

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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ADVISORY COUNCIL OF ELDERS FORMED

by

Herbert W. Armstrong

In the organizational pattern of God's Church an ADVISORY COUNCIL OF ELDERS has been formed. It is not a legal board of directors.

Actually the Worldwide Church of God is a spiritual organism, created by GOD--not a legal corporate organization created by this world's laws. But, in order to function IN the world in an organizational manner, the Church of God has needed to be incorporated according to state laws. The members of the Church are NOT members of the "Worldwide Church of God, Inc.," a California corporation, nor of "Herbert W. Armstrong, a corporation sole," under which our financial operations currently are functioning (since the massive lawsuit by the State of California).

The California corporation, "Worldwide Church of God, Inc.," does require a board of directors. The corporation sole does not.

But, regardless, the GOVERNMENT in God's Church, a spiritual organism, is government from the top down. God is Head over all--even over Christ. Christ is Head of the Church. He directs and operates the Church through His chosen apostle. In such office I have to appoint managers or directors of various operations under me.

God says through Solomon that in multitude of counselors there is safety. We are told not to put our trust in a man, but there is safety in a number of counselors. I have always followed that admonition. Beside prayer and looking to God through Christ for guidance, I have always counseled with those I consider best qualified to advise in the subject at hand.

This ADVISORY COUNCIL OF ELDERS, therefore, is a safety valve, in addition to relying on guidance from God.

For this Council I have chosen from among our older, tried and proven loyal ministers--men whose fruits show the guidance and leadership of the Holy Spirit, men of spiritual wisdom and balance. In order that we may meet frequently, or on quick notice when necessary, I have chosen men located in or near Pasadena. They are not the only ones qualified. I may add others later as conditions require.

The Council of Elders, as of now, consists of Dibar Apartian, Dean Blackwell, Robert Fahey, Ellis LaRavia, Raymond McNair, Leroy Neff, Joseph Tkach, Leon Walker, and, as Adviser to the Council, Ralph Helge.

ROBERT FAHEY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
TO HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

For years I have needed a personal assistant. My work load has increased until it is now imperative. I have appointed Bob Fahey as my executive assistant. He is here now, will soon move his family to Tucson, and already we are working together as a smooth-running team.

Mr. Colin Adair, recently transferred to Vancouver from managing the Manila Office and pastor over the churches in the Philippines, will succeed Mr. Fahey over the Canadian work. He will continue the Work in Canada in the same direction, in complete unity with Pasadena and Christ's apostle.

In the Canadian churches, as in the United States, we have been setting the Church back on God's track. This has been cleaning up the membership so that while total membership has held about even, income has increased about 25% for 1980, and is now increasing at a higher percentage. Last year was the best year ever for Canada. Bob wants me to explain that this increase came also from the efforts of Les McCullough and David Hulme, as well as from his.

Following is a report to me from Mr. Fahey dated January 15, 1981:

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Greetings from Vancouver to you and Mrs. Armstrong!

Since you have taken control once again of God's Work worldwide, He seems to be working extra hard to bless it. That blessing is certainly evident in the Canadian part of that Work. I thought I would write you to share the good news!

1980 was the best year ever for the Canadian Office and churches. By far!

Media coverage expanded greatly. A major contract was arranged with CKO, an all-news radio station that gave us coverage in the major city markets. Although we have enjoyed excellent radio coverage in Canada for years, the major city markets have not been previously available. CKO gave us 8:00 p.m. daily in their entire national network.

The World Tomorrow television program was reintroduced into Canada in 1980. At present we are on 17 stations throughout the country.

We also signed a contract with Global Television, Canada's third largest network. Global gives us excellent coverage in Southwestern Ontario, particularly Toronto.

Radio and television coverage was obtained for Alaska and paid for by the Canadian Office. We are presently on two radio and four television stations there.

In 1980 we were able to put 150,000 magazines per month on newsstands throughout Canada. This program has been handled by the church pastors and the local congregations.

In December of 1980 we were able to begin the "A Voice Cries Out" series in the Toronto Globe & Mail--the most similar newspaper in Canada to the Wall Street Journal. It is a national newspaper and is read by Canadian leadership.

