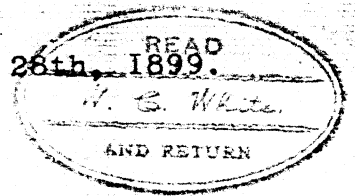


53 Mercers Road, London, N., Dec. 28th, 1899.



DEAR BROTHER WHITE:--

Your letter of the 6th inst., with some enclosures, reached me in due time, but I have been so fully occupied with my work that I have not found time to reply. Not only so, but my long letter of a few weeks ago stated matters to you so fully that I hardly thought it was necessary to hasten any further reply.

One or two of the copies to which you made reference were not enclosed, but Dr. Waggoner showed me what he received, and I have also heard from Bro. Daniells. After placing the general situation of the work here before you as fully as I did in my last letter, I think you will understand that there is no need of my saying much about our co-operating with the plans which you suggest concerning the international publishing interests. When I get a little more time I will write you further, and may be able to lay before you some further developments with reference to our situation here.

I note by the copies of your letters to Bro. C. H. Jones and to Bro. Bacon, that you have given a conditional order for forwarding a set of plates for "Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing," but of course I do not know whether it will result in anything or not.

During the last month I have been away from London all the time except for a few hours once or twice a week, as I am now conducting a Bible Institute at Redhill, Surrey, about twenty miles from here, where we have purchased a mill for our food business, and where Dr. Kress has rented a large private house in which to begin our Sanitarium work. We are starting in rather a small way, as we are obliged to do, but think that it may be the beginning of a permanent training work. There are six in the nurses' training class, and twelve in the Institute. The two classes are combined for evening instruction, and I have been conducting the Bible study. Health lectures are given either by Doctor or Mrs. Kress. During the day the nurses' class are busy with their work, and the members of the institute are selling our publications in Redhill and adjoining towns. This extra work of course keeps me very busy, and I do not have the usual time for other matters, but I am trying to keep to keep them up as best I can.

I do not know that I need to say much with reference to Dr. Waggoner's invitation to Australia. I see by your letter to him that your proposal to have Bro. W.A. Colcord take his place here does not meet with the favour of the brethren there, and so would not probably be carried out in any case. In the meantime, Bro. Waggoner has cabled that it is impossible for him to go at present, and has written you at some length concerning the matter. If you really understood our situation here, I do not think you could possibly expect Bro. Waggoner to pack up and leave on short notice with no one to take his place in the work here. But as he has written you at some length, I need not add anything further.

We have had some rather severe weather during the past month, with more snow than I have seen at any time before in England. Take it altogether, I think it has been our most trying winter thus far, and some of our workers are feeling its effects quite seriously. I hope you are all well, and that the work in Australia is going forward prosperously. With kind regards to all the friends, I remain,  
Yours faithfully,

20-12-28-99

and the Echo Publishing Co. I know that orders for books are not being filled promptly and shall not be surprised if there is serious complaint about it, but I cannot help it. I do not have anything to do with the direct policy in regard to such matters. At the same time I know that Bro. Bacon has not dared to stock up with these books, not knowing when the Echo Co. might decide to print their own books or order direct from America, and so leave him with a stock on his hands. Besides this, in spite of all that he can do, the debt of the ~~MMMM~~ Echo Co. to this office is increasing and there is no available capital which to invest in books for them. The whole situation is very unsatisfactory all around and does not seem likely to be any better, so far as I can see.

I do not know whether Bro. Bacon has made any reply to your letter to him, a copy of which you sent to me, dealing with Desire of Ages, Coming King, Thoughts From The Mount of Blessing, &c. He has said nothing to me about it one way or the other, and has not asked for any meeting of the directors to consider the questions.

I think I have said enough so that you will understand how things are going here and so I will leave it here.

W. W. P.

20-12-28-99

P. S. - I think I will try to write a few lines myself to give you a further idea of the way things are going so far as our publishing work is concerned. From what I wrote before you will have a general idea of the situation and perhaps will not be especially surprised at the later developments.

For some time Dr. Waggoner has been at work upon a book and more than a year ago he had it ready for publication. The office did not have the money with which to bring it out and so one of our brethren here offered to furnish the money to Bro. Waggoner to have it printed. It is now printed and at a recent meeting of the directors the question of having the imprint of the I. T. S. Ltd. on it and having it handled by the office was considered, but no encouragement was given that the office would really try to sell the book and so it will be published and sold by the same brother who has helped thus far with it. When it comes to such a pass that books have to be published by the ~~own~~ brethren themselves in order to get them before the people, not because the matter is objected to but because the office is not in condition to do the work, I would like to know what it amounts to that we have a "London publishing house". I am seriously thinking of resigning my position on the board of directors, as I do not care to remain in a false position any longer. I do not have anything to do with the practical working of the office and do not wish to stand responsible for its failure to do what ought to be done. Until there is a thorough change in the situation it is of no use to spend the time in writing about co-operation in any plans for developing the international publishing interests. I have heard indirectly that some of the brethren from America are likely to be here very soon on their way to assist Bro. Olsen in Christiana, and if so I shall take occasion to talk over matters with them. I may also add that I do not wish to be held responsible for the conduct of the business as between this office