

PASTOR'S REPORT

PUBLISHED BY THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

VOL. 2, NO. 29

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JULY 31, 1978

July 30, 1978

Dear Brethren and Fellow Ministers,

It is with deepest disappointment that I regret that I am forced, once again, by hostile actions by my son, Garner Ted, to bring you up to date with the PLAIN TRUTH.

Diametrically contrary to what he has always said he would never do, he has, not only "raised a hand against his father," in the public press, but as the Apostle Paul warned the elders of the church at Ephesus, "For I know this, that after my departing...of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after themselves" (Acts 20:29-30).

Paul did not say or mean, to draw people closer to God, but to draw away those already IN THE CHURCH, after themselves -- to follow a MAN instead of Jesus Christ!

It has happened before. Paul knew it would happen again -- and again -- and again!

The Lord Jesus Christ, and the God after whom His Church is named were, under Ted's leadership, little by little being subtly pushed out of God's Church and of Ambassador College. It was becoming apparent to several.

One of several such letters just recently received says, "Thank God you are back where Christ wants you. Never before have we been so inspired by sermons or Bible Studies. For the past ten years, so many people, including myself, have noticed that something was wrong We noticed that for some reason we were not as inspired as we had been in the past. We felt there was something missing.... In fact, all of the doctrines of God were treated as if they were not important...we were sincere, but did not accomplish much because we lacked so much of the knowledge and faith that we once knew...we were spinning our wheels and sliding backwards. To say the least, Mr. Armstrong,...Christ has finally shown you plainly where we, the Church, were heading.... I am glad that Christ has put you back in the pulpit to teach us...we can actually understand it when you expound on it."

In my very painfully written letter, notifying you of the dis-fellowshipment of Garner Ted, I wrote you: "Now I come to something I have felt I had to withhold from you, brethren. During these past few years, when I sensed a CONSPIRACY to bring about a complete take over of the entire Church's work -- virtually to put JESUS CHRIST out ...I attributed it entirely to Satan. ...to protect my son's name and

reputation, I have 'covered up' for him -- because I have said to him I love him above all people on earth.... When Garner Ted maneuvered to shut off communication of what really was going on -- when he shut off all authority above him, he not only shut off God's Apostle, but also he shut off CHRIST AND GOD ALMIGHTY.

"Finally, a year ago the men next in authority under Ted came to me, begging me to TAKE ACTION. 'Your son, Mr. Armstrong,' they said, 'has been trying to DESTROY everything Christ has built through you, and build something for Garner Ted Armstrong.'"

His TV and radio programs were becoming secular, dealing in worldly politics, with sponsorship announced, not as Worldwide Church of God, who paid his salary, all production costs, and the cost of air time, but as that of "Garner Ted Armstrong Productions." Everything was focused on featuring the name Garner Ted Armstrong -- instead of the name of the Church.

On follow-up outgoing mail to those responding to the programs, he abolished the "WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD" letterhead -- and instead, the letterhead was printed, "GARNER TED ARMSTRONG." With his picture beside it!

For more than a year those now in top administrative offices have implored me to step in and once again take over complete control, UNDER CHRIST -- as it was until some ten years ago.

Again I repeat, as I wrote you then, "I say, this Church and its work was built by the LIVING CHRIST! It was HIS SPIRIT that inspired, motivated this entire work -- but, He was being put out!"

Fellow ministers and brethren, Jesus Christ has been moving dynamically, these past weeks, to once again ENTHRONE THE GREAT MAJESTIC GOD within this Church and its Work.

Until recently all was CONFUSION at Pasadena headquarters. WHO was in charge -- was it Garner Ted, or was it God's Apostle; well, I'll tell you emphatically who is in charge -- JESUS CHRIST!! It's time we all come to realize this is not the work of a man -- or of which man to follow -- it is THE CHURCH AND WORK OF ALMIGHTY GOD, with the living Jesus Christ at its HEAD, on His Father's throne!

A few years ago, one of the Church's ministers had inherited some money. He left the Church to draw away our members after him saying he and his wife were about the age of God's Apostle when God started His Work through His Apostle. But this man was not God's Apostle -- God was not IN what he tried to build for himself -- and his efforts failed completely!

In 1974, some 35 ministers left. They incorporated themselves as the "Associated Church of God." But GOD was not in it -- and it fell flat on its face! Tragically, a few thousand brethren followed after these men, who were seeking to draw away those already in the Church to follow them! Where are they today? I know many of those former ministers have had to take jobs working with their hands to earn a

living. That is JUSTICE! But, the tragic part of it is that those brethren, who followed them, as sheep without a shepherd, going to the slaughter, have been probably lost from God!

And now Garner Ted has incorporated himself with his wife and his brother-in-law -- and this GARNER TED ARMSTRONG CHURCH has now started a campaign to draw away both whatever sheep and shepherds he can now entice to follow him -- to follow a man instead of the Living God!

