

The Good News

International Magazine of
THE CHURCH OF GOD

VOL. XI, NUMBER 10

OCTOBER, 1962

Greatest Feast EVER!

In SEVEN major gatherings around the world, God's people rejoiced in the greatest spiritual Feast in centuries! And SEVEN more ordinations took place!

by Roderick C. Meredith

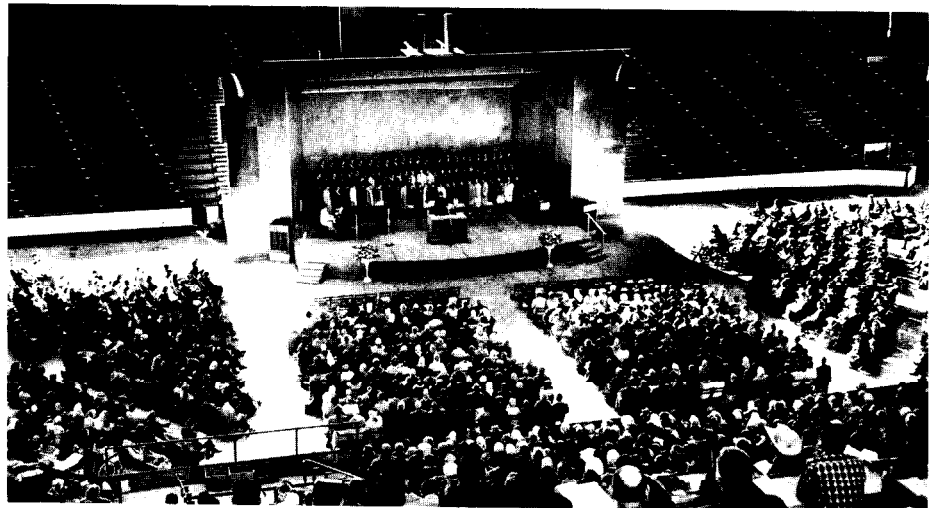
"THOU shalt observe the Feast of Tabernacles *seven days* . . . and thou shalt REJOICE in thy feast" (Deut. 16:13-14).

Believing in *obedience*, God's people really REJOICED in this year's Feast of Tabernacles! Both in America and overseas, reports show that this was the *best organized* and most *joyous* Feast ever—with the most POWERFUL sermons given so far in this era of God's Church.

Nearly FIFTEEN THOUSAND In Attendance

Including the SEVEN convocations observing the Festival this year, about *fifteen thousand* brethren attended this year's Feast. There were *eight thousand* present in Gladewater, and *five thousand* came to Squaw Valley, California. Over 650 brethren attended the Feast in England, and 330 in Australia. From the Philippines, Mr. Ortiguero reports over 675 in attendance there. Mr. Joseph writes that 77 brethren kept God's Feast this year in the West Indies. And the African attendance—not yet received—should bring the grand total up to very close to *fifteen thousand* brethren who attended the Feast of Tabernacles this year!

This Feast was memorable—not only in the numbers who attended—but in the POWER of God's Spirit. As the end of this age approaches, you sense the *urgency* of our calling more and more in the preaching of God's ministers.



Taken from the grandstand is this picture of the Imperial Choraliers on stage with part of the 5,000 attendance on the floor in Blyth Arena, Squaw Valley.

The GIFT of inspired preaching is certainly evident in God's true ministry today. Paul said: "Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but *rather that you may PROPHECY* . . . He that *prophesieth* speaketh unto men to *edification, and exhortation, and comfort*" (I Cor. 14:1-3). The spiritual *impact* on the congregations this year showed that God's ministers were directly INSPIRED to edify and exhort God's people in an unusual way. Many commented that they noticed this and felt God's inspiration more deeply than ever before. Jesus Christ was truly WITH US in this Festival!

Gladewater and Squaw Valley

Here in America, God's people observed the FEAST OF TABERNACLES both in Gladewater, Texas, in our huge Tabernacle seating eight thousand people, and in Blyth Arena at Squaw Valley, California—site of the 1960 Winter Olympics.

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong started out the Feast in Squaw Valley, but flew immediately to Gladewater after the first day and a half. Mr. Ted Armstrong started the Feast in Gladewater and then switched to Squaw Valley half way through God's Festival. There was cer-

(Please continue on page 3)

Letters to the Editor

A Young Enthusiast

"I cannot express in words the joy and happiness my family and I received by attending the Feast of Tabernacles this past week in Gladewater, Texas, for the first time. After returning home, one of our little daughters, age 3 years, wanted to go right back to Texas to the Feast of Tabernacles. We told her she would have to wait another whole year before she could go back. She was very sorry to hear that."

Member from Indiana

Feast in Australia

"Many years ago, a White Russian refugee to this country told us with conviction that God's Spirit was not in Australia. We never realized the full significance of his assertion until this Feast of Tabernacles. We have had the unmatched privilege of being instructed by four ministers filled with the Holy Spirit. Our Australian Feast of Tabernacles has been the happiest, most enjoyable, most beneficial and most inspiring ever. We wish to say thank God, thank you and our ministers here and all who have helped us in our great need."

From "Down-Under"

That Windstorm Again

"Returning from the most wonderful Feast of Tabernacles ever (my fourth) I feel renewed. I also realize more than ever the power of God. After our recent big windstorm while we were all gone I find that God did protect His people's homes. To the few who had minor damage it worked out a blessing because two widows I know will now have a new roof on their house with very little cost to themselves. The top branches blew out of a shade tree in my yard that I was wondering how I could have topped and I could mention so many more of God's blessings."

Lady from Portland

Wouldn't Trade

"This was our first Feast of Tabernacles and we have never experienced anything like it, and wouldn't trade those eight days for anything in this world."

Couple from Indiana

● Not even for a fat old man sliding down the stovepipe on Christmas Eve and a lot of disgruntled relatives who didn't get the Christmas gifts they expected!

Husband Amazed

"How thankful I am that I got to go to the Feast of Tabernacles this year. The Church helped me with everything. I am very thankful to my brothers and sisters in God's Church and to Mr. Rapp (one of our deacons). He was the one who fixed everything for me and my four children. My husband is not in the Church and he is amazed at the way God's people help and send the magazines and The PLAIN TRUTH without any price."

A Mother from California

Chose the Wrong Day

"I had hoped to be able to meet some of the people associated with Ambassador College and The PLAIN TRUTH while I was out west on my vacation but I couldn't. I was in Pasadena September 8. Around 4 P.M. I tried to call but I couldn't get an answer and I couldn't figure out why. When I got back home my September PLAIN TRUTH was waiting for me. When I read the article 'Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?' I understood why I couldn't get anyone."

Woman from Vermont

● Visitors are welcome at Ambassador College on any day. A guided tour will be provided throughout the week, except the Sabbath.

Bible Story Art Very Expressive

"Thank you for your prompt return of the second edition of the Bible Story. The pictures are the most graphic I have ever seen. The sheer power of God is expressed most realistically in a few lines."

A Woman from South Australia

● Our reader from Australia might be interested to learn that even Mr. Basil Wolverton reads The Bible Story!

Health Laws Bring Results

"I have been keeping the 'Seven Laws of Radiant Health,' which I received as an article early this year. I find myself alert, my body improving in working order as it should be and I am enjoying life more."

Man from The Netherlands

Marriage Saved

"We listen to your son every morning. I am so happy that we found him on the radio because we had a crisis in

(Please continue on page 10)

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ministering to its members
scattered abroad

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EDITOR

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Garner Ted Armstrong

MANAGING EDITOR

Herman L. Hoeh

SENIOR EDITOR

Roderick C. Meredith

Associate Editors

Albert J. Portune

David Jon Hill

Contributing Editors

W. A. Berg

Robert C. Boraker

C. Wayne Cole

Raymond C. Cole

Charles V. Dorothy

Jack R. Elliott

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Ronald Kelly

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Lynn E. Torrance

Basil Wolverton

Clint C. Zimmerman

Foods Consultants

Velma Van der Veer

Mary E. Hegvold

Isabell F. Hoeh

Editorial and Production Assistants

James W. Robinson

Donald G. McDonald

BUSINESS MANAGER

Vern R. Mattson

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS to the Editor,
Box 111, Pasadena, California.

Canadian members should address Post Office Box
44, Station A, Vancouver 1, B. C., Canada.

Our members in United Kingdom, Europe, and
Africa should address the Editor, Ambassador Col-
lege, Dicker Wood, St. Albans, Herts., England.

Members in Australia and Southeast Asia should
address the Editor, Box 345, North Sydney,
N. S. W., Australia.

In the Philippines, Post Office Box 2603, Manila.

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change in your address. Please inclose both old
and new address. IMPORTANT!

Greatest EVER!

(Continued from page 1)

cainly quite a contrast of weather in these two locations, but in both cases it turned out *very well* toward the latter part of the Festival.

