

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
PRESIDENT and PASTOR

OFFICE OF
RODERICK C. MEREDITH, Minister

May 15, 1968

Dear Fellow Ministers,

Greetings again from Headquarters! I haven't written to you for several weeks, but I think that all of you realize that this is one of the busiest times of the year for us here at Headquarters -- exceeded perhaps only by the events of the Ministerial Conference. The Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread were -- as every year -- very inspiring and encouraging to those of us who were able to make District trips to the various areas around the United States and certainly for all the brethren as well.

In several areas the Festival this year was not an altogether joyous and peaceful one. As some of you realize, our Negro brethren could not attend Passover services in Memphis, and several areas such as Kansas City, Baltimore and Chicago had problems as a result of curfews or cancellations of halls. All and all, however, God did protect His people and everything turned out well in spite of the inconveniences. There were twenty-eight ordinations during this time -- five of them to the office of Preaching Elder and twenty-three of them to the office of Local Elder.

For those of you who may not have heard the complete list by now, the Preaching Elders were Mr. Darryl Henson in Miami, Mr. Tullio Panella in Nashville, Mr. Mike Hechel in Eugene, Mr. Don Prunkard in Duluth and Mr. Ivan Sell in Detroit.

The Local Elders included six who have had Ambassador College training. These were Mr. Carl Franklin in Nashville, Mr. Don Samples in St. Louis, Mr. Dick Wiedenheft in New York, Mr. Ron McNeil in Toronto, Mr. Hugh Wilson in Mobile and Mr. Jim Barrett in Columbia.

Those ordained as Local Elders who were local men without Ambassador training were Mr. Guy Sams in Knoxville, Mr. Carl Fowler in Wichita, Mr. Ron Haines in Wichita, Mr. Paul Kneebone in Vancouver, Mr. Arthur Williams in Medford, Mr. Robert Ashland in Seattle, Mr. Andrew Prettyman in Toledo, Mr. Gerald McCauley in Springfield, Mr. Albert Tennant in Midland, Mr. Lowell Foster in Chicago, Mr. Robert Berg in Fargo, Mr. Wayne Luginbill in Minneapolis, Mr. Clem Hendrickson in Minneapolis, Mr. Glenn Harmon in Long Beach, Mr. Carlos Perkins in Philadelphia, Mr. Walter Johnson in Kansas City, Kansas and Mr. Richard Seiver in Houston.

That's quite a list! Congratulations to all of you on this office and the added responsibility that God has given you. We are thankful that God is continuing to add dedicated, zealous servants to His Work at this time when the fields are already white to the harvest and seem to grow whiter week by week.

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong returned here from England last Friday after his trip to the Middle East. Perhaps he will include an account of that trip in a "Personal From the Editor" in The PLAIN TRUTH. Without going into detail, I will just give a brief summary of the events of the trip. He was accompanied by Dr. Clint Zimmerman, Mr. Benjamin Chapman and their wives. As he mentioned in the last Co-Worker Letter, they were able to take the Passover in Jerusalem, Palestine, and this may very well have been the first time that anyone has taken the Passover there, complete with the foot washing ceremony, since 68 A.D. -- or 100 time cycles ago! Of course, we cannot know this for sure, but understanding how God does things on schedule, this certainly seems reasonable.

Because of the Middle East crisis right at the time of Mr. Armstrong's trip, he was not able to visit King Hussein in Jordan as had been planned. Later on, King Hussein came to London while Mr. Armstrong was still in England, and he attempted to make an appointment with the king, hoping that he could come out to visit the Bricket Wood campus. This was not possible, however, because Mr. Armstrong was unable to reach the king to make the invitation.

During this trip, Mr. Armstrong was able to see King Leopold of Belgium again on two occasions. After an invitation from Mr. Armstrong, King Leopold went up in our new jet for a trial flight, and he invited Mr. Armstrong to his palace for lunch a few days later. The visits with the retired king were cordial and may lead to his visiting the Pasadena campus sometime in the future.