I say to you, ministers and brethren, Christ is on GOD'S THRONE. He did build His Church! NO MAN built the Worldwide Church of God of today -- and Jesus Christ promised that the gates of the grave shall never prevail against it! Human MEN, with selfish motives, may try to start a church after a MAN! But it is those in the true CHURCH OF GOD that shall inherit, IN GLORY, the soon-coming KINGDOM OF GOD!

Satan is the real source of human nature. It is ever the same! In the days of King David, whom God had selected as king, two of his sons, Absalom and Adonijah, one at a time, attempted to take over the throne, and make themselves King. But GOD PROTECTED His people of that day, and David, whom HE had chosen!

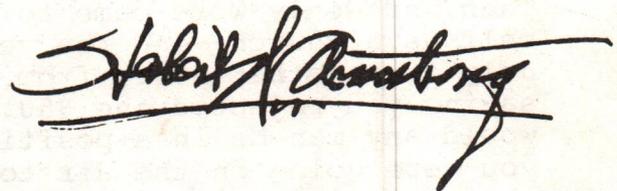
God called MOSES to lead His people, long before David. Once Moses' brother Aaron and sister Miriam, challenged Moses' leadership. They claimed equal right to lead. God sternly rebuked them! "Wherefore," said God, "were ye NOT AFRAID to speak against my servant Moses? And the anger of the Eternal was kindled against them" (Numbers 12:1-9). Miriam was seized with leprosy, for seven days.

But, have we become so detached from God in His Church today, that we think perhaps God has CHANGED? -- Are we today NOT AFRAID to speak against God's anointed?

Then of another time Korah gathered a group against Moses' leadership. Again God was stirred to ANGER! Korah and those with him were simply swallowed up by the earth!

I simply plead with you, ministers and brethren, HELP ME as I put myself in GOD'S HANDS, to follow Christ in His Church -- that we may carry on following Christ (not a man) in once again ENTHRONING THE GREAT MAJESTIC GOD AT THE HELM OF HIS CHURCH!

With deep love, in Jesus' name,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Garner Ted Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

July 31, 1978

Dear Brethren of God's Church:

Last night, I had been reading a telex I had sent to my son about a year and a half ago from South Africa and I was thinking of his condition now, trying to launch a new Garner Ted Armstrong church of his own, without the facilities to do so. I thought of what a loveable little fellow Ted had been as a young boy. I was unable to sleep for a long time.

This morning I felt I should relieve my own mind by sending a letter to my son, showing just how I feel. I had no intention of letting anyone see this letter except my son. However, I feel now, before sending it, I should make it an open letter available to the entire membership. It shows how I feel from the depths of my heart.

Following then is the letter dated Tucson July 31, 1978:

Dear Ted:

The last two letters you sent me via Bill Evans were very friendly in tone. The last one, dated July 12, told me you were having great difficulty finding a place to live -- the homes you might be able to afford were too tiny. You hardly had enough for a downpayment on a place. You asked about the place on Lake Tahoe --for approximately nine years you had been trying to arrange to purchase it--but something always put us off.

You did not know when you wrote this, that already I had arranged a contract--the only way I knew that would be okay with IRS--to turn over to you life tenancy, rent free, with the Church taking care of all taxes, insurance, etc., leaving only utilities for you to pay.

Also, I had arranged to offer you retirement pay of \$50,000 per year--the same as you have done for others at a percentage of their annual salary. Also, as I'm sure I have written you, I had offered--within the scope of IRS allowances--to supply you with a home of comparable quality and size as the one built for you in Pasadena. It seems the only way we could legally do this would be a company purchase, giving you no-cost tenancy, like the Lake Tahoe property.

Then, suddenly word came to me that you had incorporated yourself as a church--and the very next morning--yesterday, Sunday, July 30, another story from you was published in the L.A. Times saying you rejected the \$50,000 retirement pay--that never again would any man be in a position of authority over you--and that you were going on the air to build your own church.

Naturally, it is incumbent on me as God's Apostle, to protect His "sheepfold" He has placed under my care. As I told you in the letter offering to provide you with living facilities equal to what you have enjoyed these past eleven years, that God's Work could not pay you to fight it, take away members, or seek

to destroy the Work that was paying you. I have not seen the L.A. Times story--but it seems you construed this \$50,000 offer as a bribe. Nothing could have been farther from my mind or intention. Perhaps you so construed it because I let Stan Rader write the letter for me, but it was my idea, and I tell you truthfully my only thought and motive was your own welfare--and the fact that of approximately 25 years service, the first 15 had been good years, and warranted that recognition. Certainly the only thought or motive in my heart was right.

Last night, I ran across a very lengthy telex I had sent you from South Africa, March 11, 1977. You had always complained that you wanted to please Shirl and me above all others, and that we never do appreciate it, or show confidence in you--and especially that I had not valued your input, counsel or recommendations. I was trying, in this telex, to show that kind of confidence in you and appreciation of your counsel.

