beginning next fall. Also, dual enrollment with other colleges and universities will be prohibited. We feel that this will not only greatly enhance the unity of Ambassador's student body, but will also better enable the students to participate fully in college activities.

On May 17, 23 members of the College administration and faculty visited Mr. Armstrong in his home in Tucson so he could instruct and encourage us all in maintaining God's way in the college. The visit was very enjoyable, inspiring, and profitable. Many have expressed the hope that we may visit him once more before classes begin in August.

During our visit, Mr. Armstrong told us that he has come to realize that "higher" degrees from this world's institutions have been detrimental to many of our faculty. For this reason, we are no longer requiring our faculty to go "outside" for degrees. In fact, the college will no longer subsidize any "higher" degrees from this world's colleges and universities.

Many thanks to you for your input regarding prospective students from your areas. Needless to say, we rely very heavily on your assistance in this matter of accepting only the finest for the "West Point" of God's Work. We deeply appreciate your evaluations and recommendations concerning all prospective students.

It isn't too late for promising young people to apply for entrance into Ambassador College for the coming 1979-80 college year, but any who want to enter, must send their applications very soon if they don't want to be left out.

As always, we require that all applicants be able to do college-level work. But we are once again looking more closely at a student's overall qualifications (leadership, character, etc.)

Please encourage those in your areas to attend Ambassador College--if you think they are proper college material. Thanks for your help.

--Raymond F. McNair, Deputy Chancellor

EMPLOYEES UPDATED BY MR. STANLEY RADER

On Friday, June 15, employees of the Church and college were updated on the latest developments in the Work. The session, in which Mr. Rader encouraged free and uninhibited questions on any topic, was very informative as many questions of interest to both members and employees in particular were answered. Installments of this entire meeting will appear in upcoming issues of the Worldwide News. Meanwhile, here are a few highlights:

The Andersen Audit and New Lines of Credit

The Church-commissioned audit by Arthur Andersen and Company is, for all practical purposes, completed now, Mr. Rader announced. The results should be released in about two weeks. He was also pleased to announce that "we've given them complete cooperation--total access to everything we have...There is nothing that they have requested that we haven't given them."

The Church asked the auditors to meet with some of our new bankers together with representatives of our business office. The banks are now assured, on the strength of our record, that we are good clients and have eagerly extended lines of credit to us. Our readers will recall that our former banking and credit arrangements were destroyed when the state pounced on the Church without notice and the receiver dropped the ball in failing to protect the sterling banking relationships God's Church had built over many years.

Although new banks are prepared and willing to extend us the credit we need during the low income periods of the year, "Unfortunately," Mr. Rader continued, "we are not prepared at this point to accept the credit, the loans, because we are still waiting for a precise clarification of one point in the court order that was finally signed, as you will recall, by the Honorable Judge Title."

That court order said that we must give the Attorney General 30 days notice before we borrow any money. But herein lies the snag: Mr. Rader went on to explain that "We are not about to give the Attorney General notice of anything that we do, other than to serve him formally with bits and pieces of the lawsuit filings as they are required. For us to give notice to the Attorney General would be to admit that he has jurisdiction over us. The issue that we are concerned about is that he doesn't have any jurisdiction!"

So we will be going back before Judge Title to get a clarification on that point in the court order, which our lawyers believe was automatically stayed by reason of the appeal anyway. If we don't get a ruling from Judge Title which will permit us financial freedom, we will go up immediately to the appellate court on this very narrow point and the matter should be resolved.

Summary of the Lawsuit

In order to summarize for the audience where we are in the lawsuit, Mr. Rader read a statement he had prepared, which he also enlarged upon as it was read. We have reproduced the essence of that statement below:

The war rages on. The last few months have witnessed a new effort by the Attorney General to establish his dominion and control over the Church. The Attorney General claims that the state owns the Church property (he has stated that again). He has said the Church has no proprietary interest in its own assets, its own records (all of which, of course, is absurd!). He has claimed that he may require us to justify our expenditures at his whim, without probable cause. And he has attempted to bolster these desperate claims through waves of legal maneuvers all designed to force us to surrender our constitutional rights, which we will not do. Mr. Armstrong said there will be no compromise.