King Leopold is interested in our help in setting up a non-profit, international foundation that would sponsor expeditions to various areas of the world to photograph wildlife. He has already made his private collection of photographs available to us, and Dr. Hoeh will go to Belgium soon to select those that we can possibly use in The PLAIN TRUTH or other publications. ~~Whether we will cooperate in setting up the foundation and finance it -- as the former king would like -- is another matter and one that will require some study before an agreement of that kind is made.~~

✓ Some very good news from Mr. Armstrong's trip was that groundwork has been laid for putting the broadcast on a 40,000 watt radio station in Cyprus. For all practical purposes, Radio Amman is not reaching into Israel at all now and has produced virtually no mail at the Jerusalem and Nicosia offices. The station in Cyprus, however, does reach not only Cyprus but also much of Israel and even up to Lebanon. Audition tapes are being sent to the station now, and it is a good possibility that we will be on it very soon. Better yet, the station's officials are very interested in the kind of deal that we offered to Jordan last year for the now defunct Radio Jerusalem. It would involve our signing a contract which would provide financing for a new transmitter, increasing the station's power to several hundred thousand watts -- perhaps

up to 1,000,000 watts! With a signal of this strength from the island of Cyprus, all of the Middle East, North Africa, Turkey and Southern Europe could be reached! We are all praying that God will -- if this is the time for it -- open this door to us.

Similarly, the station officials of Radio Manx on the Isle of Man are also very interested in this kind of a deal which would boost their station's power to 100,000 watts or more. We are now broadcasting on this tiny station which reaches only the Isle of Man itself with a good signal. Increasing this station's power in such a way would mean that all of England could be reached from this one station. The political situation in England, however, is not conducive to such an increase in the power of the station at this time, but this might be possible within a year or so.

✓ Some more good news for the Work in England is the possibility that Reader's Digest may open up for our ads in England and also in Australia. Mr. Armstrong has an appointment in New York on May 28, with the advertising manager of the foreign edition of the Reader's Digest. He was told to bring copy for two ads for approval, which means that prospects for our acceptance are excellent. As Mr. Armstrong told all of us, it is by no means "all sewed up" yet, but we are certainly optimistic. Pray with us that God will open this door at this time.

✓ Many of you in desperate need of additional help have been anxiously waiting to hear the field assignments of the graduating seniors and the Local Elders who were in for a year of College training. I have GOOD NEWS for all of you this year! For the first time in the history of this era of God's Church, we will be able to meet at least the minimum manpower requirements for all the Churches around the world. The need is still great, but in June we will be in the best position that we have ever been in from the standpoint of ministering to those God is calling into His Church at this time. We had been waiting for Mr. Armstrong's return for the final planning and approval of these assignments, and now we are able to give you the complete list of new assignments and changes in the field. We are enclosing the complete list with this letter.

✓ In perusing this list you will notice that two new District Superintendents have been appointed! Mr. Tony Hammer will move to Oakland as the District Superintendent, replacing Mr. Dennis Luker, and Mr. Ken Westby will move to the Baltimore - Washington D.C. area as the District Superintendent over the new Washington D.C. District. Congratulations to both of you on this added responsibility and opportunity for service in God's Work! Mr. Dennis Luker will then move to Minneapolis to begin the new Minneapolis District.

Also, upon Mr. Ted Armstrong's instruction we will be administering the Churches in Canada in conjunction with the United States Churches under my supervision. Mr. Dean Wilson will be the District Superintendent over the Vancouver, British Columbia District, and the rest of Canada will be absorbed into the present United States Districts.

✓ The brochures for the 1968 Feast of Tabernacles should be off the press and in your hands by the end of this month. We need your requests for changing Feast

areas as soon as possible after you receive the brochure. For those of you who will be changing Church areas this summer, you should make your request based on your new assignment.

We received a telegram last week from Mr. Enrique Ruiz announcing the beginning of a Bible Study in Mexico City. The first one was to be held this past Sabbath in Mr. Ruiz's home and will be a bi-monthly Bible Study.

I have several birth announcements that some of you may not have heard, yet, although a couple of them were in March.

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Beyersdorfer announced the birth of their son, Kurt Eugene, on March 14. He weighed in at 8½ pounds.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Bullock were also pleased to announce the birth of their son, Gregory Allen. Weighing six pounds and twelve ounces, he was born on March 21.

On April 24, a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Noel. Amy Susanne weighed eight pounds and one ounce.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Haas announced the birth of their first child, Heidi Kaye, on May 3. She weighed six pounds and five ounces.

Mothers and babies were all doing well at last report. Congratulations to all of you!

If any of you need proof of insurance coverage for halls you rent for Pentecost, be sure to send in the request at least two weeks before Pentecost so that these can be processed and returned to you by that date. Also be sure to include the amount of coverage needed, the name and address of the hall, the address of the landlord if it is different from that of the hall and the dates the hall will be used.

