

# Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

P. O. Box 211

El Paso, Texas, E. H. A.

DEPARTAMENTO EDITORIAL

J. E. DAVIS, DIRECTOR

February 5th, 1934

Dr. Chas. E. Maddy,  
Richmond, Va.

Dear Brother;

Well, this is too bad! Just when we were thinking you were on the high seas and then in Paris and then in Rome, you were not there at all, but sick. I am sorry and hope that by now you are feeling yourself once more.

I wrote Miss Ford about the Sunday School Board matter, to find out if she knew anything about what they may have done. I take it they have either found no way to help us, or overlooked the matter, or just have not taken it up officially yet. In any case, I suppose we failed to get any immediate action.

It leaves us in a precarious condition. Mr. Benson finally turned everything over the 1st. He offered to before, if I wanted it that way. I assured him there was no hurry. So he is entirely out now. But I have a lot of problems to work out. Here is this NRA problem. Then we have the question of \$700.00 or \$800.00 taxes to pay some of these days, and that with penalty now, I suppose--at least a part of it. I have not even looked into that matter yet--have not had time. Then the matter of eliminating unskilled workmen paid at current wage of skilled labor. Oh, well, I have been at it many years, but am more nervous about it now than I ever was before, since we do not want one bit of trouble or suspicion even that we are not cooperating with the NRA. Personally I think we should not be classed under its provisions at all, and as soon as the new Director who is to be here in a few days, takes over the local situation, I shall have a conference with him about it all.

And the worst part of all is that it took my last cent to pay the workmen last Friday. In fact, we did not receive enough from the old management for it, and had to draw on all that came in the last two or three days of the week to piece it out. So today we are trying to get the literature for the second quarter all printed and folded, so we can lay off the most of our crew. We have plenty of "Bills Receivable" and some "Bills Payable" and it is up to me to see that they keep balanced. I shall try. You may count on me to do my dead level best.

When I find out just what the S. S. Board did or did not do, I think I shall take up the matter of some special appropriations for specific work. They might do that when they would not be willing to make a monthly allowance. What I mean is simply this; We have the MSS of a biography of Spurgeon, written by Rev. A. S. Rodríguez, of Cuba, who died the 9th of last month. He is one of our best writers--or rather, was. This is the Centennial of Spurgeon's birth. Such a matter as giving us sufficient money to publish an edition of that book would appeal to Dr. VanNess. Well, that is what I mean by "special appropriations." But I do not want to do this unless the other proposition is practically out



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J. E. DAVIS, DIRECTOR

of the question. We really need the monthly help we asked for, but if we cannot count on that, then we need whatever we can get out of them. And I am in favor of going after all we can get.

Dr. VanNess is a great schemer--not in any bad sense do I use this term with reference to him--and he will play for advantage. I was not permitted formerly to do any playing myself, so my hands were tied. But I feel that if we work this matter judiciously, we shall be able to get help in the end.

Fortunately Miss Hale writes that she will send us another book in a few days. This is a small one, but even small books will be a great help to tide over. Also I hope other work will come in, though of course we are coming to the "lean season" for printing.

I am going to write Dr. G. H. Lacy one of these days and ask him to help me with some editorial work. He is one of our best exegetes and I know will gladly help out. This will relieve me somewhat of so much of that kind of work. Some months ago he wrote offering to help me in any way he could.

Well, I hope you are on the road to complete recovery, and that I may soon have the pleasure as well as benefit of a reply to this. Give me any details you think I need, and also let me know what reaction, if any, you may have from my suggestions above.

May the Lord bless you and lead us all through these troublous times. He is still at the helm, and we shall weather the storm.

Most cordially and fraternally,

*J. E. Davis*



Feb. 7, 1934.

Rev. J. E. Davis,  
Mexican Baptist Publishing House,  
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Brother Davis:

I have a letter this morning from Dr. Van Ness saying that he has not yet presented the matter of our El Paso Publishing House to the Sunday School Board. He says, "It also involves a far-reaching question of taking up a new line of work. I will, however, bring it to the attention of the Board at the earliest possible date." So that is that. I do not know whether we are going to get any assistance from the Sunday School Board or not, but shall continue to hope.

With best wishes,

Yours truly,

M/P



Feb. 9, 1934.

Rev. J. E. Davis,  
Mexican Publishing House,  
Box 211, El Paso, Texas.

Dear Brother Davis:

I have your letter of Feb. 5th.

