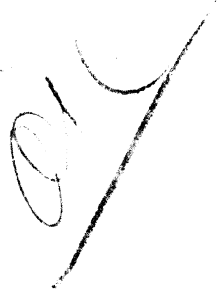


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General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
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December 8, 1904.

Elder W. C. White,
Sanitarium, Napa Co., Cal.

Dear Brother White:-

I received in due time your letter of November 16th, written from National City, and was glad to hear from you again.

The obituary notice of Sister Davis was published as soon as received. This you have doubtless observed from the REVIEW. It seemed to me that you had prepared a very suitable article and thought it was not necessary for me to attempt to add anything to it.

I shall be glad to hear from you further with reference to your talk with your mother concerning the clipping which I forwarded to you from the Minnesota paper. I hope she is much improved in health by this time and is able to speak to the people.

I have read the copy of your recent letter to Brother Butler which you forwarded to Brother Daniells, and I was considerably stirred to learn from it of the feeling and attitude of the brethren in the south toward the General Conference officers and their alleged influence against the circulation of the Southern Watchman. I appreciated very much the position which you took in the letter, and I hardly need to assure you that we have not even thought of exerting any influence against

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the use of the Watchman in the Missionary Campaign. We have tried to be impartial in our advertising and to commend to the attention of the people all the publications recommended at the College View Council. I have written Brother Butler plainly about this matter and enclose you a copy of my letter to him.

I am unable to find any real basis for the conclusion to which the brethren have jumped concerning our attitude toward the work, and after the earnest effort which we have made to co-operate with them in every move made in behalf of the work in the south, this experience makes me almost hopeless of being able to overcome what seems to me an unreasonable prejudice against our administrative work.

While writing this letter I will mention to you one of the things which the Southern Publishing Association has just done, and submit to you whether we do not have just grounds for complaint. Without conferring in any way with the General Conference Committee or the Sabbath School Department, the Southern Publishing Association have taken the copy for our Sabbath School lessons, for which the Sabbath School Department ^{has} paid ~~me~~, and is printing an edition of the Lesson Quarterly and are now advertising it for sale. I have not heard from them directly on this matter but am informed that their reason is that they think they can print them cheaper than they can buy them from the Pacific Press. But I should be glad to know what right they have to appropriate manuscript purchased by the Sabbath School Department and from which it derives a revenue, any more than to seize upon manuscript for a book which another publishing house has purchased.

There are other things worse than this which the brethren in the south are now doing and of which you will doubtless hear the particulars very soon. and under all these circumstances their charges against

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us seem to me to come with a very poor grace. If you can do anything to help us straighten out this tangle, it will be greatly appreciated.

You will be interested to know that there is very excellent prospect of the settlement of our land case. The attorney for the Thornton heirs has proposed a compromise, which is really an acceptance of the decrees of the courts with possibly sufficient variation to serve as a salve for their feelings. I have just been informed by Mr. Lambert, the attorney for the Thornton heirs, that in his opinion there will be nothing to prevent the deeds being executed next week, for the property both in the District and the State of Maryland.

As soon as this is accomplished we propose to proceed at once to erect the General Conference office building with the purpose of having it completed and available for use during the next General Conference. It is probable that the Publishing Association will not begin building operations before early spring.

At a meeting of our trustees held last Monday it was recommended that Brother Curtiss should visit California next month and make a personal inspection of the Pacific Press Company's new plant with a view to getting all the help possible in planning our own building. He will doubtless time his visit so as to attend the annual meeting of the Press and the proposed book men's convention.

You must not forget that you are still a member and officer of our Board, and we shall be glad to hear from you at any time with suggestions concerning our work.

Judge Hopkins has signed the decree for the sale of the Review and Herald property at Battle Creek as an undivided whole, requiring an acceptable bid to be accompanied by \$50,000.00 in cash or bona fide obligations against the Association. As we now hold probably at least

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\$60,000.00 worth of the Association's obligations, we shall of course be well prepared to meet this condition, while it is hardly probable that any one else would care to attempt it. The sale will probably take place about the 10th of January.

I do not think of any other matters of interest which have not been fully reported in the REVIEW.

We are all in usual health and pressed as hard as ever with our work.

With kind regards to yourself and associates, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

W. C. Prescott

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