It has come to our attention that some of you are telling the brethren that they can obtain bound booklets and reprint articles from Headquarters. This is not true. We can provide these only for ministers and ministerial assistants and at their expense. For those of you who haven't understood this before, please don't volunteer our book-binding services here at Headquarters to the brethren. We just can't handle binding on that scale and therefore must strictly limit this service. This same limitation applies also to specially bound songbooks and scripture cards.

All of you who are graduates of the Pasadena campus recently received a questionnaire which was designed to help us in seeking full accreditation for our Pasadena campus. Dr. Hoeh needs these as soon as possible in order to complete the report he is making for the Accreditation Committee. If you are a Pasadena graduate and have not yet returned the questionnaire, please complete it and send it in right away!

Many of you have been wondering when the Visiting Program Training Class would begin. We had hoped to get the program underway soon after Passover, but for

several reasons the planning is now aimed toward August, after the District Superintendents' meeting. Most of you will be busy working with your new Ministerial Assistants, and some of you will also be occupied with moving this summer. Also, some of those graduating from Spokesman Club in June will be eligible to begin the class then but would not be eligible now.

This Work, fellow ministers, is burgeoning and growing at a fantastic rate. The growth in the Churches is certainly keeping pace with the growth of the overall Work -- which is tremendous, as those of you vividly realize who have revisited Headquarters after an absence of only a year or two. No other corporation that I've ever heard of has experienced a growth rate over a period of years that is comparable to the growth rate of this Work and of this Church. This, coupled with an acute shortage of manpower, has produced staggering administrative problems which would render ineffectual any merely human organization.

Only because the Living God of this universe is directing and guiding the course of this Work can we continue to grow and bear fruit under these circumstances. He does, however, work through human instruments. So, as the one God has set directly over those of you who are in the field ministry in the United States, I want to thank you again for the responsible way that you as a whole have cooperated and looked to Headquarters for guidance! This is one reason that we have been able to function well in spite of the constant growth pains that we as an organization must live with.

The month of March, I am pleased to report, was a record month for the number of visits made in the United States! Over 12,500 visits were made, which far outstripped the old record of 11,000 visits set in December of last year. This new record almost doubled the 6,600 visits made in March last year. This also serves to point up the fine job that the field ministry, overall, is doing. Of course, our goal is not the achievement of a record number of visits just for visits' sake -- not at all! Our goal is to serve and help the brethren -- to feed and nourish the flocks that God has given us charge over as His ministers, and I am thankful to God that He is making the realization of that goal possible.

For the benefit of the Work and for the benefit of those few of you who are not cooperating as fully as you should in responding to Headquarters, I need to remind all of you of the importance of properly responding to instructions from Headquarters. When a few of you are careless or fail to cooperate and respond wholeheartedly, the entire Work of God suffers and is to some extent crippled by the foot-dragging of a few individuals. In a viable, growing organization, new procedures, ideas and approaches must be continually introduced in order to meet the demands of growth. Some of you may be overwhelmed by the growth, and you may find that God's Work is outgrowing you!

To those of you to whom this admonition applies, take it to heart! Resolve to begin to carefully read and follow instructions. Resolve to be more careful in sending in needed information that is complete and on time. Resolve to follow procedures that have been outlined for the benefit of the whole body and to properly complete the cards that you send in to Headquarters. But most important of all, resolve to have an attitude of cooperation in all of these things. With the new men coming out to assist you, be especially

zealous, men, to reread and STUDY the Visiting System Manual and all special ministerial letters and instructions so you can set an EXAMPLE of efficiency, loyalty and cooperation to these new field assistants. This will not only help you to be more effective in Christ's service now, but should help them for years to come by getting off to a right start!

With the above in mind, I am going to instruct all of you -- including District Superintendents -- to take off two full days from regular visiting to get your office, files and visiting system in top shape! You may use part of this time to REREAD the manual and the instructions from Headquarters. But take off TWO FULL DAYS for this (more if needed!) between now and June 10th. Be sure to let us know which days you used for this on your weekly visiting report!

There is every reason to be encouraged and inspired by the progress of the Work, and again I want to thank you, on behalf of Jesus Christ, for the outstanding job that most of you are doing. Much fruit is being borne! As this summer approaches, bringing its threat of riots and violence, we are all going to have to stay close to God, looking to Him for wisdom and protection. Let's continue to pull together for this Work -- and for each other!