I had just written you giving the quotation from the letter of Dr. Van Ness. I am still hoping that they are going to do something for us and I want you to write Dr. Van Ness the most appealing letter you know how to write. I have written to him to say that unless we can get some relief we are going to be threatened with the possibility of closing our Spanish Publishing House. Please stand out for the \$300 per month. I suggest that you send him a night letter urging the importance of an immediate answer. This will hasten him somewhat and I will follow it up from this end of the line.

You did not tell me what Brother Benson had decided with reference to going back on the West Coast in mission work. I am anxious to know what his decision is, and I do hope that everything is agreeable and that he has no feeling in the matter.

Let us make up our minds to carry on the work of the Publishing House unimpaired this year just as far as possible. If the Sunday School Board does not help us and you get where you cannot go any further, let me know before you close down. Under a desperate situation like that we will be compelled to do something. Of course I know you will cut every corner you can and carry on just as long as you can, but the point I want to make is we must not close this Publishing House under any circumstances.

With love and best wishes for you,

Yours truly,

M/P



# Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

P. O. Box 211

El Paso, Texas, E. H. A.

DEPARTAMENTO EDITORIAL

J. E. DAVIS, DIRECTOR

February 13th, 1934

Dr. C. E. Maddry,  
Richmond, Va.

Dear Brother Maddry:

I have your two letters. Thanks for same.

When I received yours of the 7th, I felt sure you had not yet received my last letter. I shall now try to answer both in one.

Am sorry they are so slow over at Nashville about taking up our request, but of course, it is true that it involves for them "a far-reaching question of taking up a new line of work." And yet it is not so new. It seems to me that it is right along the same lines they have always followed. But that is not for us to decide, of course. I shall do my best to persuade Dr. VanNess that we must have help, and then let him and his Board do the rest. This very afternoon I shall write him and then in a few days I shall send him the night letter. I think he should have more than a mere night letter from me, so I shall send him an air mail letter this very day and then follow it up with the other.

Very well, as long as they do not turn our petition down there is hope. And as long as we have hope of landing what we asked for, it would not be wise to change tactics in the least. But if they do finally turn us down, then we can make the other appeal, which will not be a question of "taking up a new line of work," for they have done that often--that is, granted help for specific things. But that remains for the future, and I hope for the indefinite future, for what we need and must have is the \$300 monthly help to put us on our feet and get us through 1934. Rest assured that I shall do everything I can to land the appropriation.

Brother Benson seemed a bit sore at first. I think he imagined I had something to do with the letter you wrote him, and I was not in a position to say anything one way or the other. I just kept mum on the subject. He said at first that it seemed to him to be something unusual, and he spoke of resigning. I advised him not to do anything of the kind, since it would not be a great while till we old guys would have to go on the shelf, and since provision has now been made for us, it would be folly to "cut off the nose to spite the face." He turned everything over to me the first of the month, and the audit of the books was made a few days later. He has written to Mexico City to get permission to go into the country, and I understand that if he can get that permission he is thinking of moving to Mazatlan; if not, then he plans, I think, to live for the present in one of the border towns.

I have cut off every expense that could be cut off, suspended about all the employees for the time being, and am trying to catch my breath after the changes. We had the 2nd quarter's literature well along when I took it over, and as soon as we got that finished, I let the workmen have a rest, with the exception of the bindery girls and one man and a helper. As soon as we get the literature in the mails for the 2nd quarter, I shall let off one of the bindery girls for a while.

I have had a conference with the NRA man here. He tells me that he thinks I should make a statement of our situation and work, etc., etc., to the local Compliance Board



asking for some kind of easement. I do find that we do not have to pay the wages Mr. B. has been paying, yet we need some help that ~~ought~~ not to cost us so much money as the minimum required by the NRA. He thinks we can get the easement, and likely can employ some of that kind of labor at our own prices. The truth is, I have no use for this meddling, but as long as we are Christian citizens and government requirements do not run counter to conscientious principles, it is our duty to obey them. I am going to place these facts before this Board next Friday.

I like your last paragraph. We must not give in--must not concede defeat. Surely we can not be defeated. The Lord will help us some way. The only thing I regret is that I was a little too easy when Mr. Benson said we would have to suspend our monthly magazine, El Atalaya Bautista. We should have kept it going for it was our main advertising agency. We have to advertise our books and publications. With it we could do that, but without it, we are left without much of a medium. Our S.S. periodicals come out too infrequently, and we do not have space for advertisements.

