

RADIO CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, 91109

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
PRESIDENT and PASTOR

OFFICE OF
RODERICK C. MEREDITH, Minister

December 20, 1967

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings again from Pasadena! Today marks the fifteenth anniversary of a very special day in the history of Ambassador College. On December 20, 1952, Mr. Armstrong ordained the "firstfruits" of the College -- five evangelists. Those first five ministers were Mr. Raymond Cole, Mr. Dick Armstrong, Mr. (as he was, then) Herman Hoeh, Dr. C. Paul Meredith and me. The College has certainly borne much fruit since then. Besides Mr. Armstrong, today we have 16 evangelists, 26 pastors, 78 preaching elders, and 127 local elders for a total of 248 ministers serving in God's Work around the world.

Most of these were produced by Ambassador College. We need many more, of course, and we are going to have to take certain steps to provide more elders. We feel that more men can be groomed for leadership and service right there in the local areas, and we are
★ planning to institute a program that will do just that. That will be one of the topics covered in the Conference this year.

With the Conference just three weeks away, we are planning what we hope to be the best and most fruitful Conference ever, as well as the biggest. This year we are bringing in a total of 70 ministers, which is the most we have ever brought in. Please be praying that God
★ will bless this Conference, and ask the brethren also to especially pray about it.

Now for the GOOD NEWS of who will be coming in for this year's Conference. As usual, all of the men to come in are going to be able to bring their wives this year! However, we do generally -- not always -- advise that most of you leave your children at home with competent baby-sitters so that you will not have to constantly be "palming them off" after you get out here anyway during all of the social and ministerial activities. All Evangelists and District Superintendents will be coming this year as usual. In addition, the following ministers, in alphabetical order, have been assigned to come in this year -- and a few more (the list keeps growing!) may be added personally by Mr. Armstrong or others:

Messrs:	Gary Antion	Harold Jackson
	Dave Albert	Fred Kellers
	Dick Ames	Ronald Kelly
	Gary Arvidson	George Kemnitz
	Hal Baird	Jim Kunz
	John Bald	Jim Lichenstein
	Kelly Barfield	Frank McCrady
	Clarence Bass	Sherwin McMichael
	Bob Bertuzzi	Burk McNair
	Mike Bousfield	Leroy Neff
	Bill Bradford	Pedro Ortiguero
	Ben Chapman	Richard Pinelli
	Ron Dart	John Pruner
	Al Dennis	Richard Rice
	Robert Dick	Frank Schnee
	James Doak	Dale Schurter
	Arthur Docken	Walter Sharp
	Charles Dorothy	Robert Spence
	Guy Engelbart	Bob Steep
	Paul Flatt	Keith Thomas
	James Friddle	Rowlen Tucker
	Ted Gould	James Wells
	Tony Hammer	Ken Westby
	Dale Hampton	Glen White
	Vernon Hargrove	Colin Wilkins
	Roy Holladay	Ernest Williams
	Gene Hughes	

What a list!

But we are certainly looking forward to having all of you men and your wives here, and it should be a very profitable two week period for all of us. I sincerely hope that I am not leaving anyone out, but as stated above, last-minute changes do take place so some additions or deletions could possibly be made between now and Conference time.

Headquarters will be bulging at the seams for those two weeks with the influx of 70 ministers, 105 students from Texas and 68 students from England. I'm sure those of you coming in this year are looking forward to the presentations of The Messiah and Elijah in the Civic Auditorium, the basketball tournament and the Ministerial Ball -- all of which will add to the overall excitement and enthusiasm, making this a busy, eventful Conference in every way.

Mr. Ted Armstrong is now in Big Sandy on his way to New York City to attend the week-long symposium of the American Association for

the Advancement of Science which begins on December 26. He will be getting taped interviews and film footage for possible use on television in a series about evolution. Mr. Norman Smith, Mr. Leslie McCullough, Mr. Gene Hogberg and Mr. Paul Kroll were among the group accompanying him. This trip will give him fresh material for the broadcast and should be very helpful.

This coming Sabbath we are starting two new Churches. Mr. Fred Brogaard, who was elevated to the rank of Preaching Elder at the Feast of Tabernacles, will be taking the new Church in Olympia, Washington, as well as the Tacoma Church. Olympia is expected to begin with an attendance of about 150. Also beginning is the Church in Utrecht, Holland. This will be an English-speaking Church pastored by Mr. Frank Schnee who will come up from Duesseldorf, but he will alternate with someone from Bricket Wood who will fly over to take every third service. Mr. Raymond McNair will be there, along with Mr. Schnee, for the first service this Sabbath.

Also starting soon will be a new Church in Vancouver, Washington, pastored by Mr. Carlton Smith.

We have had two new Bible Studies start recently, also. The first Bible Study in Lubbock, Texas, on November 28, had an attendance of 61. Mr. Don Lawson will be taking this monthly study. Mr. Hill flew over to Hawaii this past Sunday to begin that monthly Bible Study in Honolulu. Coming up in January will be a new Bible Study in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, which will be taken by Mr. Kelly Barfield.

I might mention, too, that we had two ordinations last month. On November 25 in Bricket Wood, Mr. John Khouri and Mr. Robert Morton were ordained local elders. Mr. Khouri will be serving in the Birmingham-Bristol area, and Mr. Morton will be serving in the London area. Congratulations to both of you!

And congratulations also to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bryce on their new daughter, Shirlene LaVonne, born on November 22. The seven-pound twelve-ounce girl was born after less than three hours of labor, and both are doing fine.

