WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

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HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

PRESIDENT and PASTOR

RODERICK C. MEREDITH, Second Vice-President

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Dear Fellow Ministers.

Greetings again from Headquarters! Things are continuing to move forward very quickly here at Headquarters. The old Letter Answering Department building has now been razed, and the new Administration Building is coming right along. We hope to be in it -- or at least in the process of moving into it -- by the Ministerial Conference. We have received the approval of the City Planning Commission for the closure of Terrace Drive and now lack only the formal approval of the City Council, which we expect very soon.

Mr. Armstrong's recent trip to Japan was a success since he was able to meet the Emperor's brother as planned, and the groundwork was laid for a future trip for the purpose of meeting the Prime Minister. After having met these two individuals -- who rank the highest in Japan among those who are accessible for introductions -- the door will be open for Mr. Armstrong to meet anyone he needs to meet in order to get the Gospel to Japan.

Mr. Armstrong is now in Jerusalem. On Monday of last week, he, Dr. Hoeh and Mr. Rader left for Jerusalem, via Bricket Wood, to finalize arrangements for Ambassador College to cooperate in the archaeological excavation which was mentioned at the Feast. They were to be joined in Bricket Wood by Mr. Hunting and Dr. Martin for the trip on to Jerusalem.

Mr. Leslie McCullough left Big Sandy for Bricket Wood on November 18. As a part of a 'Deputy Chancellor Exchange Program' to help bring the three Colleges together and unify them to an even greater degree, he was to stay in Bricket Wood for three weeks, taking some of the Forums, Assemblies and classes there it was an an instruction of the property of the contract of the c

Mr. Ted Armstrong went to Big Sandy last Friday to spend a week there, and this Friday I will be leaving for San Antonio and Corpus Christi to preach and visit with the brethren -- then go deer hunting for a few days with Mr. Tony Hammer, Mr. Dave Robinson and others. There have been many new developments and shifts in manpower in God's Work in recent days and weeks. Some of these changes have already been made, while others will be made right away, and still others will be made in January. As a result of the avalanche of mail produced by the Reader's Digest ads in India, Mr. Abraham George has been sent to India to open an office there. He and Mr. Wayne Cole are in Bombay looking for a suitable office and a home for Mr. George and his family.

Mr. Guy Ames has been sent to Manila to assist Mr. Docken because of the growth in that area. Mr. Ames had been sent to the Philippines to open the office there in early 1963, and he returned to Pasadena in the fall of 1965 to complete college and to serve as Mr. John Wilson's assistant over the Mailing Department. He served in that capacity until his return to Manila two weeks ago.

Mr. Michael Bousfield, who recently married the former Miss Elaine Ormerod in Bricket Wood, has been sent back to Johannesburg, South Africa. He had been serving in the Letter Answering Department here at Head-quarters after being temporarily transferred from Johannesburg. His return will enable Mr. John Sanderson to return to Bricket Wood to serve there while receiving further training at the College.

In my last letter I gave you a list of the ordinations that occurred at the Feast, but we have since learned of one more. Mr. Paul Suckling was ordained as a local elder. He is now serving in the Birmingham, England, area. Congratulations, Mr. Suckling, and we're sorry to have left you out!

Another move now being made is the transfer of Mr. George Lee from Vancouver, British Columbia, to Edmonton, Alberta. To help fill his place in Vancouver, Mr. Piet Michelson has been hired as a full-time ministerial assistant there.

And another recent change was the transfer of Mr. Joseph Clayton from the Asheville-Columbia area to Headquarters to work in our Photography Department. Mr. Clayton was a professional photographer before being hired by the Work and ordained as a local elder, and now he will have the opportunity to serve here at Headquarters.

The Church in Honolulu, Hawaii, is now rejoicing. They will now have a full-time pastor! Mr. John Khouri, formerly assisting Mr. Robert Lay in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, has been raised to the rank of preaching elder in God's Church and has been assigned to pastor the Church in Honolulu.

More changes are in the offing as a result of four new Churches being started in the United States. Mr. James Wells, who will be replaced in Belfast by Mr. David Bedford, will be transferred to Saskatoon to replace Mr. Robert Lay. Mr. Lay will then raise up new Churches in Kingsport, Tennessee, and Bluefield, West Virginia.

Jess Ernest, after graduating from Bricket Wood last July and serving as a ministerial assistant in Belfast, is now assisting Mr. Hal Baird in Milwaukee. This will enable us to move Ron Howe from Milwaukee to Saskatoon to assist Mr. Wells.

Mr. Nelson Haas, who was ordained a preaching elder at the Feast, will raise up a new Church in Portsmouth, Ohio, and also become the pastor of the Charleston, West Virginia, Church, giving him a Portsmouth-Charleston circuit. Mr. Roy Holladay will retain Wheeling, West Virginia, and link up with Uniontown, Pennsylvania, formerly pastored by Mr. James Friddle.

