

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG  
PRESIDENT and PASTOR

OFFICE OF  
RODERICK C. MEREDITH, Second Vice-President

December 10, 1969

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings from Pasadena! Mr. Herbert Armstrong arrived back here a week ago last Wednesday from his trip to Bricket Wood and New York. He did not go to Israel on this particular trip, but he is leaving for Jerusalem today -- with Mr. Portune and Mr. Rader. Our Israeli legal counsel feels it is important that Mr. Armstrong return and firm up relations there now that the Al Aksa affair is over and done.

The local NBC news team was on Campus November 26 making a film which was shown on the local NBC station in Los Angeles the following evening -- Thanksgiving. The news sequence ran for about six minutes and included some good shots of the Campus and the buildings, about a one-minute segment filmed in my Church History class -- although the name of the class was not mentioned -- an interview with Mr. Ted Armstrong and an interview with the Student Body President, Les Stocker. It was, on the whole, very positive and favorable. Mr. Herbert Armstrong was very pleased with the way it turned out.

On the evening of December 1, the students had an informal dinner-dance -- which we called a "Ship Wreck Party" -- in the gymnasium. Quite a bit of effort went into the decorations. The specially-constructed bandstand for the evening was in the form of a large, very authentic-looking ship. A fountain had been constructed on one side of the gymnasium, and the entire gymnasium had been transformed into a Polynesian setting, with palm-roofed huts, volcanos, and a mural depicting an erupting volcano covered an entire wall.

Perhaps the main significance of the dance was that it was not only an enjoyable change of pace for the students and faculty, but it also provided us the opportunity to invite several prominent local civic and business leaders to a College function. There is no better way to

let outside people experience the "Ambassador-College spirit" than to have them at this kind of activity in which the entire student body participates.

Not everyone we invited came, but those who did -- including the Editor of the Pasadena Star News, Mr. Edward Essertier; the executive vice president of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, Mr. John Regan; Chief Heidner of the Pasadena Fire Department and others -- were very impressed. From the comments made by several of the visitors, it was evident that the friendliness, warmth and enthusiasm of the students impressed the visitors as much as the outstanding decorations, the fine food and the enjoyable entertainment. The function was certainly a success in every way and served to enhance the image of the College in the eyes of the visitors who attended.

The response so far to the semi-annual letter has been very good. We set a new Sunday mail record with 40,299 letters this past Sunday and a new "week-end" (Sunday and Monday) record with over 56,000 letters this past weekend. We will probably break our week-day mail record and also our weekly mail record by the end of the week. Since the semi-annual letter was sent out over a period of a couple of weeks, the returns should continue to come in heavily for a while. ~~Remind the brethren to~~ continue to pray for the success of this letter!

1. Mr. W.C. Cowan, Sr., who is a Local Elder in Memphis, called recently to inform us that his wife definitely has cancer and to ask us to pray for her. Since she is the wife of a fellow minister employed full-time in the Work, I know all of you would want to be aware of this situation so that you can pray for her as well. She was very sick a few weeks ago, and Mr. Cowan called me when it looked as if she would die at that time. We did not know then that she had cancer. After I called Mr. Armstrong and some of the leading men here at Headquarters and let them know about her condition, she seemed to begin to recover, and we thought God had healed her. He apparently had intervened at that time, but now we have learned that she has cancer. So I hope all of you will remember to pray for her. Mrs. Cowan has a fine attitude and feels confident God will heal her.

We have had two ministers' wives die in recent weeks and we don't always understand all of the reasons God allows some of these things to occur, but we know He is healing many in God's Church. In a recent letter, I gave you the account of three separate instances in which God recently miraculously intervened. A couple of others came to my attention this week and I feel it would be appropriate to pass these on to you as well.

2

Mr. Bob Steep writes:

"I wanted to share with you another very encouraging example of Divine healing that took place in the Evansville area. About the time of Pentecost last May, one of our members began feeling the pains of a tumor or cyst (doctors were unsure of which it was) in her womb area. She was anointed but gradually through the summer this condition became worse and worse. She got to the place where she had to be in bed all the time. The doctors who checked her said unless she had an operation immediately she would die. Her faith held out very steadfastly, however, even though she was nearly dead in looks and with pain, extreme weakness, and the smell of rotting flesh. Not too long after this crisis period she felt a sudden sharp pain unlike she ever had before. She then passed what looked like the core of this growth within her. After this she immediately began to mend. Today she is up and around and except for occasional periods of tiredness (due to how weak she was) is COMPLETELY HEALED! She called the doctor not too long ago to let him know how she felt since he was so concerned about her. His first words to her were in exclamation, 'You mean you are still alive?!'"