For the first time, income topped \$9,000,000 Canadian. Total income kept inching one or two percentage points upward each month toward a 30% increase, ending at 24% increase for the year. In December we came very close to having our first ever million dollar month.

During the year, weekly church attendance hit 9,000 for the first time. We had 309 baptisms and 599 new visit requests. Many ministers are reporting a sharp upturn in prospective member activity.

The mail and circulation stats are also very encouraging. Total mail increased from 199,887 in 1979 to 477,412 in 1980--a 139% increase!

The PLAIN TRUTH subscribers in English increased 176% to end the year at 187,651 subscribers. During the year we added 126,663 new subscribers. A whopping 507% over the previous year.

In the French area, La PURE VERITE circulation increased 82% to 46,970. We added 27,779 new subscribers, an increase of 221% over 1979.

Mr. Apartian and I are working very closely together to serve the French-speaking Canadians. We have been blessed with unity and harmony as we work at the specific assignments you have given us. We both are pleased and delighted to be working as a team!

Surprisingly, total membership has remained about the same as last year. Christ is cleaning up His Church! But those members who remain are doing more than ever before: 82% of our income in 1980 came from members of the Church, 15% came from faithful co-workers whose number actually fell since December 1979.

One statistic I found particularly interesting. During the first eleven months of the year the number of donations averaged about 5,450 per month. It never once reached 6,000. In December 1980 a sudden jump to 7,288 donations occurred! We know that increase comes from God!

All these developments have bloomed since you took direct control of the churches and began putting the Church back on the track!

Realizing that, I feel I understand as never before what the prophet means when he wrote "and they shall rejoice and see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel." I know you will not compromise with God's truth. If the plummet shows the wall to be crooked, I know you

will not rest until it is straight as God intends it to be. In that knowledge, I do rejoice!

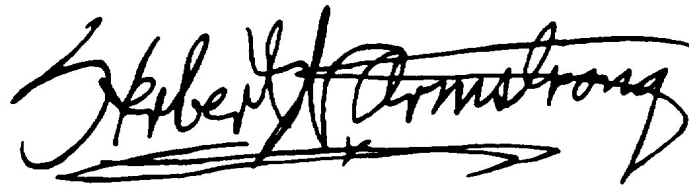
Please continue to clearly point out the way and the track. We are behind you 100%!

Your servant in Christ,
Robert E. Fahey

RE: CRITICISM AGAINST ANOTHER MINISTER

Just in case anyone should come to you with a criticism or direct or indirect accusation against another minister, you should report it immediately to Mr. Tkach in Ministerial Services. Any criticism against Mr. Tkach, if such should ever occur, should be sent privately to me and to no other. Mark such envelop PERSONAL.

Never has the ministry and the entire Church been so solidly and loyally together and together with God and with Jesus Christ. We must not let anyone stir up any semblance of disunity and disharmony. If anyone asks you if you know of any problems, or gives any implication of any, please report it either to Mr. Tkach or to me immediately.



FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

International News

Philippines Update January 1981 was a very exciting month for God's Work in the Philippines. The highlight, of course, was the 15-day visit here by God's apostle and Pastor General, Herbert W. Armstrong.

The highly successful two-night campaign at the elegant Philippine International Convention Center January 24 and 25 brought a warm and receptive audience of over 4,000--mostly nonmembers--each night to hear Mr. Herbert Armstrong's powerful messages about the coming Kingdom of God. At the close of his second message he challenged the audience to repent and to change their lives from the way of GET to the way of GIVE.

Already 906, who attended the campaign, have asked for a new subscription to The PLAIN TRUTH. Many of these were students who came in response to advertisements in the national dailies concerning an essay contest based on Mr. Armstrong's message.

A Voice Cries Out: WHY The American Living Standard Is Going Down!

Appeared in the Wall Street Journal, March 9, 1981

IT'S TIME we awaken to CAUSES! Human survival has become the world's No. 1 problem.

What brought the world to this frightening brink of human extinction? What brought on the myriad problems, upheavals and evils that engulf the world? And, paradoxically, amid awesome progress?

It's easy to become so engrossed in the day-to-day activities that we overlook underlying impending disasters. It's no time to fiddle while America and the world are burning!