He /the Attorney General/ will not succeed. Two days ago, a dissident ex-member who originally was one of the parties who instigated this travesty, admitted under oath that he, as a member, was aware of all the facts that the state claims we concealed from the members, and that he had become unhappy and acted as he did only after Ted Armstrong and Ted Armstrong's son /Mark/ spoke to him and bitterly condemned us.

Other dissident instigators have been compelled to testify and shortly will do so, which I expect will result in further admissions that the charges made against us are baseless, and as Mr. Herbert Armstrong has thought for some time--as a matter of fact, from the very beginning--was all the result of Ted Armstrong's efforts. (His son, as you recall, stood over him in Tucson back in July, and said, "I will destroy you," or words to that effect, threatening him with his fist in his face.)

We are now beginning to launch our own offensive in forcing the state to disclose what Church documents it possesses in violation of our rights. We are getting to the bottom of the conspiracy which resulted in this mockery of the Constitution.

In short, progress is slow, and sometimes painful, but progress is being made. The credit belongs to you people here today and to the brethren out there in the field who have worked and fought for what is right and continue to support Christ's Work. He is directing it and we'll all be led to victory.

State Clings to Hope of Making Its Point

Through the whole "procedural grind," as the pre-trial stage of the lawsuit has been described, the legal battle is one of exchanging of papers, jockeying for position and appearances in court. Not very exciting, but tactics which are very important to both sides. Mr. Rader mentioned how the state is trying to "lift itself up by its own bootstraps"...meaning that they cannot prove what they have alleged. "/So/ they are hoping that they can prove something else--which they won't be able to--but now they are in this peculiar position...They want to be able to at least establish from this lawsuit that even if they are wrong vis-a-vis us, they still had a right to do what they did.

"And that is why," continued Mr. Rader, "Mr. Armstrong will not let them off the hook regardless. He not only wants to be totally vindicated, but to also prove that they don't have a right to do what they did, because if they had a right to do what they did, even after we've won this lawsuit, they could turn right around a year from now and come in and say, 'We don't like what you are doing. We have a right to come in here by whim and caprice and tell you what to do.'" Mr. Armstrong is simply not going to be in the position where he is told by the state what is the gospel and how or how not to fulfill the great commission.

Mr. Rader said "a sovereign [such as the state of California] would be willing to loose a lawsuit against us, not being able to prove that we did something wrong, and still try to prove what? That they had a right to make the inquiry and to do what they did about making the inquiry. In other words, they are going to try desperately to win that point. They are going to try desperately to win the fight that they had a right to file a lawsuit, to put a receiver in." But the state doesn't have the jurisdiction that it claims it has over us.

Conspiracy Being Brought Into the Glaring Light of Day

The cast of characters in the conspiracy against God's Church is now pretty well known to us. "I would say we know that the people who were involved were the people whose names appeared [as relators in the lawsuit] and a lawyer back in New Jersey and a lawyer here and a Deputy Attorney General, a corrupt judge and the ex-judge who wanted to make a lot of money," said Mr. Rader. "But I don't think they thought the problem through very carefully," he observed. "They relied upon a lot of information that was false, and they didn't protect themselves for what would happen if it were to backfire. But they were told by others, such as C. Wayne Cole, that there wouldn't be any resistance, that everybody wanted Mr. Armstrong out of here and that he was holding things up. Ron Dart has been quoted as saying, 'If Mr. Armstrong had only died years ago, this Work would have been better off!' Anybody believe that in this room? That's what he has been quoted as saying: 'If he'd only died years ago, what we could have accomplished.'"

Mr. Rader continued, "In other words, they didn't think the problem through ... What would happen if Mr. Armstrong wasn't some senile old fool, lying down there in Tucson in a state of semi-consciousness? (That is what they were told, 'Mr. Armstrong didn't know where it was all at!') But they found out in a hurry. His letters alone destroyed them! The whole power of the state of 21 million people found out that Mr. Armstrong was not as his 'son,' Ben Chapman, had stated in an affidavit."

It was also noted by Mr. Rader that "We now have incontrovertible evidence, both in writing and under oath, that the conspiracy began prior to July 1978 [which was the earliest we had traced it to until now]." And what did all these people say had been done which was wrong? Nothing. They admit that--they just would have "done it differently!" Mr. Rader reminded everyone that we have God's protection over us, "but that spiritual source they didn't count on."