In this telex I said, "This is the Work of the Living God, totally unlike all other human-devised institutions, organizations or activities. Let me say, 1) I do have and entrust to you implicit confidence. I do not only consider your advice and counsel, I need and must have it, and always when I agree--which is nearly always--I act on it, as in this instance"--mentioning a recommendation from you that I had followed at once.

I tried, Ted, to stand "back-to-back" with you. I had mentioned that, since the entire universe is headed by a Father and Son combination--God and Christ--it would seem to ensure this as being truly God's Work, if it could be headed the same way--but when I mentioned how Christ has always been of the same mind and in all points of one accord, under His Father, you immediately changed the subject.

You completely overstepped the authority I delegated to you. You have recently stated publicly in the public press that you never did agree with me in matters of procedures. All friction between you and me, Ted, came from two sources--you did not agree with the manner of procedures that God had started me out on long before you grew up to maturity, and you felt a sense of resentment over the fact that, in the natural order of the growth of the Work, God had placed YOU under my authority. You remarked, one time, some two or more years ago, "You've never had to work under anyone, Dad." You said you meant under a MAN. Before you were born, Ted, I had to learn to work under other MEN. I agreed with what I had read from Elbert Hubbard, who said, "If I worked for a man I would work for him!" I worked under a man on the Des Moines Daily Capital, from age 18 to 19. I performed that work, under authority, so well that it opened to me a bigger job. I worked under authority as timekeeper and paymaster of the Finkbine Lumber Mill outside of Wiggins, Mississippi, at age 19. There I did the job it had taken three men to do before they turned it over to me. It was not my kind of work. I was like a fish out of water--but I worked as diligently and faithfully as I could--I worked myself into the hospital with typhoid fever. To keep up with the job--one I was unfitted for--I worked alternately till 10:00 one night and midnight the next--and up at

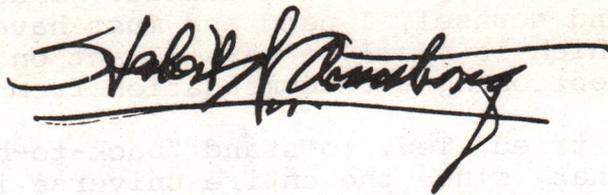
5:30 every morning! I took criticism--I took orders--and I did my very utmost to take them in good spirit!

I worked under authority for three years on the country's largest trade journal, and then for a summer as assistant secretary of the Chamber of Commerce at South Bend, Indiana.

All this, of course, was before you were born--but I had been required by the Living Christ who was afterward to call me to His service--or I might say was preparing me for His service--to work hard, diligently, faithfully and loyally--and WILLINGLY--to the very utmost of my ability!

The Living Christ is not going to set anyone to rule under Him, in the Kingdom of God, who has been unwilling to work in that willing and faithful attitude under authority. This may be a hard lesson for you to learn, Ted my son, but a father's inbred and real LOVE for his son causes me to remind you once again of this fact. It may be your hardest obstacle to overcome.

In deepest love, in Jesus' name,



Dear Fellow Ministers,

I have known Ted Armstrong a long time. In the late 1930s -- now 40 years ago -- we "chucked rocks at the same woodpiles" behind school houses where Mr. Herbert Armstrong was speaking to small groups of Church of God people. On several occasions during recent years, Ted has reminded me of this long-standing personal relationship.

Dick Armstrong was one of the best and closest buddies I ever had. We were inseparable friends during the early 1950s while students at Ambassador College. Dick and I spent four or five days in San Francisco in the spring of 1951 so we could be with Ted as much time as possible before he headed for Korea on board the aircraft carrier "Anteitam".

I love Garner Ted Armstrong. He is not my enemy. We have been brothers in Christ and personal friends. Personally, I have no ill-feelings toward Ted even now.

But, fellow ministers, what Garner Ted Armstrong is now doing is wrong. It is not to be respected nor accepted! Ted has now embarked on an act of bold defiance against the Work you have committed your lives to, against our (God's) human leader and Ted's human father, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, against his own foundations in Christ (because without God's Church, Ted Armstrong would have been nobody so far as the Church goes, with no position or authority as a minister), and against our great God in heaven.

The move by Ted Armstrong to branch out on his own, to set up his own organization, his own church, is a deliberate act of rebellion and defiance against the very Church of God ... against the Church that traces its history right back to the days of Jesus Christ, the founder of our faith and way of life.

Fellows, any act of challenge and/or defiance against this Church is an act against the authority by which you and I derive our authority to serve as ministers and servants of God!

Where did Garner Ted Armstrong get his authority to serve as a minister of Jesus Christ? Does he have any right or authority to present himself as and to conduct himself as a minister of Christ other than by the authority of God in this Church which ordained him into the ministry? No!

How many times have we heard Ted say that he believed he was ordained by a man who was ordained by a man who was ordained by a man who was ordained by a man and so on, all the way back through the earliest apostles and to Jesus Christ Himself. I first heard this concept expounded by Ted, and I believe with all my heart it is true!