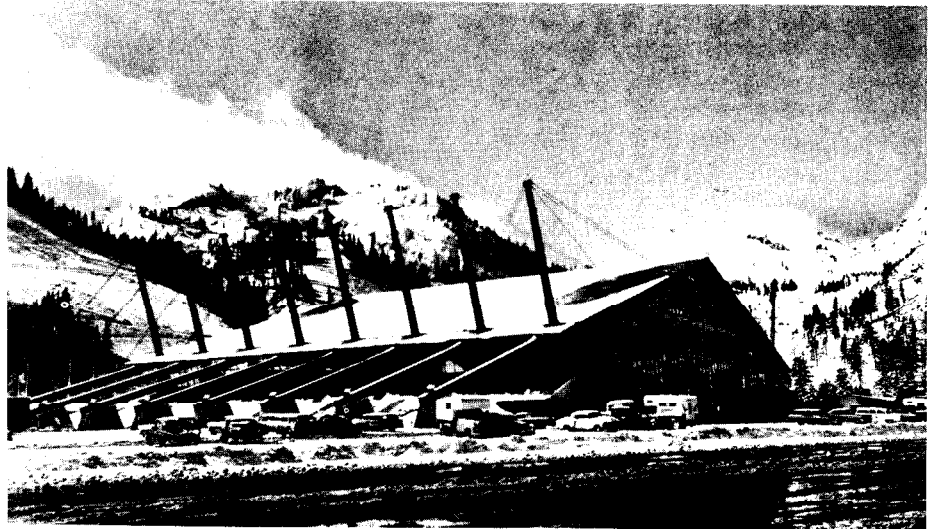
At first, Squaw Valley was quite cool and rainy—then it began snowing—and finally ended up *warm and beautiful* with the snow-capped peaks surrounding the valley forming an impressive background for God's services. In Glade-water, the weather started out hot and sticky—but ended up cooling off and being quite pleasant and clear.

In both places, Mr. Herbert Armstrong led the way with sermons on the *meaning* of God's Festival and on helping us prepare for the glorious *WORLD TOMORROW*. Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong presented several moving sermons including an especially outstanding one picturing in *graphic detail* the *literal* CONDITIONS which will obtain during the coming millennial rule of Jesus Christ and the saints on the earth. In this message, he showed how we must prepare to carry out our part in directing *all the functions* of national, state and city government which will have to be carried out at that time under Jesus Christ.

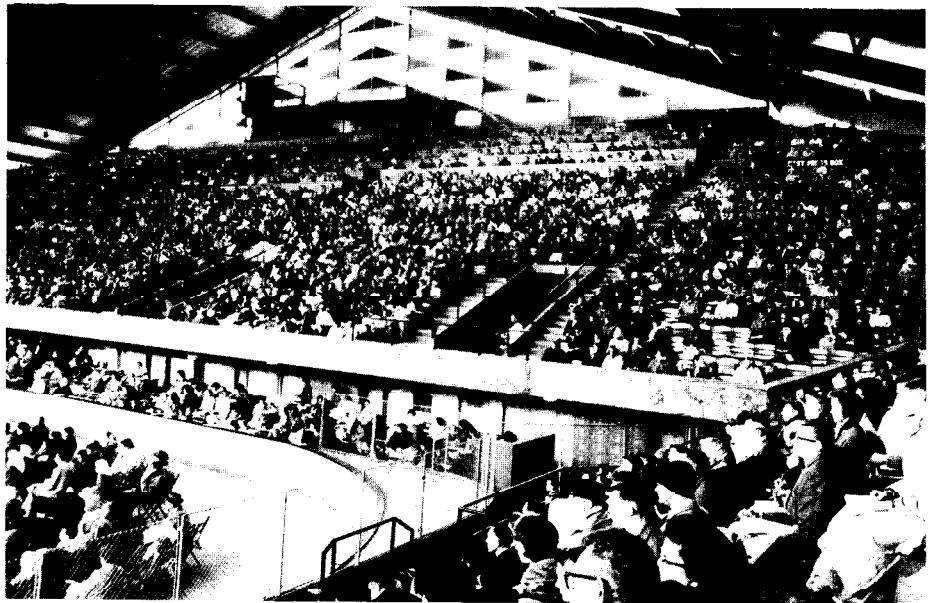
Dr. Herman L. Hoeh and Roderick C. Meredith, your author, both switched in the middle of the Festival and thus spoke at both locations in America as well. Dr. Hoeh gave an especially challenging sermon on the need to really USE one's talents and to develop the mental, social and vocational *abilities* which God has given us. He pointed out the tremendous LAXITY among many of God's people in *doing their part* in this way. Your author reminded the congregation of the growing DANGER of losing their "*first love*" and failing to keep up the fervent *prayer, study, fasting* and ZEAL in every phase of Christian life which they started out with.

Many other outstanding sermons were given in both locations—including Mr. Dean Blackwell's exhortation to pray WITH SUPPLICATIONS when you are seeking help from God in overcoming a particular problem; Mr. Norman Smith's sermon on being REALLY *surrendered* to God all the way; and Mr. Dorothy's split sermon in Squaw Valley warning each one present that he had a "sticking point" which would cause him to FALL from God's truth if he did not thoroughly *purge it out* through the help of Almighty God.

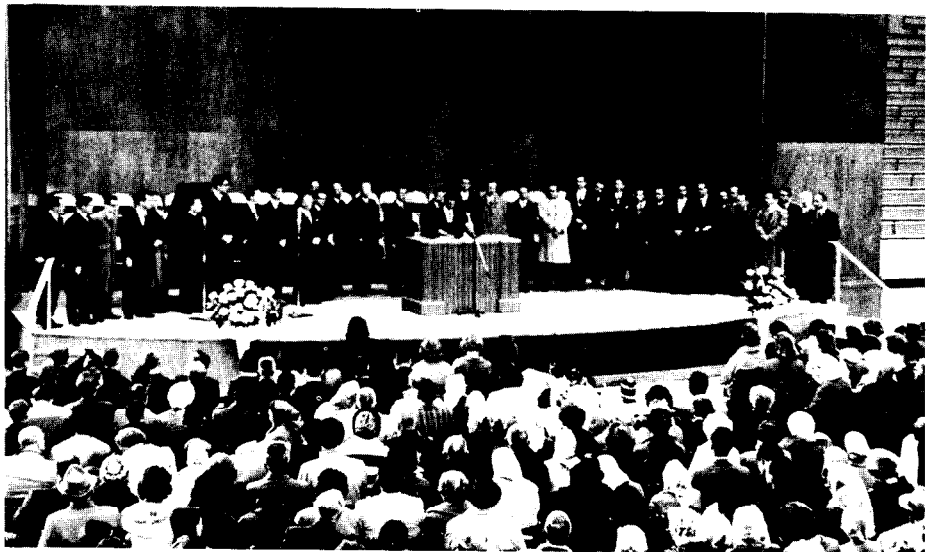
More than ever this year, outside



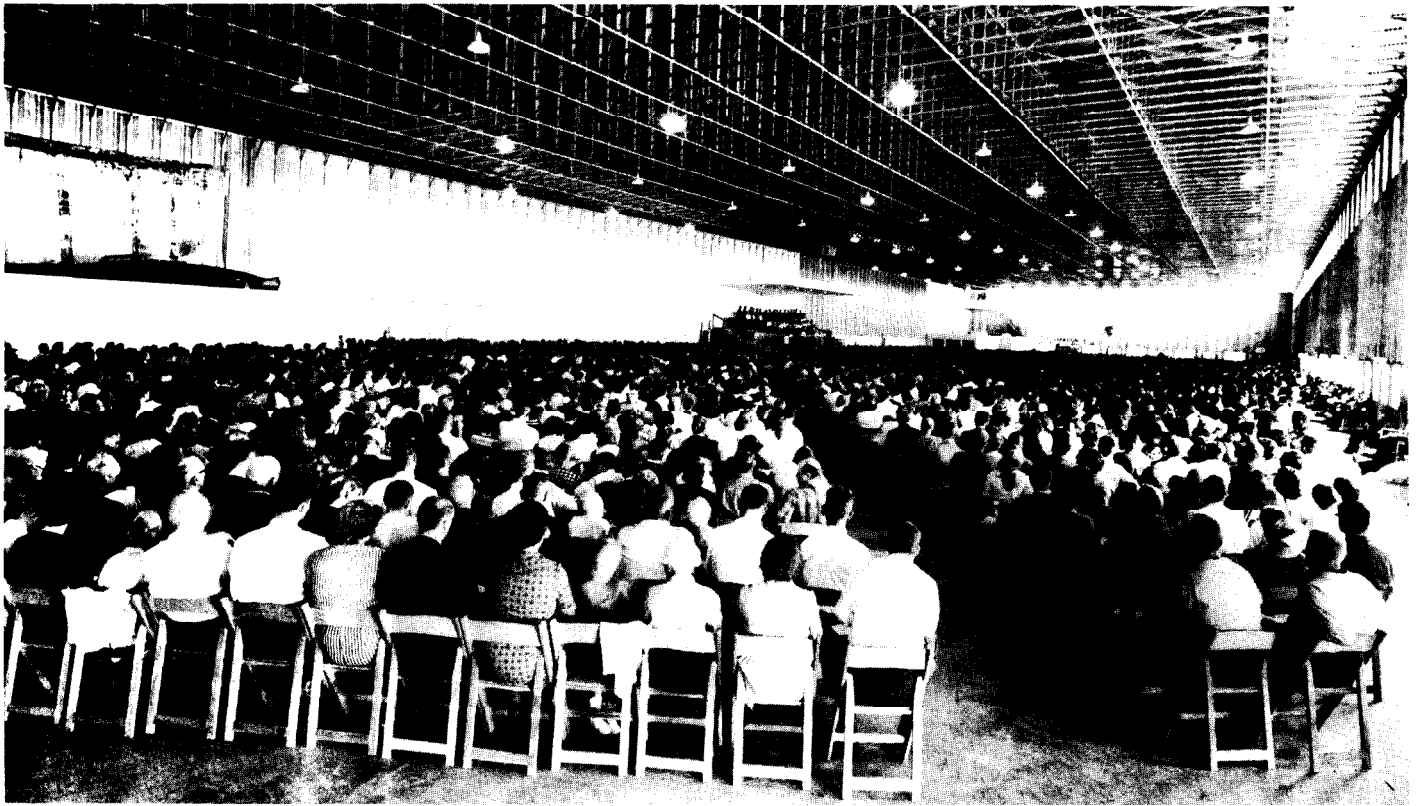
Blyth Arena with snow on Squaw Peak in the background.



