

The letter below is extracted from *The Origin and History of the Church of God, International* by Garner Ted Armstrong. Tyler, Texas, 1978, pp. 7-18)

Portland, Ore.,  
Nov. 21, 1927

Dear Sadie:

I'll try to get a letter written before the children come home from school. I am sewing for Dorothy Jane and have to wait to fit her. I have oodles to do before Thanksgiving. We are going down to Salem to Gilberts, all my folks will be there. We are going to stay with Mother and Dad Armstrong over the weekend. All Herbs folks will be there too.

We are going to Walt's Christmas. They want my girls and Billy Gene to have their tree together. Billy Gene is almost a year old now. Will be Feb. 15. He is the sweetest little scoot. Looks so much like Walt. Papa almost worships him.

They, Walts, are still at Hubbard but probably won't be after this year. Walt will get his degree from the University of Oregon, next summer.

Papa is still at Donald and still homesick for Iowa. I feel awfully sorry for him but he wouldn't be happy if he went back. He thinks we all ought to go back and none of us want to go. Gilbert would have gone before he was married but I doubt if he ever does now. His wife's people live in Salem and she is an only daughter. We all like Gilbert's wife fine. In some ways I like her better than Bertha.

Bertha is in Jefferson again this year. She was here two weeks ago. She comes often, and stays with us summer vacation. Mary, Herb's sister, was married and lives here in Portland. We see each other every few days.

Herb and the girls and I had a nice trip two months ago. I hated to have the girls miss school but we surely enjoyed it. We drove over the Columbia River Highway to Pendleton Ore then across to Walla Walla Washington, up through the Yakima Valley. Thru the National Forests and back across the Cascade Mountains over the Sno[w]qualmie Pass to Seattle and down home. We were gone two weeks. We took bedding and cooking utensils with us and half the time we stayed at cabins in the Camp grounds. The other half at Hotels. We came thru a foot of snow coming back across the Cascades. It was wonderful scenery tho. The mts are covered with Pine & Fir and Sumac. At this time of year the Sumac is a brilliant red and the snow and green trees in contrast were beautiful. I think the trip did me lots of good and folks say I look better. Had I told you I had blood poison and a few other ailments this last Summer and almost passed out?

First I was bitten on the arm by an Airedale dog. He took quite a chunk out. The Dr burned the wound out good and it healed then I ran a tiny rose thorn in the first finger of my right hand. The next day I had chills and fever. Dr. said I had blood poison. I was in bed a week and all the time Dr. said he couldn't be sure I would get well or that I would live twelve

hours longer. He lanced and cut at my finger for seven weeks then I came down with tonsillitis. I was terribly run down and it turned into quinsy. My finger got worse and Dr said he would have to open it and scrape the bone but the abscess in my throat became so bad I suffered terribly. I could neither sleep nor eat. My jaw locked and they couldn't pry my mouth open. Two Drs examined me and said they could do nothing for me. One day I was just delirious with pain when a neighbor woman came over and asked Bert and Herb if they believed in Divine healing. They told her they did and she said she had friends who often prayed for the sick who had great faith and were good religious people. She wanted them to come pray for me.

They came that eve. I could not have lived over two or three days longer. They knelt down beside my bed lay their hands on me and prayed just quoting promises of healing in the Bible and the man anointed my head with oil. They had so much faith they thanked the Lord for my healing before they left their knees. All pain left me and I almost fell asleep while they were praying. I'd been without sleep so long. After talking a few minutes they left. I felt so much better. I could talk. The pain was gone and I could swallow. (my throat had been almost closed with abscesses) I got up put a coat over my nightie put shoes on and with Herb's help walked out doors. I went back to bed and slept all night and until about noon the next day then got up and dressed and ate at the table with the folks. I never had another pain my abscess simply disappeared they did not break were not ready to. My jaw unlocked and my neck had been swollen on the outside even with my jaw bone. It was all gone too (the swelling I mean not my jaw bone) My folks were worried to death so they came up to see me the next day. I walked out to the car to meet them and they acted as if they had seen a ghost. Dr said he just couldn't understand it. In less than a week I went to the sea shore and stayed over a week just eating and sleeping. I lay around in the sand and sun on the beach every day. Bertha and the girls were with me. I gained several pounds while there. I only weighed 83 or 84. I had been so bony it hurt my back bone to lean back in a wooden chair. I weigh a hundred pounds now, and oh yes, my finger was healed too. I took the bandages off then and have never had any trouble since. I had been so troubled with chronic constipation before that, that I had taken enemas every day for a year. That was healed too. So you see I am a mighty thankful person. It certainly was a wonderful experience and has had a mighty good effect on several relatives and friends who were rather modernistic in their beliefs and who believed in evolution rather than the Bible. They all saw it was a miracle that only God could have done it, even the doctor admitted it.

Well I really didn't intend writing such a long letter my arm is so tired I can't help but scribble.

I must sew now. Write and tell me all about your self. How is Connie? Haven't heard from her for ages.

Wish I could see Billy and you too. I have a couple of Kodak pictures taken this summer Herb says not to send mine. I do look as if I were afflicted with insanity but I was just talking to Herb and the sun caused me to squint. This was taken just before I was sick. Dorothy Jane's hair is bobbed now. She looks cuter. My hair has grown out and I don't believe I'll ever have it cut again is yours still bobbed?

How is your Mother tell her hello. I'd like to see her

love  
Loma.

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