And one of our Canadian members wrote the following letter to Mr. Dean Wilson. It is a little long, but since it is such an encouraging and inspiring account, I will reprint the entire letter:

"We just want to tell you about the many wonderful blessings which we received during and after the Feast at Penticton. As you know, our son Mark was hit by a car in Penticton during the Feast. Mr. Bryce, our local minister, was among the first ones on the scene, and he immediately anointed Mark. He was then taken to the Penticton hospital unconscious where we stayed with him for a couple of hours, but there was no change. I then drove my wife back to the motel to our other children and, in the meantime, Mr. Bryce stayed at the hospital with Mark. While we were gone, Mark became more serious with apparent pressure on the brain as he had three convulsions in the space of a half an hour.

"The doctor at the Penticton hospital immediately made arrangements to send Mark by ambulance to the Kamloops Hospital where they had a neurosurgeon and where he could undergo an operation to relieve the pressure. After arriving at Kamloops and after extensive x-rays, etc., the pressure was no more evident. It had miraculously disappeared -- for

which we were deeply thankful. The neurosurgeon was then going to do an angiogram on Mark, but again Mark's blood pressure, pulse, etc. normalized, and again the doctor changed his mind. God again had intervened so Mark would not have to go through this.

"Mark each day continued his progress, and we now found out that he had four skull fractures, a very bad concussion, a fractured pelvis and a curvature of the spine. Mark lay in the Kamloops hospital nine days unconscious, and then he opened his eyes and came to. His memory was poor for a while -- however, each day he remembered more. The progress he made was amazing, and five days later he walked out of the hospital, much to the wondering eyes of all the hospital staff and doctors. We brought him home, and just five days later he started back to school -- but with quite a limp and a sore back. We had Mr. Bryce anoint him for his back, and yesterday I noticed no more limp. This is truly a miracle! The complete healing so quickly certainly proves the power of our Wonderful, Loving, Creator God!

"While we were still in Penticton, several of the brethren brought us over groceries, knowing that we would have to stay longer than we had planned. Many brethren offered us money, and people that we had not met sent us letters and cards. There were so many acts of kindness, concern and love shown to us through this ordeal by brethren all over the country that they are too numerous to mention.

"We would like to thank all these people and the thousands that prayed for our Mark. I am certain our Creator heard all these fervent prayers -- this is why our son is normal and well today."

It is certainly good to hear such reports, and I hope all of you will let us know about any outstanding examples of God's miraculous intervention which occur in your areas.

In the way of birth announcements, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Peoples announced the birth of their son, Gregory Brent, on October 27. He weighed 7 pounds.

And Mr. and Mrs. Karl Beyersdorfer announced the birth of their daughter on November 22. Christi Elaine weighed 7 pounds and 8 ounces.

3 After his son, Timothy Alan, was born on the Sabbath of November 29, Mr. Dick said that it looks like his wife, Dyanne, has gotten into the habit of bearing children on the Sabbath and can't quit! Timothy Alan weighed 8 pounds and 12 ounces.

A birth announcement that either did not reach me or that I just failed to include in a letter last summer was that of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Franklin. For the benefit of those of you who know them but may not have heard about their daughter who was born on June 30, they named her Jennifer Kathleen.

Congratulations to all of you!

4 Here is a special request. Our Buildings and Grounds Division at Pasadena has an immediate need for a graduate engineer and a graduate architect. Because of the specialized nature of these positions, the Personnel Department has asked me to pass this information on to those of you in the Field Ministry and to request your help.

"If you have members in your area who would like to work at Headquarters and who you think might be able to meet the requirements listed below, please let them know there are openings available, if they are interested. If they would like to apply for the job, they should send a resume of their background and experience to the Personnel Department here at Pasadena and request an employment application. If they have filled out an application in the past, they should write in order to bring their application up to date with current information and to let the Personnel Department know they are interested in this particular job.

"Here is a resume of the requirements the engineer and architect would be required to fill:

"They must be graduates from an accredited university with three to five years' experience in concrete, steel and timber design, as related to the design and drafting of residential, commercial, and industrial buildings.

"Professional registration in California, or at least E. I. T. certification in California, is preferred, but not required for position. However, candidates should be oriented toward professional registration.

"Design experience required in tilt-up, rigid frame, masonry, and light timber framing types of construction. Knowledge of California methods of construction preferred.

"They would act as the project engineer and project architect to directly assist the department head in the preparation of engineering and architectural calculations, plans, specifications, estimates, reports, and field inspection of various projects. They must be capable of taking projects from conception stage through completion of working drawings and specifications and field inspection. They must be strong in drafting to enable them to draft what they design."

5- Now for some BIG NEWS. As a result of the fantastic growth of God's Work over many years now, Mr. Armstrong, for the last year or two, has been considering adding more vice presidents in addition to Mr. Ted Armstrong and me. There were two or three times when he started to do this, but it did not quite "jell" until now. Now, with the "corporate image" of God's Work taking on more and more importance since we are increasingly coming into the public eye, and with GIANT leaps forward being made in every phase of the Work, he has added nine new vice presidents. All of the men involved have already been carrying the type of responsibilities which would merit the title of Vice President, so now they have this title officially. This will certainly enhance God's Work in the public eye and be very helpful and encouraging to the men involved -- and to all of us.