Mr. Herbert Armstrong was ordained by ministers who were ordained by ministers of Jesus Christ and so on. It was Mr. Armstrong who ordained Ted into the ministry of the Church of God.

That authority which was (and is) vested within the apostolic office held by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong by which Ted was ordained and blessed with the power of the ministry, has not changed nor been transferred to another!

What now gives Ted, any more or less than any of the other ministers who have gone out from among us over the years, the right and the authority to repudiate and utterly reject God's authority vested in His Church in an endless succession from the very first century? The simple fact is, he doesn't have any!

Whether we like it or not or whether Ted likes it or not, he is now rebelling against Jesus Christ and God the Father. He is in opposition to the very Work of God. God says "rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft" (I Sam. 15:23). And Ted is now in rebellion.

It is especially saddening to realize that Ted has in the past been perhaps the strongest voice in the Church denouncing the very concepts and practices he is now pursuing!

Listen to a few of the very well spoken words of Garner Ted himself.

The April 2, 1974, issue of The Bulletin (which went to ministers and key administrative personnel) beginning on page 55, contains Part II of the January 1974 Ministerial Conference notes. I quote excerpts of sessions by Ted from these notes:

"My father can never get to the place where he dare not fire Garner Ted. He just can't! If he ever does that, he's lost control.

I don't let myself, and I won't get into a position where I dare not fire somebody or move somebody around in a job or an office if I must, under me, to do my job. I just won't do it! Otherwise we don't have an organization left. We've got nothing then, fellows" (top of page 62).

This is very well said. When a man is in a position of authority, he must have the courage to make the often difficult and sensitive manpower decisions. It is commonly understood in business that people-problems, especially manpower and personnel decisions, are frequently the most difficult ones an executive ever faces. But he must make them.

And further, often a manager must make traumatic personnel moves or perhaps even fire employees based on his own gut-feelings and perception without the so-called "reasons for cause" which may be readily and easily explained.

In the same Bulletin, Ted discusses at length the agonizing decision President Harry S. Truman made in relieving General Douglas MacArthur in 1951. Ted said in reference to Harry Truman: "You'd better admire the salty old character. He took more time to make the decision to relieve MacArthur than he did to decide to drop the atomic bomb on Japan, but he did do it!"

Did Mr. Herbert Armstrong have the authority to relieve Garner Ted Armstrong of his executive duties in this Work? Most assuredly he did!

And he did so after very careful, prayerful counsel and after much delay allowing time to be sure, time for conditions to change and allowing time for God to make His answer absolutely plain and certain.

Why was this decision made? To put it succinctly in just a few words, Mr. Herbert Armstrong, God's Apostle, came to see he had no choice. There was "cause" for his decision. Mr. Armstrong saw clearly that the "house was divided!" There was confusion in the Church. God's leadership through the one God had selected, trained and anointed as His Apostle was being challenged in the right to make final decisions. God's spiritual office, proven by decades of fruits and blessings was being challenged by one who had derived his responsibilities from that office and should have been submissive to it.

In the Los Angeles Times newspaper article this past Sunday, July 30, Ted is quoted as saying: "From henceforth I will bow my knee to no man." If those were indeed his words THAT IS A POWERFUL AND FRIGHTENING STATEMENT! Does that sound like Ted continues to respect the office whereby he was allowed to have a part in God's Work?

What happened to the attitude behind the words Ted preached to us? Quoting again from the April 2, 1974, Bulletin, page 65 Ted said: "But, I'm going to be part of this Work until God Almighty Himself makes a decision otherwise. And as long as Herbert W. Armstrong is alive there's only going to be one signature on a paper that says I'm not in God's Work, and that's his!"

That paper and that signature now exist!

Ted continued to say: "I pray with all my being that God never allows anything to happen to that man. I want him alive, healthy, well, vital and dynamic so long as God wants this Work to go on."

This Work is and shall continue to go on. Mr. Herbert Armstrong is alive, well and dynamic. But, now tragically, the Work shall go on without Garner Ted Armstrong unless or until he should deeply and bitterly repent before God with fruits of repentance borne before his father for his contempt and open rejection of this Work.

In the Pasadena Star News this morning, July 31, Ted is quoted as saying: "If God does not bless the effort that I am making, then it will be an indication that it is His will that I go into some other type of employment and profession."

This statement is totally contradictory to many statements made clearly revealing Ted's former deference to his father's authority. As recently as the January 1978 Ministerial Conference, Ted has publicly stated his submission to the spiritual office of his father.

He said to the entire ministry that it would be his happiest moment -- and these are his direct words -- when he would have no administrative responsibility; that he did not ask for the job; that Mr. Armstrong asked him to return to an administrative job and placed him there; that he did not want it -- and still doesn't.

Ted then strongly emphasized, "If I leave this Work -- DON'T FOLLOW ME. I know the lesson of Absalom. I know that if I ever lift up my hand against God's anointed, I am dead. I believe that with all my being. The quickest way for me to destroy myself is to attack my father. We should all follow the biblical example of support and of loyalty."

