

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
PRESIDENT and PASTOR

OFFICE OF
RODERICK C. MERRIDITH, Second Vice-President

June 28, 1968

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings from Headquarters! Mr. Ted Armstrong is back and is beginning to make a full series of color telecasts. Mr. Herbert Armstrong is due to arrive back sometime next week, and from the recent inspiring co-worker letter you can see what he has been busy on and the fantastic progress of God's Work.

I'll be leaving tomorrow for Kansas City to spend the weekend, and from there I'll go on to Nashville for the District Conference next week. Before leaving, however, I wanted to get some instructions to you.

Last February Mr. Ted Armstrong sent all of you a letter in which he made available our summer camp facilities in Orr, Minnesota after the regular Summer Education Program is over. This is a wonderful opportunity for those of you who can afford it and would like to take a vacation at this time. All of the District Superintendents will be there from July 28 through August 1, but only four others have responded to the invitation to come the following week of August 5-13. We still have room for another eight or ten families. Since time is running out, I would like to encourage those of you who are interested to get in your request within the next week. We will consider them on a first-come-first-serve basis. So let us hear from you! I certainly hope several more families will sign up for and USE this wonderful facility God has provided!

All of you receiving a regular expense allotment in the United States and Canada recently received new instructions about the use of ministerial expense. For those in the United States, on page 4 of your instructions under "Personal Expense," you were instructed that all parking fees, as well as the washing and waxing of your car, would be at your expense. Most of you seldom have parking fees as a ministerial expense item in excess of \$2 per month, but those who do can put these on your expense card. All of you should pay any parking fees up to \$2, but any parking fees in excess of \$2 can be put on the card under the "Other Expense" section. You can make this change on your instructions so that you can refer back to it later on, if necessary.

Also, if some of you have too many entries for a single item, such as tolls, and don't have enough room on the card to itemize them separately, just give us one total for the entire month rather than using two cards. Most of you will not have any problem with this, but some might on occasion.

Many of you have been requesting an IBM listing of the members and prospective members in your Church areas in order to up-date your files. Although we are just as anxious as you are to get both your files and our files up-to-date, we have to do this on an organized basis. The most efficient way to handle

this is district by district. We will begin next week with all the Churches in the Akron District, and we will progress to your particular district as soon as it is practical. In this way we can up-date our file as soon as each list is returned to us without a backlog of lists accumulating which become out-of-date before we can get to them. This process will take several weeks, so please be patient, and we will accommodate you as soon as possible.

Also, I need to mention that we have changed our procedure in the handling of Church library information. We will no longer send information directly to your librarian, but because of certain problems that continually arise, we will send this information to you, and you can pass it on to the individual responsible.

Mr. Paul Royer, as Director of the Personnel Department, has reported that we are getting telephone calls and written requests regarding the credit record of many ministers and ministerial assistants in the Field. A problem often arises because some of you have listed yourselves as "representatives" of Ambassador College. When the firm or institution calls us, they want to know who is "Ambassador College" and what is a "representative." We then have to tell them that you are a minister. As a result, some of them question your motives for claiming to be a representative of Ambassador College, and our credit reference means little or nothing.

In this kind of situation, you should state that you are ministers paid by the Church, and you can add, if necessary, that you are associated with Ambassador College. Ministerial assistants should state that they are ministerial assistants. In this way we can prevent any misunderstandings that might occur in the handling of credit references.

I hope all of you will really train and use the assistants assigned to your areas. I am thankful that you can finally have this much help to relieve some of the burden you have been shouldering. Also, I sincerely want to thank you for responding as well in sending in the student evaluation cards. These have been a real help to those of us on the Admissions Committee and have helped us make vital decisions affecting these peoples' lives for many, many years.

Keep up the good work, and let us hear from you. Let us know if we can save you more from this end as your brothers in this Work of Christ.

Your servant in Christ,

Roderick C. Meredith

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HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
PRESIDENT and PASTOR

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RODERICK C. MEREDITH, Second Vice-President

July 19, 1968

Dear Fellow Ministers,

Greetings from Headquarters! My recent trip to Kansas City and Nashville was both enjoyable and profitable. I was able to preach in both Churches in Kansas City on the Sabbath of June 29, and after a fine visit with Mr. and Mrs. Dean Blackwell and their family that weekend, I went on to Nashville the following Monday for the two-and-a-half day District Conference there.

Mr. Ted Armstrong left last week for a tour of the foreign offices--and to do on-the-spot broadcasts and T.V. footage--beginning in Europe. He had hoped to interview Mr. Franz Josef Strauss and Mr. Kurt-Georg Kiesinger while there, and although he has sent back several interesting broadcasts from Germany, it appears that he did not make either of the interviews. You should be hearing these tapes in your local area soon.

Mr. Herbert Armstrong returned from England two weeks ago today and brought exciting news of recent developments in the Work there. During his stay there, arrangements were made for double-page advertisements in DRIVE magazine, a motor-club magazine with a circulation of four million! DRIVE is a quality magazine which is widely read by the middle and upper-middle classes in England, a group which has not been reached in the past.