* Some more good news I have is that our Pasadena campus was officially approved by the state for the 1-W Work Program. It will be up to the local draft boards to determine whether men graduating here can continue to work for the College. In most cases, this will be approved, and as I mentioned before, many men can be "saved" for those two years who would otherwise have to work elsewhere to fulfill their obligations.

* I would like for you to pass on some instruction to the brethren in regard to safe driving. Several automobile accidents occurred after the Feast of Tabernacles this past year as a result of the brethren not following the instructions which they have been given repeatedly about driving all night or driving too long without proper rest.

In one instance, a member went to sleep at the wheel, veered into the left lane and had a head-on collision with another car. His wife was killed, and he was critically injured. Others drove all night but fortunately did not have an accident.

Many of the brethren now have to drive long distances to Church services every week or so. Please remind them to take warning from misfortune of others and drive more carefully. They should review Mr. Boraker's article in the June GOOD NEWS entitled "Death on the Highway." God does protect us, and we should look to Him for that protection, but we must do our part, as well.

Now, I have some INSTRUCTION for you in regard to the use of the ~~Third Tithe Holding Fund and your local Love Fund~~. As a result of these reports which we have asked you to turn in about the use of these funds, we realize that some of you have not understood their proper use. First, the Love Fund is primarily for needy individuals who do not qualify for third tithe assistance. Widows and others qualifying for third tithe should be assisted from third tithe, not the Love Fund.

In the Old Testament, God provided for the poor by forbidding the Israelites to glean their fields and requiring them to leave some for the poor. Today we give in other ways -- primarily by giving an offering to the Love Fund. Maybe some of the brethren haven't realized the stress God puts on giving to those in need. We have found that it is best if this is done through the local Churches today, however.

This Love Fund should be used specifically for that purpose. ~~Expenses for a social might be borrowed from it and repaid by contributions taken up at the social, but the social should not be financed by the Love Fund.~~ The cost of flowers for funerals could come from this fund, as could small expenses such as for the library or choir music.

The Third Tithe Holding Fund was set up to take care of emergency needs that can come from third tithe. In most cases, however, third tithe should be requested from Headquarters according to the usual procedures. Third tithe for ministerial use and Church home expenses should always be requested on a Third Tithe One-Time Assistance Card. Minor Church and office expenses should be taken from your ministerial expense allotment. I hope this clears up any misunderstanding about this use of these funds. If not, I'll be glad to answer your specific questions.

Before I close, I would like to give you more news about the Work of a less encouraging and more serious note, perhaps, but it will help you and the brethren as you pray for us here and for the Work.

✓ Mr. Herbert Armstrong returned Monday, after spending the weekend in Big Sandy, from a trip to New York City. On December 12 he met with some of the top executives of The Readers' Digest to discuss the possibility of our obtaining advertising space in that magazine. Although the final decision won't be given until December 26, it appears that we will be turned down, at least in the United States edition. They have recently instituted a policy that they won't accept advertising by any type of religious organization. The Knights of Columbus and the Rosicrucians are now out, and they cannot accept us without again changing their policy. Whether we can get into their foreign editions is still not settled, but circumstances don't look promising in that area either.

✓ As you saw on last week's report from the Mail Receiving Department, the returns from the semi-annual letter have not been up to our expectations. In fact, the percentage of returns from the semi-annual letter are the worst we have ever experienced. So far for the month of December, we have only a 7% increase in money and a -36% increase in letters. Going into December, we had a 25.8% increase in letters for the year and a 25.2% increase in money over the same 11 months of last year. December has always been our biggest month, and we needed a good month this year to bring the yearly increase closer to 27 or 30% for 1967. However, it looks as if December will bring the total increase down by several percentage points. Even the Co-Worker letter Mr. Armstrong sent out air mail about the second week of December has not produced the needed increase.

I think you all realize the seriousness of this situation without my further comment. (Please ask the brethren to become personally concerned and fervently ask God to reverse this dangerous trend that has developed in the income of the Work. We know that often the income God provides is in direct proportion to the spiritual condition of the Church as a whole. We all need to examine ourselves and draw closer to God so that He can bless us.)

Meanwhile, may God continue to bless and inspire all of you in His service. And we'll look forward to seeing many of you here at the Conference in just 2 1/2 weeks -- on Monday, January 8!

Your servant in Christ,

Rodrick C. Moaditt

1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year.

2. The second part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year. It is divided into two main sections: the first section deals with the results of the work in the field of research and the second section deals with the results of the work in the field of administration.

3. The third part of the report deals with the financial statement of the year.

4. The fourth part of the report deals with the conclusions of the year. It is divided into two main sections: the first section deals with the conclusions of the work in the field of research and the second section deals with the conclusions of the work in the field of administration.

5. The fifth part of the report deals with the recommendations of the year. It is divided into two main sections: the first section deals with the recommendations of the work in the field of research and the second section deals with the recommendations of the work in the field of administration.

6. The sixth part of the report deals with the summary of the year. It is divided into two main sections: the first section deals with the summary of the work in the field of research and the second section deals with the summary of the work in the field of administration.

7. The seventh part of the report deals with the appendix. It is divided into two main sections: the first section deals with the appendix of the work in the field of research and the second section deals with the appendix of the work in the field of administration.

8. The eighth part of the report deals with the index. It is divided into two main sections: the first section deals with the index of the work in the field of research and the second section deals with the index of the work in the field of administration.

9. The ninth part of the report deals with the bibliography. It is divided into two main sections: the first section deals with the bibliography of the work in the field of research and the second section deals with the bibliography of the work in the field of administration.

10. The tenth part of the report deals with the conclusion. It is divided into two main sections: the first section deals with the conclusion of the work in the field of research and the second section deals with the conclusion of the work in the field of administration.