

Recent Ministerial Conference *a Big Success*

Vital new truths were brought to light and important decisions were made in this year's conference of God's ministers!

by Roderick C. Meredith

FROM all parts of the United States, and from overseas, came the true ministers of Jesus Christ. They came to *God's Headquarters* at Ambassador College in Pasadena, California.

They came so that the dynamic, vital "Philadelphia" era of God's Church (see Rev. 3:7-13) might continue to be the POWERFUL instrument God intends in carrying His Message to all the world. They came so that the "unity of the Spirit"—the *oneness* of mind and attitude which has typified this Church—might always continue.

These ministers of the Most High God ranged in age from 24 to 67. Yet they were *all* wise beyond their years, for they were imbued with the *eternal* wisdom of God. Most of these men were in their thirties, as were the original apostles of Christ during the early years of the New Testament Church.

This group showed the *energy, initiative* and *alertness* of dedicated young men. But it had also the ripe *experience, wisdom* and *judgment* that comes with age. This group reflected *ability* and *capability*—but also the rare *understanding* that even their combined efforts could accomplish NOTHING spiritually apart from the *guidance* and *power* of God, and complete *submission* to His will.

Weak as we are, personally and humanly, God's Spirit was present and was directing the recent conference of His ministers at Pasadena. It is in that POWER of His Spirit that this Church shall go forward to even greater accomplishment in the coming year!

New Knowledge and New Plans

The annual ministerial conferences give God's ministers an opportunity to discuss and go through various points of scripture and to come to new understanding on various topics each year. This year, Mr. Armstrong led the conference in a discussion on various points of prophecy and on the subjects of divine healing, vows and Sabbath-keeping.

Now, God's ministers have a better understanding and knowledge of certain vital truths brought out in the minor prophets. Many of you local church members should be getting some interesting sermons on these subjects! And, as soon as possible, we will write up this infor-

mation in future articles in The GOOD NEWS. The article on vows already appeared in the previous issue.

On the subject of healing, we came to a better understanding and a realization of the nature of divine healing. But we also know that all of us—*certainly including everyone of you members*—need to pray more *earnestly* that we will have even more love and living FAITH so that this blessing may be manifested in even greater power in the years to come. The indication of the Bible and prophecy is that God's church will be given greater POWER in these miraculous gifts toward the end of the age. But we must be *willing* instruments, and do our part with *zeal* and *humility*!

Many plans were made for the future expansion of God's work—for more local churches, for more schools, for the work and college in Britain. Again this year, we are planning to send out *four* full summer's baptizing tours from coast to coast and up into Canada!

Detailed information on these future plans will be given later on because some changes will probably have to be made before summer. But all of you brethren should be *praying* that God will make possible the raising up of as many churches as He deems wise at this time, and that everyone who is sincerely interested may be contacted by one of our baptizing tours this summer.

Social Events Limited

This year, because Mr. Armstrong felt it was not advisable for our ministers to leave their churches for more than one Sabbath, and because of the expense involved in transporting entire families to Pasadena, the ministers were not able to bring their wives and families to attend the recent conference. However, there were some social events planned for God's ministers—because nearly all of them have come through Ambassador College and look on this as a second "home." And we all *should* have that feeling of being one "family" and enjoy our fellowship and social events with each other in God's Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Armstrong and Mr. and Mrs. Hoeh both had luncheons for the ministers in their homes—resulting in much good fellowship as well as the

eating of delicious food! The Ambassador Woman's Club entertained with a tea for the ministers' wives who live here locally, and for one or two who were able to come in.

Perhaps the social highlight of the conference was a buffet dinner in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Armstrong for all of the ministers and their wives. It was an evening of wonderful fellowship.

Two New Local Elders

Attending their first ministerial conference this January were two new local elders in God's Church. They are Mr. Harold Jackson and Mr. Frank McCrady. Both of them had been very zealous members of their own local churches and natural leaders before being ordained to full-time work in Christ's ministry.

There is special cause for *rejoicing* in the case of Mr. Harold Jackson, as he is the first Negro ever to be ordained as an elder in the Philadelphia era of God's church! Mr. Jackson was a very helpful and leading member of the San Diego church from its inception over seven years ago. He and his wife were a constant source of inspiration and help to other church members—and gave a specially important help to their fellow Negro brethren in that church. Also, through the counsel of the ministers, Mr. Jackson has kept in touch with many of our Negro brethren throughout the United States and has been a great help to them.

So it was an occasion of great rejoicing when, on November 7, 1959, Mr. Jackson was ordained in God's headquarters church in Pasadena, California. A few dozen of the San Diego brethren were up to witness the occasion and it was made even more memorable by an earnest and powerful sermon by Mr. Gerald Waterhouse on the subject of prayer.