Also, we are now running monthly half-page ads in The London Sunday Times and monthly half-page, full-color ads in The Sunday Times Magazine, their weekly supplement! In addition, we are running monthly half-page ads in The London Sunday Express, which is the number one newspaper in England and has a circulation of over four million. No newspaper in the United States comes near that circulation figure. Others in England have a higher circulation, but they are not actually newspapers. They are scandal-sheets that play up sensational-type "news" with a "yellow journalism" approach. Neither the Times nor the Express is this type of publication. Both are of such a quality, character and size that they will not only produce good mail responses, but they will also enhance our "image" in spite of the attacks of certain scandal sheets over there.

These ads have already had a tremendous impact on our mail volume in Bricket Wood. It was reported that during the week ending July 12, our office there received more new responses than during any month when the ship stations were still broadcasting!

This is certainly wonderful news, but there is MORE! Other foreign editions of The Reader's Digest have opened up to us. Here is the list--so far--of the editions which have accepted our advertisements in the English language: Britain, Australia--New Zealand, South Africa, India and Southeast Asia, which includes Burma, Singapore, East Indies, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Japan.

In the German language we are in Germany and Austria--Northern Switzerland editions.

In the French language we are in the France and Western Switzerland-Belgium editions.

In Holland we are in the Dutch language edition.

That is a total of ten editions, and we will be running double-page, full-color ads in all of them!

Also, beginning in September, we will be printing a Dutch-language PLAIN TRUTH! Since the Dutch language is similar in many ways to German, the German Department, with a couple of competent Dutch-speaking translators and Dr. Hoeh's direction, will be responsible for getting out the new edition which will be called DE ECHTE WAARHEID. It will be a 16-page magazine with a full-color cover, just like the Spanish PLAIN TRUTH.

That covers the advances in the foreign Work, but we have had some major breakthroughs in the United States, as well. Beginning right away we will be running ads in LIFE magazine! At first we are limiting the ads to the areas of the nation where we have the best coverage on radio. The states included are Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri (Saint Louis and Kansas City areas), Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, western Pennsylvania and northwest West Virginia. California will be added later.

All of us in the Pasadena and Los Angeles area were especially happy to hear that we added a new station in this area--50,000 watt KGBS in Los Angeles. We have never had good coverage in this very highly populated metropolitan area, and this addition of KGBS will help a great deal. The time is 6:30 a.m. Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. Sunday, which is an excellent time. Also added recently were stations CHEX in Ontario, Canada; AJYR in Edson, Alberta; WCLU in Cincinnati, Ohio and KNIT in Abilene, Texas. All of those to be broadcast daily.

Just yesterday--to provide the icing on the cake--we received payment on the largest single donation in the history of the Work! The payment, in the amount of about \$412,000, came from the sale of stock in a trust fund which had been donated by a member in Texas. When he died recently, we were able to liquidate the trust fund as provided by his will. Most of the stock has now been sold, but an additional amount may come later.

Taken together, these recent developments constitute one of the BIGGEST LEAPS FORWARD that this Work has ever experienced! We can certainly be thankful for the growth that God is providing at this time when it is so needed.

We are thankful, too, for the continued growth in the Churches around the world. The Church in Holdrege, Nebraska began on June 15 with 181 in attendance. Mr. Guy Engelbart and Mr. Milo Wilcox will co-pastor this new Church.

On June 22, the new Church in Kitchener, Ontario began with 314 in attendance (204 of these were from the Kitchener area). Mr. Gary Antion will pastor the Kitchener Church along with the Church in Toronto.

Sioux Falls, South Dakota began on June 29 with 160 in attendance and Mankato, Minnesota began on July 6 with an attendance of 88. Both of these new Churches will be pastored by Mr. Donald Prunkard.

Another new circuit, Moosomin and Regina, Saskatchewan began on June 29, also. Mr. Charles Bryce will be pastoring these two new Canadian Churches, Moosomin began with 92 in attendance and Regina began with an attendance of 136.

The most recent new Church was the one in Rochester which began last Sabbath with an attendance of 216. Mr. Ivan Sell will be the pastor.

A new monthly Bible Study in Logansport, Indiana, which is being taken by Mr. George Meeker, began on July 7 with 91 in attendance.

On July 14 a new Bible Study was to have begun in Hartford, Connecticut. This monthly Bible Study will be taken by Mr. David Bierer.

Some of you have been asking about the planned Church building in Eugene, Oregon, which was announced last year. We recently obtained financing at a local bank in Eugene, and the construction should begin in September.

The monthly Bible Study in Honolulu, Hawaii has been turned into a monthly Church. Mr. Dibar Apartian was in Honolulu for Pentecost and held the first Sabbath Services there with 85 in attendance. A Bible Study will be held on Friday night once each month, and Sabbath Services will be held the following day. Mr. Apartian will be the pastor of this Church, although others from Headquarters may take it from time to time.

Rather than having the brethren in Hawaii spend many thousands of dollars to attend the Feast of Tabernacles on the mainland, we are sending two of God's ministers to Hawaii for the Feast this year. This will be a blessing both for the brethren and for the ministers who are assigned there. Sorry, we aren't taking volunteers for this assignment!