Your brother in Christ,

Roderick C. Meredith

Roderick C. Meredith

FIELD ASSIGNMENTS -- PASADENA (STUDENTS)

1. Aust, Jerold W. -- Oakland, San Francisco, California
2. Carley, David R. -- Nashville, Tennessee
3. Dunlap, Wayne -- Oakland, San Francisco, California
4. Fish, Thomas H. -- Sacramento, California
5. Greaves, Lyle J. -- Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
6. Hall, Thomas -- Los Angeles, California
7. Heimberg, Felix -- Flint, Midland, Michigan
8. Jacobs, Bill -- Little Rock, Arkansas
9. Kobernat, Randy -- Greensboro, North Carolina
10. Koellner, Carl A. -- Wheeling, West Virginia
11. Lee, James -- Fontana, California
12. Morrison, Ben -- Bismarck, North Dakota
13. Nedrow, Bruce D. -- Baltimore, Maryland; Washington D.C.
14. O'Neal, Patrick -- Boise, Idaho; Salt Lake City, Utah
15. Patrickson, George E. -- Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
16. Peoples, James L. -- San Diego, California
17. Phillips, Wayne A. -- Seattle, Washington
18. Purdy, Glenn L. -- Asheville, North Carolina
19. Rand, Richard R. -- Grand Rapids, Mich.; South Bend, Ind.
20. Roper, John R. -- Mobile, Alabama
21. Scott, Charles F. -- Miami, Lakeland, Florida
22. Shiflet, Wayne -- New Orleans, Louisiana
23. Stafford, Richard H. -- Nashville, Tennessee
24. Swagerty, Mike V. -- Toledo, Ohio
25. Swagerty, Terry L. -- Portland, Oregon
26. Tate, James M. -- Greensboro, North Carolina
27. Walden, Keith A. -- Albuquerque, New Mexico
28. Wallen, Ron D. -- Lakeland, Miami, Florida
29. Williams, Tom -- Baltimore, Maryland; Washington D.C.

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

1. Anderson, John C. -- San Jose, California
2. Brady, Dennis -- Long Beach, California
3. Cafourek, John -- Wichita, Kansas
4. Greer, Dean -- Memphis, Tennessee
5. Gunn, Alastair -- Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
6. Hoyt, Bryan H. -- Jackson, Mississippi
7. Jahns, William G. -- Fresno, Modesto, California
8. Kackos, George -- Little Rock, Arkansas
9. Knapp, Mitchell -- Kansas City, Missouri
10. Lay, Paul -- Eugene, Oregon
11. Meyer, Ray A. -- Akron, Ohio
12. Napier, Jim -- Lexington, Louisville, Kentucky
13. Nelson, Larry -- Wheeling, West Virginia
14. Nelson, Ronald B. -- St. Louis, Mo.; Belleville, Ill.
15. Orban, David L. -- Chicago, Illinois
16. Peterson, Kenneth E. -- Evansville, Indiana
17. Porter, Bill J. -- Olympia, Tacoma, Washington
18. Shuta, Richard -- Des Moines, Iowa
19. Turk, Thomas D. -- Shreveport, Louisiana
20. Walker, Harry J. -- Portland, Oregon
21. Warren, Terry D. -- Pasadena, Los Angeles, California
22. Watson, Darryll E. -- New York, New York
23. Weber, Michael E. -- Pasadena, Los Angeles, California
24. Weston, Gerald E. -- Phoenix, Arizona
25. Whikehart, William R. -- Wichita, Kansas

FIELD ASSIGNMENTS -- TEXAS (STUDENTS)

1. Chase, Barry -- Akron, Ohio
2. Curtis, Brent -- New York, New York
3. Ellsworth, Bob -- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
4. Haynes, Dale -- San Antonio, Texas
5. Howe, Ronald -- Milwaukee, Wisconsin
6. Kaiser, Bill -- Evansville, Indiana
7. Kirk, Judd -- Big Sandy, Texas
8. Lockner, Otto -- Minneapolis, Minnesota
9. Mansanarez, Boyd -- Lexington, Kentucky
10. Mills, Joe -- Buffalo, Syracuse, New York
11. Persky, Bob -- Indianapolis, Indiana
12. Ribb, Jim -- Cincinnati, Ohio
13. Salyer, Larry -- Houston, Texas
14. Salyer, Mark -- Amarillo, Texas; Liberal, Kansas
15. Smothers, Howard -- Fort Worth, Texas
16. Thompson, Dick -- Los Angeles, California

