

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD
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SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

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RICHMOND, VA. Nov. 23, 1915

Rev. J.E. Davis,

*2^a Bolivia, No. 1½, Sta. Julia,
Colon de Sto Tomas, D.F., Mexico
Alzate # 5, Mexico City.*

Dear Mr. Davis:-

We are trying to get a systematic record of the children of our missionaries and in order to complete this record we need the birth dates of your children.

We shall greatly appreciate it if you will give us this information.

Cordially yours,

Blanche White

Stenographer.

*Irene Davis --- June 4, 1898
Frank Davis --- April 6, 1902
Edgar Davis --- Feb. 10, 1907*

J. E. Davis

Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

"El Bautista,"
"El Expositor Bíblico,"
"Nuestros Niños,"

Libros
y Folletos Evangélicos.

J. E. DAVIS, Admor.

Progreso Núms. 52 y 54.

Apartado Postal Núm. 90.

Departamentos de
Imprenta,
Rayados y Encuadernación
para
trabajos del público.

DIRECCIÓN PROVISIONAL:

2ª CALLE DE BOLIVIA, NÚM. 1½

Sta. Julia, D. F., Méx.

León, Gto., Méx.,

Sta. Julia, D. F., México. Nov. 30, 1915.

Dr. T. B. Ray,

Dear Brother:--

Your letter of Oct. 30th, went to León, and as it was very hard to get in there, and once in, perhaps more difficult to get out, I did not get it till a day or so ago. Was indeed glad to hear from you, and interested in what you had to say about the plant. I am trying to do my duty as I see it, and if I make a blunder, well, it will be nothing more than all my fellows have done and will do from time to time. I shall try to do the Lord's work as He would have me do it. I wrote you again some time ago, but have not yet received any reply. I am anxiously awaiting your answer to that letter, on which much depends. And still I hear from you, can't do anything toward arranging the troubles that have presented themselves. Undoubtedly something has to be done and that immediately, as our men can not live on \$4 or \$5 gold per month, when everything is costing so much.

I am paying common typesetters as much as we are paying our pastors, and even more. To one man I pay \$30 per week, and even with that he has to live very economically. So I hope I may soon hear from you, so as to be able to take some steps toward relieving the situation of our men. I told you that Mr. Neal was opposed to raising their pay very much, and that is the reason I had to appeal to you--a deadlock.

Yes, I have received a part of my back salary, and Mr. Neal will send me the rest when I need it, and I have written him instructions about it. But the Lord took care of us and neither myself nor my family suffered from want of something to eat. I tell you, He will take care of those that stick to Him and trust His promises. How I do wish all our men had been in a place to hear His voice and feel His presence and know that He was filling and blessing them, even as I have been. It would have been a great blessing for the work in Mexico, I think.

I can't say anything about politics here, as I do not know what to expect. I am not very hopeful yet, but let us trust the Lord and I know that it will all come out well.

Thanks for your kind offer to get me in to the "Congress" in Panamá, but I fear that I will not be able to spare the money. I was thinking that I could perhaps, that is, when I wrote you before, but now that I have paid off my debts which were more than I had calculated, and have made some inquiries about what it will cost to make the trip, I do not think I can do it. I would like to go the best kind, but can't decide yet.

You are doing right not to name delegates. That is according to Baptist usage. They are going to do many things on paper, and we are going to go ahead like we have always done, plodding

This is the address to use now.

along and making conquest of "all nations" while they talk great high sounding plans for the saving of the whole world "in one generation, etc." That sounds good, but it is not the Lord's plan. Our business is to preach the Gospel, gather the fruit one by one, dig down to the rock foundation, lay well the first stones, where they have not yet been laid, and trust in God. I know no other way. How much rubbish there has been in much of our planning and talking! How much that has not been worthy the name we bear! Some man invents a "catchy" phrase and we all ring the changes on it, to find at last that there was more wind in it than anything else. We exhort men to quit themselves like men and then run away ourselves when the battle is raging highest. Oh, consistency, etc.

"Back to Christ" I remember as one of the phrases, and we repeated it over and over, and then instead of quitting preaching to please the ear of ungodly men, we hunted the harder for "catchy" subjects and phrases to please and tickle the ear of men who needed instead the Gospel. Wonder why Peter or some other apostol did not preach a fine funeral sermon over the remains of Ananias and Saphira. The average preacher would have done it. Wonder why they did not quit teaching in the name of Jesus when they were ordered to by the Jewish Council. I fear that we would have done it. Wonder why Paul did not run away instead of setting his face steadfastly toward Jerusalem when they told him prophetically that nothing but bonds awaited him. I think most of us would have gone home on an indefinite furlough. Oh, well, why preach? This does no good. My audience is already of my mind, I am sure, and so it is better that I should close and get to writing on my Sunday School lessons, for three are yet to be written.

Pray for us. I have my hands full, and always intend to have them full of work for the Master. I am paying common sense I say. May the Lord bless and direct you in your work. I am ever with you. Fraternally yours, J. E. Davis

Yes, I have received a part of my back salary, and Mr. West will send me the rest when I need it, and I have written his instructions about it. But the Lord took care of us and neither myself nor my family suffered from want of something to eat. I tell you, He will take care of those that stick to Him and trust His promises. How I do wish all our men had been in a place to hear His voice and feel His presence and know that He was filling and blessing them, even as I have seen. It would have been a great blessing for the work in Mexico, I think. I don't say anything about politics here, as I do not know what to expect. I am not very hopeful yet, but let us trust the Lord and I know that it will all come out well.

Thanks for your kind offer to get me in to the Congress in Panama, but I fear that I will not be able to spare the money. I was thinking that I could perhaps, that is, when I wrote you before, but now that I have paid off my debts which were more than I had calculated, and have made some inquiries about what it will cost to make the trip, I do not think I can do it. I would like to go the best kind, but can't decide yet. You are doing right not to name delegates. That is so correct. They are going to do many things on paper, and we are going to go ahead like we have always done, planning