We will also be holding the Feast of Tabernacles in Barbados this year. Mr. Elbert Atlas will join Mr. Clarence Bass there for the entire period from the Feast of Trumpets through the Last Great Day. The Barbados attendance is running over 150 per week now, and with some brethren from the mainland and some from other nearby islands, the Feast attendance should be about 250.

By November we hope to begin monthly Bible Studies on the islands of Trinidad and Granada. This would give Mr. Bass a four-island circuit of Barbados, Santa Lucia (already a Bible Study), Granada and Trinidad.

Also planned to begin about this time is a new Bible Study in Brussels, Belgium. Mr. Carn Catherwood will conduct this monthly Bible Study. Mr. Catherwood, by the way, is safely ensconced in Paris now, and the Church there seems to be doing fairly well under the circumstances. The attendance is about 80 each week. The primary problem that our brethren face there--as in almost every nation in Europe--is that of Sabbath keeping. As a result of the recent turmoil and labor disputes in France, President De Gaulle reduced the work week from 48 to 40 hours per week, but rather than having Saturday and Sunday off in France, the workers take off Sunday and Monday. It is much more difficult for them to trust God in that situation than for most of our brethren here. Some of them can perhaps pray more fervently also, "Thy Kingdom come!"

In a recent report from Manila, Mr. Arthur Docken happily announced the first ordination of Philipinos to the office of deacon. These were Mr. Benjamin Ortiguero, who is the son of Mr. Pedro Ortiguero, and Mr. Victor Tuangco. We, too, were pleased to hear that God has added two Philipino deacons to His Church in Manila, which began in 1958.

Mr. Wayne Cole recently reported that a new office is being opened in Auckland, New Zealand. The office suite, which is in a fine new office building, is being readied right now, and the office should be functioning soon. It will be a full-fledged office and will have a staff of twelve by the Feast of Tabernacles. The office will serve New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga and all Pacific Islands, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and India. The opening of this office enables us to use funds in New Zealand which are not transferable to Australia, thus "saving" the Australian office about \$30,000 a year.

From Germany we recently received a report that Mr. John Karlson has been ordained to the office of local elder in God's Church. We send our congratulations on this new office and added responsibility God has given him!

I also have a couple of birth announcements to give you at this time.

I failed to mention in my previous letter that Mr. and Mrs. Elmer McElroy announced the birth of their son, Bruce Albert, on June 1. He weighed in at eight pounds and eight ounces.

Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell announced the birth of their daughter on June 23. Martha Ruth weighed six pounds and ten ounces. Congratulations on these new arrivals!

Mr. Royer has asked that I urge all of you to send in your Member's Second Tithe requests as soon as possible. Each year those who need financial help from the Church in order to attend the Feast of Tabernacles tend to wait until the last minute before making their needs known. As a result, some of our widows miss the Feast or attend without proper finances. Often, the most suitable housing for second tithe applicants is no longer available, and they must be assigned accommodations which cost the Church more money than we should have to pay. We can help our widows and others get the housing they need at a cost the Church can better afford if we receive these requests during the month of July. All Festival Advisors should have a booklet which gives details on how to handle second tithe requests in conjunction with the Festival forms.

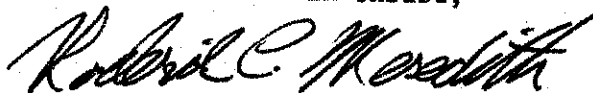
If you have not already done so, please encourage the brethren to figure their Feast expenses, and without cutting themselves short, to send in any excess to Headquarters. This will enable widows and other deserving individuals to enjoy God's Feast of Tabernacles along with the rest of us. Be sure to remind them to clearly label it as "Excess Second Tithe Fund," however. In this way it won't be confused with the Tithe of the Tithe.

It was recently brought to my attention that some of you are not subscribing to a reputable newspaper. For the sake of keeping up with world conditions, all of you should subscribe to the best newspaper available in your area. A few of you may have to subscribe by mail in order to get one that is adequate for that purpose.

Many of you have ordered Spokesman Club supplies for the new club year which will be starting soon. Since we are revising the Ambassador-Spokesmen Speech Manual, the Directors' Manual and certain forms, your order may not be shipped right away, but you should have them before the Clubs reconvene.

Well, fellows, this about winds up another letter. Things are moving very fast in God's Work, as you can see from the announcements I've given you in this letter. I hope all of you will keep your eyes on the BIG PICTURE and on this Work that Jesus Christ is directing and empowering. I hope you will help the brethren do the same. The petty, insignificant problems and cares of this physical life can sometimes distract us and turn our minds away from the momentous, imagination-defying events that are almost upon us! Now, as never before, we need to continue to pull together in this Work, looking forward to its accomplishment!

Your brother in Christ,



Roderick C. Meredith

P.S. So we can hurry and get this letter out before the Sabbath begins, we are printing this on the Gestetner machine rather than using the regular presses. Hope you don't mind the difference this time!

