

# WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

WORLD HEADQUARTERS  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG  
PRESIDENT and PASTOR

June 4, 1969

OFFICE OF  
RODERICK C. MEREDITH, Second Vice-President

Dear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings again from Pasadena! We had a fine turnout for graduation this past Friday afternoon. All the seats were filled, and many had to stand during the Commencement Exercises in which 98 received their Bachelor of Arts degrees. In addition, advanced degrees were conferred upon two men -- Dr. Floyd Lochner, whose degree is Doctor of Education, and Dr. Eugene Walter, whose degree is Doctor of Philosophy in Religion. Dr. David Wainwright will formally receive his degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Education during Commencement Exercises in Bricket Wood, but he completed his work earlier this year before returning to Bricket Wood. We are certainly happy to see these men receive advanced degrees and to see them recognized in this way!

Some more good news is that we had an ordination ceremony in Mr. Herbert Armstrong's office this past Sabbath. Raised to the rank of Preaching Elder were Mr. Brian Knowles and Mr. Charles Oehlman. Mr. Knowles will be going to Tulsa, Oklahoma as the pastor there and will raise up a new Church in Ponca City later on. Mr. Oehlman is in charge of all campus tours here at Pasadena.

Ordained as Local Elders were Mr. George Geis, who was the Student Body President here at Pasadena this past year, and Mr. Robert Oberlander, who has been assisting the Dean of Students, Mr. Plache, in counseling and handling student problems. Mr. Geis will be staying here as a Bible teacher at Imperial Schools and as a Basic Speech instructor for the College next year.

And another ordination on Pentecost that I just heard about was Mr. Piet Michelson in Vancouver. He was ordained as a Local Elder.

Congratulations to all of you!

Mr. Herbert Armstrong left for Jerusalem this past Sunday. He will go from there to Bricket Wood in order to be there for graduation, and Mr. Ted Armstrong left today for Big Sandy to preside at the Commencement Exercises there this Friday.

Also leaving Pasadena this past Sunday were Dr. Vern Farrow

and Mr. Tonny VanderLeeden. They left for Jerusalem to begin work on a documentary film for the College about the excavation there. Dr. Farrow will be writing the script, and Mr. VanderLeeden will be the photography director for the film.

And coming to Pasadena from Jerusalem to see the College at the end of this week is the Minister of Tourism and Development in Israel -- Moshe Kol. Mr. Armstrong has met him and talked with him on numerous occasions in Jerusalem, and he is now coming to visit our campus here.

Dr. Josef Aviram, the Dean of the School of Liberal Arts of the Hebrew University is also coming from Jerusalem to visit the campus, but he will arrive next week. This will be his second visit to the campus. Dr. Aviram has said that he wants to send his son to S. E. P. at Orr this summer, and Mr. Armstrong has given his approval. It should be quite interesting for the boy if it works out!

I now have some baby news to pass on to you. Mr. and Mrs. Terry Swagerty announced the birth of their daughter, Deborah Colleen, weighing eight pounds, on May 20.

Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Engelbart announced the birth of their daughter on May 24. Karen Michele weighed six pounds and eight ounces.

And Mr. and Mrs. Earl Roemer announced the birth of their son, Anthony Charles, on May 21. He weighed in at seven pounds.

Congratulations to all of you!

Mr. Armstrong's latest Co-Worker letter just came out this morning, and we were very glad to see that he clarified the misunderstanding that many people have as a result of our emphasizing that "no one will ever call on you." This should produce a flood of visit requests, and by a strange "coincidence," we have just finished working out the details of a new procedure which will enable us to forward all specific visit requests directly to the local minister for him to handle. This procedure will eliminate the delay that resulted from our sending the "Visit Information Form" to those people requesting a visit before sending the request to the local minister. All of you in the United States will be receiving a special instruction letter regarding the procedure changes, and the letter also gives guidelines for the handling of prospective member visits.

All of you should very carefully read and follow the instructions and guidelines given in that letter.