Majority of congregation at Squaw Valley sat in main grandstand.



On final Great Day all ministers and assistants came to the stage.



Part of the immense congregation—8,000 strong—that were in attendance at the Tabernacle near Gladewater, Texas.

neighbors and business people commented on the HONESTY, the DECENCY—and the WARMTH and LOVE exhibited by God's people toward them and toward each other during this Festival. Problems existed, of course, but on the whole God's people were truly a shining "LIGHT" to the world around them during this period of time which pictures the *World Tomorrow!*

Hundreds Rejoice at Hayling Island in England

A WONDERFUL Feast was experienced by God's people in the British Isles this year. Our British office sends

this enthusiastic report:

"Every corner of the British Isles and a staggering thirty other nations were represented at God's great Festival here in England.

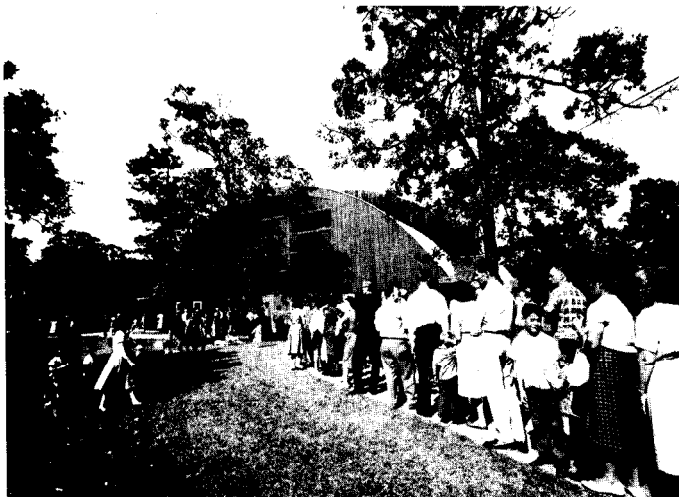
"In the ideal location provided by Sunshine Holiday Camp, over 650 people assembled from points as far-flung as Inverness, Stockholm and the Azores.

"In this country, the sunny week of unparalleled October weather saw a thrilling forty-three per cent increase in attendance. Real *enthusiasm* and *joy* were apparent throughout the entire Festival and many remarked how *inspired* the preaching was. Many heard

sermons for the first time from Mr. Ronald Dart, who is now teaching at Ambassador College, and Mr. Wells—the minister of the new Belfast Church. The sermons given by God's ministers seemed to be the most powerful of any Feast so far, and the preaching was augmented by ten of the graduates and advanced men from Ambassador College.

"For the first time many exciting changes made the Festival a vivid picture of the Millennium. All the brethren were able to dwell together in booths or "chalets" and far away from the smoke, grime and hub-bub of city life.

(Please continue on page 12)



Brethren, in line (left), and seated (right), were served meals in the original Tabernacle building.

Must God's Ministers Be Ordained *by the Hand of Man?*

*How can you know who are the true called ministers of God?
Does God ordain them privately and direct—is it contrary to
God's order to ordain by the hand of man?*

by Herbert W. Armstrong

IT'S VITAL that you know *how* God confers the authority of office in His Church.

Jesus conferred upon His called ministers of His Church the keys of the Kingdom of God. He vested them with *authority* to guide His Church, and carry on His work, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

But how can you know who carries this authority? HOW are those upon whom it is conferred ordained to office? HOW can you recognize the one and only true Church of God—the very Church Jesus said He would build—HIS BODY, thru whom the Spirit of God today carries on *the work of God*?

Was the Apostle Paul Ordained by Man?

How was the Apostle Paul ordained to his office of authority? Did God ordain him privately—secretly—without any human witnesses to the fact, or was he ordained *by the hand of man*?

Is God's order, in His Church, to ordain men independently of each other, secretly, directly? And does God carry on His work thru different competing men, *independently*? Or is God's Church organized, working together *in harmony and teamwork*, with one mind, actuated by ONE SPIRIT?

It is of vital importance that these questions be answered—ACCORDING TO GOD'S OWN WORD!

First, then, how was the Apostle Paul ordained?

Let's trace the case history of this Apostle from his conversion to the time he became an Apostle with full authority. You should be familiar with this chain of experiences.

Paul's Case History

As you know, this man's name was Saul, until God changed his name to Paul. Saul is first mentioned in Acts 7:58, in connection with the martyrdom of Stephen. In Acts 8:1 it is mentioned that Saul was approving the stoning of Stephen. He was a young man at that time (Acts 7:58).

Acts 8:3, Saul, filled with misguided zeal, participated violently in the perse-

cution of the Church, making havoc of it, literally dragging men and women off to prison.

Acts 9:1-2, Saul, passionately breathing threats of murder against disciples of Christ, obtained credentials from the high priest to the synagogue at Damascus, authorizing him to arrest and bring to Jerusalem any men or women disciples found at Damascus. As he approached Damascus, God struck him down blind with a blinding light, and there Jesus spoke to Saul and revealed himself to him, and commanded Saul to rise and go on into the city, where he would be told what to do (verses 3-6). He was blind for three days (verse 9).

Now in the conversion of Saul, did God work thru human agency, or did He do it all secretly, privately? God now used a disciple whom Saul would have murdered, or thrown into prison—Ananias—to whom Jesus spoke in a vision, instructing him to go to Saul. This Ananias was the HUMAN instrument thru whom Christ worked in converting Saul.

"And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him (Saul) said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Spirit'" (Acts 9:17). "And now," said Ananias (Acts 22:16), "why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

Ananias laid his hands on Saul for the receiving of the Holy Spirit—his actual conversion and begetting as a son of God—as well as for the restoring of his sight.

Even Conversion by Man's Hand

Thus Saul's *conversion* was accomplished BY THE HAND OF MAN, used as God's instrumentality. This was not his ordination as an apostle—it was his setting apart as a begotten son of God. But God works thru HIS chosen human hands!

For several days (Acts 9:19-20), Saul was with the disciples at Damascus. Immediately, in the synagogues, he pro-

claimed that Jesus was the promised Messiah—the Son of God. He did *not* at this time proclaim the GOSPEL of the Kingdom of God, for that had not yet been revealed to him. He merely knew, at this juncture, from his heavenly vision, that Jesus was the Christ.

Next, in verse 23, "after that many days were fulfilled, . . ." The events of this verse 23 occurred *many days* later. What happened in the meantime?

Paul's account in his letter to the Galatians explains it.

"But *when* it pleased God, . . . to reveal His Son to me"—at the time he was struck down blind and led to Damascus—. . . *immediately* I conferred not with flesh and blood: neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but *I went into Arabia*, and returned again unto Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem. . ." (Gal. 1:15-18).

So Saul did not go up to Jerusalem *immediately*, after his conversion. Instead, *immediately*—after the few days proclaiming Christ in the synagogues in Damascus—HE WENT INTO ARABIA! What happened there?

Notice I Cor. 9:1 and I Cor. 15:8: Paul had actually *seen Christ*! He had been *with Christ*! He did not receive his knowledge of THE GOSPEL from Peter or the apostles, or from men. He received it *direct from CHRIST*! As one begotten into the apostolic family out of due time. When? Where? Why, during these three years in Arabia! He was in the Arabian desert—away from civilization, and from men. He was there with Christ! Then he returned to Damascus. This, then, is what happened during the "MANY DAYS" mentioned in Acts 9:23. The "many days" were the three years Saul was in Arabia with Christ.

Now, Gal. 1:18, after these three years in Arabia Saul returned to Damascus, and went up to Jerusalem to see Peter—to report to the *chief* Apostle. But he saw none of the apostles on this trip, except Peter, and James, the Lord's brother. This must be the trip to Jerusalem described in Acts 9:23-27. After this "many days," the Jews at Damascus plotted to kill Saul, but Christian disciples

let him down over the wall of the city in a basket by night, and he escaped, and went to Jerusalem, attempting there to join the disciples. But they were afraid of him. Then Barnabas took Saul and brought him to the apostles—just the two, Peter and James, according to Gal. 1:18-19, to whom he reported his heavenly vision, Christ's commission, and his conversion. Thereupon Saul went in and out with Peter and James at the Temple, preaching boldly but the Jews soon sought to kill him. At this time, while Saul was in a trance, praying in the Temple, Christ again appeared, telling Saul to leave Jerusalem, and that he was to be sent to the Gentiles (Acts 22:17-21). Then the Christian brethren brought Saul to Caesarea, and sent him off to Tarsus, his home city.

Paul Ordained by Hand of Men in Authority

Jesus revealed to Saul, when he was first struck down blind, that he was to be sent to carry the Gospel to the Gentiles. But up to this point in the case history of Paul's call to this service, God had not opened salvation to the Gentiles. It was "to the Jew first," and then to the Gentiles.

It was while Saul was back home in Tarsus that God sent PETER to carry the Gospel, *first by the hand of Peter*, to the Gentiles. The 10th and 11th chapters of Acts record the experiences of Peter being sent to the home of the gentile Cornelius, and the opening of the minds of the apostles at Jerusalem to the fact that God had now granted repentance to the Gentiles.