Mr. Armstrong "On Top of Things"

Mr. Armstrong has been conducting many meetings in his home in Tucson with various key personnel, keeping right on top of things. "Anything that has

been changed or has been cancelled or anything of that sort has been done directly by Mr. Armstrong after meeting with various people involved," Mr. Rader assured the audience. "Mr. Armstrong has taken all of these things very firmly into hand and is meeting with people by himself and then making these decisions based upon that."

Mr. Rader stated that considering the brethren and their support from the field, "We are much more solid today in every respect than we were on January 1, and Mr. Armstrong is still getting the Church right...as time goes on we will be stronger yet."

PUBLISHING SERVICES UPDATE

The most effective form of advertising is by word of mouth; that personal recommendation. Mr. Herbert Armstrong mentioned recently that he would like to see all of us recommending The Plain Truth to our friends outside the Church; at the same time encouraging them to become regular readers.

I suggest that we ask members to pass along their own copy of The Plain Truth or, better still, try to get hold of any spare copies of the newsstand issue from your local newsstand coordinator. This issue is designed to encourage a subscription. Also we are at present working on some other ideas for members to use to help promote The Plain Truth.

Mr. Armstrong said he didn't want us to go door-to-door like the Jehovah's Witnesses, etc. He just feels that we could be a lot more active in promoting and encouraging readership of the magazine than we have been in recent years. We should, of course, exercise wisdom at all times remembering not to push or force our message onto others.

One final note about Mr. Armstrong's book The Incredible Human Potential. You may remember that we couldn't get distribution through the Christian Booksellers Association. Well, we are very pleased to announce that we did get into some general bookstore chains. They are Dalton Books, Doubleday, and Walden Books. So look out for them in your area. This new distribution does not mean that our own distribution program plans using Plain Truth reps should be cut back. The Plain Truth book distribution program will be our main thrust. We have a target of 30,000 books distributed to the public.

--Roger Lippross

PT EDITORIAL UPDATE

Just received some encouraging statistics from the Canadian office on the PT. At present the PT reaches some 58,750 subscribers in English and 22,758 in the French language in Canada. A newsstand program is again being launched in Canada and it appears quite successful. A total of 140,000 newsstand PTs will be on display next month in various cities.

In the United States, as Roger Lippross reported earlier, the reduced 16-page newsstand edition is doing every bit as well as the 32-page edition in terms of picking up new subscribers. That is very encouraging since we can obviously reach many more people due to the reduced costs involved.

It has come to my attention that some have been concerned that an "ad hoc" editorial department has been forming in the booklet inventory area. This is not the case. Richard Rice's area does do periodic mailings involving Church literature. They do have a very effective reprint program. But all reprints are approved through the PT Editorial Department. No new material is generated outside of this area or apart from Mr. Armstrong's personal approval. I am presently working with him on a number of projects involving Church literature. All material involving mailings is merely reprinted literature already used in Church publications in some other form.

--Brian Knowles

PLEASE ANNOUNCE

There are still vacancies for the 1979 Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem for those interested in attending there. Persons wanting information concerning the trip should contact their Feast adviser, even if they have submitted an application for a U.S. site (persons changing plans for 1979, however, should notify the Feast Office concerning the changes). Further information may also be obtained by contacting Mrs. Betty Biedler, Festival Office, (213) 577-5310.

--Festival Department

HEALING EXAMPLES NEEDED FOR FESTIVAL MAGAZINE

Examples of divine intervention, God's healing and other miracles, are requested from the ministry as illustrations for a feature article for the 1979 Festival magazine. Members' accounts are welcome, but we request that they be passed along through their minister.

Any examples, preferably recent ones, should be submitted as quickly as possible; typesetting for the first of the magazines will begin during the first week of July. Submissions may exclude names, but include as many other particulars as possible (date, place it occurred, Church area, etc.).

Submissions can be handwritten, but double-spaced, typewritten pages are preferred. Send examples to: Ken Tate, Editor; Worldwide Convention Service, 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, CA 91123.