There are actually two organizational charts to be considered -- the College and the Worldwide Church of God. Many of the Vice Presidents function in a dual capacity in both institutions, but some do not if their particular function is restricted to either the Church or the College. ~~Here is the new College setup:~~

Mr. Albert Portune is now Vice President of Finances and Planning at Headquarters. Dr. Herman L. Hoeh is Vice President of Academic Affairs, Pasadena. My college responsibility is now Vice President of Student and Alumni Affairs, Pasadena. Mr. Norman Smith is Vice President of Broadcasting Production. Mr. Ronald Dart is Vice President of the Foreign Education Service. Moving on to Texas, Mr. Leslie McCullough is Vice President of Academic Affairs and Deputy Chancellor at the College there. In Britain, Mr. Raymond McNair is Vice President of Academic Affairs and Deputy Chancellor. And Mr. Charles Hunting is Vice President of Finances, Europe and the Middle East. Finally, also connected with the College because the College is sponsoring the broadcasts and magazines now, Mr. Wayne Cole is Vice President of Financial Affairs, Australia and Asia.

Now for the new Church organization structure:

Mr. Al Portune is Vice President of Planning and Finances. I am Vice President for Church Administration, United States. Mr. Dart

is Vice President of Church Administration outside the United States. Mr. Raymond Cole is Vice President of Convention Site Development. Mr. Raymond McNair is Vice President for Church Administration, Europe and the Middle East. Mr. Charles Hunting is Vice President of Financial Affairs, Europe and the Middle East. And Mr. Wayne Cole is Vice President of Church Administration and Financial Affairs, Australasia and the Far East.

All of the vice presidents will report directly to Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong, who remains Executive Vice President of the whole institution and is directly under his father as President. An Executive Committee has been formed as a top advisory board, which in chart form would be out to one side of Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Ted Armstrong as counselors to them, with Mr. Stanley Rader as "General Counsel" on the other side. The Executive Committee is composed of Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Ted Armstrong, Mr. Portune and Mr. Stan Rader.

In chart form also, the Board of Trustees is placed over all of the executive officers, and it remains the same. However, in daily business and planning situations Mr. Armstrong and the Executive Committee will make the decisions within the general policies set by the board, of which Mr. Armstrong is chairman anyway.

Well, that is it without going into too many details. I want to extend my sincerest congratulations to all of the new vice presidents. I have had the opportunity to congratulate personally all those at Headquarters and hope to write a few of you personally as I have time and opportunity before the Conference. My former office of Second Vice President no longer exists. Mr. Armstrong has felt that with the increasing emphasis on business, financial affairs and public relations, it was better to have more emphasis in these other fields and, also, that our corporate image would look better to the world without having it appear that two or three men ran everything without many vice presidents, committees, boards, etc. to share in the decision-making process.

I have simply not been involved in the business and public relations phase of God's Work very much for the past several years and am not able to carry a full load in that direction and also administer the Field Churches as well. Mr. Portune, Mr. Hunting and Mr. Rader are perhaps Mr. Armstrong's chief counselors in this area, and they have all been making tremendous strides and doing a fine job for God's Work. So this new structure portrays this emphasis and I am sure will result not only in a better public image but more accomplishment -- each within our respective fields -- in the years to come.

I hope that all of you will rejoice and will pray fervently for all of us who are vice presidents -- that God will guide, help and inspire us to shoulder our responsibilities zealously, effectively and humbly as He would have us. We will certainly need your help and cooperation -- and that of all the brethren.

Although I was in a meeting and missed it, I understand that Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong devoted a good deal of yesterday's forum here in Pasadena to rehearsing the growth of the Work during the 1960's and possibilities for the 1970's. He mentioned that, unless things speed up drastically, it is becoming increasingly apparent that we may have more time in which to finish God's Work. The growth in all departments and areas of God's Work is going to be breathtaking in the years to come. So we may have merely two years or -- as I pointed out in my ministerial letter last summer -- perhaps as many as nine more years to go. Remember that when you put back in the seven years that passed over King Nebuchadnezzar, it brings us up to 1979. And we may need that extra time to reach this world with a powerful and unmistakable "witness" of this world's sins and the coming world-ruling government of God.

So let's all use zealously whatever amount of time we may have left. Let us learn to THINK BIG and catch the vision of soaring growth and responsibility for all who qualify in the years to come and yet keep humble so that we may be accounted worthy of the biggest reward of all when Christ returns.

Your brother in Christ,



Roderick C. Meredith

P.S. Just this past Sunday, the Los Angeles Times carried a front-page story about Ambassador College. It began on the top left-hand side of page one and was continued on the third page, along with two fairly large pictures -- one of the Egret Fountain and one showing a view from the entrance of Ambassador Hall, looking down the walkway toward the Hall of Administration. The last half of the article was then continued on page fourteen. The article, overall, was favorable. Because the Times, which is one of the top-ranked newspapers in the United States, carried the story prominently on pages one and three, this is the most important article of this type which has ever been published about the College, so I thought all of you would be interested in reading it. We have reproduced it and included it with this letter.