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RE: John Kiesz

Best I can tell HWA used "corporate" terminology at times to describe his unincorporated association. From what I have heard him say when I worked for AC and the RCG at Pasadena, as well as later, in the early days he did not understand what he later called "church government." Instead, he thought and acted congregationally. In 1933, he organized his new independent congregation (later the Church of God at Eugene), I sense with a leadership group called "board," on a loosely democratic model (as were the COG7 congregations in those days).

In his writings he makes clear *The World Tomorrow* and *The Plain Truth* were solely his property. His writings show he did ask the advice of the Eugene congregation (the "mother church" et al on some matters but he kept control. He tended to comingle the affairs of his public WT/PT ministry with his Eugene congregation. The history of the Work from 1933 to 1947 was a gradual transition from congregationalism (democracy) to one man rule (by the apostle who had complete authority). The board in 1947 is what we in the legal profession refer to as a puppet or "closed" board of close associates.

In the 1950s, at the Feast of Tabernacles (where the whole church would assemble at Big Sandy, Texas for it was the only feast sight), before the sermon on one of the non-Sabbath days, he would hold an "annual meeting" of the church. I believe this began no later than 1947. After the auditor gave his financial report, Mr. Armstrong gave his comments and would ask the congregation to approve the report etc. by a voice yea or nay. This was as the Radio Church of God, I do not know if he practiced this under the unincorporated association years. This practice continued at Squaw Valley I think into 1965 or 1966 when I attended the FOT there but the practice was discontinued as feast sites multiplied.

The problem with Kiesz appears to have been his charismatic playing with demons (the baptism of the spirit). Take a close look at Kiesz and his history. He appears to be Pentecostal. When HWA came to understand this about Kiesz he abandoned him. Even when Kiesz showed up at AC Pasadena and wanted to see him, HWA would not. His rejection of Kiesz and what he came to stand for was complete.

Have not heard a word about the old lit.

Please keep up the good work.

Mike