--Festival Department

ON THE WORLD SCENE

(Phoned in by Mr. Hogberg from Brussels)

THE PARLIAMENT OR THE POPE: WHICH HOLDS THE KEY TO EUROPE'S UNITY?

I am writing this in the press room of the Common Market headquarters complex in Brussels, Belgium. Directly in front of me is a huge scoreboard whereon was just registered the final results in the world's first international election. On Thursday, June 7, and Sunday, June 10, about 60 percent of an eligible 180 million voters in the nine European Community nations cast ballots for directly elected representatives to the expanded European Parliament, one of three principal bodies which govern the affairs of the Community.

The new parliament, expanded from 198 to 410 delegates, will not hold its first session until next month, but at least its ideological makeup is evident from the voting outcome. It will reflect a center-right conservative tone. The socialist parties will constitute the single largest bloc, but the European Peoples' Party, an umbrella union of the continent's Christian Democrats, will wind up only a handful of seats behind. They are expected to be joined on most issues by Britain's Conservatives, voted in by a landslide.

Excitement surrounding the election here has been pretty high, but community officials are disappointed with the results for two basic reasons. First, the turn-out, despite a remarkable 85% watershed in Italy, was, in their view, "disappointingly low" (though a 60% turn-out in the United States would be terrific!). Apathy combined with significant voter antipathy was the rule in much of Britain and Denmark. Officials in West Germany--the Common Market's most enthusiastic supporter--had hoped for at least an 80% turn-out but had to settle for 15% less.

The second and most detracting factor in the Euro-election is that the old bug-a-boo of nationalism refused to recede into the background. In fact, national perspectives and national politics dominated the very conduct of the election itself, an election in which the people of Europe were theoretically supposed to act politically for the first time as Europeans rather than as Germans, Danes or Frenchmen.

In West Germany, for example, the vote was analyzed almost entirely in its national context. When Christian Democratic candidates pulled 49.2% of the popular vote, CDU leaders were overjoyed at the prospect that they could emerge victorious in the 1980 federal elections--perhaps even with a clear majority, not needing help from the Free Democrats.

In France, the election appeared mostly to be a test of voter strength between President Giscard's Centrists, battling against the fractured left of the Socialists and Communists and against the far-rightists led by Jacques Chirac, who blanch at every expansion of the EEC bureaucracy in Brussels. President Giscard, of course, was not a candidate but he won a personal victory when his Centrist slate emerged as the largest bloc.

In Ireland, Prime Minister Jack Lynch and his ruling Fianna Fail Party were rebuffed at the polls--not for their own particular views with regard to a United Europe but because Irish voters were fed up with a protracted postal

strike and mounting petrol shortages. They used this election to register their displeasure.

In Britain, only a third of eligible voters went to the polls--the lowest turnout of all nine countries. Anti-market politicians claimed that the mass abstention was proof of British dissatisfaction with controversial EEC policies such as the one with agriculture. Worse yet, many of the Labor party delegates dispatched to Strasbourg are anti-marketeers themselves and will constitute a neat little bloc of foot-draggers in the Parliament.

The most ridiculous situation occurred in Denmark. The Danes reacted to the first European election by giving the largest bloc of seats to a party dedicated to opposing the European ideal. The so-called "Peoples Anti-EEC Party" took four of Denmark's allotted 16 seats, the remainder being split between seven other parties. Greenland, whose 24,000 electorate formed a separate constituency to the rest of Denmark, also elected an anti-market candidate.

Even in Italy the high turnout was dismissed by most analysts as misleading. Party discipline in Italy is very strict, virtually guaranteeing heavy participation in any election.

Today's /June 11/ edition of the Daily Telegraph contained an article stating that the European elections were bound to radically alter the future of the Common Market. That is hard to see. The same article admitted that the newly constituted parliament would have only fractionally more power than the old one. Political control will still largely rest with the EEC's Council of Ministers, who represent and directly report to their respective national governments.

Papal Confrontation With Communism

It is by no means coincidental that at the very time free Europe's secular leaders have made their latest (yet ultimately futile) attempt to achieve political unity, the head of the Roman Catholic Church should be led to reveal his vision of the Europe of the future. Pope John Paul II, concluding his precedent-shattering nine-day journey behind the Iron Curtain, has served notice in no uncertain terms that he will be a source of enormous influence in European political affairs from now on.