Mr. Jackson has now been sent to our large church in Chicago, Illinois. Attendance there is now approaching four hundred—including many scores of Negro members. So Mr. Jackson is now working in that area in order to minister more effectively to his own people. As many of you know, Chicago is a center

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to begin next fall in London. Barring later changes, the students slated to attend Ambassador College, U.K., Ltd., are Carn Catherwood, Guy Engelbart, Gerhard Marx, and Robin Jones—himself originally from Britain. The two girls going over will be Miss Ruth Myrick and Miss Karen Kunkel.

Gerhard Marx is being sent to take care of the rapidly increasing quantity of German mail received in response to the German broadcast over Radio Luxembourg. Letters are being received from West and East Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Poland and Yugoslavia, and France, Belgium and Luxembourg—wherever the German language is understood.

These students are all thrilled with this unusual opportunity for education and travel abroad. And we know they will appreciate *your prayers* for their safety and that God will help them set the right spiritual atmosphere and make the most of this *opportunity* and *responsibility* in His college in Britain.

So be sure to PRAY for God's work and college in Great Britain! Pray that the right instructors and students may be selected for the college. Pray for the campaigns beginning next June. And pray for God's divine *protection* and *guidance* for Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Rea in this most important trip they are now taking to further the work of the Almighty Creator in the British Isles and Europe.

And pray for each other, brethren, and give God great THANKS for the challenging opportunities and blessings that He continually sets before us as His human instruments and potential Sons!

CORRECTION: Please notice the misprint in the January 1960 issue, page 10, column 1, line 17 from bottom. The sentence should have read: "Of course, God does NOT expect . . ." Paul explained this in II Thessalonians 3:10.

Ministerial Conference

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of growing racial strife and animosity. Therefore, Mr. Jackson very much *needs* the prayers of every one of you for his protection and constant guidance by Almighty God!

Let us be thankful that God has raised up this first Negro brother to be an elder in His church—and pray that in His time our Father will provide many more such servants for our Negro brethren here and throughout the world.



The World Tomorrow now goes to Europe in the German language! God has opened the doors of Radio Luxembourg to us!

God has also given the German Department these four students at Ambassador to assist in proclaiming His Truth to the German people. From left to right are Robert E. Neitsch, from British Columbia, Canada. After attending Vancouver University for three years where he majored in German, he came to Ambassador College. He is now helping translate, teach German and answer German correspondence. Donna L. Fink is the German Department's efficient and devoted secretary. Besides applying herself in the language, she was aided by coming from a German community in Delmont, South Dakota. Erhard Klammer, born in Prussia, has been given a heavy responsibility of broadcasting a 15-minute program each Sunday morning on Radio Luxembourg. He is also teaching German. Gerhard O. Marx is another Ambassador student born in Germany. Besides aiding in teaching German, he fulfills other jobs under the direction of Mr. Herman L. Hoeh, who heads the entire German Department. This is wonderful news! Gott sei Dank!

Mr. Frank McCrady was also a most zealous and able member and help in his local congregation, the St. Louis Church of God. He helped the ministers there in visiting and solving problems so much that they asked him—even without his ordination—to move to Chicago, find another job, and help out with the even greater problems in that mushrooming area! This he was most willing and glad to do. On his own time, and largely at his own expense, he helped in visiting many people in the Chicago area. And he constantly grew in grace and knowledge and Christian stature.

And so, about the same time of Mr. Jackson's ordination, he too, was ordained—in this case, in the Chicago church—as a local elder in the Church

of God.

Let us thank God also for Mr. McCrady and his ministry—and continue to pray that God will add *even more* laborers to go forth in His abundant harvest!

Sadness and Trials

It is not always possible in this column—nor necessary—to give an extensive report of births, deaths, marriages, and other such events transpiring among the families of members in God's church. But we feel in the case of the ministers—because of their office—and in the case of backbone members or outstanding leaders in churches, we will try to do this whenever possible.

One such recent event which has sad-

dened us all was the death of Mrs. Helen Starkey, one of the backbone members of the Philadelphia era of God's church. She was the first paid employee of the Radio Church of God, and worked faithfully and at very low pay in those days in an uncomfortable inner-office in Eugene, Oregon, helping Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong.

Mrs. Starkey was known and loved by hundreds in God's church—and her kindness, her encouraging smile and her Christian example will long be remembered.

Helen Starkey had lived a full and abundant life in God's service, had reared her children faithfully and continued to set a good example of love and faith toward God until the time of her death. Our hope is *not* in this life, but in the resurrection from the dead (Philippians 3:11). And we know that God has instructed us not to sorrow nor despair in the way the world does over those—even in God's church—who die this first death which is only reckoned as a "sleep" (1 Thess. 4:13-14).

Even though we are saddened over the death of one beloved by so many, we must never forget that God has nowhere promised that we will continue in this physical life indefinitely.