I need to announce that the official name for the Letter Answering

Department has now been changed to the Personal Correspondence Department. This name better describes this facet of the Ambassador College Adult Education Extension Program which we have been emphasizing in recent months.

I also have some instructions to pass on to you in regard to Feast expenses for Local Elders not in our employ. Since a large number of local men were ordained on Pentecost, and since quite a few more will no doubt be ordained later this year, our excess second-tithe fund here at Headquarters is going to be put under a severe strain if Feast expenses for all of these men are paid by Headquarters. In discussing the situation with Mr. Ted Armstrong, we both felt that we needed to make a definite policy decision regarding Feast expenses for Local Elders not in our employ. We both felt that since these men not in our employ will soon outnumber those who are employed by us, and since all of them have their own jobs, they should pay all of their own Feast expenses. ~~We will, however, abrogate their paying of third tithe.~~ These Local Elders not in our employ should save second tithe in order to keep the Feast, but they do not have to pay third tithe in their third tithe year.

Some of these men will have the blessing of being able to stay in ministerial housing and eat at the ministers' dining room -- so long as we have room for them -- ~~but they will have to reimburse us for their expenses.~~ Rooms will generally run \$20-\$25 per day, and the meals -- which are very fine -- will average about \$8 per adult and \$4.50 per child per day. It should be no problem for the men who were recently ordained to pay these expenses since they have been saving second tithe all along. But for those elders not in our employ who have not been saving second tithe, this could present difficulties. We will handle it in this way. All those elders not in our employ who have not been saving second tithe should begin saving second tithe as of their next paycheck. The amount they save between now and the Feast should be sufficient to pay for their transportation to the Feast plus their spending money at the Feast. If they lack sufficient second tithe to pay for their room and board, they should just turn in whatever amount of second tithe they have left and Headquarters will pay the balance if they cannot afford to pay it out of their own pocket for this year.

At some Feast sites we are already overcrowded in both ministerial housing and in the dining facilities for ministers. In these areas, we will give the Local Elders not employed by us priority housing. That is, we will try to locate fine accommodations as near as possible to the Feast site, where these Local Elders can be housed together, although they will be separate from the other ministers. These Local Elders not in our employ should send in applications for housing and meals just as any member would, with the notation that they are Local Elders. If it is possible to house them with the other elders, we will do so, and they will be billed by us for their housing and meals.

Those of you who will not be housed with, nor have your meals with the fulltime ministers, and who have not been saving second tithe, can pick up any additional money you need for your meals or housing at the Feast from the Business Office on the Festival grounds this year.

We realize that some of you who have not been saving second tithe may be pinched financially to have to begin now, but after a period of adjustment, it should be no real problem. I know that God will bless all of you if you accept this in the right attitude. The cost to Headquarters of paying the Feast expenses of one Local Elder's family might pay the way of two or three widows who would otherwise have to miss the Feast.

Most of you, as Local Elders and examples in your local congregations have your financial affairs in good order and will be able to take this adjustment in your budgeting in stride. However, if this change will cause a financial hardship to any of you, be sure to discuss the situation with your local minister so that he can bring it to our attention, if necessary. None of you should go to a bank or a loan company to get out of a temporary financial bind that this change might cause -- or for any other reason -- but rather, take the problem to the minister over you. If necessary, we could give you a third tithe loan to help you get your budget straightened out. I should emphasize again that God can certainly make up for this extra expense in your budget -- and more -- if this is accepted in the right attitude and if you are looking to Him to provide all your needs!

One final note -- some of you may wonder in the light of this change about unordained ministerial assistants. Since these men are graduates of Ambassador College and are fulltime in the ministry, they do not need to save second or third tithe. However, as we grow larger, will need to house and feed them separately from the ministers as well, though we will pay their expenses.

That winds up the news and instruction for this time. Those of you in the United States should soon be receiving the special instruction letter I mentioned.

Your brother in Christ,



Roderick C. Meredith