Ted stated that if he were ever put out, he would never darken the door of any church; would never call a member. "I have proven again and again that never, to the point of a rusty bayonet halfway through my heart, will I lift up my hand against God's anointed. My father is God's anointed. God has preserved his life. I will support, preserve, and protect him. Never has anyone seen me try to align forces, influence others around me to so much as lift their little finger against that man. And they will never see it. They will never see it. I have been striving as diligently as I know how to fulfill the biblical examples of loyalty, and I am going to strive to continue to do it. I have said publicly to the area coordinators if I cannot write a deep lesson of loyalty to my own father ... how could I ever expect loyalty on down the line. If I were ever disloyal ... then I could not expect loyalty from you under any situation."

This is a direct quote from Ted to all of you just a few months ago.

We all believed those and many other similar statements.

But, now Ted is going his own independent way, bowing to no man, and leaning to his own determination of whether or not "God blesses

his efforts" and trusting in this as an indication of being right or wrong. Evil, wrong and selfish and rebellious motives may prosper, but they are no less wrong and rebellious.

Remember, fellow ministers, earlier this year when these traumatic events began, Mr. Herbert Armstrong did not fire Ted. He did not dis-fellowship Ted. He did not stop Ted from radio broadcasting and initially did not stop him from making telecasts.

I and others know this to be true because we read the letters sent by Mr. Armstrong to his son stipulating conditions of Ted's continued services to the Church.

Near the first of May, Ted was relieved of his executive duties and asked to devote his full-time to those areas he does best, that is radio broadcasting and writing. The weekly telecasts were to be cancelled as soon as contractual arrangements allowed, but Mr. Herbert Armstrong clearly stated that after some time for discussions and re-formatting he wanted Ted to continue with television work.

Rumors began to spread very quickly, however, that Ted had been deprived of the right to do the radio broadcasts. This WAS NOT TRUE.

Subsequent events, letters and meetings between Ted and his father ultimately brought Mr. Armstrong to the place that he disfellowshipped Ted. Even after disfellowship, Mr. Armstrong offered to have Ted receive support in consideration of his years of service. This was not an attempt to buy silence but rather a genuine concern on the part of Mr. Armstrong for Ted's care and support.

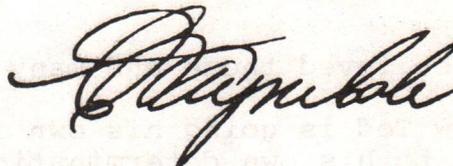
Now, here we are today, fellow ministers. Our trials and difficult jobs continue. But, hopefully we have internalized our faith, dependence and dedication to God. We are here to stay! This Work is where we found the "pearl of great price." And, this Work will go forth in disseminating and announcing this CORE message of good news and hope for all mankind!

What Ted needs to do RIGHT NOW is come to see that what he is doing is the total antithesis of everything he has stood for, preached and taught us. My prayer and hope is that Ted will repent of his rebellion against God, God's Work and God's chosen servant.

I would LOVE to see Ted and Shirl and any others who may have joined them restored as my brothers and sisters in Christ! Wouldn't you?

That is our prayer and our hope. But, meanwhile, this Work of God goes on. Thanks for all that each one of you is doing in your loyal service to God.

In Jesus' name,



C. Wayne Cole

IMPORTANT PREPARATIONS FOR THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Greetings from the Festival Office! And I guess more appropriately for some, Aloha -- as there are more ministers than ever before planning to attend in Hawaii.

It is almost August 1, the summer is two-thirds over and the Feast of Tabernacles is rapidly approaching. It is high time to update everyone on TABERNACLES 1978 -- hopefully, helping you with preparations for the Feast in your local congregations. At the Festival Office in Big Sandy, we are making every effort to produce another "best Feast ever!" We hope by October 23 that this feeling of "another terrific Feast" will have swept throughout the entire Church!

Every department in the Work is constantly striving for a higher standard of service to the brethren -- including the Festival Office! And fellows, the Feast of Tabernacles is important! ESPECIALLY this year!

It is important that we properly PREPARE each congregation around the world to keep this Feast. The Feast of Tabernacles is the highlight of Church activities for the entire year! It is in effect a mass evangelistic campaign for members when many essential truths are stressed and reviewed as God's people collectively worship the great God of the universe. It is the opportunity for Mr. Herbert Armstrong to address, inform and inspire ALL members concerning the Work, its goals, aspirations, direction and their participation in it. And it is a week-long experience representing the wonderful World Tomorrow -- the restitution of all things, the time of world peace, prosperity, happiness and salvation eventually available to all mankind!

This year has been hectic! In addition to planning for three new sites (we have in fact ended up with FIVE as a result of the disaster to our convention center at Mt. Pocono and the assumption of the Squaw Valley Blythe Arena by the United States Olympic Committee), the Big Sandy campus has been embroiled in the closure of Ambassador College and as a result the Festival Office teetered on the brink of moving to Pasadena at least two times this spring. Nevertheless, we still plan to produce a Festival that will be as smooth running, enjoyable and meaningful as those of the last several years.

