

October 18, 1923

Mr. J. E. Davis,
c/o Rev. W. E. Davis, Pastor,
Baptist Church,
Cameron, Mo.

Dear Davis:-

Thank you very much for your letter of September 29th. It came while our Board was in session in its annual meeting, and has not received attention since because I have been a bit overwhelmed in my correspondence.

The book called "Gracia" came to hand. I congratulate you upon it. It is certainly a very creditable production. I have not received a copy of "Winning to Christ" of which you speak. I would like to see it.

The Board at its meeting appropriated for the Mexican Publishing House \$24,000 Mex. There was nothing said in your estimates for next year about allowing the amount which was paid on Brother Boone's salary last year, so we did not include that item. We also cut out the item on equipment, because the Board appropriated for 1924 only for current expenses. We didn't allow for any equipment, the erection of any buildings or the purchase of any land in any one of our missions anywhere. We cut out all items for improvement and advancement, and provided only for the straight, running, current expenses. We appropriated \$2,046,000 which is half million dollars less than we appropriated last year. We cut out of the requests for appropriated for 1924 \$1,600,000. You can see from these figures that we have been very drastic in the appropriations. We have tried to take care of the work and keep it going for next year, but we can't guarantee any advance.

Of course we are hoping that the next few months will show a change in our receipts. At present the Board feels that it ought to be extremely conservative. We owe the banks of Richmond now \$1,344,000, and have made arrangement to borrow about \$700,000 more. You can see that we are going to be in a very grave condition unless our income is vastly increased.

Of course if things do get better we will loosen up in the amounts we send out to the fields. Taking such a course

as this has given us great heaviness of heart, but we have done the best we could. I hope you can take care of the salary of the foreman of the plant out of the appropriation that has been made. Why not get right in behind those unpaid accounts of yours and insist that these men pay them up? There isn't any excuse whatever for the Argentina Publishing House being behind. When they order books and supplies from you they guarantee to pay, and the Board makes appropriations for the expenses of the Argentina Publishing House, so there isn't any reason why they should ask you to keep an open account with them so long past due.

I am tickled to death to hear of the improvement in your health. I thank God for this good providence. His ways are wonderful.

It looked at once time as if I was going to be able to get to the New Mexico Convention, and if I had done that I would have come by to see you at El Paso, but when we came to figure it out, it was found it would be impossible for me to go to the other places I must go to and also attend the New Mexico Convention. I am going to the Texas Convention at Galveston but cannot go as far as New Mexico. It would have been a great joy to have seen you and Mrs. Davis.

My heart is right with you, old man, it is a great joy to serve along with you.

God bless you.

Cordially yours,

R/F