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

1. Cardona, Mark -- Dallas, Texas
2. Franklin, John -- Big Sandy, Texas
3. Kisse, Jim -- Toronto, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada
4. Lohr, Ronald -- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
5. McCrady, Frank -- Atlanta, Macon, Georgia
6. Pugh, Garry -- Birmingham, Huntsville, Alabama

ASSIGNMENTS FROM ENGLAND

1. Menassas, George -- Toronto, Ontario, Canada
2. Smith, Steve -- Atlanta, Georgia
3. Vance, Bruce -- Toledo, Ohio
4. Welty, Lyle -- Dayton, Ohio

ELDER ASSIGNMENTS AND CHANGES IN THE FIELD

1. Albert, David -- full-time in Pasadena
2. Antion, Gary -- Toronto - Kitchener, Ontario as pastor (Kitchener new Church)
3. Ashland, Robert -- to Ambassador College Pasadena in September
4. Aspenns, Val -- Phoenix, Arizona as ministerial assistant
5. Barness, Jeff -- Denver, Pueblo as ministerial assistant
6. Beyersdorfer, Karl -- Duluth, Minnesota
7. Boyce, Fred -- to Knoxville, Chattanooga as full ministerial assistant
8. Bryce, Charles -- to Regina, Moosomin, Sask., as pastor (both new Churches)
9. Burrows, Percival -- full-time as local elder in Toronto, Kitchener
10. Chapman, Jim -- full-time in Pasadena
11. Clayton, Joseph -- full-time as local elder in Columbia, South Carolina
12. Crosswell, Gerald -- to pastor Fresno, Modesto, California
13. Dennis, Al -- to College in September
14. Dickinson, Walter -- to College in September
15. Engelbart, Guy -- to Wichita, Salina as pastor
16. Flores, Robert -- full-time in Los Angeles
17. Gerstmann, Joel -- returns to Ambassador College Pasadena
18. Hammer, Tony -- to Oakland, San Francisco as District Superintendent
19. Hampton, Dale -- pastor Eugene, Salem Church
20. Heaton, Warren -- full-time as local elder in Kansas City, Missouri
21. Hechel, Mike -- pastor of Medford, Oregon Church
22. Heiss, Michael -- returns to Ambassador College Pasadena
23. Jones, Bob -- to Minneapolis as local elder
24. Khouri, John -- to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan as local elder
25. Lee, George -- to Vancouver, British Columbia as local elder
26. Luker, Dennis -- to Minneapolis as District Superintendent
27. Manteufel, Allen -- to Detroit, Michigan
28. Martin, Malcolm -- full-time Big Sandy Visiting Program
29. McMichael, Sherwin -- to Ambassador College Pasadena in September
30. McNeil, Ronald -- Toronto, Kitchener as assistant pastor
31. Meek, Paul -- full-time in Glendale
32. Miller, Ronald -- to Kelowna as local elder
33. Oakley, Thomas -- full-time as ministerial assistant in Detroit
34. Panella, Tullio -- to San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Texas as pastor
35. Prunkard, Don -- Sioux Falls, S.D., and Mankato, Minn. as pastor (new Churches)
36. Quillen, Bill -- Des Moines and Omaha
37. Reyer, James -- full-time as local elder in Fort Wayne, Indiana
38. Ritenbaugh, John -- to Ambassador College Pasadena in September
39. Roemer, Earl -- Youngstown, Ohio
40. Sargent, Greg -- Buffalo, Syracuse as assistant pastor
41. Scarbrough, Gene -- full-time in Los Angeles
42. Sell, Ivan -- Buffalo, Syracuse as pastor (Syracuse new Church)
43. Simkins, Frank -- full-time in El Monte
44. Smith, Carlton -- pastor of Vancouver, Washington and two Portland Churches
(one new) with Selmer Hegvold assisting
45. Smith, Don -- Kansas City, Missouri; Columbia, Missouri
46. Sutton, Bill -- to College in September
47. Waterhouse, Don -- to Chicago, Illinois
48. Westby, Kenneth -- to Baltimore, Washington D.C. as District Superintendent
49. Wilson, Hugh -- Greensboro, Fayetteville as local elder
50. Wornat, Lyndel -- return to Ambassador College Pasadena