The Festival and its related activities just appear to all happen each autumn! Actually, the Festival Office begins immediately following one Feast of Tabernacles to prepare for the next. Upon receiving reports from each festival coordinator, we begin to plan the changes and adjustments necessary to make the following year's Festival even better. This involves site selection (which is so vital because of the impact of the environs on the Festival and its families); delicate negotiations with each Chamber of Commerce, city fathers and in some cases state officials (for example, New York State is setting a precedent in allowing the Church to use its facility in Saratoga Springs for a religious convocation); securing and negotiating housing contracts for 75,000 people; preparing an all-new brochure for each festival site including feature stories, advertising, listing of motels, restaurants, historic sites, national parks, maps, etc.;

much communication to members, ministers, Chambers of Commerce, city officials and others involved in preparing for and coordinating this mass meeting, and working with the festival site coordinators to make the finite arrangements for the eight-day Festival itself.

The Worldwide Church of God Feast of Tabernacles is now the LARGEST ANNUAL CONVENTION ON EARTH and requires the assistance of virtually every department, every minister and each member family IF it is to be successful!

No longer can we be considered a beleaguered minority sect pleading for the privilege of holding its annual convention across the country -- at least not in the cities currently hosting (and those we've used in the past as well) the Feast of Tabernacles.

The Church is respected in these cities! For example: Our computerized HOUSING PROGRAM is, to my knowledge, UNIQUE -- entire cities are asking us to help set up something similar for them in working with other conventions. Housing thousands of conventioners is undoubtedly the BIGGEST HEADACHE facing cities when negotiating for conventions. In their opinion, the Church has solved this formidable problem more completely than any other group.

The BROCHURE is a marvel to Chambers of Commerce everywhere we go -- it is like producing The Plain Truth magazine for an entire year, but publishing only once in the autumn. The MEETINGS we hold with Chambers of Commerce (as part of the process of selecting and establishing each new site) are also respected across the nation. In fact, two cities, St. Petersburg, Florida and Niagara Falls, New York, have asked us to return to speak before an assemblage of city officials, businessmen and city fathers to help them become bona fide convention cities! So, the Festival in many ways is helping us make a mark on this age.

In recent meetings with Mr. Herbert Armstrong and Mr. Wayne Cole, the SPEAKING SCHEDULE for the upcoming Festival has been an important topic of discussion. As you know, Mr. Armstrong is now personally involved in every facet of the Work. Concerning the speaking schedule, he has set the basic outline of what he feels needs to be covered at the Festival, will be involved in the preliminary development of the speaking schedule and will ultimately make the final decision concerning this year's selection of speakers.

Remember last year's ministerial opinion poll? Immediately following the reception of this information, I put together a lengthy report concerning the sermons, sermonettes and other areas of comment for Mr. Ted Armstrong dated December 25, 1977. This report has since been updated and revised for Mr. Herbert Armstrong. He has read every word of it and discussed it at length. So I'm sure your efforts in helping to evaluate last year's sermons will no doubt have a big impact on the determination of this year's schedule!

Again this year, Mr. Armstrong will want several of the Evangelists and others to travel between sites for the opening and closing sermons. However, as a number of you commented, it is important in the eyes of the local congregations to have as many Church Pastors speak as possible! Perhaps the solution to this dilemma lies not in revamping

and completely overhauling the speaking schedule, but endeavoring to have ALL Church Pastors speak (a sermon or sermonette) at the Festival at least every other year. Considering the limited number of openings available, this may not be possible in every case -- but we will try! Actually, of the 242 opportunities to speak across the United States last year (excluding the sermons given by Mr. Ted Armstrong), only 40 or 18% of the opportunities were taken by non-church pastors.

Mr. Armstrong has an exciting plan for his visit to each Festival site this year. As you may have guessed, he is not planning to visit each site in person. Since recovering from his past illness, he believes it would not be wise to undertake the grueling schedule necessary to visit all ten of the major United States sites. However, he will be appearing at each site!

On the Sabbath of July 22, Mr. Armstrong videotaped a complete festival sermon for the first annual Sabbath AND a shorter keynote address for the opening session the previous evening. These two messages will be transferred from the video tape to sixteen millimeter film for showing at each site. It will not be quite the same as his personal visits at the Festival, but will enable everyone to receive the specific message he felt necessary -- and in living color! These two programs are being made available to the International Sites as well.

In addition to this, Mr. Armstrong is presently planning to visit at least TWO and perhaps three of the sites in person! To avoid the possibility of inclement weather late in the autumn, these will no doubt be southern sites. Mr. Armstrong's schedule for this year probably will include St. Petersburg, Tucson and either Big Sandy or Fresno. He hasn't decided yet, but these are the "probables."