Now pick up the story in Acts 11:19. The disciples who were scattered as a result of Stephen's martyrdom travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching to Jews only. Then some of them at Antioch preached to the Greeks also, and God blessed their work, and a great number turned to Christ. News of this reached the Church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. Under the ministry of Barnabas a large number were added to the Lord there. Then (v. 25) Barnabas went to Tarsus after Saul, and brought him to Antioch to help in the growing work there. Barnabas (his name now mentioned first) and Saul taught in the Church there for one year. Here the disciples for the first time were called "Christians."

In these days prophets came from Jerusalem to Antioch. These prophets ranked second to the apostles in the framework of God's Church (Eph. 4:11). Their mission seems to have been to receive messages or prophecies direct from God, and to convey these messages from God to the apostles or evangelists

or elders. God's Word had not yet been completely committed to writing. The New Testament was still in process of being written. There is no evidence of the existence of any prophets in the Church since the New Testament was written.

Every example in the New Testament, however, shows that Christ carried on affairs in His Church according to HIS GOVERNMENT, and in definite order. There is no doubt, therefore, that *these prophets were sent* from Jerusalem BY AUTHORITY OF THE APOSTLES.

Then there was a great famine, foretold by the prophet Agabus. Barnabas and Saul were sent with relief provisions to drought-stricken Jerusalem (Acts 11:27-30). About this time Herod the king became violent against the Church. He killed James (brother of John), and put Peter in prison at Passover time. Peter was freed from prison by an angel (Acts 12:1-10). Verse 25, Barnabas (still named first) and Saul returned to Antioch with Mark. Up to this time, Saul had engaged only in a preparatory ministry—had not yet entered his called mission to the Gentiles.

Now *chapter 13*. At this time there were, at the Antioch Church, PROPHETS and TEACHERS (no apostles). But God's authority was vested in the Church at Jerusalem, and authority there was vested in the APOSTLES, who undoubtedly, in process of GOD'S GOVERNMENT, *had sent* the prophets to Antioch. Barnabas and Saul were included among the TEACHERS at Antioch.

Verse 2: While they were worshipping and fasting, GOD, thru the Holy Spirit, gave order: "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for *the work to which I have called them*." THAT IS, ORDAIN THEM! Up to this time, Saul *had not entered upon the work to which Christ had called him*. He had been merely gaining preparatory experience.

What is the Bible definition of "ORDAIN"? From *Cruden's Concordance*, it is: "To appoint, or design to a certain end or use. To choose, or SET APART for an office."

So here we see in operation THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD IN HIS CHURCH, *through* His human officers chosen by Him, headed by prophets sent by Apostles! *Verse 3*: "And when they had fasted and prayed, *and laid their hands on them*, they SENT THEM away."

THERE IT IS! Barnabas and Saul, renamed in verse 9 PAUL, were then and there OFFICIALLY ORDAINED, after fasting and prayer, BY THE LAYING ON OF HANDS of those in authority, SENT there by the Apostles, and as DIRECTED by the Holy Spirit! God did not ordain Paul privately, secretly or INDEPENDENTLY of HIS CHURCH. He was OR-

DAINED BY THE HAND OF MAN, according to GOD'S ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, as directed by Christ the HEAD of the Church, but THRU THOSE HUMAN INSTRUMENTS according to God's own ORDER.

GOD'S Order of Government

Up until this ordination, BY THE HAND OF MAN, the Apostle Paul never spoke with authority. He spoke boldly. He spoke convincingly. But never with authority. Never did he issue orders. HE WAS UNDER AUTHORITY. He OBEYED ORDERS.

But now, after this ordination by the laying on of hands, PAUL SPOKE WITH AUTHORITY of his OFFICE.

You read of Paul's ordination in verse 3 of Acts 13. Notice, verse 6, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, who opposed Barnabas and Saul. Now notice how Paul acted *with authority*:

Verse 9: "But Saul, *who is also called PAUL*, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, 'You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind and unable to see the sun for a time.' Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him." (Verse 9-11.)

Never before had Paul assumed authority. Now, after being ordained by laying on of the hands of men in proper office, authorized by Christ, Paul assumed and wielded the AUTHORITY of God!

What is God's order of authority in His Church?

You find it in Ephesians 4:11-12: "And He (Christ, the HEAD of the Church) gave some, APOSTLES, and some, PROPHETS, and some, EVANGELISTS, and some, PASTORS (leading or presiding elders of local churches), and TEACHERS; for the perfecting of the saints, for THE WORK of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: *ill we all come to the unity of the faith . . .*" In other words, to *prevent* separate, *independent*, and competing work which would introduce confusion, and division, driving many out of the Body of Christ, GOD HAS ORGANIZED GOVERNMENT in His Church. That government is the government of GOD.

It operates from GOD, at the top, on down. It is government of and by and from GOD the Father, thru CHRIST, thru God-called and ordained APOSTLES, thru EVANGELISTS, thru PASTORS, thru TEACHERS, *in that order*. This government means TEAMWORK. It works for UNITY, not division.

In Christ's apostolic organization, during those first two 19-year time-cycles

of His Church, there was always TEAMWORK, harmony, unity, in God's GOVERNMENT in His Church.

Teamwork Between Paul and Peter

Before Saul did any more than a little preparatory preaching, asserting that Jesus was the prophesied Messiah—even before his ordination as an apostle—he went to Jerusalem to see Peter—to report to Peter his vision from Christ, and the commission Christ had given him. It is evident from the Scriptural account that Peter accepted him. During his 15 days with Peter in Jerusalem, he roomed with Peter (Gal. 1:18).

The Prophets with the teachers, who, under direct instruction from Christ, ordained Paul at Antioch, had come from Jerusalem. And in the operation of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD within His Church this could not have been except by authority from Peter and the Apostles. Nothing was at any time done contrary to, or in opposition to, Peter or the Apostles. There was always perfect harmony and cooperation.

Later, 14 years after his conversion (Gal. 2:1), Paul went up to Jerusalem again, with Barnabas, taking Titus also. God had revealed to him the command to go. He then communicated privately to Peter and the Apostles the Gospel he preached among the Gentiles. This was the same visit to Jerusalem recorded in Acts 15. It was a coming to the HEAD-QUARTERS Church, where the Apostles sat in COUNCIL, with AUTHORITY, for decisions inspired by the Holy Spirit, thru APOSTLES, God's chief human offices under Christ.

Upon seeing that the work of the Gospel to the Gentiles had been committed BY CHRIST to Paul, as chief apostolic office for that work, even as the chief apostolic office for the work of the Gospel to ISRAELITES had been committed to Peter—that the SAME HOLY SPIRIT worked in both, but in their different, non-conflicting, non-competing fields—they gave to Paul and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship in this APOSTOLIC MINISTRY—Paul as Christ's Apostle in first authority under Christ in the work to the Gentiles; Peter as Christ's Apostle in first authority under Christ in the work to Israelites.

But still there was perfect harmony. There was no conflict. There was no abridgment of God's GOVERNMENT, thru Christ, thru Apostles—in that order! And even so, Paul's position and office was recognized and accepted by Peter and other Apostles.

Titles of Office

It is well, here, to explain the titles GOD uses for those in office in His government. We have just considered such

offices as those of *apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher*. But what about such titles as "Elder," "Bishop," "Overseer, or "Presbyter." All these are used in the New Testament. Actually, all these latter four mean exactly the same thing. A Bishop, or an Overseer, is an Elder—and the Presbyters are, simply, elders.

But some Elders hold higher office of *authority* than others. Actually, Apostles are also elders, and the assistant pastors, or even non-preaching teachers and leaders in local churches are elders. The Apostle John called himself an Elder (II John 1, and III John 1). The Apostle Peter called himself an Elder (I Pet. 5:1). In other words, ALL ministers of Christ, no matter how high or low the office of authority, are Elders. All Apostles are Elders, *but all Elders are not Apostles!*

To understand the derivation of the term "Elder," let me briefly sketch for you the history of the title.

The original government of the Hebrews, from Abraham, was patriarchal. The head of the family exercised the supreme rule (under God), over all his descendants. His married sons bore rule over their respective families, children and grandchildren, etc., but still remained subordinate to their father as supreme head. It was government from the TOP, *down*. At the father's death, his firstborn son succeeded him in supreme headship over the family. Naturally, these positions, hence the designation, "Elder," which simply meant the oldest one. Thus Jacob (Israel) was the supreme head over all who went to Egypt with him, altho his sons had families of their own. Thus "Elder" became the official title of those in authority.

The earliest mention of "Elders" in government office (aside from family rule), is at the time of the Exodus. The seventy elders mentioned in Exodus and Numbers were a governing body, a sort of parliament. This was the origin of the Sanhedrin, or Council. This carried to the time of Christ. In the New Testament Church, the Elders, or Presbyters, were the same as Bishops—the general title for ALL spiritual offices of authority over the Church.

God Works Thru Only ONE Body

God's Church is CHRIST'S BODY. When Jesus was on earth in human flesh, He said that of Himself He could do nothing—the Father that dwelt *in Him*, thru the Holy Spirit, did the works. The Spirit, or Power, of God, then, did the WORK OF GOD for that time thru the one human body of Jesus!

But Jesus said to His disciples that they should do the same works He did, because He would go to the Father, and

send the SAME SPIRIT to work IN THEM. After Jesus ascended to heaven, the SPIRIT of GOD entered into the human bodies of those God had put into HIS CHURCH, and now worked THRU THEM as His human instruments. Thus THE CHURCH is the BODY OF CHRIST—the human body (composed of its many human members) by which, empowered by the Holy Spirit, THE WORK OF GOD is carried on.

The Word of God clearly teaches us that there is but the ONE Spirit, and the ONE Body. (I Cor. 12:12-13, 20.) God cannot, and does not, carry on HIS WORK thru ONE BODY, with headquarters at Pasadena, California, and also thru some one man, or different Body, working independently and out of harmony with the Pasadena Body, in Pittsburgh, and another man pulling in a still different direction of opposition, in New York.

God ALWAYS Ordains by Hand of Man

That ONE BODY of Christ, carrying on HIS WORK, must function as a UNIT. It must work in harmony and unity, with teamwork, for God is not the author of confusion. There must be no pulling off in different directions by different men *in* that one Body. There must be no competition, or division. And anyone who knowingly promotes, or encourages anyone in promoting, such disharmony, competition, and division, becomes the enemy of God, and is serving the devil and not God!

In order that this ONENESS—this UNITY of purpose and action—this HARMONY and co-operative teamwork, be maintained and preserved in GOD'S WORK, God has ordained GOVERNMENT IN HIS CHURCH. And He has empowered His Church with DIVINE AUTHORITY.

That government in God's Church is government from God, thru Christ, thru apostles, thru evangelists, thru pastors, thru other elders, *in that order!*

Now suppose God did *not* have these various officers ordained by the hand of man. What would happen? One man in New York would *appoint himself*, and come up and say, "I claim equal office and authority with those ordained from Pasadena. I wasn't ordained by the hand of man, but direct by the hand of God." And then this man carries on his own independent work. Such a work *cannot* be a PART of the work of GOD'S TRUE CHURCH, for the simple reason that sooner or later it will start pulling off in an opposite direction—unless there is DIRECTION from Christ on down, in ONE CHURCH ORDER OF GOVERNMENT as God ordained. Sooner or later competition, misunderstanding, strife, and division will result! CHRIST IS NOT

DIVIDED!

So you see, Brethren, WHY God always ordains men to office THRU HIS OWN CHURCH, THRU HIS OWN ESTABLISHED ORDER, as laid down in HIS WORD! God ALWAYS ordains to office *by the hand of men*, whom HE has placed in office. THERE IS NOT ONE EXAMPLE IN THE NEW TESTAMENT WHERE ANY MAN WAS SELF-APPOINTED, OR ORDAINED WITHOUT THE HAND OF MAN, SEPARATE FROM AND INDEPENDENT OF HIS ORDERED CHURCH! Any such claims to ordination or office are WITHOUT A SHRED OF SCRIPTURAL AUTHORITY!

Notice a few Scriptural examples:

John 15:16: Jesus Christ Himself ORDAINED His Apostles—by His Hand in Person, direct. Also Mark 3:14.

Acts 1:22: Matthias, after God thru the Holy Spirit directed that he be chosen, was ORDAINED thru the other eleven as one of the TWELVE APOSTLES (Also verses 23-26).

Acts 14:23: Elders were chosen and ORDAINED in every city, by the hands of Paul and Barnabas, with fasting and prayer.

I Tim. 2:7: Was Paul actually ORDAINED, or just made an Apostle by God direct without ordination? Paul here says plainly, HE WAS ORDAINED! That settles it!

II Tim. 1:6 and 4:1-5: Timothy was sent out by Paul as an evangelist, clothed with AUTHORITY to appoint and ordain elders and deacons in the local churches, and given authority over local pastors and churches. God did this THRU THE HAND OF PAUL, and in this Scripture, we see Paul had laid hands on Timothy. If for receiving the Holy Spirit, then certainly also for his ordination.

Titus 1:5: Paul gave to Titus the evangelist authority to ORDAIN elders in every city, as Paul had appointed him. Thus Titus was ordained to this authority by the hand of Paul, and elders in many churches were ordained by the hand of Titus, the evangelist. Here is the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, operating from Christ, thru Paul *the apostle*, thru Titus, *the evangelist*, thru local Elders, in the order of God's authority in His Church according to Eph. 4:11.

And so it goes. There is not one example in the New Testament showing that any man was ever ordained to an office of authority WITHOUT the hand of man! The *only* examples and instructions we have show God doing it thru the hand of men of His choosing!

WHICH Is Christ's ONE Body?

Either the Church of God with headquarters in Pasadena is the ONE AND ONLY true Body of Christ, thru whom Christ carries on HIS WORK, or else it is deceived, or it is a fraud. There is no

other possibility. YOU MUST FACE IT, and DECIDE WHICH ALTERNATIVE IS TRUE. If it is the Body thru whom Christ works in carrying on HIS WORK to the world for this time, then it is THE ONLY BODY that is being used of Christ. *Christ is not divided!*

Now what is the true WORK OF GOD? Jesus' first commission to His Church was: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature." Apostasy was prophesied. But, looking into our present end-time, Jesus said, "*This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached (Mark 13, published) in all the world for a witness unto all nations: and then shall the end come.*"

Brethren, WHO is preaching the same Gospel Jesus taught, the Gospel of the KINGDOM OF GOD, to the world? Do you know any other Church fulfilling this prophecy as to the WORK OF THE TRUE CHURCH for this very day and time?

This is the time when the "Philadelphia" era of God's Church has been reached. Somewhere in the world today is this TRUE CHURCH of GOD, fitting the description of the "church in Philadelphia" of Rev. 3.

It follows the "Sardis" era of the Church. The Sardis Church had the NAME of being alive—the NAME, "Church of God." But this Sardis Church died, spiritually. Christ, in His Messages to these seven Churches, or church eras, warned this church that its WORK was not perfect—it was not performing the WORK OF GOD in power, but with such pitiful weakness there was NO SPIRITUAL LIFE in it. It had many true doctrines, else it could not have been the Church of God at all—but Christ warned it to AWAKE, and strengthen itself, and to REPENT. In other words, acknowledge its errors in doctrine, and accept the NEW LIGHT now becoming available in these last days, and yield to God so it could be filled with HIS POWER. Otherwise, Christ warned, He would come on the people of this Church "like a thief," and they will not know "the hour" of His coming. This, of course (compare Mat. 24, Mark 13, Luke 21), refers to the Second Coming of Christ. This shows that members of this Church will still be physically alive AT THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST. Yet there were a few names in that Church who were not guilty of refusing to repent or accept new truth. Apparently they carry over, and form the nucleus of the following era—the Philadelphia Church.

Of the "Philadelphia" Church, Christ says, "I know that you have but little power." It is probably the WEAKEST in numerical and physical strength and power—the smallest in membership, of any of the Churches from the time of the

Apostles until the Second Coming. It has but few ministers. Yet this Church has KEPT God's Word—repented where it was wrong—accepted the new knowledge now revealed—lived by the Word of God—and is also called by the NAME, The CHURCH OF GOD. Because this Church, physically small and weak, has KEPT GOD'S WORD with patient endurance, it shall be PROTECTED and PRESERVED from the hour of trial—the Great Tribulation, and Day of the Lord, soon coming on the earth! And THIS is the Church Christ uses as HIS INSTRUMENT in proclaiming His GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM—the GOVERNMENT of God—to the world. He sets before this Church an "OPEN DOOR," for the proclaiming of this Gospel to ALL THE WORLD. The meaning of this "DOOR" is explained in II Cor. 2:12-13. Paul said: "I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a DOOR was opened to me of the Lord." This was a means to preach the Gospel in EUROPE. Until then, for 19 years, the Gospel had been preached only in Asia!

For one 19-year time-cycle, God carried on the Gospel thru His Church to North America. He had opened the DOOR of radio and the printing press. Then, 19 years to the exact month, God OPENED THE DOOR for the Gospel to go to ALL EUROPE, and the very next year to ASIA. The same identical time-pattern of 19-year time-cycles is being fulfilled in God's work thru His Church today, as it was thru His Church in Apostolic days.

But SOME of those in the Church today will grow weary with well-doing. They will brag about being the true Church—thinking they are spiritually rich, when they are, in fact, almost spiritually destitute. Because they are indifferent to the real WORK OF GOD, lukewarm, lacking in zeal, Christ will spew them out of His mouth. THEY cannot be used in His work! THEY shall lose the very salvation they boast of having unless they repent! God help *you* never to drift into the LAODICEAN church!

Ordained, and Under Authority

Finally, brethren, though I have mentioned it in the Autobiography, many may not realize the significance of the fact that I personally was fully ORDAINED by the laying on of hands after fasting and prayer of those in authority in GOD'S CHURCH. It was in the summer of 1931. I had held a short evangelistic campaign for the Oregon Conference, Church of God (Stanberry, Mo.), six months before, after three and a half years of receiving instruction in the Gospel from Christ, thru His written Word. In the summer of 1931 those in
(Please continue on page 11)

Behind the Scenes at Feast of Tabernacles!

by Selmer Hegvold

IN twenty years, Micah 4:1-4 will be a reality! ALL nations will be trekking yearly to present themselves before the King of all the earth (Zech. 14:16-19).

The Church of God has once again experienced a foretaste of that coming glorious age!

Brethren! Most of you listened and learned from the powerful services preached! But, did you realize the wonderful services that were being performed *behind the scenes* to help in a physical way to make this the greatest Feast of Tabernacles ever?

Government in Action

Hundreds of brethren—volunteers by the scores—were in, around, over and under just about every activity you participated in during those eight wonderful days! Almost identical gatherings were held in Big Sandy, Texas; Squaw Valley, California; Australia; Northern Rhodesia, Africa; The Philippines; and British West Indies.

Everywhere it was the same! Joy, harmony, blessings galore, and *organization*. Everywhere organization reigned and people rejoiced in government from the top down. The deacons of God's Church shouldered that responsibility!

Twenty-five of the forty-eight Churches of God in the United States—nearly 8,000 people—were present in Big Sandy, Texas. Here, on property deeded to God, was a representative *cross-section* of all the functions handled *totally* after the Biblical pattern.

Here is an insight into the functions of the organization typical in God's "camp."

The Deacons

In the accompanying pictures are the 35 deacons and deaconesses who turned the wheels of the many physical duties required. Each shared in the many facets of control that bound the Camp of God into a joyous round of needful activity day and night.

Seemingly tireless and always "Johnny-on-the-spot" where needed, their apparent happiness in service radiated out to everyone.

Truly God chose them well! "And let these also **FIRST BE PROVED**; then let them use the office of a deacon, being



The deacons and their assistants from 20 local churches in the United States pose for camera during Feast of Tabernacles at Gladewater, Texas.

found blameless" (I Timothy 3:10). They fulfilled this charge.

Hundreds of church assistants, laboring with them, also came up to the mark, "being found blameless" in service!

Study the accompanying pictures! Have you wondered why things went so smoothly? Note the size of the group being served by the Dining Hall staff, under the control of Mr. Frank Wilson, Mr. William O'Neal, Mrs. Roy Hammer and Mrs. Malcolm Martin, deacons and deaconesses.

Parking and Registration—under the able direction of Mr. Malcolm Martin

from the Houston Church and his assistants—are only a part of his responsibilities as director of Traffic Control. Smooth operation of the shuttle bus to and from focal areas was the responsibility of Mr. James Simpson, "loaned" from Pasadena.

Trailer homes, tents and booths were moved into place, set up and occupied under the organizing eye of Mr. Warren Heaton, aided by Mr. Sam Record. Under them, actual control and detailed organization fell to the deacons over Trailer City, Tent Cities and Booth City, individually.

The auditorium, divided into twenty

sections of seats, each with a deacon and his own church assistants in charge, was the responsibility of Mr. Widd Boyce of the Gladewater Church, with Mr. Arthur Roesler of Saint Louis assisting. This department handled the seating of thousands of people each service, with Mr. Jim Cotner directing the ushers, Mr. Loren Stuart in charge of staging, Mr. Charles Nickel supervising the halls, restrooms and adjacent rooms.

Central Control at the main Information Booth in the auditorium was the responsibility of Mr. Buck Hammer. To Mr. George Moss of the Gladewater Church fell the lot of chief troubleshooter for all those unexpected responsibilities.

The Information Booth was the responsibility of Mr. Ledru Woodbury, who, with his staff, answered interminable questions, directed "lost and found," and handed out the many requested booklets.

Many side responsibilities fell to men who manned the night patrols, dug the ditches, set up and took down the thousands of chairs—to say nothing of the vast sweeping job in the giant auditorium under the engineering ingenuity of Mr. Norvel Pyle, of the Gladewater Church.

Such acts of real physical service on the part of so many thousands (yes, you who were not listed *served* by cooperation and obedience—if not in brawn) have given us a foretaste of the wonderful WORLD TOMORROW! Thank God for granting such a spiritual and physical Feast. And prepare yourselves now for a greater Feast than ever—less than eleven months away!

Letters to Editor

(Continued from page 2)

our family and if it hadn't been for his broadcast, I guess we would have had a divorce by now. So now you see why I thank God for your program."

Woman from Cincinnati

People Are Talking

"Please send me any literature you have on the end-time messages. I have heard how God is revealing to you His prophecies for this day. I am so hungry to hear the Word of the Lord, I'll be anxiously awaiting your reply."

Woman from Detroit, Michigan

"Cannot Disprove What You Say"

"I am a college student. My girl friend first called my attention to your radio broadcast and I have listened off and on since. I find many things hard

EDWARD F. DOLDER
Chief
Division of Beaches and Parks

EDWARD C. BROWN
GOVERNOR OF
CALIFORNIA

WILLIAM E. WARNE
ADMINISTRATOR
RESOURCES AGENCY



CHARLES A. DeTURK
Director of
Parks and Recreation

THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DIVISION OF BEACHES AND PARKS
P.O. BOX 225, TAHOE CITY, CALIFORNIA
October 30, 1962

Reply to:

Mr. Portune
P.O. Box 111
Pasadena, California

Dear Mr. Portune:

I would like to take this opportunity to commend all of the members of the recent Radio Church of God Convention for their excellent example of courtesy, conduct and organization. All of the members of my staff have commented on what a pleasure it is to have a group such as yours visit Squaw Valley State Park.

It is indeed fortunate for those concerned to have your church here during the pioneer and formulation stages of group convention use of this public facility. The precedents established concerning the possibility of such use have been very beneficially influenced by the high standards of your organization.

I would very much appreciate it as a personal favor for you to convey to the individual members of your group our many thanks and best wishes for larger and more successful conventions at Squaw Valley State Park. We are all looking forward to welcoming you and your group again next year.

Sincerely yours,

Lewis P. Griffith
LEWIS P. GRIFFITH
Park Supervisor
Squaw Valley State Park

LPG:jlh

We thought all our members would like to read this letter addressed to Mr. Portune from Lewis P. Griffith, Park supervisor at Squaw Valley. We thank all you brethren for your splendid conduct that brought forth this response.

to believe and accept, but I cannot disprove what you say. For this reason I feel I owe it to myself to investigate further. I would like to subscribe to The PLAIN TRUTH."

Girl from Minnesota

Has the Courage to Obey

"Since listening to your program our whole life is changing. Today I am observing my first Sabbath. My family has been keeping the Sabbath for the last three months and I am glad that God gave me the power to ask for the Sabbath off. I work in a retail store and I am still employed but for how long I don't know. I believe that God will help us."

A listener from Canada

● God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. David said that he

had never seen the sons of the righteous begging bread.

Waiting to be Billed

"I have been in contact with your programs for over a year through radio broadcasts, PLAIN TRUTH magazines and the Bible Correspondence Course. I have been waiting patiently for you to ask for payment for your services. It is still hard for me to comprehend that it is FREE."

Man from New Jersey

Where to Send God's Tithes

"After much fighting with my conscience I now believe in my heart that I have been cheating God, but there is one thing I need help on. I do not belong to a church. Where can I send

(Please continue on next page)

How Ordained?

(Continued from page 8)

authority in this Church of God asked me to enter the full-time ministry, starting with a tent campaign in Eugene, Oregon. And for this ministry I was ORDAINED, by fasting and prayer and laying on of hands of the presbytery—those in authority in God's Church. This Church is now clearly identified, in the light of carefully documented historical research, as the "Sardis" era of the Church described prophetically by Jesus in Revelation 3:1-6.

An abbreviated account of those early years in the ministry—of being UNDER authority—of preaching where and when I was *sent* by those over me in authority—of being *sent* by them to the country schoolhouse west of Eugene, Oregon, in 1933, from where the present work and the "Philadelphia" era of the Church blossomed forth—was published in the December, 1959, GOOD NEWS, in Dr. Herman L. Hoeh's article "God Demands Teamwork."

There is not space in the present article to repeat this history of early experience—of being considered, and accepting the status, of the *least* of the ministers in the Church. But to continue!

God works thru HUMAN INSTRUMENTS! Of course God *could* carry on His work otherwise. God *could* carry on His work without relying on the tithes and offerings of His children in His Church. He *could* supply all the money by direct miracle. But it is for OUR good that He gives every begotten child of His a *direct part* in His great work.

God *could* ordain those He has called to office and authority in His work secretly and direct, without the hand of man. But there is no instance in the history of His Church where He ever did! God *could* do all His work HIMSELF, direct, without using any ministers or human agencies at all! BUT THAT IS NOT GOD'S WAY! God did His work on earth thru the human body of Jesus Christ while Jesus was on earth. Now, according to God's own Word, HIS CHURCH, with its many human members, is CHRIST'S BODY thru whom God carries on His work. There is no example in the Bible where God carried on HIS WORK under the New Covenant by any single individual OUTSIDE OF, *independent of*, HIS ORGANIZED CHURCH AND HIS ORDER OF GOVERNMENT IN THE CHURCH. Anyone outside of God's Church is AGAINST God's Church!

Jesus said: "He that is not with me is *against me*; and he that gathereth not with me *scattereth abroad!*"

Question Box

Your questions answered in these columns! Your opportunity to have discussed those problems pertaining directly to members of God's Church.

"I have to appear in Court soon as a witness in an automobile accident case. I know that they will always ask witnesses to swear to tell the truth. What should I do to avoid raising my right hand and swearing?"

Jesus Christ Himself unequivocally warns us not to swear in the form of an oath (Matt. 5:33-37).

Inasmuch as the world today cannot understand the spiritual principles of God's Word (I Cor. 2:14) taking an oath before testifying is the common and customary practice in our legal system.

However, man has made exceptions in his law for those who do have religious scruples against swearing. Probably every state provides that a witness may *affirm* rather than raise his hand and swear. Affirming that you will tell

the truth is permissible in God's sight.

A Christian should, therefore, before the trial begins and before being called upon to testify, advise the Clerk of the Court that because of his religious principles he cannot swear to an oath or raise his right hand.

By informing the Clerk ahead of time he will not be taken by surprise by your request, confusion will be avoided (I Cor. 14:38) and undue attention will not be attached to the fact that you are being affirmed rather than swearing.

On some occasions the Clerk may not be familiar with the fact that being affirmed is permitted. You must always be polite under such circumstances and see that his office is respected (I Pet. 2:13), but polite, firm, unswerving insistence will usually result in a brief check of the law and permission to take the affirmation being granted.

Letters to Editor

(Continued from page 10)

God's tithe. Could you please tell me where to send God's money?"

A man from Houston, Texas

Minister Praises The PLAIN TRUTH

"I am a minister and have been reading the PLAIN TRUTH. I take it to friends sometimes. It is the most worthwhile magazine I have ever read. I have always known and preached that people had to keep God's commandments and be baptized in His name. I want to thank you for the work you are doing in spreading the true gospel to the world."

Minister from Ranger, Ga.

Received Magazine by Mistake

"Today your magazine was put in our mail box by mistake so we read some of the articles. We are much interested. Will you please send us The PLAIN TRUTH. Please let us know the subscription price as we found none mentioned. In the morning this copy has to go back to our mail box so the mailman

can deliver it to the proper name."

Couple from Oregon

Learned the Truth

"A friend loaned me a September number of the PLAIN TRUTH magazine and I found it loaded with inspiring truths. Having done some research work on the Sabbath question, I really got set straight on your 'Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?' It took me most of my 75 years to discover how wrong we have been."

Woman from Seattle

Leaves Church Early

"I hate to miss your program on WADC. I even slipped out of my own church early so I could hear you at 9:30 one evening. I love to study the Bible along with you."

Woman from Ohio

All Were Listeners

"I enjoyed your broadcasts nightly at midnight over station WSM. I work nights and just last night there were four of us talking and the conversation turned to your broadcasts. It happened that all four of us were listening to you over the air each night."

Man from Kentucky



Feast of Tabernacles at Hayling Island, England. Left, brethren in dining hall which seats 850. Right, Mr. Ronald Dart leads song service.

Greatest EVER!

(Continued from page 4)

Even before the eight days commenced, many of the brethren were able to enjoy fellowship as special chartered coaches—ten in all—brought them from parts of Britain.

The BLESSINGS Especially Appreciated in England

"From the first, superb food was available. After finishing his tea on the first afternoon, one startled brother was heard to ask, 'You mean there's a dinner as well?'"

"The children of one family prepared to leave the table after eating the soup course at the dinner meal—not *expecting* the main course of turkey, vegetables, dessert and fruit that was to follow! For the first time in their lives, some children were able to taste turkey, chicken and other foods which made the quality of the meals so outstanding.

"The free afternoons gave ample opportunity for relaxation in a way that was never before possible at a Festival in this country. Football, golf, cycling and trips on a chartered boat were only a few of the activities available. Some brave enthusiasts even sampled the swimming pool.

"The free afternoons insured that all were able to be thoroughly refreshed before the evening service, and the production of *Merrie England* and the student talent show were enjoyed by all.

"Of all the factors that contributed to make this Feast such a startling success, none will be remembered more vividly than the strong spiritual meat that helped us all. And perhaps the crowning joy was added when twenty-one people were baptized."

Feast of Tabernacles in Australia

Mr. Wayne Cole—pastor and minister in charge of God's work and churches in Australia—sends the following report about the Feast in the land "down under":

"*Inspiring* is the most descriptive word for the Feast of Tabernacles God granted us in Australia this year. Perhaps the *most* inspiring aspect is that all of us in Australia were privileged to have Mr. Gerald Waterhouse with us during this wonderful Festival—his third Feast in Australia.

"Also, for their first time in Australia, it was a real joy to all to have Mr. and Mrs. Bill Winner. With Mr. Winner having recently arrived from the United States and Mr. Waterhouse down from the Philippines along with Mr. Hammer from Melbourne and myself there were four of us ministers to serve God's people here.

"The second really inspiring aspect of this Feast was the very fine attendance. We had anticipated that we would have about 250 in total attendance, but to our pleasant surprise we had a fine total attendance of 330. This was nearly double last year's number in attendance.

"Every state in Australia was represented with the exception of Tasmania and also the Northern Territory which, of course, is not a state. We were all very happy to welcome the first members to attend the Feast from New Zealand. One man and his wife who were baptized by our tour in New Zealand last April were able to make the journey to Australia this year.

"The third and equally inspiring aspect of this Festival was the way in which God inspired each service. Many members, some of whom have attended every Feast held in Australia, com-

mented on the power, authority and inspiration of the sermons this year. Speaking for myself and I'm sure for each of the other ministers, it was evident that God was inspiring us in a special way to emphasize the need for *every member* of God's Church in Australia and all places away from God's Headquarters in Pasadena, California, to keep his eyes on the *world-wide work* emanating from Headquarters and also to *follow the examples of God's leading ministers* who are inspired and led by Jesus Christ. The theme that we as individuals don't know how to follow Christ's example nor how to understand the Bible without the examples and instructions of those at Headquarters was carried throughout the Festival.

"Another very noticeable and inspiring thing about the Feast was the way in which many were raised up from illnesses. A wave of stomach flu was passing through this area during the Feast and some not in the Church were ill for periods longer than a week. However, the many, many at the Feast who came down with this same condition were raised up within a day and in most cases were not forced to miss a single service.

"On one afternoon God added 17 more members to His Church in Australia when Mr. Winner and Mr. Clarence Huse conducted a baptismal service. Again this year God moved on a local hotel owner to permit us to use his swimming pool without charge for this baptismal service.

"Other inspiring aspects of the Festival were the social and recreational activities that were planned to give us a balance and provide good, *clean* amusement and recreation. Also, a combined Spokesman Club was held for the members of the Sydney and Melbourne



The Community Memorial Hall at Blackheath where brethren from Australia and New Zealand assembled for Feast of Tabernacles.



At Blackheath during one of the services. Seems that some familiar faces in the first two rows are from Pasadena!

Clubs. Many members who are not privileged to attend a Spokesman Club were very thankful to be able to observe this combined session.

"All in all, God gave us a wonderful Feast of Tabernacles in Australia and, I'm sure, we are looking forward to an even greater one next year."

Our Filipino Brethren Observe God's Festival

In Mr. Gerald Waterhouse's absence, our representative in the Philippine Islands—Mr. Pedro Ortiguero—reports on the Festival there:

"The Feast of Tabernacles in the Philippines was held at the appointed time—October 13 to October 20, 1962—in Kiara, Maramag, Bukidnon, Island of Mindanao.

"Never before in the Philippines we experienced such as the one recently observed. Surely it was a period of much rejoicing among God's people. The Feast was observed in eight full days. Seven provinces were represented—Agusan, Bukidnon, Cotabato, Davao, Lanao, Luzon Island and Zamboanga del Norte. The highest number in attendance was 676 people.

"Before the Feast commenced, all things were ready in Kiara—the place of the Feast of Tabernacles. Booths, houses, Tabernacle Building and campus were made clean and neat. Program of the evening, morning and afternoon services or activities was prepared.

"The Feast of Tabernacles in comparison with that of last year is best—bigger and happier. The account of Acts 2:1, 42-47 was much experienced. There was true fellowshiping in the temple (tabernacle), worshipping, hearing God's Word, prayer, eating together, both in the tabernacle and in booths and houses. Everyone invited others over and surely all things were in common. Besides these things, to make the Feast very lively and very joyous, there was a native dance. Young people as well as adults took part in the dancing. Native dances are different from the dancing of the Western World—no embracing.

"In addition to the activities of the Feast, 18 children were blessed."

Yes, even "way off" in the Philippines, the SPIRIT of Jesus Christ guides our brethren in worshipping HIM in His Feasts! Brethren, let us not only rejoice in this report, but continue even more fervently to PRAY for God's work there under Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Ortiguero!

Feast Observed in West Indies and Central Africa

From the British West Indies, our representative there—Mr. Leo Joseph—writes of the happy and joyous Festival observance in that area of the world:

"Greetings in the name of Jesus! It is a great joy to write you a brief report of the Feast of Tabernacles observed by God's true Church in this island of Saint Lucia, the West Indies.

"A few weeks before the Feast of Tabernacles God gave me very fine weather. I was able to prepare a beautiful ground for the Feast. It was indeed a beautiful sight, very clean and neat. I also made recreational facilities, a wooden 'merry-go-round' which carries eight to twelve children, which they enjoyed very well.

"Now the night of the beginning of the Feast, there came a heavy rainstorm which continued until late on the next afternoon. That was the biggest rainstorm of the year in Saint Lucia. Due to the rain, the brethren arrived late on the first day. My sermon topic for the first day of Tabernacle was: 'What Will the World Be Like During the Reign of Christ?'

"There were 77 in attendance including children. There was great joy

throughout the entire season. We had everything in abundance. Spiritual meals, Bible studies and questions were enjoyed by all—also fun and laughter. It was indeed the *Feast of rejoicing!*"

And from Central Africa, although we have received no definite report as yet, we know that Mr. Joseph Mwambula conducted Feast of Tabernacle services for dozens of people in that area whom God is calling.

Be sure to PRAY for Mr. Mwambula and the people in his area—and also the many recently baptized people in South Africa who are completely WITHOUT a minister or a church! They NEED your prayers that God will bless them in observing these Festivals alone, and that God's work will be able to establish an office and churches in that area before much longer!

Seven Ordinations Plus One

This year during the Feast, exactly SEVEN men were ordained as ministers or elders in God's Church! In addition, just after the Feast of Tabernacles, one of our most dedicated and able preaching elders was elevated to the rank of pastor in God's Church.

Let me acquaint you with these men in their responsibilities in the body of Jesus Christ.

Mr. Vernon Hargrove and Mr. Carn Catherwood were both ordained as *preaching elders*—with the full powers of the ministry in God's Church. They are both *graduates* of Ambassador College, and Mr. Catherwood has had a full year of field experience in the ministry after graduation and has been used as the acting pastor of God's Church in Indianapolis, Indiana, now approaching 400 in membership. Based on the many *fruits* in his life, we decided it was high time and overdue that he be ordained as the pastor of a church now approaching 400 members regularly!

Mr. Hargrove graduated only last spring but received *his year* of field experience between his junior and senior years of college. During this year, he was in training under Mr. Dean Blackwell in the Chicago area. Mr. Hargrove has been acting as the associate pastor of God's Churches in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona—assisting Mr. Jon Hill.

Now he is fully ordained to fulfill all the responsibilities of the ministry and, in addition, soon after ordination took unto himself a wife! The new Mrs. Vernon Hargrove is the former Mrs. DeLee Hans—one of our charming Ambassador coeds and formerly from God's Church in Salem, Oregon.



Children enjoy merry-go-round at Feast of Tabernacles, St. Lucia, West Indies.



Supervising children were Miss Yvonne Daniel and Mrs. Irene Joseph, mother of Mr. Leo Joseph.



A group picture of adults—with one exception—who attended feast on St. Lucia.

Meet the New Local Elders

Ordained as *local elders* during the Feast this year were Mr. Keith Thomas, Mr. Arthur Mokarow, Mr. Cecil Battles, Mr. Richard Rice and Mr. Kelly Barfield.

In his middle thirties with a wife and four fine children, Mr. Thomas has been an *outstanding* and *dedicated* member of the Pasadena congregation for the past six or eight years. He has grown consistently and has recently been used on the Visiting Program in the Pasadena area full time. He has *served* God's people well, and now has qualified as a *local elder* in the body of Jesus Christ.

Mr. Arthur Mokarow hails from the Chicago Church and because of his outstanding ability and leadership was asked to give up his business in that area and become a student and ministerial trainee in Ambassador College. Although a graduate of DePauw University, Mr. Mokarow is staying on the Ambassador campus for the *minimum* period of three years which Mr. Armstrong feels even older college graduates should receive based on the example of Jesus Christ. Mr. Mokarow is the associate pastor in the San Bernardino Church of God, and has grown rapidly in spiritual *depth* and *leadership* in the service of Jesus Christ.

Mr. Cecil Battles has been the assistant to Mr. Richard Prince in the Dallas and Houston Churches. Graduating some years back as one of the youngest men ever to graduate from Ambassador College, Mr. Battles has been rapidly making up the *experience* needed to qualify him as an elder in God's Church. He very successfully took over as the temporary pastor of the churches in Corpus Christi and San Antonio, Texas, and has now been ordained as a *local elder* in the body of Jesus Christ.

Mr. Richard Rice also graduated some years back from Ambassador but went first into the field of *teaching* in Imperial Schools. However, he was so *dedicated* and *able* in assisting Mr. Kenneth Swisher in the Gladewater-Minden Church areas in addition to his teaching duties, that he has now been virtually *plunged* into the ministerial field where he has proved so faithful. Thus his ordination as a *local elder* to enable him to assist even more effectively in his ministerial duties in this area.

Graduating from Ambassador in June of 1961, Mr. Kelly Barfield was first sent to South Texas for ministerial training and experience under Mr. Roger Foster in Corpus Christi and San Antonio. Later, he was transferred to the churches in Memphis, Tennessee, and Little Rock, Arkansas, to assist Mr. Carl McNair in these new and growing congregations. He has proved *faithful* and

zealous—and now has qualified as a *local elder* in the Church of God.

From all of us, CONGRATULATIONS, gentlemen! And may Almighty God *guide, inspire* and *protect* all of you in His service!

A Raise to PASTOR Rank

After the Feast and these ordinations, Mr. Herbert Armstrong flew directly to London, England, to be on our British campus for the opening of school there and to make final decisions on certain building and business commitments. Having already counseled with the evangelists here in America, and gaining further reports from God's ministers in England, Mr. Armstrong was led to ordain Mr. Charles Hunting, until now a preaching elder, to the *higher* rank of PASTOR in God's Church.

As I reported in The PLAIN TRUTH, Mr. Hunting is one of the successful young businessmen of outstanding ability who have given up their businesses or professions to enter God's service and come to Ambassador College. Acting as Student Body President in his senior year in Ambassador, already ordained as a local elder, Mr. Hunting was ordained as a preaching elder some time back. But now, carrying the responsibility of Business Manager of God's work in England, teaching theology at God's college in England, and acting as pastor of God's Church in Bristol, England, on the weekends, Mr. Hunting has made such outstanding progress that it was time to raise him to the rank of pastor in Christ's Church.

Mr. Hunting is a man of many abilities and outstanding personality. As he continues *growing* and *yielding* himself humbly to Jesus Christ, you will be hearing much more of him in the future. CONGRATULATIONS, Mr. Hunting, and may God continue to use you more in this end-time work. (Pictures of these men are on next page.)

THREE New Churches

Just since the Feast, new churches with full preaching services each Sabbath have been established in Toledo, Ohio, in Harrisburg, Illinois, and in Belfast, North Ireland! A *terrific* responsibility is ahead for Mr. Bill McDowell—pastor of God's Churches in Pittsburgh and Akron—as he adds this additional load to his week-end ministering and preaching! He himself suggested this to SERVE more of God's people, but he needs ALL *your prayers!* The new Toledo Church started out wonderfully well with 109 in attendance and much future growth is expected!

The new church in Harrisburg, Illinois, situated in Southern Illinois between Evansville, Indiana, and Paducah, Kentucky, will be pastored by Mr. Hal Baird. Mr. Baird will be relieved of the Bloomington Church by Mr. John Bald, but will continue as pastor of God's Church in Saint Louis. Even so, this will reduce Mr. Baird's driving time but will probably ADD to his responsibilities as the Harrisburg Church started out with 154 in attendance!

Mr. and Mrs. James Wells have left the campus of God's college in England and have now moved to Northern Ireland to pastor the new church in Belfast. Although a full report of its beginning has not yet been received, it was anticipated to start out with 40 to 50 members, and should grow rapidly in the months and years ahead. Be sure to PRAY for Mr. and Mrs. Wells in far-off Northwest Ireland and for all of God's people there.

With these *three* new churches—plus the *four* new churches started last summer—a total of SEVEN new congregations have been established within the past few months! But you brethren all need to realize that the ministry is being *strained to the limit* to take care of these congregations and to FEED them spiritual food on the Sabbaths. And you need to realize that there are additional *dozens* of places where we SHOULD HAVE local church services and people are literally CRYING OUT for them!

Remember that although Jesus said the harvest was *plenteous*, that the laborers were FEW (Mat. 9:37).

Your Lord and Master commanded: "PRAY YE therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest" (V. 38). One of the greatest, deepest NEEDS of God's Church and work on earth today is that of more *qualified, trained* and thoroughly *dedicated* ministers of Jesus Christ! More *local elders* and *assistant pastors* are needed, more *preaching elders* and *pastors* and *evangelists* are NEEDED!

Brethren, let us REJOICE in the wonderful Feast of Tabernacles just observed, in the *seven* new ordinations plus the raising in rank of one minister, in the *three* new congregations just established! But let us realize the *critical* NEED of competent, faithful laborers and ministers to carry on these increasing responsibilities. Let us PRAY with *all our being* that God will *move* and HUMBLE and CONVICT more men of the right caliber to *yield themselves* in unconditional surrender to Jesus Christ and full-time SERVICE in His work!

This is YOUR *responsibility!*

Ordinations, mentioned in Mr. Meredith's article, mark another step in growth of work. Seven of the men pictured below were newly ordained at Feasts of Tabernacles. Mr. Hunting was raised to rank of Pastor. Mr. Wells, previously ordained, now pastors church at Belfast, Northern Ireland.



Vernon Hargrove



Carn Catherwood



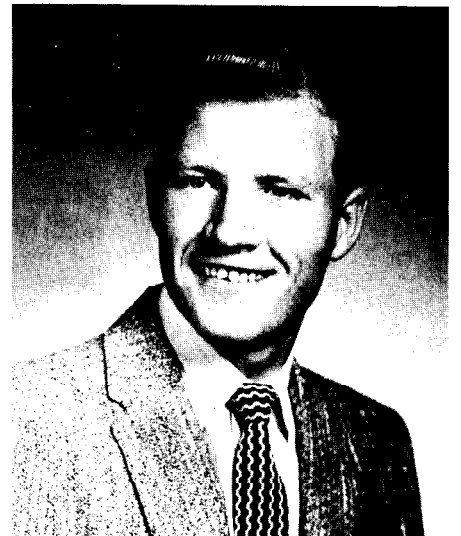
Charles Hunting



Kelly Barfield



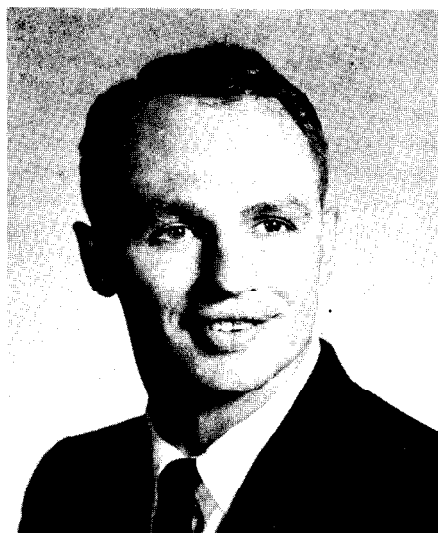
Richard Rice



Cecil Battles



James Wells



Arthur Mokarow



Keith Thomas