Ministerial Changes

Following our recent ministerial conference, Mr. George Meeker and Mr. Bob Boraker left by plane for London, England. Mr. Meeker will be replacing Mr. Ernest Martin there as the business and office manager of God's church in Britain and Europe. This is a growing responsibility—especially since the tremendous response we have been receiving from our ads in the British edition of the *Reader's Digest*!

Mr. Boraker is being sent to London to begin a full-fledged Letter Answering Department in the office there. He has been in charge of the Letter Answering Department here at headquarters for the past few years, and is well qualified to lay the foundation for this new and vitally important department for our overseas work.

Also, leaving just after the ministerial conference for far-flung responsibility was Mr. Charles Hefner—a zealous junior student in Ambassador College. Mr. Hefner is being sent to help in the new and growing office of God's Church in Sydney, Australia. He will assist there in the mailing of literature and also carry the important responsibility of "dubbing" The WORLD TOMORROW program on tapes for distribution to the Australian stations. This will save many thousands of dollars in mailing expenses involved in sending many broadcasts by tape all the way to each individual Aus-

tralian station from here.

Other ministerial changes involve Mr. Kenneth Swisher and Mr. Ernest Martin coming here to Pasadena for graduate school work in the Ambassador College Graduate School of Theology. Mr. Martin will be getting special training to prepare him for teaching responsibilities in Ambassador College, United Kingdom Ltd., beginning next year. Mr. Swisher was the regularly scheduled minister to come in this semester for graduate work, and will be returning to his pastorates in the Gladewater and Minden churches in June.

Remember, brethren, that all of these ministers are a part of the very *body* of Jesus Christ—the physical *instrument* and *tool* that Christ is using to carry His message to this earth in this last generation. PRAY for these men with all your heart! As you can see, they have to travel thousands of miles by land, sea and air. They are in constant danger both from the elements and from Satan the devil who would like very much to strike at one of the direct instruments of Jesus Christ!

Your *part* is to stand behind them with your faithful and persevering *prayers*, your *tithes* and *offerings*, and your zealous *help* and *cooperation* in every possible way as God gives you understanding, ability and opportunity. In this coming year, let us *press on* with renewed zeal and dedication toward the soon-coming kingdom of our God and Savior!

EVIDENCE of a Christian— Hard Work!

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you do—whether it's your particular line or *not*—DO IT WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT! (Eccl. 9:10.)

"By Their Fruits You Shall Know Them"

Christ said we are to become shining LIGHTS in the world, that others may see our good *works*, and through our brilliant, purposeful, POSITIVE EXAMPLE they, too, may be turned to the truth of God.

But too often, it seems, such is not the case! Instead of being a *light* to the world—God's people want to be in DARKNESS! The very ones to whom God has revealed His all-important, precious TRUTH want to take it for granted! Instead of becoming entirely DIFFERENT persons than they were—instead of diligently WORKING at their jobs, and SHOWING GOD THEY'RE THANKFUL for

His truth, they want to wipe their feet on every principle of God's word, reject and *deny* Christ by neglecting to really LIVE as He lived (1 John 2:6), by zealously applying themselves to WORK HARDER THAN ANY OTHER PEOPLE ON EARTH!

This negligence and lack of concern brings REPROACH and SCORN on the very Work of God—and God's people.

The common philosophy of this present world of "do as little as possible and get as much as you can for it" is a far cry from the dynamic, vigorous life of the God-fearing person who is busily engaged in BEING A CHRISTIAN!

God's people are not called so they can have it EASY! None of YOU were chosen so you could RELAX! Read John 16:33, where the recorded words of your Saviour "In the world, you shall have tribulation" show again the MESSAGE which He brought. It wasn't a message concerned with living a life of EASE! But it's well worth the effort! "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). God tells us to WORK out our own salvation with fear and trembling (Phil. 2:12).

It's Easy to Be Lazy

Some of God's people are *willing* to allow others to take care of them. Some are undaunted at becoming a burden to others, and are so very concerned with SELF they feel no compunction at living from the labors of others. Those in God's Church who ALLOW them to so conduct themselves ARE DOING THEM A GREAT INJUSTICE. By PERMITTING them to continue living in this manner, they actually *encourage* their wrong habits!

Those who may be *unwilling* to change—unwilling to really REPENT—may say "I have faith." You have *faith* you say? FAITH that God will take care of you? AND CERTAINLY HE WILL, but unless or until you PROVE TO GOD YOU REALLY MEAN BUSINESS BY DOING SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR OWN SITUATION—HE WILL LET YOU STARVE! Abraham's faith, as EVIDENCED BY HIS WORKS, was what really counted! (James 2.)

It's time to WAKE UP, and quit kidding ourselves! It's time to *get busy and stay that way!* Read from the word of the Almighty RULER of this entire UNIVERSE—the One who has the power of life and death over YOU—these powerful words! "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath DENIED the faith and is worse than an infidel" (1 Timothy 5:8).