Well, fellows, as I said we're all working hard to provide as fine a Festival as possible. As we know, the impact of the Feast on the Church AND the community is tremendous! In the first place, there is nothing to compare with it in the cities in which we are meeting. Not only is its combined attendance the largest annual convention on Earth, but in most cities it is the most significant single influx of people all year long! The impact the Festival and our members have on these cities socially and economically, could never be accomplished if we were scattered abroad in local festivals such as we keep in the spring. Following the Feast of Tabernacles, city officials (some state officials too), businessmen and residents have had reaffirmed to them the identity of the Worldwide Church of God and what it stands for through the living example of thousands of members!

This year fully one-half of all Festival sites -- SAVANNAH, Georgia; NORFOLK, Virginia; SARATOGA SPRINGS, New York; FRESNO, California and SEATTLE, Washington -- are brand new. People in these cities, undoubtedly familiar with Mr. Armstrong, the Work and the broadcast/telecast are now in the process of becoming acquainted with the Worldwide Church of God through this year's on-going preparations and through the impact of the Feast of Tabernacles itself.

Residents, city officials -- anyone listening to the broadcast or watching the telecast -- may initially view the programs with a jaundiced eye thinking it is just another media religion. However, when they see Church members, Church families living in their communities

for eight days in the autumn and associate that with the Work -- suddenly the Church takes on an entirely different image and meaning.

It's like one auditorium manager asked concerning the Festival: "Oh, yes, a religious convocation -- will you set up a tent and soup lines for everyone in the community like the Jehovah Witnesses?" By the end of October, that question will have been answered for any who may still have doubts. Our Work, our Church, our PEOPLE, are different -- and there is nothing like exposing them to society to demonstrate that fact!!

However, this Festival occurs only once each year. And for members to properly keep this Festival, YOU must help your congregation prepare to participate in the "best Feast ever!"

What makes a Feast the best ever? We can do our part in the Festival Office hopefully improving from year to year, but in reality isn't it the ATTITUDE of those attending -- ministry and members alike? In other words, if this Feast is to be successful, it is the RESPONSIBILITY of each local pastor to PREPARE his congregation spiritually, mentally and emotionally to participate successfully.

Recently, the Church worldwide has endured severe trauma. There is no question that the events of the past few weeks have the potential of emotionally crippling a congregation. We have all gone through a bitter and painful time. NOW it is OUR responsibility as ministers to help people focus on the future, to REVIVE the sagging spirits, to RALLY the people for the Work and times ahead and to RENEW their loyalty toward and support of Mr. Herbert Armstrong as the human leader which Christ has provided!

Fellows, let's point the brethren toward the Feast of Tabernacles 1978! If this Feast is to be successful for EVERY MEMBER in your congregation, NOW is the time to prepare them for it. Help your congregation to get into the spirit of the Feast of Tabernacles, to develop a Feast of Tabernacles attitude. There have been moments of questions, doubts and letting down in confusion -- but now we need to get their minds off the problems of today and on to what is really important to them as members of God's Church, as future heirs with Christ -- THEIR FUTURE and the future of the entire world.

Frankly, now (and perhaps overdue at that) is the time to give a SERMON renewing their enthusiasm for the Feast in vivid terms, biblically proving its obligatory attendance and preparing people to attend enthusiastically with the excitement and expectancy due the most wonderful, God-ordained family occasion of the entire year!

At this time of the year, preparing for the upcoming Feast of Tabernacles should be the MOST IMPORTANT PROJECT in the lives of the members in your local congregation. This is the great Feast of the year! It pictures the fulfillment of God's original purpose for ALL mankind. Remind them of this, renew it vividly to them in sermons and Bible Studies. Help each member and his family to focus on it. Give everyone something special to look forward to! They need this help now -- for if a member is not interested in preparing for and attending the Feast of Tabernacles, it is a SURE SIGN that he or she has lost something spiritually.

It may be difficult at this point to turn your attention to preparing people for the Feast of Tabernacles, but NOW is the time to do it. Fellows, in this time of upset within the Church, sincere, WHOLEHEARTED preparation for the Feast of Tabernacles is more important than ever before! Let's unitedly point our people toward the Feast of Tabernacles 1978 so that it may once again be "THE best Feast ever!"

So much depends on YOU -- the Local Pastor!

--Sherwin McMichael, Festival Office

NOTICE TO ALL MINISTERS

Those who have not as yet mailed in their festival registration forms, please do so as soon as possible. Also, please remind all other elders in your area to do likewise. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

--Festival Office

NEW RADIO/TV COVERAGE Listed below are additional TV and radio stations that have been contracted by the Ed Libov agency since the July 17 article in the Good News. Please announce any new stations that you deem appropriate for your area.