Look now to one serious contributing factor—the 20th-century rise and now impending fall of the American standard of living. No nation ever ascended to the high living standard this nation has enjoyed!

But why? How did we come by it? What have we done with it? What basic causes threaten to bring us low now?

There was an unrealized, underlying reason for America's rise to unprecedented wealth and affluence. But let me now mention a specific subsidiary cause.

On Jan. 6, 1914, I was sent as an editorial representative of a national magazine to Detroit to interview Henry Ford about his sensational \$5-a-day wage scale announced the day before. I saw Mr. Ford at the then Highland Avenue plant. But for details I also saw John R. Lee, head of the Sociological Department. It had been Mr. Lee's brainchild and he administered it.

"I understand," I began, "you are now paying the highest wage scale in the automobile industry."

"On the contrary," came the surprising reply, "we are paying the lowest."

Astonished, I asked, "Are you not now paying \$5 per day for an eight-hour day, while the union scale at other plants is \$3.75 for a nine-hour day?"

"Correct," Mr. Lee replied, "but we don't evaluate what we pay in terms of dollars per man-hour, but what we get for what we pay."

Then he explained that Ford alone had production large enough to shift to the assembly-line system. This enabled the company to set the pace of worker production.

Mr. Lee continued: "We now get more



HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

than twice the production per eight-hour day than others per nine-hour day. We pay \$5 labor cost for the same production others receive for \$7 labor cost—and our employees make \$1.25 more per day for one hour less work."

The Ford company was then non-union, but later became unionized. It was not many years until others in the motorcar industry were able to go on the assembly-line system. Soon it became the system in most U.S. industry—all lines.

This nation provided a mass market for mass machine production not then possible in Europe and Japan.

This mass machine production soared industrial profits. But labor leaders were not going to allow capital and management to reap all the luscious benefits. Labor wars ensued. No longer was a single industry a united team of employer and employee. Of course capital and management was out to "get" all it could by expanded profits from mass machine production. But labor, too, was out to "get" all it could.

The "get" incentive led to competition—too often to strife and violence—between the two divisions of the same company or industry.

It is enormously significant that in those years American mass production enjoyed lower actual production costs because of mass machine production. Other nations could not compete. With labor getting its full share of the enlarged prosperity pie, THE AMERICAN STANDARD OF LIVING SOARED TO A HIGH NEVER ATTAINED BY ANY PEOPLE IN WORLD HISTORY! A huge middle and upper-middle class emerged in the United States.

But Europeans, in due time, provided for themselves a mass market by the European Economic Community, the "Common Mar-

ket." Soon Europe was competing in mass production by the assembly-line system—but with low-cost labor. Postwar Japan followed suit. America now faced a new international competition—European and Japanese assembly-line mass machine production with low-cost labor, against U.S. production with high-cost labor.

When I opened a new liberal arts college in England in 1960, the average American wage was still three times that of Britain and Europe and four times that of Japan. Two decades have considerably upped wage scales in those countries. The Japanese today are the luxury buyers of the world—the leaders in world travel—and, wonder of wonders, Japanese automobile production has overtaken that of the United States!

Living standards in other industrial nations have been rising. Ours is on the way down!

It is a competitive world. The way of "get" is the impelling motive! And "get" is the overall cause of all world troubles and evils!

Abraham Lincoln knew, and said, we Americans did not come to our unprecedented prosperity and affluence of our own efforts. The Great God bestowed it on us—and is holding us ACCOUNTABLE! We have not used this unearned material birthright according to God's basic spiritual LAW OF LOVE ("GIVE"). IT IS NOW BEING TAKEN FROM US!

It's time we WAKE UP—and THINK! This is no impractical or superstitious maudlin religious statement. It is the hard cold facts that stare us in the face!

We are going to be made to pay for our transgressions of the basic spiritual LAW of life set in just as relentless motion as the power of gravity!

Then, not because we deserve it, that super strong "Unseen Hand from Somewhere" is going to intervene, and save this beloved country—and the world—from ourselves! It will not be done by us, but to us—ushering in the utopian world tomorrow—world peace, happiness, universal well-being, eternal salvation for all who will!

The time has come! A voice cries out! You have been told! Your acceptance or rejection will not alter what is about to happen!

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
Pastor General
Worldwide Church of God

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