A new Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, will then begin, giving Mr. Friddle A. M. and P. M. services in Pittsburgh, and Mr. Alton Billingsley will move up from Uniontown to assist him in Pittsburgh.

Before I give you the news of the changes in the Field to be made in January, let me give you the latest "baby news." Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Westby were happy to announce the birth of their son, weighing 6 pounds and 8 ounces, on October 27. He was reluctant to tell us the name, saying it sounded beautiful but looked unbelievable, and he was right! The name is Eyvind Tjerand. It is pronounced he says, like Avin (with a strong, long "a") Cha-ron.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Reedy announced the birth of their son, Daniel Alan, weighing 8 pounds and 2 ounces, on November 12.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Plache announced the birth of their son, Benjamin Robert, on November 22, weighing 7 pounds and 7 ounces.

Also on November 22, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Antion were presented with a daughter, Janice Marie. She weighed 8 pounds and 12 ounces.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill McDowell's eight-pound son was born on November 25, but was not yet named at the time of the announcement.

Mr. Gary Arvidson said that his wife's delivery last week of their son Peter was the fastest he has ever heard of -- ten minutes! Thus, he named him Peter -- or, "Speedy Pete" for short. Congratulations to all of you on your new additions!

Now for the exciting news of the upcoming changes in January. I know two men, at least, who are very excited about the changes. One of them is Mr. Dennis Luker, who is returning to Headquarters to assist me in my job as the Superintendent of Ministers! Mr. Hill has assumed so many responsibilities as the Division Head over the Publications Division that he just doesn't have the time to continue to assist me on Field problems in the way that he has in the past. He is often gone on trips, and when he is here, he is swamped with his other responsibilities.

The man who will replace Mr. Luker in Minneapolis as the District Superintendent over that district was also excited to hear of his new assignment. He is Mr. Keith Thomas. Congratulations to both of you on the added responsibilities and added opportunities for service in God's Work! Mr. Thomas was raised to the rank of preaching elder in October of 1965 and was sent to Phoenix-Tucson as the pastor of that two-Church circuit. He was then raised to the rank of pastor in January of 1968 and sent to Cincinnati, Ohio, to pastor the A.M. and P.M. Churches there. Mr. Sherwin McMichael, who is now here at College for a semester of training will replace Mr. Thomas in Cincinnati.

Mr. Dale Hampton will be coming in to College in January for a semester of further training, and Mr. Al Dennis, who is here this semester, will replace him in Salem-Eugene.

Well, that brings us up to date on the changes that have occurred and will soon occur. The Ministerial Conference is scheduled this year for January 13-23. We will be letting you know soon who will be coming in for the Conference so that you can begin to make your plans.

By now, most of you have received Mr. Armstrong's inspiring Semi-Annual Letter and the urgent Co-Worker Letter he sent along with it. He wrote a third letter, also, which is being sent to those quarter-of-a-million new subscribers who were added as a result of the advertising campaign which began in June. The purpose of this letter, which offers the same two booklets as the regular Semi-Annual Letter, is to introduce the new subscribers to Ambassador College, explain who we are and, in a general way, what we are doing. Many of these new subscribers have never heard a broadcast, and many of them are not acquainted with the Work at all. Most are completely irreligious, and a great many don't respond with the enthusiasm of some of those whose letters are reproduced in the "Weekly Comments." Our purpose is to keep as many as possible interested and to gradually educate them to what we stand for without offending them and driving them away before they really get the message. They will then have to decide whether to heed the warning or reject it, but at least they will have heard!

The subjects of the two booklets being offered in these Semi-Annual Letters should be especially appealing to a broad range of individuals, and we expect an overwhelming response to them. We are also hoping -- and fervently praying -- that the Co-Worker Letter will bring a similar response. We do urgently need it! Please do your part, men, not only in praying for the success of the letters, but also in giving the brethren the vision to put their hearts into the Work as never before -- both in their prayers and in their own personal response to the Co-Worker Letter. Many of our brethren aren't committed to this Work right now to the limit of their capacity. They need to be reminded of the way God looks at our contributions, as shown by the example of the widow's mite. It isn't the amount that is important, but

our wholehearted attitude. For their own good, as well as the good of God's Work, they need to catch the vision and begin to "lay up treasure in heaven." This Work is continuing to go forward in a way unparalleled in the history of this Work because of the impetus provided by the worldwide advertising campaign begun last summer. Our growth, our zeal and our total commitment to the Work as a Church and as individuals must match the surge forward -- or else we will be left behind!

Your brother in Christ,

Rodrick C. Moedeth

Roderick C. Meredith

P.S. Mr. Armstrong has said that this year's Ministerial Conference should be restricted primarily to the evangelists and District Superintendents -- with just a few other pastors and preaching elders coming in if some have not been here for several years, or if there are special needs. So I would like to ask all of you Superintendents, and all pastors of Churches, to send in your suggestions as to which special cases should be considered in this regard. Let us know soon who you think should come to the Conference this year.

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