NEW "WORLD TOMORROW" TELEVISION STATIONS

<u>Call Letters</u>	<u>Chan- nel</u>	<u>Affil- iate</u>	<u>City and State</u>	<u>Airing</u>		<u>Start Date*</u>
				<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	
KMTC-TV	27	ABC	Springfield, MO	Sat.	6:00 PM	8/12/78
KTVT-TV	11	Ind.	Dallas, TX	Sun.	1:30 PM	--
KXLY-TV	2	CBS	Spokane, WA	Sun.	11:00 AM	--
WAFB-TV	9	CBS	Baton Rouge, LA	Sun.	8:30 AM	--
WAGA-TV	5	CBS	Atlanta, GA	Sun.	7:30 AM	8/6/78
WATR-TV	20	NBC	Hartford, CT	Sun.	11:00 PM	8/20/78
WBFF-TV	45	Ind.	Baltimore, MD	Sun.	12:00 N	--
WDAF-TV	4	NBC	Kansas City, MO	Sun.	12:00 N	10/07/78
WHYN-TV	40	ABC	Springfield, MA	Sun.	9:00 AM	8/13/78
WISH-TV	8	CBS	Indianapolis, IN	Sun.	8:30 AM	8/6/78
WJRT-TV	12	ABC	Flint, MI	Sun.	8:00 AM	--
WLKY-TV	32	ABC	Louisville, KY	Sun.	9:30 AM	--
WOR--TV	9	Ind.	New York, NY	Sun.	10:30 PM	--
WRAU-TV	19	ABC	Peoria, IL	Sun.	10:00 AM	--
WRCB-TV	3	NBC	Chattanooga, TN	Sun.	12:30 PM	9/3/78
WRET-TV	36	NBC	Charlotte, NC	Sun.	7:30 AM	--
WTTG-TV	5	Ind.	Washington, DC	Sun.	7:00 AM	8/6/78
WWL--TV	4	CBS	New Orleans, LA	Sun.	7:00 AM	--
WXON-TV	20	Ind.	Detroit, MI	Sun.	10:30 AM	--

*Those without date in column are new since July 17, already airing.

NEW LOCAL RADIO COVERAGE

<u>Call Letters</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Power</u>	<u>City and State</u>	<u>Airing Info.</u>		<u>Start Date*</u>
				<u>Day(s)</u>	<u>Time</u>	
KAYO	1150	5M	Seattle, WA	Sun.-Fri.	9:30 PM	8/6/78
KMBZ	980	5M	Kansas City, MO	Sun.	10:30 PM	Added Sun.
KQV	1410	5M	Pittsburgh, PA	Sun.	7:00 AM	Added Sun.
WBBG	1260	5M	Cleveland, OH	Mon.-Fri.	11:00 PM	8/7/78
				Sun.	9:30 AM	8/7/78
WDEF	730	5M	Chattanooga, TN	Mon.-Fri.	11:30 PM	8/6/78
				Sun.	10:30 PM	8/6/78
WEAN	790	5M	Providence, RI	Mon.-Fri.	11:30 PM	8/7/78
WGSO	1280	5M	New Orleans, LA	Mon.-Fri.	11:30 PM	8/13/78
				Sun.	8:30 AM	8/13/78
WIBW	580	5M	Topeka, KS	Mon.-Fri.	5:00 AM	8/7/78
WMBD	1470	5M	Peoria, IL	Sun.-Fri.	10:30 AM	8/6/78
WMPS	680	10M	Memphis, TN	Sun.	6:00 PM	8/6/78
WRCQ	910	5M	Hartford, CT	Mon.-Fri.	5:25 AM	8/6/78
				Sun.	6:30 AM	8/6/78
WSBA	910	5M	York, PA	Sun.	9:00 AM	8/6/78
WSLR	1350	5M	Akron, OH	Mon.-Fri.	10:30 PM	--
				Sun.	8:30 PM	--
WSOC	930	5M	Charlotte, NC	Mon.-Fri.	11:30 PM	--
WSPA	950	5M	Spartanburg, SC	Mon.-Fri.	11:30 PM	8/6/78
				Sun.	6:30 AM	8/6/78
WTRX	1330	5M	Flint, MI	Mon.-Fri.	11:30 PM	8/6/78
				Sun.	7:00 AM	8/6/78

*Those without date in column are new since July 17, already airing.

NEW 50,000-WATT RADIO COVERAGE

<u>Call Letters</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Power</u>	<u>City and State</u>	<u>Airing Info.</u>		<u>Start Date</u>
				<u>Day(s)</u>	<u>Time</u>	
KNBR	680	50M	San Francisco, CA	Sun.	9:00 PM	Added Sun.
KRLD	1080	50M	Dallas, TX	Sun. Sat.	11:30 PM	7/16/78
KSL	1160	50M	Salt Lake City, UT	Sun.	5:30 AM	Added Sun.
KTWO	1030	50M	Casper, WY	Sun.	9:00 PM	Added Sun.
WAPE	690	50M	Jacksonville, FL	Sun.	8:30 AM	8/6/78
WBT	1110	50M	Charlotte, NC	Sun.	9:00 AM	8/6/78
WCAW	680	50M	Charleston, WV	Mon.-Fri.	11:30 PM	8/6/78
				Sun.	10:00 AM	8/6/78