Most of the news stories reporting on the Pope's trip to Poland have failed to give the enormous European and global impact in what he did and what he said. A very notable exception appeared in this morning's /June 11/ edition of the International Herald Tribune. It was written by John Vinocur, a New York Times reporter who traveled to Poland with the papal entourage and almost singularly grasped the awesome portent of the trip.

"Referring to himself again and again as 'this Slav, this Pole,'" wrote Vinocur, "the 59-year-old former archbishop of Cracow seemed intent on underscoring his own uniqueness and making understood that he now has defined his mission, eight months after his election as pope, as one in which rapprochement between the power blocs and the furthering of human rights in Eastern Europe carry weight.

"The message was presented before crowds totalling perhaps 6 million Poles with such emotion and such a complete lack of interest in diplomatic interest in diplomatic tip-toeing that the effect was overwhelming."

Vinocur reported that the situation as it unfolded was so new, so unexpected, that it was actually difficult to grasp in its entirety. "Here was," he said, "a Polish pope talking daily before assemblies of his countrymen about how the Soviet Union and the other Allies had not come to their aid during the seige of Warsaw in World War I; about the Christian history of Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Poland, Yugoslavia and Lithuania; about how Europe must turn to Christianity if it is to advance beyond its present divisions; about how Communism and Christianity are diametrically opposed, and how the state must always be subsidiary 'to the full sovereignty of the nation.'"

"An obvious question," continued Vinocur, "was what the cumulative effect of such comments could be, refined and repeated over the next years.... The pope showed how unsettling his approach could seem when he said, 'I am sure there are people out there who are already having a hard time taking this Slavic pope.' The themes seeded by the pope, depending on how they are nurtured, could be the source of a new kind of dialogue in Eastern Europe or they could provide a permanent element of confrontation."

It is remarkable how much the pope "got away with" in his verbal assault on Communism. But the Polish authorities, having agreed to the visit in the first place--a Polish party official told Vinocur privately that they wanted to get a papal visit out of the way early--had little choice but to grin and bear it. They heard the pope suggest that Communist societies were flawed and inadequate. "Christ will never approve," he said in the industrial city of Nowa Huta, "that man must be considered or consider himself merely as a means of production....This must be remembered by both the workers and the employer, by the work system as well as by the system of remuneration."

The combination of the mass throngs and the almost daily criticisms of Communist society brought, said Vinocur, "painful illustrations to Polish and other European leaders of their lack of contact with the population."

Pope Tells of Europe's "Fundamental Unity"

On this historic trip, reported Vinocur, the pope offered "a vision of the future and perhaps a glimpse of the long-term lines of his pontificate."

John Paul II delivered these thunderbolt words on one occasion: "Europe, despite its present and long-lasting divisions of regimes, ideologies and economic and political systems, cannot cease to seek its fundamental unity /and/ must turn to Christianity. Despite the different traditions that exist in the territory of Europe between its Eastern part and its Western part, there lives in each of them the same Christianity....Christianity must commit itself anew to the formation of the spiritual unity of Europe. Economic and political reasons cannot do it. We must go deeper..."

Since Vinocur's analysis, yet other indepth reports have come in. One of the best by far is found in the June 18th issue of Time magazine. Be sure to get and read the entire article.

But two key excerpts are worth noting here:

"The pope seemed to envision an eventual pan-European Christian alliance against the secular materialism of both East and West."

"Charisma was not the word to describe what had happened... John Paul II stirred an outpouring of trust and affection that no political leader in today's world could hope to inspire, let alone command."

The conclusion of the Time article was this:

"'There is something like a vacuum in world leadership that John Paul might well be able to fill,' says St. John-Stevas, a Catholic layman. He believes the world is 'suffering from spiritual starvation and bereft of moral leadership. The gods of secularism and materialism have failed to satisfy, and mankind is looking for new perspectives.'

"Those failed gods, West and East, appear to be as powerful as ever in the onrush of events. But the Slav Pope has suddenly emerged from his triumphant visit to Poland as a dramatic and compelling personality on the international scene. John Paul will surely have something of his own to say about the principalities and powers of his era."

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau