

The

Good News

International Magazine of The Church of God



SPECIAL ISSUE:

**WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD
DISTRIBUTION OF MANPOWER**

SPRING 1969

MAY, 1969



More About Our Cover...

The May, 1969 issue is a double issue: a GOOD NEWS and a Summer Manpower brochure! The special brochure begins on page 5 with an introduction by Mr. Roderick C. Meredith explaining How to Use This Brochure.

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What our READERS SAY . . .

Thank you, Dr. Kuhn!

"I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the article by Dr. Kuhn in the March GOOD NEWS about the transportation department. This is one of the most enlightening and enjoyable articles I have ever read. Even though we know that the ministers have to do a lot of driving (judging by our own local minister), I hadn't really realized the magnitude of this part of God's Work."

Roy D., Mesa, Arizona

Former Catholic

"I would like you to know that during the Easter vacation I spent many hours in the local library and the more I read, the more convinced I became that this is God's Work. I am a Roman Catholic and my parents will be displeased at my attitude from now on, but I will pray and try my best. I'm hoping for the day when I can join the Church of God."

M. W., St. Michael,
Barbados, W. I.

Letters from Young People

"I want to tell you how thankful I am for all the books and Correspondence Course lessons I have been receiving. I have learned so much since I have started in God's Work. Now that I have learned so much about teen-agers and the things they are doing today, I realize how terrible and wrong I was. I am a thirteen-year-old and I was going with a fifteen-year-old boy. I thought I was in love but I wasn't in God's sight. I disobeyed my parents and lied to them for which I am sorry and have repented. I did sneaky things about which my

parents didn't know. Now, since I found I can only thank God for letting me see the truth. I know that I will never like another boy until I am old enough. I will also do what I am told by my parents and never lie to them again."

Judith F.,
Rachel, West Virginia

"I am a student in high school and I have found that being obedient to God and to your parents can bring tremendous blessings. Well, it all started two months ago. I was broke and needing a job to have spending change in school. About three weeks ago I found a job working after school. This is how I was blessed: the first week, \$21.00; then the second, \$35.00; and now this week, \$50.00! I am a teen-ager of 16 and I know there is a God and . . . I know that God will look out for those who will try to be obedient."

William T.,
Nashville, Tennessee

"Enclosed is our tithes and offering from our Kool-Aid stand."

Danny and Debi O.,
Arlington, Texas

"Sensitive to Extreme Heat"

"You may have noticed a while back in December I stopped paying God's tithes, but it wasn't for Christmas. My wife and I never sent a card or bought a single present and I sold all of our decorations before Christmas. I thought I would have trouble from my wife but thank God she didn't say much. I was expecting little reminders from you as I would from a garage or depart-

(Continued on page 32)

The Good News

International magazine of
THE CHURCH OF GOD
ministering to its members
scattered abroad

May, 1969

Volume XVIII Number 5

Published monthly at Pasadena, California
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BE SURE TO NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY of any
change in your address. Please include both old
and new address. IMPORTANT!

SEVEN PROOFS of God's True Church

*God's True Church knows the RIGHT WAY OF LIVING—
the BALANCED, ABUNDANT life! The right WAY of life
with solid, balanced TRUTH about diet, exercise, foods, finances,
marriage. This RIGHT LIFE is another vital PROOF of the
true Church of God!*

by Garner Ted Armstrong

YOU can't become a superman, and live forever, by gulping pills, swallowing supplements, and avoiding white sugar like the black death of London!

God's True Church KNOWS it.

You CANNOT get into God's Kingdom by judiciously drinking apple juice, taking a shot of rose-hip tea, avoiding white crackers at all cost, or chewing twenty times before swallowing!

God's True Church KNOWS it.

And God's true Church knows the soundly based, Biblical TRUTH about right diet, right amounts of exercise and recreation, right approach to marriage, and the whole panorama of how to live a happy, useful, abundant, yet spiritually *dedicated* life!

A WAY of Life

One of the major impressions which made itself felt upon my mind when originally beginning to study into WHETHER this was just "Armstrongism"—my father's personal religion—or not, was whether Christianity was a WAY of life or just an empty, formal, hollow "belief."

I have related before how a major national magazine, back in about 1952 or 1953, was running a series of articles on the leading religions of the world. They were covering Buddhism, Shintoism, Judaism, and others, as well as "Christianity." A leading representa-

tive, or several, of each type of religion was asked his views.

In one article propounding the "views" of Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, a leading Protestant clergyman in the United States, he was quoted as saying, in effect: "First, let's discover what Christianity is NOT." "IT IS NOT," he continued confidently, "a WAY of life." I was attending the Church History class at Ambassador—and we were covering the Book of Acts. We were just finishing the 18th chapter. When we came to verse 25, following the history of Apollos' powerful preaching, my ears perked up. My father was emphasizing the words strongly. "This man was instructed in the WAY of the Lord," he quoted, and dropped down to verse 26 where the scripture said, "... and expounded unto him *the way of God* more perfectly."

Over and over again, in chapter 19, the Book of Acts insisted Christianity was a WAY of life! "But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of THAT WAY..." (Acts 19:9), "And the same time there arose no small stir about THAT WAY..." (Acts 19:23), he read.

And so here was a dilemma. Right before my eyes were words which had been preserved long before my great, great grandfather was ever born—words needing no human interpretation—words which my *human* father had

not invented, or secretly inserted into the Bible! My HUMAN father seemed to BELIEVE these words—strongly asserting them to be TRUTH. He showed how early Apostles expounded a whole WAY OF LIFE to early converts—how others were directly affected by *that way* of life to the point they would persecute because of the outstanding *example* they saw. But here, on the other hand, was a leading clergyman, with the weight of all Protestant "Christianity" behind his words, insisting Christianity WAS NOT a WAY of life!

Of course, Dr. Peale had not QUOTED any *scripture*. He had merely ASSERTED this to be true. But "all these churches couldn't be WRONG," could they?—surprisingly to some of our new converts, perhaps, these words had long previously entered my own mind.

It came as a shock. I right there and then made the first mark I had ever made in a Bible. I made a red check mark beside the first verse (Acts 18:25) and underlined the others. Those marks are still faintly visible.

Since that time I have been deeply involved in *that way of life*. It is all-encompassing, totally inclusive. It means LIVING by every word of God, NOT in self-righteous, pseudo-sanctimonious, hyperspiritual HUMAN VANITY like the Pharisees, and many modern religious "nuts"—and even some few in God's congregations who MISS THE

POINT of the whole thing — but living the wholesome, balanced, abundant life filled with the daily challenges of God's calling. His calling to each of us is to receive salvation. His calling to each of us is to DO His urgent WORK here below for this time — it means *putting into daily practice* the RIGHT WAYS of life — IN EVERY FACET OF LIFE!

Over the years, I have seen the *areas* where most people go a little "overboard" are, primarily, picky little "strivings about words" in cases of doctrines; and HEALTH, DIET and EXERCISE when it comes to daily living.

Of course, there are MANY PROBLEMS brethren need desperately to overcome problems in the *home*, among families, and in methods of rearing children. Myriad, it seems, are the "old wives' tales" about everything from corn removal to weight loss — from special diets during pregnancy to what is and what is not leavened (some even refused to drink effervescent beverages) during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

One outstanding problem is misunderstanding, and narrow, unbalanced thinking on the subject of health, diet, and healing. Look around you in the world, and you'll see why.

It's a SICK, SICK, SICK, SICK WORLD!

Ever wonder why it is the hangers-on around health food stores are so sick? Did you ever wonder why health-food fanatics appear so *weak*, so *sickly*, and are usually *mentally* unbalanced?

It's a terribly SICK world you're living in!

Today, more than NINETY-TWO MILLION people in the United States alone are suffering with one or another of the terrible chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, tuberculosis or polio.

It is a RARE thing to see a *really* HEALTHY person, today.

Look at a few of the shocking facts.

Sickness is a gigantic financial burden! Several years ago, the *average* American — meaning every man, woman and child in the nation — actually paid \$137 a year for hospital and doctors' bills. This was a monstrous sum

of more than 25 BILLION dollars for the whole nation. This was DOUBLE the amount paid as recently as 1950.

It was proved, by the statistics of a major insurance company, that half a million American families had medical bills larger than their total incomes for that year!

And, while the *cost* of getting sick has tripled in the past decade, the average American family is spending *five times as much!* It was found that the average family of four in the United States spends about \$400 a year on medical expenses alone. Said one 69-year-old, receiving \$33 per month from Social Security, "I could get along fairly well on my savings and Social Security but the cost of medicine is so great that I can barely make ends meet. Sometimes I think I must stop taking the medicine and just die." A fantastic crowd of more than 60,000 Americans enters into our clinics and hospitals every day!

And, remember — these figures represent what is occurring within the United States *alone*, the "healthiest" nation on the face of the earth. Yes, brethren, our peoples are SICK!

Sickness is a terrible drain on the strength and vitality of our peoples, and is a fulfillment of one of the major prophetic CURSES God pronounced upon our peoples for breaking His laws.

Dr. W. Coda Martin, former chief of Geriatrics Clinic Metropolitan Hospital, New York, says that only 6.5 percent of Americans are free from physical defect.

More than a third of the nation is suffering from one of the 18 main illnesses and handicapping conditions, and MENTAL DISORDERS are right at the top of the list!

Currently, it is estimated that one out of ten Americans is suffering from a mental disorder. The statistics are endless, brethren. I will not take further space in this article to quote the monstrous statistics available from our Ambassador College News Bureau.

The point can best be illustrated by having YOU look at YOURSELF! What about your own health? Do you feel full of zest, vitality, zip and drive? Are

you the *picture* of radiant health? Does your hair shine, do your cheeks glow with a robust vitality? Does your body feel full of life and *energy*? Do you feel physically STRONG, mentally *alert*, vibrantly ALIVE?

I hope and pray *many* of our brethren DO — but let's face it, most probably DON'T!

Then, look around you. What about your own loved ones, your friends and relatives? Undoubtedly you know *personally* of MANY — perhaps in *your own family* — who have died of one or another of the major chronic diseases afflicting such vast segments of our population.

Yes, it truly is a *sick* world.

Broken Laws Result in Broken Lives

God's True Church knows the reason WHY the world's most "advanced" civilizations are suffering from such hideous curses! We have been shown the TRUTH that God Almighty is our HEALER. *God* is the great Lawgiver and Judge. And God has also laid down certain *physical laws* involving our physical well-being and good health. However, these *physical laws*, though applying basically to our diet and how we act when we are sick, are also very definitely SPIRITUAL in principle.

When God laid a choice before our forefathers, He promised wonderful *blessings* for obeying His laws! He promised we would be a people FREE from the botch and blight of Egypt, from the "childhood" diseases, from mental fear, anxiety, tension and worry. He promised we would have *healthy children!*

Today, a God-rejecting world seeks to the god of *flies, Baalzebub*, for deliverance from its physical and mental afflictions.

But God reveals He will not only *bless* us by giving us good health, through obedience to His laws — but IF we make mistakes and commit a physical *sin* against our own bodies, HE is our Healer!

God's True Church *recognizes how the world got this way* — knows the exact *reason* for the staggering amount

(Continued on page 30)

How to USE this Brochure

*Are your thoughts and prayers where CHRIST is working?
Do you know how best to pray for God's Ministers?*

by Roderick C. Meredith

THIS special issue of *The GOOD NEWS* with the Manpower Brochure should represent an intimate link between *you* and all of God's Ministers worldwide. It should be a very personal, useful *tool* in your awareness of what Christ is doing. It should inspire your *prayers* to Almighty God, our Father.

Jesus said: "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: *pray ye therefore* the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest" (Luke 10:2). This brochure — with each successive issue — represents the ANSWER to your prayers! You will note the *constant growth* within the ministry of God's Church, and the expansion over the earth of the local Churches of God and the various foreign offices. Let this *encourage* you. Let it *inspire* you!

Manpower Report a Powerful Prayer Tool

Use this special report as a tool for *further prayers*, thoughts, meditations about the Work of God and how you can help in it. Note not only the growth, but also the fact that there are *hundreds* of good-sized cities and towns around the earth where there are still *no local churches* to feed God's people! Be *concerned* and *prayerful* about this situation in an intelligent and positive manner! Pray that God will ADD ministers, elders, churches and GROWTH in His Work, in the foreign offices, and throughout the Church of God today.

Concerning the ministry of God's Church, the Apostle Paul wrote: "And we beseech you, brethren, to *know them* which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake (I Thes. 5:12-13). In order to "know" or *recognize* and *appreciate* the ministers of God around the world and their service to His people, you need a Manpower Brochure like this to delineate where God's Ministers and His Churches are, how they are organized, and what type of growth they are making. Use this Manpower Brochure to be individually concerned for *each* ministerial district in the United States and each foreign land where God's Ministers are today.

Again, in Colossians 4:2-3, Paul instructed: "Continue in *prayer* and watch in the same with thanksgiving; withal

praying also for *us* [the *ministry*], that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds." Here is inspired instruction to constantly "watch" the growth, the problems and trials of the ministry, and to PRAY for God's ministers without ceasing! Learn to *use* this Manpower Brochure as an intelligent means to organize your prayers in an intelligent manner. Then you will "labor" *effectively* in prayer to God for His Church in a way that will bear *real fruit*!

A Specific Prayer Guide

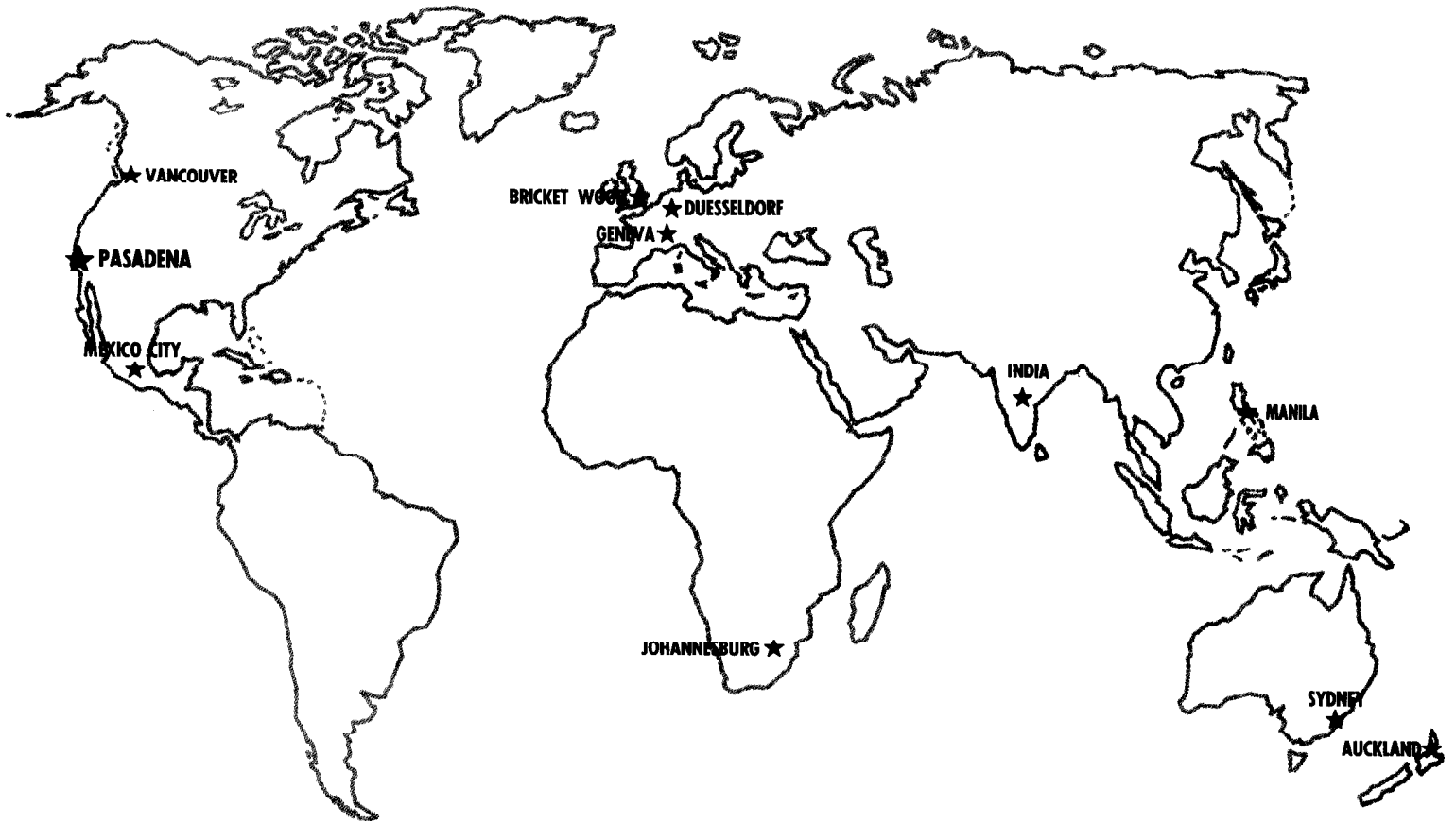
A good plan would be to start your prayers by praying for those who shoulder the greatest responsibility in the Work of Christ today. Start out, in this section of your prayers, by praying *daily* for Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, and asking God to give him *strength, courage, love, faith and wisdom* to be the effective human instrument he should be in setting basic policies for the Broadcast, *The PLAIN TRUTH*, the building program, the college, the Church, and all the myriad facets of God's Work which *he must consider daily*. Ask God to *guide, inspire and sustain* him who has labored among us for so many years! Ask our heavenly Father to *protect and lead* him, grant him grace and favor in the eyes of those with whom he deals, on the many trips he must take to foreign countries — to give him STRENGTH (Isa. 40:28-31) to keep on through the odd schedules, loss of sleep, changes in time zones, etc. Pray that he may have God's comfort, love and peace of mind, now that he has to carry on alone without the help of his beloved wife of fifty years.

Remember!

Next, your daily prayers should be for Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong — the executive Vice President of God's Work, worldwide, and the voice of *The WORLD TOMORROW* radio and television programs. Ask God to *speak through* and *inspire* him in this powerful ministry! Ask God to give him *strength and protection* with the hectic schedule he often has and on his many trips around the world. Ask God to inspire him with more *faith, love, wisdom and power* to be

*(Report follows. Article
continued on page 28)*

WORLD OFFICES

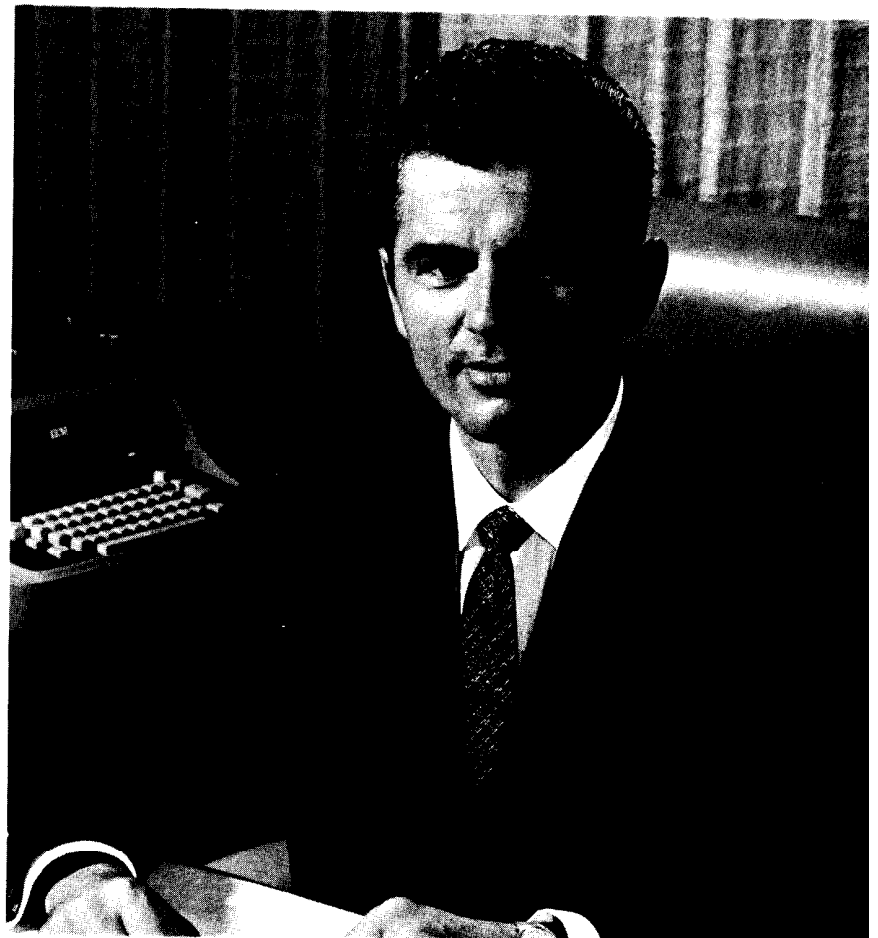


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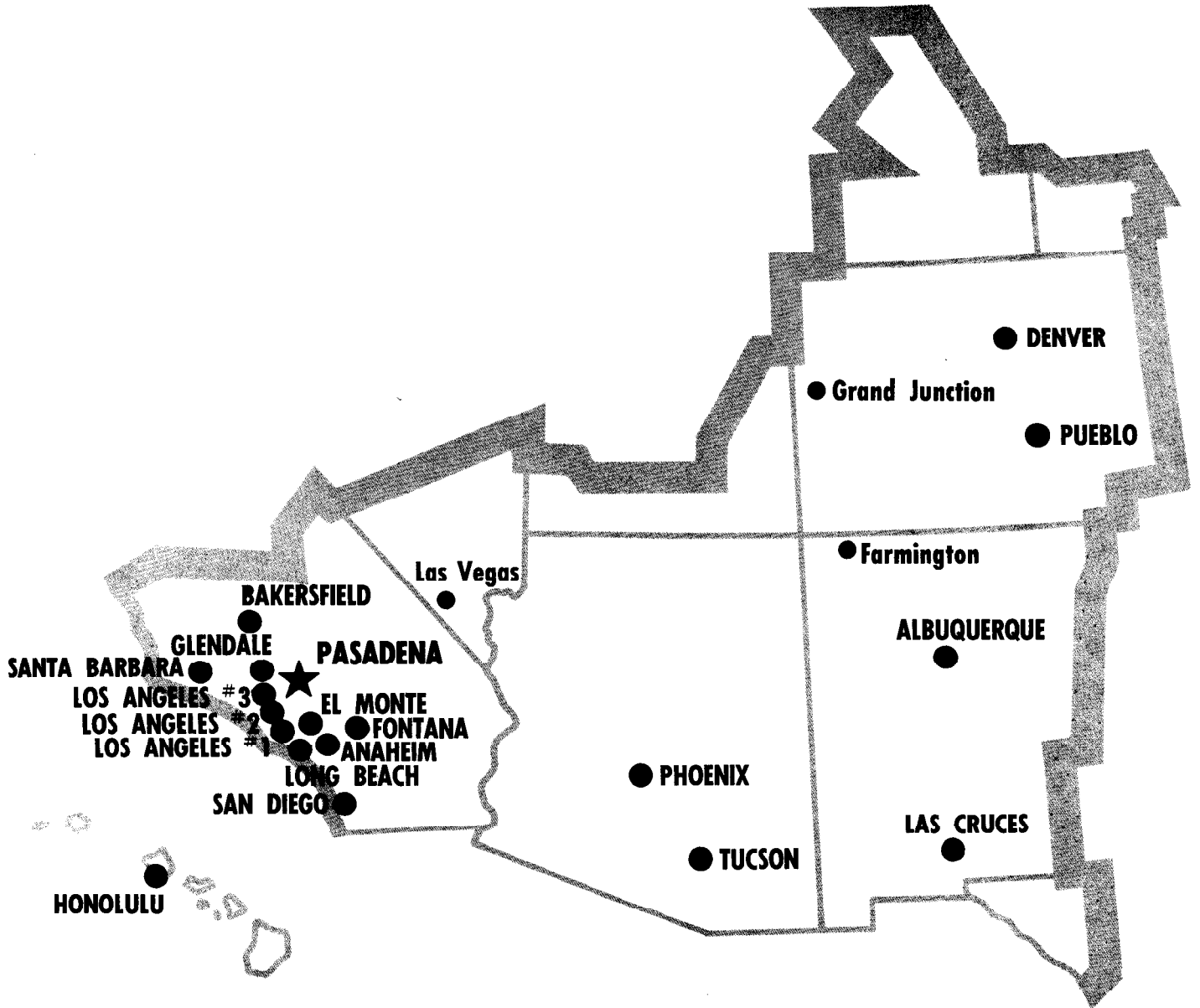


Herbert W. Armstrong
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PASTOR GENERAL

As of April, 1969, there are 326 ordained elders in God's Church around the world — pastoring 200 Churches and conducting 56 outlying Bible Studies, and staffing Thirteen Offices and Three Colleges. Each Sabbath an average of more than 54,200 brethren attend local services with over 3,000 others able to attend Bible Studies where there are no local Churches.



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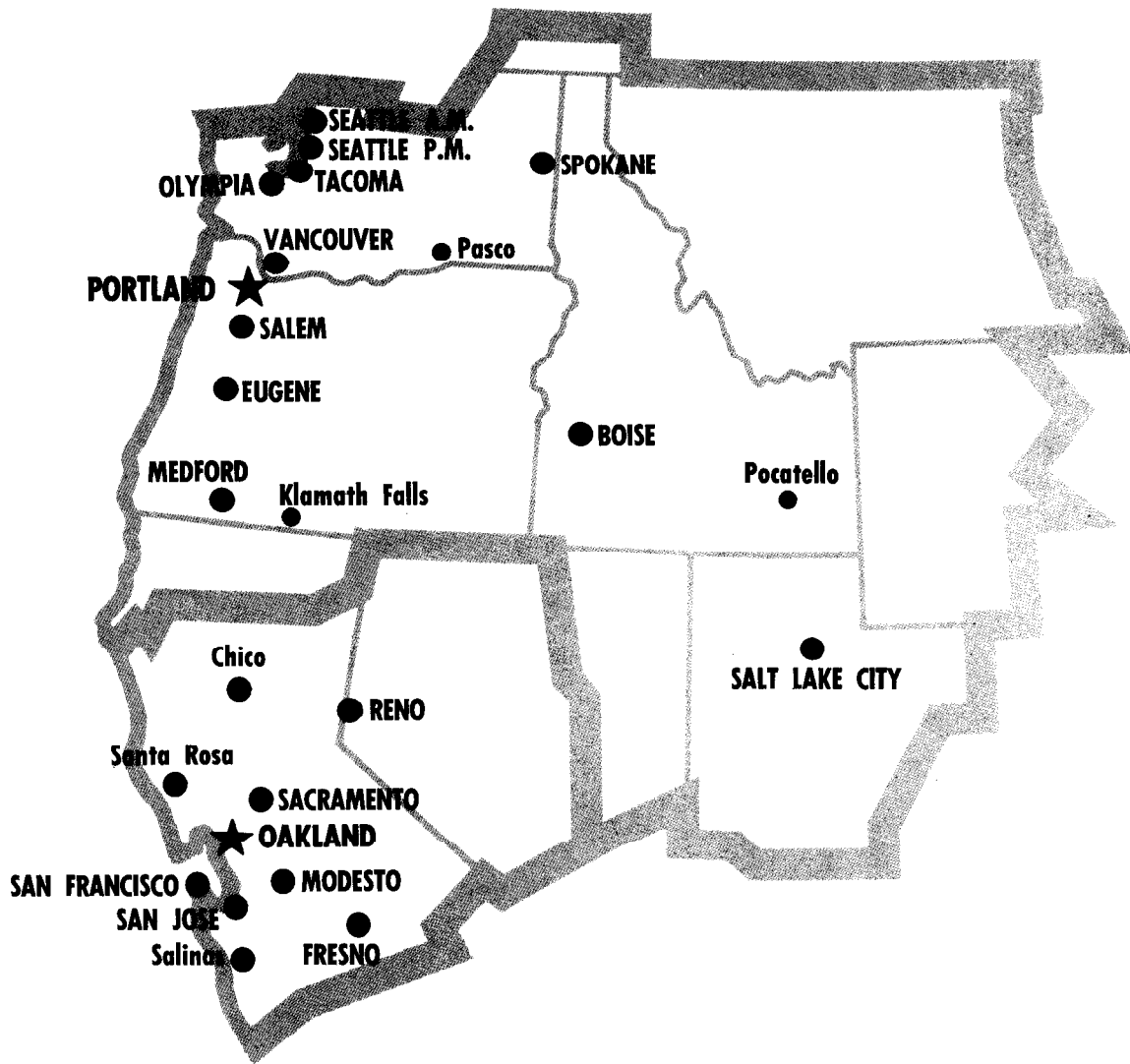
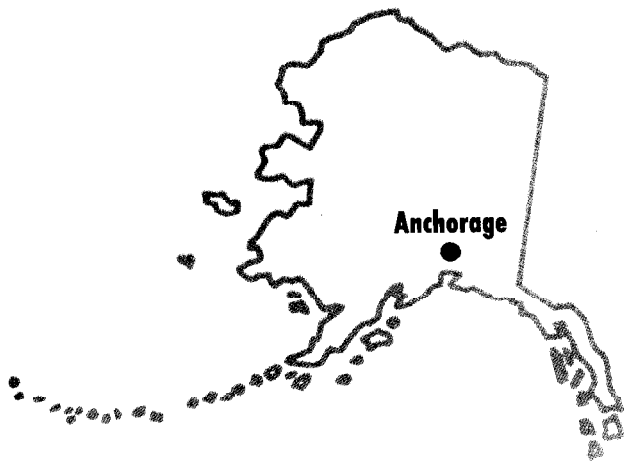
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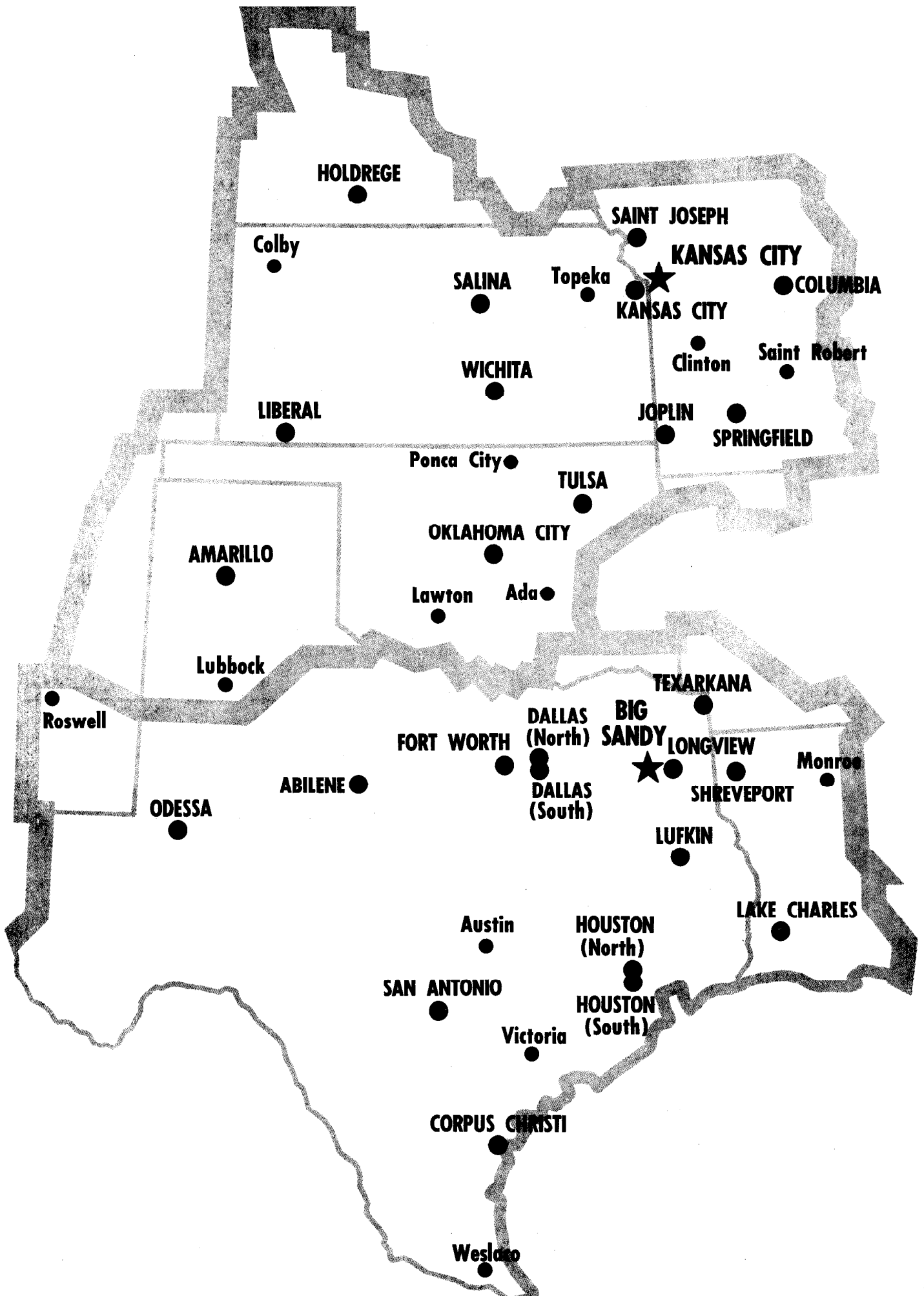
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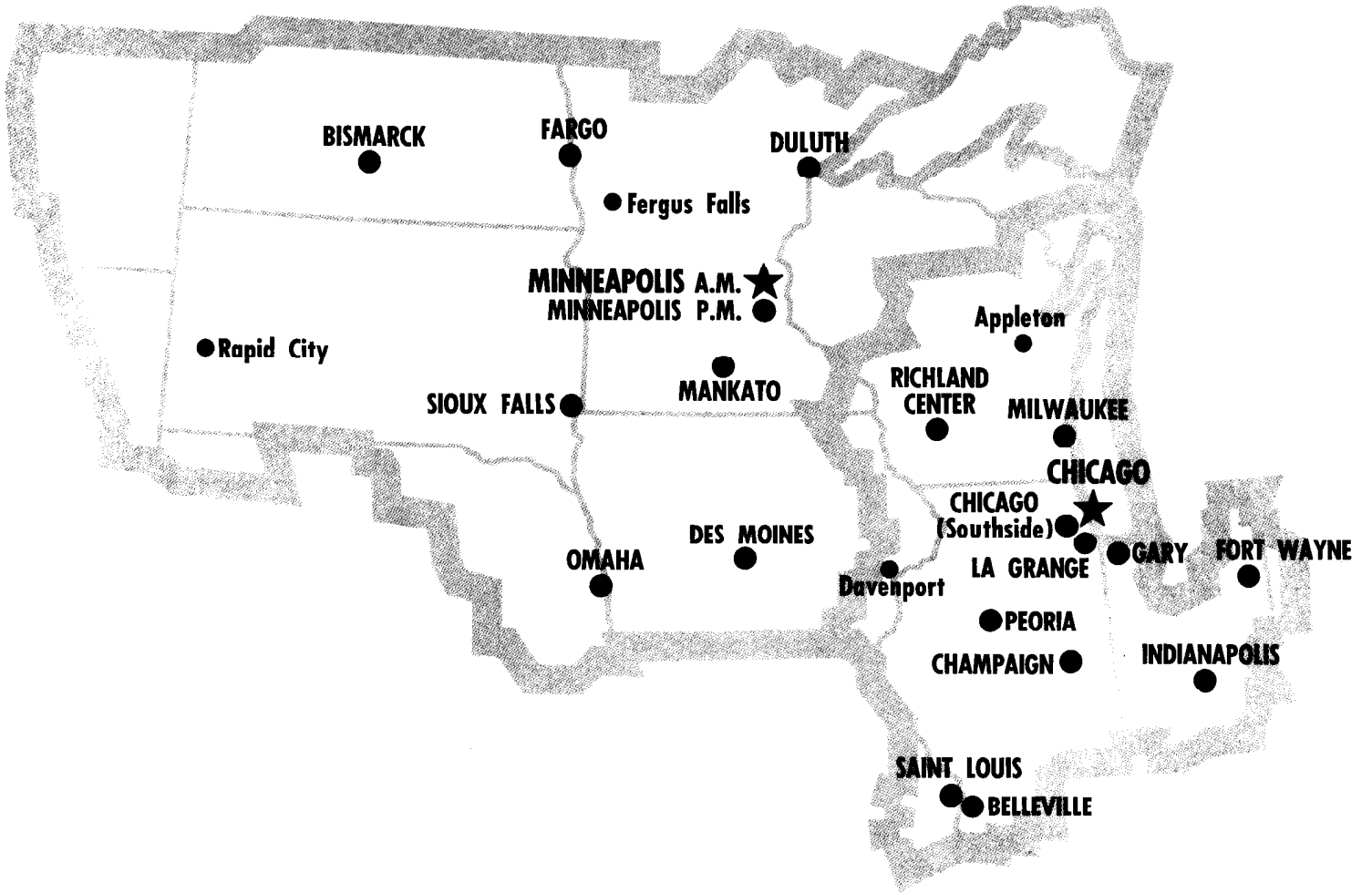
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Bill O. Quillen

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Robert Berg
Wayne L. Luginbill

MANKATO, MINNESOTA

Donald L. Prunkard

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA (P.M.)

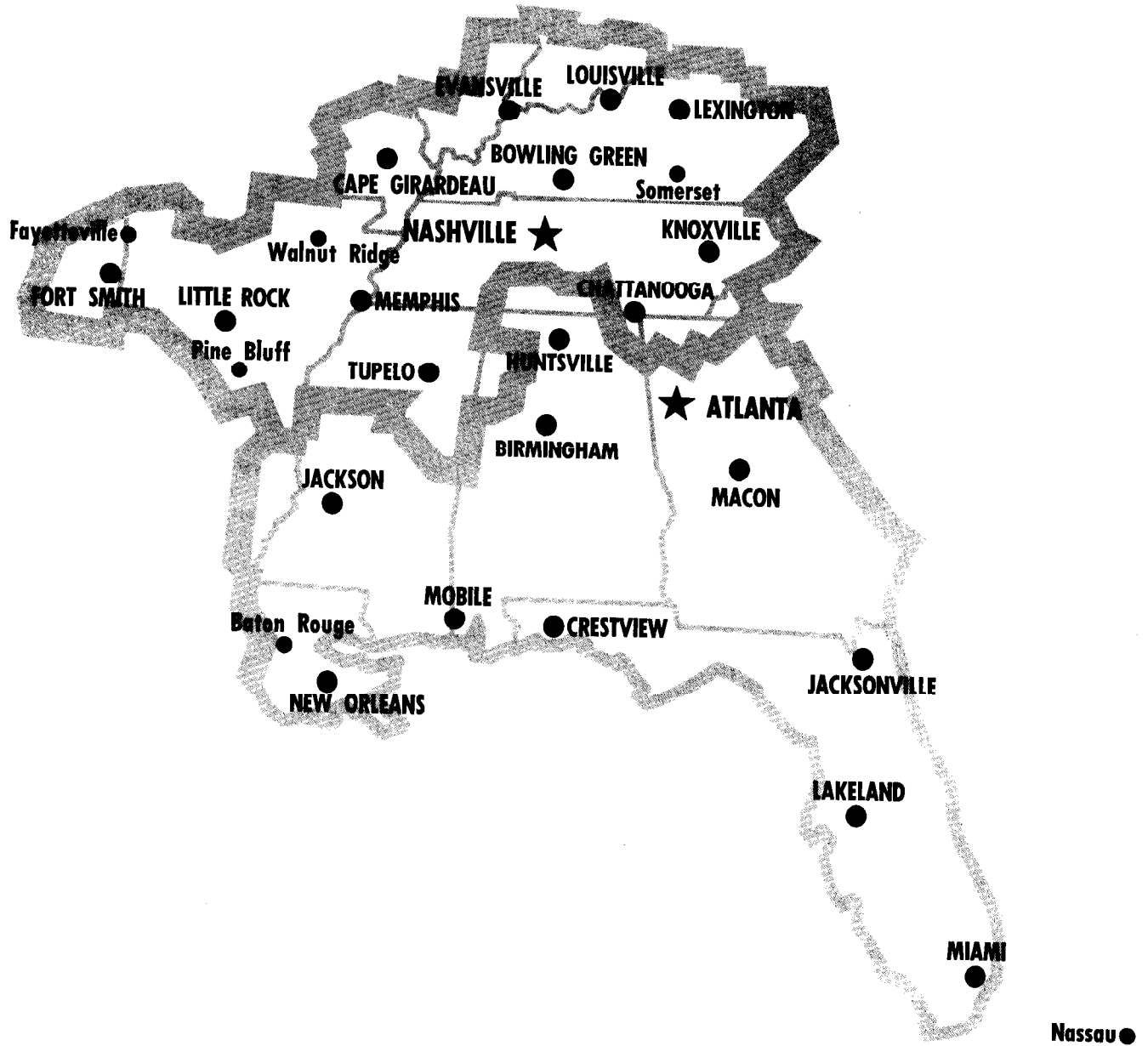
Keith F. Thomas
Robert C. Jones
Clem G. Hendrickson
Floyd O. Lochner, Jr.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

John B. Bald
Bill O. Quillen

SIoux FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

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Robert A. Dick
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James E. Jenkins

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

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David H. Mills
Charles F. Scott

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Harold Lester

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

Kelly H. Barfield
William C. Cowan, Jr.
Ray E. Wawak

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

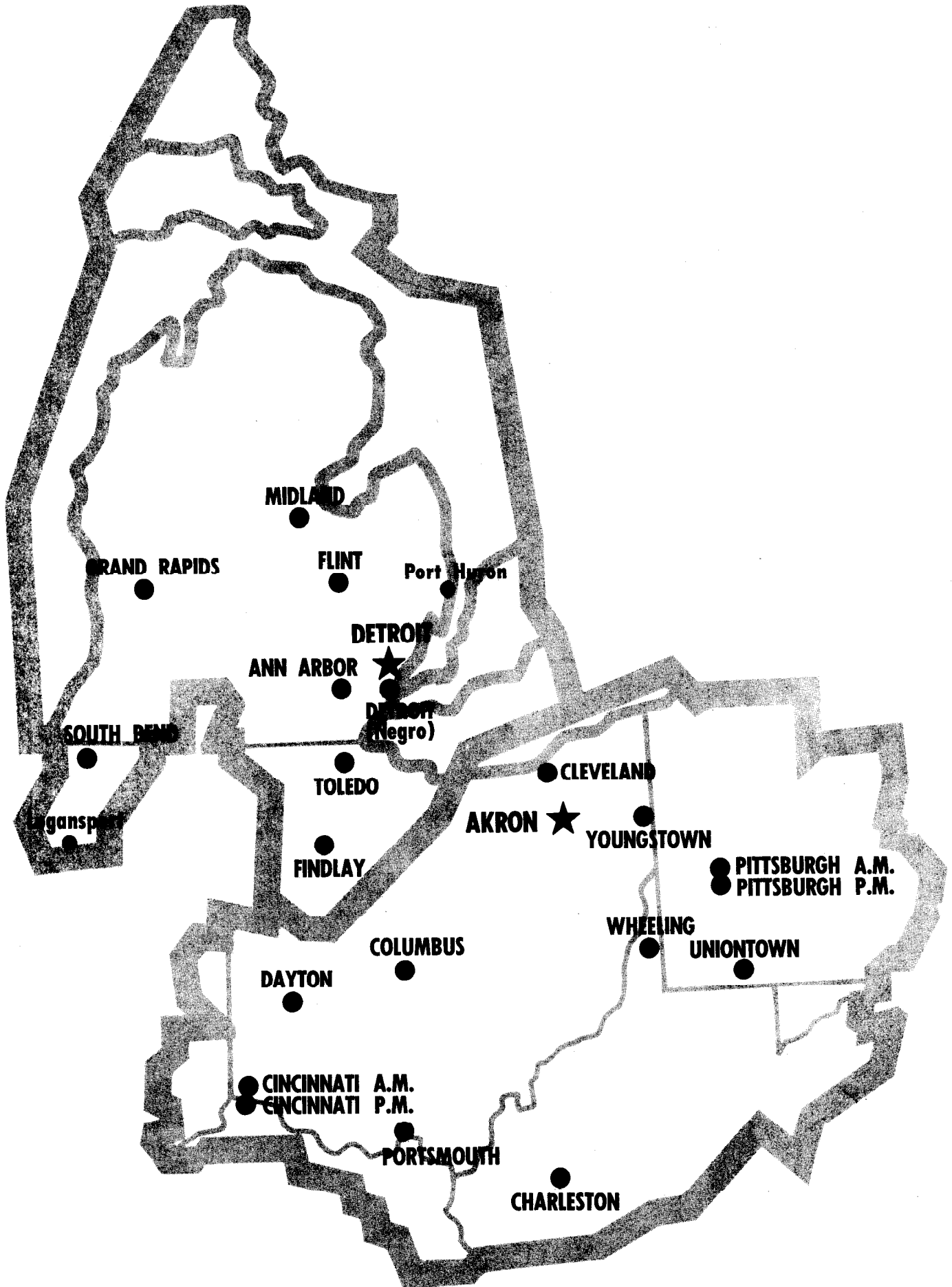
Robert F. Bertuzzi
Harold Lester

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Rowlen F. Tucker
William C. Cowan, Sr.

TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI

Rowlen F. Tucker
William C. Cowan, Sr.



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PORTSMOUTH, OHIO

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Carl A. Koellner
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Kenneth A. Graham, Sr.
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Andrew Prettyman
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John T. Pruner

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

George A. Meeker, Jr.
Allen D. Bullock
Roland W. Van Slooten

MIDLAND, MICHIGAN

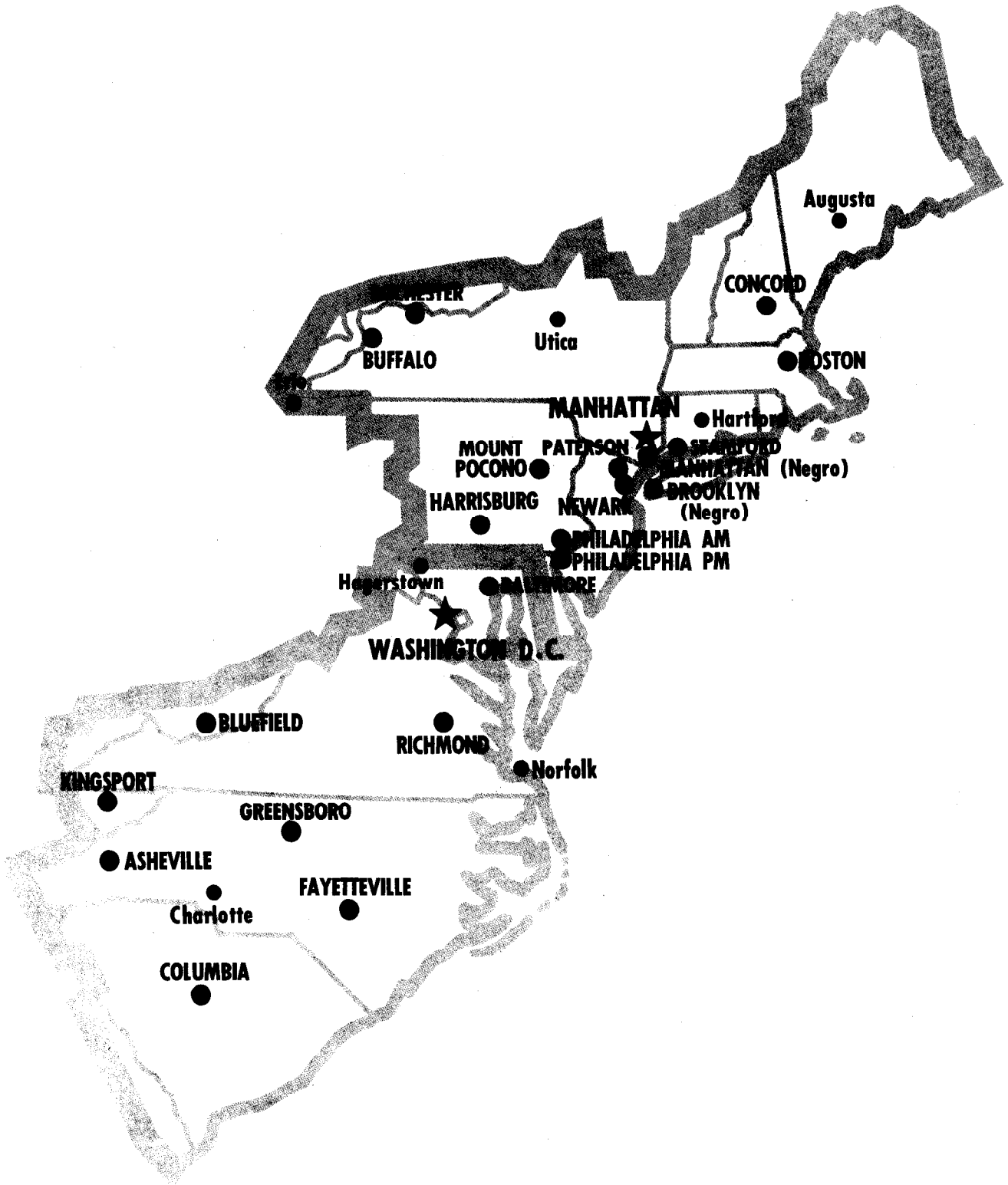
John T. Pruner
Albert G. Tennant

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GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

Roger V. Foster
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Randall R. Kobernat

KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE

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Guy M. Sams

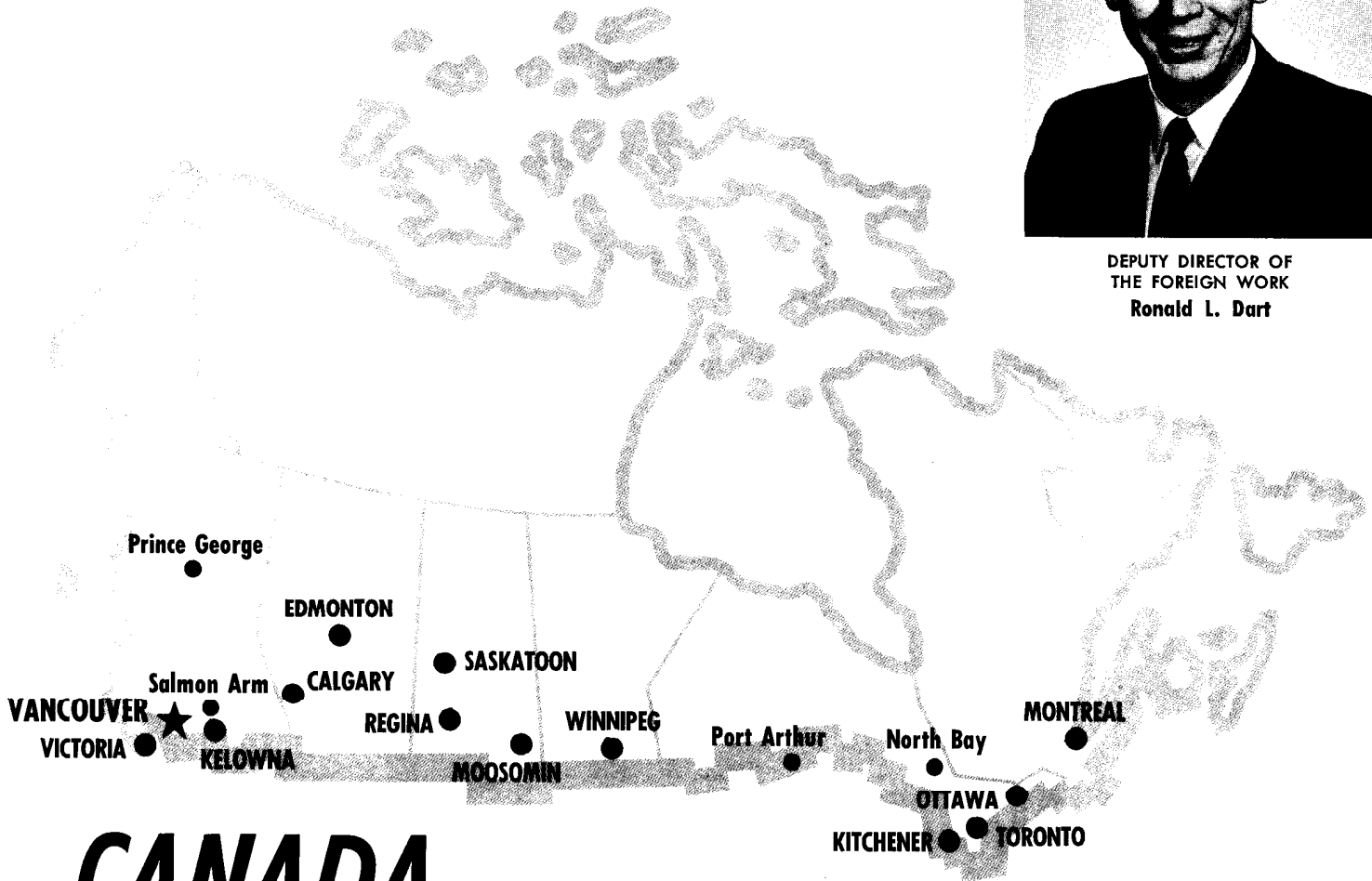
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Frederick C. Kellers
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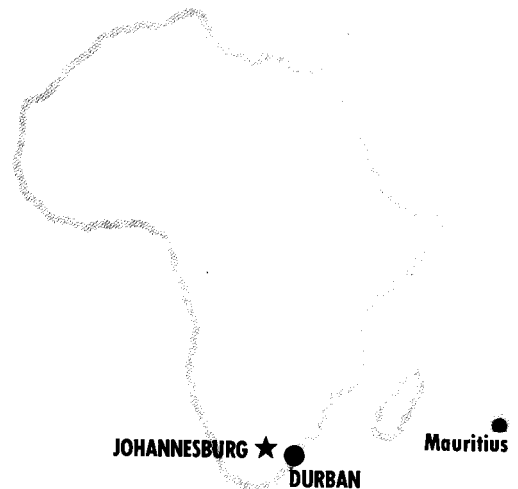
Ernest L. Williams
 Adriaan J. Botha
 Daniel Botha
 Michael A. Bousfield
 Gordon R. Terblanche

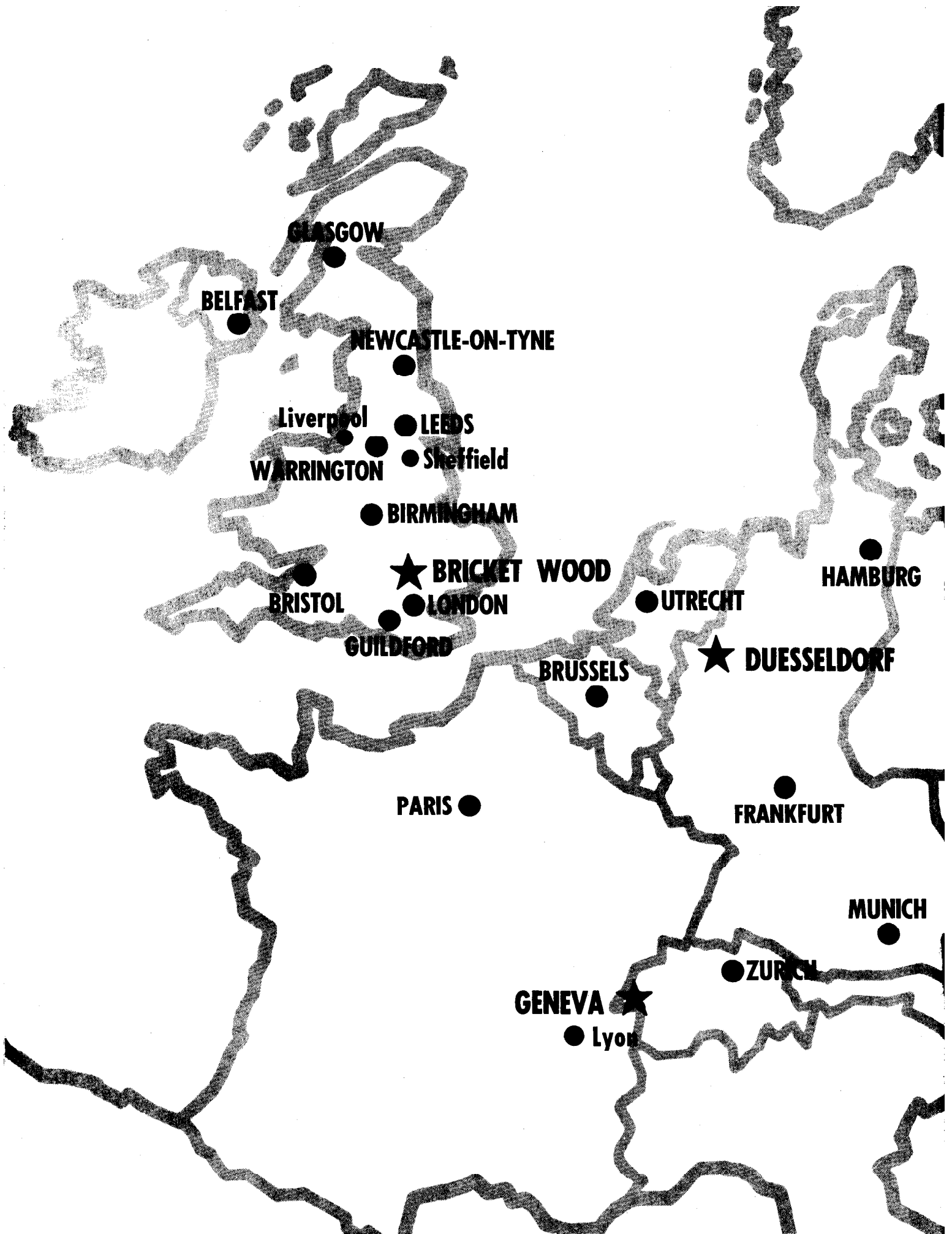
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 Daniel Botha
 Michael A. Bousfield
 Gordon R. Terblanche



MANAGER
Ernest L. Williams





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BELFAST

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WARRINGTON

LEEDS

Sheffield

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LONDON

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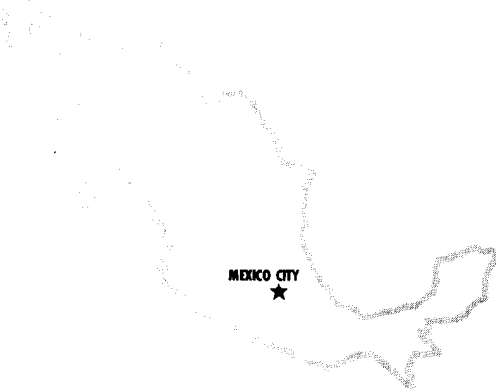
BARBADOS, WEST INDIES

Clarence S. Bass, Jr.

MARTINIQUE, WEST INDIES

Louis Jubert

MEXICO

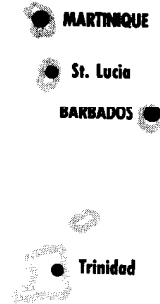


MEXICO CITY,
Enrique J. Ruiz — *Manager*

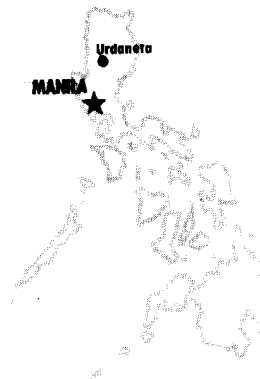


DIRECTOR
Charles V. Dorothy

WEST INDIES

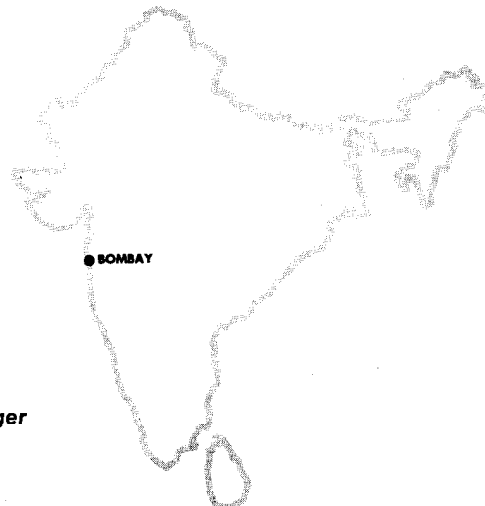


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Guy L. Ames
Pedro S. Ortiguero

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BOMBAY
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 Cole, C. Wayne
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 Hoeh, Herman L.
 Hunting, Charles F.
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 Portune, Albert J.
 Smith, Norman A.
 Waterhouse, Gerald D.

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 Brown, Frank T.
 Carrozzo, Alfred E.
 Catherwood, Carn A.
 Chapman, Benjamin R.
 Clark, Bryce G.
 Craig, Arthur R.
 Crouch, Keith N.
 Dennis, Alvin R.
 Docken, Arthur W.
 Dorothy, Charles V.
 Engelbart, Guy L.
 Fahey, Robert E.
 Flatt, L. Paul
 Foster, Roger V.
 Friddle, James L., Jr.
 Hammer, John D. (Tony)
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 Holladay, Roy O.
 Jackson, Harold L.
 Kelly, Ronald D.
 Kemnitz, George H.
 Kunz, James F.
 Luker, Dennis G.
 Martin, Ernest L.
 McDowell, Bill L.
 McNair, Carl E.
 McNair, H. Burk
 Meeker, George A., Jr.
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 Neff, L. Leroy
 Pinelli, Richard R.
 Plache, Richard F.
 Platt, Reginald C.
 Pruner, John T.
 Pyle, Dennis E.
 Rice, Richard J.
 Royer, Paul S.

Schnee, Frank H.
 Sharp, Walter R.
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 Spence, Robert L.
 Swisher, Kenneth R.
 Thomas, Keith F.
 Walker, Leon
 Westby, Kenneth
 White, Glen V.
 Wilson, Dean R.
 Winner, William D.
 Young, James J.
 Zimmerman, Clint C.

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 Atlas, Elbert E.
 Barfield, Kelly H.
 Bass, Clarence S., Jr.
 Battles, Cecil I.
 Bedford, David R.
 Bertuzzi, Robert F.
 Bierer, David L.
 Blackwell, Lowell G.
 Boraker, Robert C.
 Bourdin, Etienne H.
 Bradford, William C.
 Brogaard, Frederick K.
 Bryce, Charles E.
 Bullock, Allen D.
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 Hargrove, Vernon F.
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 McMichael, C. Sherwin
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 Mills, David H.
 Mitchell, John H., Jr.
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 Ortiguero, Pedro S.

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 Reedy, W. Ronald
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 Tucker, Rowlen F.
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 Wells, James A.
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 Zapf, Paul J.

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 Adair, Colin
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 Barrett, George J.
 Berg, Robert B.
 Berg, Wilbur A.
 Beyersdorfer, Karl L.
 Billingsley, Alton B.
 Blackwell, Thomas H.
 Botha, Adriaan J.
 Botha, Daniel
 Bousfield, Michael A.
 Boyce, Bob D.
 Bradley, S. Arch
 Brown, Durrell V.
 Brown, Russell B.
 Bruce, A. Frank
 Burrows, Percival D.
 Carley, David R.
 Chase, Barry C.
 Cheatham, John A.
 Clayton, Joseph R.
 Cloud, Sid L.
 Cole, Leroy W.
 Collins, James R.
 Contos, George
 Cowan, William C., Sr.
 Cowan, William C., Jr.
 Curtis, Brent E.
 Dawson, H. Leroy
 Deakins, Donald E.
 Demarest, Roy G.
 Dickinson, Walter M., Jr.
 Dunlap, Wayne H.
 Engelbart, Oswald G.
 Evans, George H., Jr.
 Flores, Robert V.
 Foster, Lowell L.
 Fowler, Carl A.
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 Freeze, J. Paul
 Freibergs, Gunar
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 Gordon, William D.
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 Greer, Lambert L.
 Haines, Ronald R.
 Halford, A. John
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 Heaton, Warren J., Jr.
 Hegvold, Sidney M.
 Hendrickson, Clem G.
 Higgins, Trevor M.
 Hooser, Donald B. Jr.
 Hoyt, Keith, A.
 Hughes, Gene R.
 Hulet, Arthur D.
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 Jantzen, A. Ray
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 Jubert, Louis
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 Karlson, John B.
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 Kilbury, Richard
 Kirk, Judd H.
 Kneebone, Kenneth R.
 Knochel, Gerald A.
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 Kobernat, Randall R.
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 Krueger, Harold C.
 League, Bob G.
 Lee, George W.
 Leonard, Benjamin C.
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 Ludwig, Robert G.
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 Magoon, Herbert F.
 Malone, Roger F.
 Mattson, Kenneth J.
 Mayhill, Sylvester J.
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 McNeil, Ronald D.
 Meek, Paul B.
 Millich, D. Rand
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 Murphy, Owen B.
 Neff, Lawrence D.
 Nettles, Bill L.
 Nickell, Charles F., Jr.
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 Noel, Eugene A.
 Oehlman, Charles H.
 Patrickson, George E.
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 Preteroti, Maurice E.
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 Purdy, Glenn L.
 Quillen, Bill O.
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 Reyer, James E.
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 Robinson, David R.
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 Roenspies, Raymond H.
 Roesler, Arthur N.
 Rogers, Tracey C.
 Ruiz, Enrique T.
 Ruth, Allan R.
 Salyer, Mark
 Samples, Donald W.
 Sams, Guy M.
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 Swagerty, Michael V.
 Swagerty, Terry L.
 Taylor, Douglas B.
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 Terhune, Robert C.
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 Traynor, Donald
 Treybig, Harold L.
 Tupper, Edward C.
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 Watkins, Gene V.
 Wawak, Ray E.
 Welty, Lyle E.
 White, Valden W.
 Wiedenheft, Richard A.
 Williams, Arthur K.
 Williams, Frank E.
 Williams, Jack W.
 Williams, Thomas K.
 Wilson, Frank L.
 Wilson, Hugh E.
 Witte, Gerald K.
 Wolverton, Basil
 Woodbury, Ledru S.
 Wooten, M. Ray
 Zimmerman, Richard G.

How to USE this Brochure

(Continued from page 5)

the dynamic instrument he needs to be not only in the broadcasts, but in the articles he writes, the classes he teaches, and as a help to his father in the myriad executive decisions that have to be made in this earth-spanning Work of God.

Then, pray earnestly for the rest of us in executive responsibilities here at Headquarters. For Mr. Portune, ask God to give him wisdom, faith and courage to face the tremendous financial responsibilities that must be met. For Dr. Hoeh, ask God to inspire and guide him in his job as Managing Editor of *The PLAIN TRUTH*, Director of the German work, and Dean of Faculties at the Headquarters College. Pray for the other Evangelists and Pastors at God's Headquarters and the many different types of responsibilities we have.

Your Own Area

Then, depending on your particular geographical location, you might start praying for the ministry and churches in the district or country where you live. This is proper — for you may be most intelligently and sincerely concerned about something which you understand more fully, just as a parent is more concerned about training *his* children to dress properly than some other child. *Pray fervently*, then, for the Director or District Superintendent in your area of the world and for the ministers under him. Ask our Father in heaven not only to inspire these His servants, but to *add* to the Church daily such as should be saved — to *open* the hearts and minds of hundreds of others that they may be spared from the coming tribulation.

And **CONSTANTLY** ask God *fervently* to call — according to *His will* — THOUSANDS of additional Co-Workers who may join with us in financially sponsoring this great Work of God! Remember that even this financial service will be to their everlasting credit — and the more of them who have their *pocketbooks* in God's Work, the more they will begin to *surrender* their lives to the God of heaven that He may change them through His Spirit.

Next, begin to pray for the other areas or districts near the one where you live, in a *systematic manner*. Go over the *entire world* — using this Manpower Brochure — in an intelligent and organized manner in *your fervent prayers*. You may not wish to cover the entire world in any one prayer, as this would not give time for the personal concern for each Church and minister involved. But, while praying *regularly* for your Church and district with which you are familiar, you can pray for one or more other districts or foreign lands

daily besides your own. And take time for *special concern* and *interest* so that your prayers may be more effective.

Through this personal concern and through your taking the trouble also, from time to time, to find out and read other information about the ministers and elders around the world, you will be *drawn closer to Christ*. You will certainly have more of *His mind* who sits at the right hand of God the Father directing this entire worldwide Work daily!

Remember that in a few years we in the Philadelphia era of God's Church [see Revelation 3] will be at the Jerusalem *Headquarters* with Christ. Then we will help direct this *entire* worldwide function of God's Church and government — though in a vastly larger, complete and more effective manner. So learn to realize that we are training to share *this* type of responsibility soon! That is why — in this area as well as others — we should cultivate and grow in the very *mind, interest* and *concern* of Jesus Christ, our living Head and Saviour!

Inspiring Growth

You will find a number of inspiring changes and additions in this new brochure. First of all, notice that Mr. Ronald Dart has been brought back from England to Pasadena Headquarters. He has been designated as Deputy Director of the foreign work — working directly under Mr. Ted Armstrong in directing the overseas offices and Work of God, worldwide. Be sure you remember him in prayer, constantly, in this big new responsibility!

Also, the very recent ordinations which took place during this Passover are included in the brochure. Note that Mr. Allen Bullock and Mr. Robert Jones were both raised in rank to Preaching Elders. Mr. Bullock serves in the South Bend, Indiana area and Mr. Jones in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Ordained to the office of Local Elder were Mr. David Carley in Nashville, Tennessee; Mr. Brent Curtis in New York; Mr. John Hull in Oklahoma City; Mr. Ben Leonard in Omaha; Mr. Otto Lochner in Minneapolis; Mr. Mark Salyer in Amarillo; Mr. Ronald Upshaw in Tulsa; and Mr. Jack Williams in Oklahoma City.

Rejoice that these men have been added to the ministry of Jesus Christ! *Pray* for them — and for God's Ministers and His Work *everywhere* — that our heart and mind may be where the *living CHRIST* is *working*!

As outlined above, learn to USE this Manpower Brochure! It will be a valuable tool in your personal prayers and in your entire Christian life. If you do your part *fervently*, this kind of teamwork will add a new dimension of **POWER** and *effectiveness* to the ministry and Work of Christ today.

WHAT ABOUT ANNOUNCEMENTS?

Do announcements bore you? Can you hardly wait until they are over? What have announcements to do with your spiritual growth?

by Dean R. Wilson

SEVERAL years ago I attended a small church in my home town much the same as many of you did. One particular thing that stands out in my mind about the announcements that were made in Sunday School and church services is that they used to bore me and I paid very little attention to them.

I can well remember my attitude when our local minister would announce that we would have a guest speaker next week who was a missionary from some far-off country I knew little of and really cared less about. I would think, here comes another plea for money and an extra offering. I know that many of you have had exactly the same experience, as this was the attitude of nearly everyone in the little church I used to attend.

What About Announcements in God's Church?

The question that comes to my mind now is, do most of you in God's Church feel the same way when one of God's ministers stands up and gives the announcements and talks about God's Work worldwide and what is going on in various areas?

I remember our local minister would ask us to pray about these various areas and men. I never followed the instruction. As a matter of fact, I never prayed, nor did I know how to pray. Today, we as God's ministers announce and ask you to do the same thing. Do you have the same reaction I used to — a careless attitude, in fact a rebellious, carnal, selfish attitude with no response or concern about what is going on anywhere else except in your own little world?

My attitude has now changed, as most in God's Church have changed their attitudes toward the announcements of progress in God's Work worldwide. What has brought about that change in attitude, and why this wrong attitude in the first place?

The one basic reason for my attitude and your attitude toward announcements was *self*. We were all tied up in *self*, our *own* salvation, the salvation of some select friends, our *own* church, our *own* district, our *own* country! We were so blind and actually unconverted that we couldn't see out of our own little shell and world!

We neither *loved* nor were *concerned* about *God — His Work* — or our neighbor! We were out *to get* — *not to give!*

Inviting Disaster!

The one big disastrous problem with this is that if you are not willing to give you will never receive. The very thing that you are so selfishly seeking after you will lose!

The very basic premise of the Ten Commandments is giving, not getting, as summed up by Jesus Christ, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (Matt. 22:37-39).

God says very plainly that those who rejoice, or are glad or show no concern at another's calamity shall not go unpunished (Prov. 17:5). This world is facing a calamity, and we, with our selfish lack of concern for God's Work

as it grows and accomplishes the Work of God, will not go unpunished if we do not change our attitudes!

Have Your Heart In God's Work!

Mr. Armstrong repeatedly mentions that he has found that those who have their hearts in the *Work of God* are the ones who are overcoming and growing spiritually. "*To him that overcometh,*" God says several times, will receive the things promised of God (Rev. 2:26; Rev. 3:12 and 21).

My attitude in the past was to *get* salvation, and the rest of the world could go to the other place. I was not concerned about this world or the people in it outside of my own little narrow circle. This was not the attitude of God, "For God so loved the world . . . For God sent not His Son into the world to *condemn* the world [yet many of us by our attitudes would condemn the world]; but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:16-17).

There are many fine examples in the Bible showing an outgoing concern for others in God's Church and for those outside God's Church. One of the most explicit and finest examples was the Apostle Paul's.

Love Toward Neighbor

Paul puts it very plainly how he felt about those outside in Romans 9:1-3. Paul said — and emphasized that it was true, not just some pseudo-spiritual talk — that he would willingly give up his own salvation if it were possible to give it to others. This was loving your neighbor as yourself. This is fine for Paul — but *what about you?* Do you

have the same attitude as Paul? Would you give up your salvation for another? If you really felt this way about others you would rejoice greatly along with God and the angels (Luke 15:7, 10) when announcements are made about new churches, new ordinations of ministers, new radio and TV stations, new magazine advertising and the many other ways that God's Work grows and progresses. Paul had an outgoing concern for others and served them through the medium of God's Church — how about you?

Love For the Brethren

Paul at the same time was very concerned about those in God's Church, that they remain steadfast, and prayed for them continually. Notice Philippians 1:2-6, "Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun

a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

The attitude we must have is a continual outgoing concern for others, never a self-centered *LUST* to get for the self. God is this way. Jesus Christ is the same, and all who will be in the Kingdom of God must develop the same attributes.

What about you? How about the announcements concerning the growth of God's Work worldwide — do *you* rejoice and give thanks always for the progress along with God, Jesus Christ, the angels and all the saints?

Proof 5: A Way of Life

(Continued from page 4)

of physical affliction in our nation, and understands what God intends to do about it in the future!

KNOWLEDGE, Not Nonsense

God's True Church also recognizes the overboard, unbalanced, *FANATICISM* that is attached to a search for magical "good health" in the world today.

Yet many brethren do not know how to properly select, prepare and utilize *right* foods; many do not know, in this age of sprays, fertilizers, dyes, "vitamins," "supplements," etc., etc., *WHAT* is "food" and what is *NOT*.

The True Church of God knows His health laws, as spelled out in plain language about what is *CLEAN* and what is not — what is *FIT* for the human stomach and what is not — but oftentimes people *GO OVERBOARD* on various *METHODS* of preserving, cooking and eating foods — and about various kinds of *diets*.

We have never attempted to "spell out" in great detail whole daily "diets" for all brethren in all climates in all parts of the world — but sometimes, rather weird, unusual practices get started.

God's Church is *NOT* a Church of bug-eyed food faddists, plumb bobbles and pill swallows. God's Church should *NOT* be made up of those who search through others' cupboards trying to spy white bread or white sugar! God's Church should *NOT* be composed

of those who must ladle wheat germ, bone meal, cod liver oil or compressed alfalfa onto every meal!

God's Church should not be a collection of *food fanatics* who dearly *LOVE* to pass on the proverbial "old wives' tales" about how to get rid of this or that childhood rash, fever, or disease — about how to eat this or that during pregnancy — about how to diagnose and treat *anything* from bunions to bruises!

And yet, brethren, some of *YOU* absolutely *DO* fall into these categories!

There literally *HAVE BEEN*, in times past, those who "plumb bobbed" their food. I mean — they actually pulled out a little weight and a ball of string, held the weight suspended by the string over their plate of food — and tried to "determine" (or should I say "divine"?) whether or not the food was good and fit to eat by the direction in which the plumb bob swung back and forth!

Others have thought the excrement from ducks was an excellent salve for the removal of corns! Still others have become convinced you should drink gallons of grape juice during pregnancy; eat yogurt religiously; cook all meat until it is roughly the consistency of last year's shoe leather; and above all things, never use anything but *sea salt*!

But *WHY*, brethren?

Some have thought it *wrong* to purchase *canned or frozen foods*, or *COOK* in aluminum for fear of "poisoning."

If some of these ludicrous rumors were not so *WEIRD* — smacking of twisted, off-balanced, wild-eyed, *FANATICISM*, they would be hilariously funny.

I suppose it doesn't deprive anyone of anything really vitally important if they cook everything they ever eat in a dutch oven; if they *NEVER* eat a can of chili (without pork, of course) or a can of spinach with "store-bought" meats. But on the other hand, *GOD WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY FANATICS, WEIRDO'S, FREAKS, ODD-BALLS, FADDISTS, OR ADDLEHEADS INTO HIS KINGDOM!*

God Almighty gives man the basic *LAWS* of physical health and well-being. But He does not spell out each significant little dietary possibility. He leaves man a broad, beautiful earth, filled with animals, fish and fowl; with herbs, fruits, nuts, vegetables and almost limitless varieties of spices and flavorings. But He also gives His Church His *SPIRIT*, which is the Spirit of a *SOUND MIND* (II Tim. 1:7) to avoid overboard fanaticism.

Paul encountered some newly converted ones whose life-long habits (as a result of a horribly distorted, false *RELIGION*) had become so twisted, they could not immediately learn to eat all things which God allows. Paul explained how it is *NOT WRONG* for a *WEAK* one (probably weak physically as well) to deny meat to himself. But the context of this chapter of Romans (Romans 14) is concerning admitting a newly converted one who is *WEAK IN THE FAITH* — and not demanding he change immediately. Meats, (foods of any kind) after all, are *NOT* the main

subject of the Kingdom of God (Romans 14:17).

But the Church exists to EDIFY — to build up and EDUCATE its members (Eph. 4:12-13) UNTIL ALL ARE AGREED, AND IN TOTAL UNITY in the faith — which is the basic, truthful, sound DOCTRINE. This is the primary substance of the *second* commission to the Church; the first commission being the preaching of the Gospel to the world as a witness.

Perhaps there are some weak ones in God's Church today who believe they may NOT eat tinned foods, or cook in this or that type of pot or pan — or ever, ever, ever ingest "rancid oil." God will not expel them if they are TRYING to achieve balance, soundness, and spiritual maturity. But He WILL NOT ACCEPT unsound minds into His Own Family!

God does not want His own sons engrossed in picayunish, childish, "pctty" little things such as the exact and specifically proper care of each eyelash, fingernail, and hair on your head. Yet some people will fanatically assume they must avoid all contact between their precious protein (hair) and a plastic brush preferring a "natural" which is to say *pig* bristle (which is not wrong, incidentally.) Some insist you must never let wool and nylon come in contact with your skin, and must always studiously avoid white sugar, which, they are certain, will cause *dogs* to go crazy! Some treat pasteurized milk like a poison — and is there anyone you have ever yet heard of who is so unbelievably, incredibly, astoundingly weird as to drink only *dandelion* tea and coffee, or extol the healthful virtues of sleeping while hanging upside down?

Weird, isn't it?

Try as you may — whether you find a formula for diet never heard of in the remotest reaches of the nether valleys of Nepal — YOU SIMPLY CANNOT FIND A SHORTCUT TO HEALTH!

MEMBERS OF GOD'S TRUE CHURCH OUGHT TO KNOW THAT!

Healing

The True Church of God KNOWS the most *basic* of *all* laws of health —

the *revealed* laws about clean and unclean foods!

One of the *most important* proofs of ALL is the right knowledge about HEALTH, and about HEALING! Here's the vital reason.

God is our Healer. That's one of His very NAMES!

And God reveals plainly, in His Word, that healing is the forgiveness of physical *sin*. Only GOD can forgive sin! *ONLY GOD CAN HEAL!*

The FIRST of the Ten Commandments says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me!" This great law, together with the FOURTH commandment comprises the great TEST commandment God laid before our ancient forefathers.

The Sabbath law is the identifying SIGN of every true Christian! And, equally, the SECOND commandment — against IDOLATRY — points out WHERE ARE THE TRUE PEOPLE OF GOD.

To rely on ANY foods, supplements, medicines, drugs, knives, OR EVEN ON FASTING, for HEALING (AND NONE OF THESE CAN, EVER HAVE, OR EVER WILL HEAL!) IS TO BREAK THE COMMANDMENT AGAINST IDOLATRY!

Let's understand the real *differences* between God's TRUE Church and all the others.

"Healing" Miracles — Or Are They?

Satan has literally *strewn* the pathway to God's True Church with the red herrings of FAKERY and DEMONISM! Today, myriads believe in an emotional frenzy as being the only evidence of the Spirit of God.

Millions have been deceived by FALSE signs and "wonders," just as God said they would be (Matt. 24:24). Simon Magus fakery has reached no greater refinements than in the "healing revivals" under huge tents in the United States today!

The claims are many and varied, the ads lurid, the preaching is hoarse-voiced ranting and unintelligible gibberish, as the "sick and afflicted" file down a sawdust trail of perspiring hopefuls toward the so-called "evangelist" on the stage.

But God's True Church will NEVER be engaged in such a *travesty*: a

carnival-like sideshow of sheer human EMOTIONALISM and DEMONISM, which makes a mockery of the really WONDERFUL truth of healing!

Instead, God's TRUE Church will be found to be following Christ's practices — *exactly!*

When Jesus healed, He said, "See that you tell *no* one!" He NEVER ONCE tried to drum up a huge crowd in order to put the power of God ON DISPLAY! He NEVER advertized "healing services," NEVER "put on" braggadocio, such as seizing an infirm person's crutches and breaking them, or throwing them away! Instead, He quietly, but *firmly*, in a voice of real authority and FAITH, said, "Thy sins be forgiven thee!"

God's True Church will be those who recognize the *difference* between the REAL power of God and the FAKE WITCHERY of today, *masquerading* as the power of God.

Members of the TRUE Church of God will be following and *obeying* the command of James 5:14-15: "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of FAITH *shall* save the sick . . ."

If you could look behind the scenes, OUT of sight, into the *private* lives of members of God's True Church, you would see the sick and afflicted *kneeling*, with the ministers of Christ laying hands on them, and quietly, but firmly, and in FAITH — yet knowing we are NOT heard for our "much speaking" *anointing* them with oil — and asking God in PRIVATE, IN SECRET (Matt. 6:6) to heal them of their sickness.

What a striking DIFFERENCE between God's way and the way of the FAKERY of Satan the Devil! And what a difference in the RESULTS! God's people ARE BEING HEALED while those who *claim* to be "healed" in a tent-camp sideshow are NOT really healed!

The Laws of Health

God's True Church realizes an ounce of prevention *is* literally worth a "pound of cure," and LOTS MORE!

We know it is far better to obey the LAWS OF HEALTH and avoid getting sick in the first place, than it is to be guilty of many physical sins, and be

calling constantly on the ministers and elders for anointing and prayer.

God is a God of BALANCE! He has put a tremendous system of counterweights, checks and balances into nature. Even the little insects, the fish, the frogs and snakes, the birds and bats, the rabbits and coyotes — all play an important part in keeping our environment in BALANCE!

When man destroys that delicate balance in nature — he finds nature on the rampage!

And when you destroy an EQUALLY complex balance in YOUR BODY and MIND, you find your body and mind on a rampage!

Let's understand, briefly, the *use* of certain foods or "supplements" in the RIGHT BALANCE!

First: YOU NEVER NEED A SUPPLEMENT AT ANY TIME EXCEPT WHEN YOUR SYSTEM IS TEMPORARILY OUT OF BALANCE! Many LOAD their bodies with various food additives and supplements, hoping to find the proverbial "fountain of youth," I suppose — or trying to find that nebulous "shot in the arm" that will be the final cure-all to all physical ailments!

For some, it's fasting. For others, it's this or that brand name of vitamin. Brethren — THERE IS NOT ONE SINGLE EXAMPLE IN THE ENTIRETY OF THE BIBLE OF A FAST FOR PHYSICAL HEALTH!

But let's keep our balance. If a scale tips one way — you correct it by adding weight on the lighter side, and bring it back toward normal. If your body begins to feel a cold coming on, for example; you have allowed your system to become hyperacidic. That is, you've probably been a little OVERBALANCED in the direction of sweets, fried foods, starch, or fats. You've been neglecting enough fresh fruits and vegetables, citrus, and lean *broiled* meat, instead of fatty and *fried* meat. Make no mistake! If you have already GOTTEN the cold — EATING LOTS OF FRESH FRUIT WILL NEVER IN ONE MILLION LIFETIMES CURE YOU OF IT! There is ONLY ONE CURE FOR ANY SICKNESS OR ANY DISEASE — and that is GOD!

But if your body gives you a beginning *warning* sign, like a little stuffiness in your nose, or a chill in your spine — if you IMMEDIATELY stop

adding any weight to the HEAVY side of the scale, and IMMEDIATELY begin piling on to the LIGHT side of the scale — it is possible to bring back your bodily BALANCE!

Let's never forget that word BALANCE! Let's KEEP our balance!

Summing It All Up

God's True Church KNOWS the value of physical exercise. We KNOW the Divinely revealed laws of foods, of health, of exercise, of sleep. And we *know* the tremendous value of RIGHT THINKING and PRAYER to keep a SOUND, BALANCED MIND!

Does this mean we are physical exercise ADDICTS? Food FADDISTS? HEALTH-FOOD SLAVES?

Certainly not!

God says there *are* some — even in His True Church, which He describes as being really WEAK in the faith (Rom. 14:1) who "believe" various things about diet. If *you* observe someone sitting in the corner, or carrying his sack about with him — seemingly a little "furtive" about it — a little "strange" and "different" in his dietary habits; then realize there may be a spiritual WEAKNESS there — but don't harshly CONDEMN him for it. "For one believeth that he may eat all things (that is, things which are clean, and LAWFUL to eat): another, WHO IS WEAK (spiritually — and, usually — PHYSICALLY as well), eateth herbs" (Rom. 14:2).

If you see a person with his proverbial sack of dates, nuts and grapes, or with his bottle of fresh carrot juice, or with his little sack of herbs — then DON'T DESPISE HIS DIETARY HABITS. Just realize he feels this is best for HIM! And, it *may be*. At least, it is best for the sake of his personal *conscience* if he really, as the Bible says, "believeth" he should eat that way.

You can PRAY for him, realizing he can, later, become STRONGER (as he MUST, if he is to enter God's Family!) in the faith, and no longer WEAK in his knowledge of God's whole WAY OF LIFE. You can realize he is NEW, and that he can *grow out* of narrow-minded food fanaticism. Remember, Paul was not describing a whole segment of the Church — assuming there will ALWAYS be those who are "diet nuts" in the

Church — even after they have heard about and seen the right way of life for YEARS — but Paul was describing a *newly converted* one who was still *weak!*

You know how God's Church lays GREAT stress on the FAMILY unit — knowing it to be a perfect *picture* of the God relationship, and our training ground to help us achieve God's own family. We publish booklets, articles, and even complete books on marriage, dating, the family, and the home. Our local ministers are continually exhorting the flocks in their charge about these very things.

This, then is one of the main SEVEN PROOFS of the true Church of God.

We have been given the RIGHT WAY TO LIVE. NOT because we're "better" than anyone else. We may be humanly speaking, a LOT WORSE (after all, God *has called* the WEAK of this world) — but God has given us His own BALANCE and SOUNDNESS as an EXAMPLE to the world.

Eventually, they shall have to say, "If *these* people — a motley collection of sinners of every stripe, truck drivers, farmers, clerks, laborers, carpenters, businessmen, technicians, pensioners, jobless — could achieve such wonderful BALANCE — could learn to live such warm, happy, full and ABUNDANT LIVES — then it had to be the knowledge and the inspiration of *God* that made it possible."

The truth of God is NOT just a series of "beliefs." It is a WAY OF ACTION — TOTAL commitment; total involvement, a WHOLE WAY OF LIFE!

Reader's Say . . .

(Continued from page 2)

ment store, but to my amazement you never mentioned anything about it. Almighty God did — He crippled my finances so badly I can't even afford to run my car and things are getting worse. I thank God for setting me straight and hope He is doubly strict with me in keeping me on the straight and narrow path to eternal happiness. I am very sensitive to extreme heat."

Wayne S., Sault Ste. Marie,
Ontario, Canada

The Bible Answers Your Questions

Please address any questions YOU would like answered
in this column to the Editor.

Why were the descendants of Saul punished for a crime perpetrated by Saul himself? Didn't God command Israel that the children were not to be put to death for the sins of the fathers?

In Deuteronomy 24:16 God commanded, "The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin."

Yet, in II Samuel 21:1-9 we read there was a famine in the days of David lasting three years. God told David the famine was punishment "for Saul, and for his bloody house, because he slew the Gibeonites" (verse 1).

God is just. His judgment is righteous. During the reign of Saul over Israel, Saul had led an attack on the Gibeonites, to gain favor in the eyes of Israel, violating the covenant of Joshua which he had made with Gibeon (Joshua 9:15-27). Since the army followed Saul's orders, many of them actually knowing better, the **WHOLE NATION** was actually responsible for this crime. That's why God brought this *famine* on the whole land.

David asked the Gibeonites how this heinous massacre could be atoned for (II Sam. 21:2-3). They were the kin of those who had been massacred. They were acting as "blood avengers" of their dead brethren. This means they had the right to demand satisfaction for their slaughtered relatives from the murderer. Saul, however, was already dead and could not expiate his crime.

Therefore, the Gibeonites declared to David, "Let seven men of his *sons* be delivered unto us, and we will hang them up unto the LORD in Gibeah of Saul . . ." (verse 6). David agreed to this request (verses 6-9).

Was this a case of the children being

put to death for their father's sins? Not at all. Although such may seem to be the case at first glance, notice carefully what God said. "It is for *Saul*, and **FOR HIS BLOODY HOUSE**, because he slew the Gibeonites" (verse 1).

Saul himself was not the only guilty party. His whole house, or family, was implicated in this crime! The clear Scriptural indication, therefore, is that even the sons of Saul, who followed him into battle, were **GUILTY** of the blood of the Gibeonites!

This entire affair, remember, was very unusual. The aggravated circumstances of the outrage committed by Saul and his house cried aloud for **JUSTICE**. To see that justice would be done, God caused a famine to strike all Israel, punishing them, and bringing the enormity of the crime to David's attention. The king could not refuse the request of the Gibeonites since they were actually exercising their lawful right as the blood avengers. Although Saul himself was the *instigator* of the original crime, the indication is that *many* of his sons and grandsons were the willing instruments of his cruelty — the zealous executioners of this bloody raid on the Gibeonites.

"I have heard some say the Old Testament God was a harsh God who demanded 'an eye for an eye.' But a loving Jesus came to do away with His Father's harsh law of bondage. Would you please explain this."

L. L. G., England

Many have read the command in Exodus 21:24-25 with shocked amazement at the assumed cruelty of the God of the Old Testament. They suppose anyone causing a person accidentally to lose sight of an eye would immediately be seized, held down, and have *his* eye gouged out!

But is this true? Let's understand the *real* meaning of these instructions.

The context in which we find this command of "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth" is explaining the principle of *just recompense* for any wrong done. The very next verse shows that if a person causes his slave to lose his eye or tooth, the slave must be freed as a **PAYMENT** for the injury — workmen's compensation. Verses 18 and 19 of the same chapter discuss the matter of one person injuring another. What is the punishment? ". . . he shall *pay* for the loss of his time, and shall cause him to be thoroughly healed." It was a matter of *payment* or recompense — not revenge by inflicting the same injury.

Then verse 22 shows that a person should be punished if he causes a pregnant woman to have a miscarriage. What is the punishment in this case? Again it is ". . . and he shall *pay* as the judges determine." The whole context of the "eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth" command is concerned with the matter of just recompense or payment for the injury caused.

The purpose of Christ's teachings in the "Sermon on the Mount" was to magnify the Old Testament law, not annul it (Isaiah 42:21; Matthew 5:17-19). Since the intent of the law was love of God and neighbor (Matthew 22:36-40), Christ was better showing us how to love our fellowman.

In Matthew 5:38-42 Christ shows that a true Christian should be willing to suffer wrong done to him if necessary (I Peter 2:19-20). For instance, Christ paid a tax which really did not apply to Him (Matthew 17:24-27). Paul gave us the instructions that followers of God should be in complete submission to government authority even though it was unjust at times (Romans 13:1-7).

The instructions given to Moses about "an eye for an eye" were not some cruel yoke of bondage. They were laws set up to regulate a society in a fair and just manner. Christ was not doing away with the law as some have supposed — He was showing what a *Christian's* attitude should be when unjustly wronged.

What Does *Pentecost* Mean To You?

Why are so few being converted today? And why were YOU chosen to be among those few? Here is the real meaning of God's third annual Holy Day Festival—and why it is so VITAL to your salvation!

by Richard H. Sedliacik

THE churches of this world teach that this is the *only* day of salvation — that all who will ever be “saved” are being saved *now*.

If this were really true, what a failure God's plan has been — since only a VERY FEW have been converted since the Holy Spirit was first given!

Today, baptized members who make up the true Church of God are only an infinitesimal fraction of earth's nearly 3½ billion inhabitants. We are only about *one* in every 100,000, or .00001% of earth's population!

But why so few? Do you know why YOU are among these privileged few? The third annual festival of God's Master Plan of salvation for this world explains it.

The Wave Sheaf

In Leviticus 23, we find listed *all* of God's festivals, proclaimed to be holy convocations. First is the *weekly* convocation — the Sabbath, the seventh day of the week. Then, beginning in verse 4, we find a list of all the *annual* festivals — also commanded assemblies — which were to be proclaimed “in their seasons.”

The Passover is the first of these annual festivals. It is followed by the Days of Unleavened Bread with the two annual Sabbaths beginning and ending the festival.

Beginning in verse 9, we find instructions for the wave-sheaf offering. Though this ceremony is no longer commanded to be observed today, it

has *vital meaning* for the New Testament Church of God.

The Israelites were not allowed to harvest their grain until the wave sheaf was offered. It was on the day *following* the weekly Sabbath which fell DURING the Days of Unleavened Bread, that the first sheaf of grain was cut and brought to the priest. He then solemnly waved it before the Eternal to be accepted for them.

This ceremony actually pictured the *resurrected* Christ being accepted of the Father as the very *first* human being to be BORN of God — the “first-fruit” of those to be born into the Kingdom, or Family of God! (I Cor. 15:20, 23; Rom. 8:29; Col. 1:18.) (The full significance of the wave sheaf will be explained later.)

By comparing John 20:17 with Matthew 28:9, we see that Christ presented Himself before the Father on the day AFTER His resurrection. This fulfillment of the wave-sheaf offering actually occurred on Sunday, the “morrow after the [weekly] Sabbath” during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Counting Fifty Days

Next, comes the festival of *Pentecost* — the “Feast of Firstfruits,” or “Feast of Weeks.” The word “Pentecost” is a Greek word signifying *fiftieth*.

Notice the properly translated plain instruction concerning Pentecost beginning in Leviticus 23:15-16: “And ye shall *count* unto you FROM the morrow

after the Sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Sabbaths [WEEKS] shall be complete: even unto the morrow after the seventh Sabbath [WEEK] shall ye number fifty days. . . .”

That *fiftieth* day is PENTECOST!

“And ye shall proclaim on the self-same day, that it may be an holy convocation unto you: ye shall do no servile work therein: it shall be a STATUTE FOREVER in all your dwellings throughout your generations” (verse 21).

The Day of Pentecost is the only annual Sabbath which must be determined every year by COUNTING. However, it is really very simple to figure. Any child should be able to start numbering *from* a definite day and count fifty days.

We have already seen that the wave sheaf was waved on the day *after* the weekly Sabbath which fell DURING the Days of Unleavened Bread. So we must always start counting from a *Sunday* — not a Saturday!

The simple little word “*from*” means, according to Webster's Dictionary, “away out of.” The day you count as number one day *from* Sunday is Monday — the very first day that is “*away out of*” Sunday. You cannot number Sunday as the first day from Sunday, because it is not away from it or out of it, but still in it.

There are actually two ways to count Pentecost. First, seven full WEEKS (49 days) are counted *from* the Sunday

following the weekly Sabbath of the Days of Unleavened Bread, which brings you to the *seventh* Sunday. Then we must count "even unto the morrow" *after* the seventh Sunday, which brings us to the fiftieth day — Monday, the Day of Pentecost.

The other method of counting Pentecost is to merely count fifty days *from* the same Sunday during the Days of Unleavened Bread. The *fiftieth* day is Pentecost. It is really very simple! One day from Sunday is Monday. Two days from Sunday is Tuesday. And so on until you count fifty days from that Sunday.

You'll find that Monday will *always* be the fiftieth day — the Day of Pentecost!

Pentecost in the New Testament

God commanded the Day of Pentecost to be observed *forever* (Lev. 23:21). Jesus did not abolish Pentecost or any of the other annual Holy Days, as the churches of this world have us believe.

Quite to the contrary, Jesus *founded* His New Testament Church on the annual Day of Pentecost!

In Acts 1:4-5, we find that Jesus told His disciples to *wait* in Jerusalem so they could receive the Holy Spirit — the divine power of God which would put them into His Church (I Cor. 12:13). It was on the Feast of Firstfruits — Pentecost, June 18, 31 A.D. — that God first gave the Holy Spirit to mankind, and established His spiritual New Testament Church!

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they [the disciples] were all with one accord in one place" (Acts 2:1). Notice that the Day of Pentecost *was already* FULLY COME and the disciples were in one accord when they were filled with the Holy Spirit of God. If they had not been obediently assembled together keeping this day which was commanded by God, they would not have received the gift of the Holy Spirit!

Thousands of devout Jews from many lands were also assembled at Jerusalem to celebrate this annual festive Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:5-12).

But these Jews did not come to receive the Holy Spirit. They were unconverted, but devout men, who did not as yet know the way of salvation.

These Jews had to ask Peter, "What shall we do?" (Acts 2:37), after being convicted by his inspired sermon. About 3,000 people received the Holy Spirit on that memorable Day of Pentecost, after repentance and baptism.

Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, also understood that the annual festivals — including Pentecost — were still to be observed by God's New Testament Church. He "determined to sail by Ephesus, because he would not spend the time in Asia: for he hasted, if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the *day of Pentecost*" (Acts 20:16). Paul wanted to keep Pentecost in Jerusalem *thirty years after the death of Christ!*

In I Corinthians 16:8 we find Paul, the teacher of the Gentiles, spending the Day of Pentecost in Ephesus, a Gentile city. Yes, Pentecost, together with the other annual festivals, continued to be observed by all those of the original true Church of God *long after Christ's death!*

Now let's notice the special *reason* why God sent the Holy Spirit on that day, and the special *meaning* of the Day of Pentecost FOR US TODAY!

The Meaning of Pentecost

God intends His annual holy days to keep us constantly in the true *understanding* of His great Master Plan of salvation. He selected the yearly *material* harvest in Palestine to picture His *spiritual* harvest of human beings.

As most of you already know, there are *two* annual harvest seasons in Palestine. First comes the smaller spring harvest, followed by the much greater main harvest in the fall of the year.

And so God intended the "Feast of Firstfruits," which He ordained forever at the *end* of the spring harvest season, to picture to His Church annually that He is calling a special FEW during this age to become His spirit-begotten children — that we are

merely the "*firstfruits*" of His great spiritual harvest! (James 1:18; Rom. 8:23.)

Throughout the New Testament, Christians are spoken of as having been called out of the world. It is only the "elect" or chosen few who are being called today. The rest of the world is blinded so that God could — IN THE FUTURE — have mercy upon ALL (Romans 11:7, 32).

God began selecting the "*firstfruits*" of salvation on the DAY OF PENTECOST in 31 A.D. when He sent the Holy Spirit to beget His disciples. This feast pictures annually this great event in God's Master Plan of salvation.

Why Always on a Monday

The "harvesting" of the firstfruits of God's plan is pictured in Leviticus 23, beginning with verse 9. Here the material harvest of grain is a type of the harvest of God's *spiritual* firstfruits.

As explained before, the Israelites were not permitted to harvest their grain until the wave sheaf was offered. This ritual, given to the Levitical Priesthood to perform and therefore not practiced today, pictured the *resurrected* Christ being accepted by the Father as the very *first* human being to be born of God.

Notice that the wave sheaf did NOT picture the resurrection of Christ. It pictured the *resurrected Christ* being accepted of the Father on SUNDAY, the day *after* His resurrection.

Since Christ is the *first* of the firstfruits of God's spiritual harvest (I Cor. 15:20, 23), and was accepted by the Father on the Sunday after his resurrection — portrayed by the wave sheaf offered on the *first* day of the week — then we who are *second* in order to be reaped — "afterward they that are Christ's at His coming" — are logically pictured by the Feast of Firstfruits (Pentecost) which falls on the SECOND DAY of the week, or Monday!

Most to Be Called Later

If the churches of this world had been keeping God's annual holy days

which He commanded to be kept forever and which the New Testament Church kept faithfully, they would have understood God's wonderful plan of salvation. They would have understood that God is *not* desperately trying to save everyone now!

Notice that the Passover, the Days of Unleavened Bread and Pentecost fall at the *beginning* of the year. The great events these spring festivals picture occurred at the *beginning* of the New Testament era!

But the group of holy days coming at the END of the year, in the fall, all symbolize tremendous events in God's plan of salvation *yet to occur in the future!* They all come in the SEVENTH MONTH — and their fulfillment will begin in the *seventh thousand-year period* since creation!

Today, the Good News of the coming Kingdom of God is to be preached merely as a "*witness unto all nations*" (Matt. 24:14). Although millions have heard the gospel preached, only a FEW are actually chosen of God to become the *firstfruits* of salvation now. Only a FEW have been granted *understanding*.

WE ARE THOSE FEW!

We are the CHOSEN FEW — along with the *firstfruits* who died in Christ since the Holy Spirit was first given — who shall be made immortal at Christ's second coming, and shall REIGN with Him on earth for a thousand years!

As God's *firstfruits*, we are being tried and tested now to *qualify* for positions as kings and priests in the Kingdom of God under Jesus Christ — when He shall set His hands to SAVE THE WHOLE WORLD!

Holy Spirit Prepares Firstfruits

What God is actually creating in *Spiris*-begotten humans is the supreme masterpiece of all His works of creation. He is in the process of creating Sons of God — children to be born into His own Family. And He is doing it by and through the power of His Holy Spirit!

Each adult human being can be com-

pared to an "egg" or "ovum" which has a very limited life span. This human "ovum" will live only an average of 70 years. But *spiritual*, divine, immortal life may be imparted to it by the entrance into it of the HOLY SPIRIT, which comes from the very Person of GOD the Father.

Just as the physical male sperm finds its way to, and unites with the *nucleus* in the female ovum, so God's Spirit enters and combines with the human MIND! This is possible because there is a *spirit* essence IN man with which the Holy Spirit unites.

After our begetting by the Spirit, we then have the presence of ETERNAL LIFE — God life — through God's Holy Spirit, but we are not yet immortal Spirit beings. We are merely *spiritually begotten* of God — not yet born!

But *IF* God's Holy Spirit dwells in us until death, or until Christ comes if we remain alive, God will give us immortality at the resurrection BY His Spirit that "dwelleth in us" (Rom. 8:11; I Cor. 15:49-53). Our physical, mortal bodies will then be changed into glorious, *spiritual* IMMORTAL bodies!

But as the physical fetus must grow large enough to be born physically, so the spirit-begotten Christian must *grow* in grace, and in the knowledge of Christ (II Peter 3:18) before he can be born *spiritually*. He must, with the help of God's Spirit, overcome human nature, and the sinful pulls of the world and the devil. He must grow and develop in spiritual CHARACTER during this lifetime, in order to be BORN into the Kingdom of GOD!

The begotten Christian must gradually, continually, develop the divine, SPIRITUAL character of love, faith, patience, gentleness, humility, kindness, temperance — just as the physical fetus gradually develops one by one the physical organs, features and characteristics of a human being before it is finally born into the human family.

Then, at Christ's coming, the Spirit-begotten child of God shall be instantaneously BORN of God as Jesus was!

It is then that we, as the firstfruits of God, will have the opportunity of bringing the same salvation to all the world during the much greater fall *spiritual* harvest of God's Plan.

Our Part in Saving the World

A *tremendous job* lies ahead of us! As the born-again "firstfruits" of God, we will have the great privilege of directly assisting Christ in SAVING THIS ENTIRE WORLD — including those billions of people who have lived and died without saving knowledge.

When we really understand it, salvation is education. We will be called upon to RE-EDUCATE the entire world! But you must first be EDUCATED yourself — before you can *educate others*. This is *why* you were called now.

This is *your* day of salvation — the time you are acquiring your spiritual education. You are actually "attending class" every Sabbath and Holy Day service. You are also being educated through the broadcast, the telecast, and the various publications of Ambassador College, *now* — so you can help educate all the inhabitants of the earth in *their* day of salvation.

If we are diligent to make this instruction a part of our very lives, and are zealous in personal Bible study and prayer — if we are DOERS of the Word and not *hearers* only — then we will pass our "final exam" by being born of God at the resurrection. We will then be QUALIFIED to become *world rulers* and EDUCATORS — to teach the entire world the way to peace, happiness and prosperity.

How wonderful is God's Plan of salvation — when we understand the real meaning of His festivals!

As the Day of Pentecost approaches, think about its meaning, and how *you* fit into God's great Master Plan for saving the whole world. Be thankful to God for His mercy in choosing you *now* to be one of His FIRSTFRUITS, and dedicate yourself to *fulfilling* His purpose in your life with greater zeal.

The whole world is waiting for *you!*