We are not thinking about renewing this publication now, but I live in hopes, even if I die in despair. We need it, and I think likely if we should get that gift from the Sunday School Board, we could resuscitate it.

I am praying the Lord to in some way send us money to pay the taxes. I think we owe nearly \$800 for the past year--due now. I think there will be no penalty attached till May, so I hope in some way to have them out of the way by then, though I have not the slightest idea where that amount is coming from. The Lord has lots of money and lots of ways of meeting our great needs. He has done it <sup>so</sup> many times that I just feel that some way He will do it again.

Like you, I feel that in some way we just have to keep this work going, and I feel that in you we have a true sympathizer and that we can count on you to the utmost of your ability to help us out. I also know that your hands are tied with many obligations and so little to do with. But the Lord will provide some way.

A small book has just come in from Miss Hale. We expect to begin on it in a few days. It is not much, yet it will help some. In the mean time maybe we shall be able to line up something else.

May the Lord richly bless you in your great work and sustain you as you carry it on under such stress and strain.

Most cordially yours in Him,

J. E. Davis



Feb. 13, 1934.

Rev. J. E. Davis,  
Mexican Baptist Publishing House,  
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Brother Davis:

Brother W. F. Hatchell writes me that he has \$93.52 dividend received from the closed National Bank of El Paso. He asks for instructions as to what shall be done with this amount. I am instructing him to send it to Brother Frank Marrs, our Treasurer, and am asking him to instruct Brother Marrs to send it to you as an extra appropriation for the Publishing House. I imagine you can use this \$93.52 all right during this time of crisis.

With best wishes,

Yours truly,

M/P



# Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

P. O. Box 211

El Paso, Texas, E. U. A.

DEPARTAMENTO EDITORIAL

J. E. DAVIS, DIRECTOR

February 17th, 1934

Dr. C. E. Maddry,  
Richmond, Va.

Dear Brother Maddry:

Am just in receipt of yours of the 13th. Thanks for same. Yes I feel sure that with \$93.52 added to our income we shall feel more like the Lord was listening to our prayers. I have been asking Him to pull us out some way, and He is going to do it SOME WAY, I do not know how, and after all that is not necessary. FAITH does not ask to know how, does it? Our income is poor indeed at the present, since I had to scrape around to find enough to meet the pay roll the day after it was turned over to me. Then came a reduction of force for the present. Then came some relief, and we are hoping to build up our reserve enough to pay the taxes before a big penalty is attached, which will not be till May 1st, I think it is.

I told you we were beginning another book for Miss Hale, which will keep us busy for some two or three weeks. I have written her my appreciation of this relief and have asked her to hurry along another, even suggesting that I would see that the work of correcting it would be done with little or no cost to her, though it would seem that I have already taken on just about all any mortal can carry. We want to pull out of this emergency--and WE ARE GOING TO, with the Lord's help.

Now, another matter just here before I forget it. I remember you said that you planned on so arranging the report of the Board that it could be used for mission study. I see in the last papers that Miss Coleman confirms this. Now, a question: Since I was appointed to write this report for Mexico, and since now what you will want there is the reports from the fields in order to re-write it all in the way that best suits, am I going to be expected to write this report--I mean, re-write it after getting all the reports in, or shall I just arrange the material as sent in and send all to you there? I rather think this is about what you will want. But please have Miss Coleman, or yourself, to let me know just what is expected. Reports are all in but one or two, and as soon as they get here, I shall give attention to getting this job off my hands.

I have been bombarding Dr. VanNess with information. He surely can not take offence at information. I have said little about money, just called his attention each time to the fact that we would have to have money to save this situation. That I did not know where it was to come from if they turned us down, etc. I have nothing from him yet. He is always slow about writing, as you already know.

Again I assure you that I personally appreciate your splendid cooperation in this work. You have grasped the situation splendidly, and the Lord is going in some way to help us through. I feel sure that I would despair were it not for your sympathetic concern for the future of this Publishing House.

May God richly bless you.

Fraternally yours,

*J. E. Davis*



Rev. J. E. Davis,  
P. O. Box 211,  
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Brother Davis:

I was glad to get your good letter of  
Feb. 13th.

I have heard nothing more from Dr. Van Ness of the Sunday School Board. I wrote him a strong letter and I hope that you will follow it up with a letter and with a night message also to Dr. Van Ness. If we fail to get something monthly, then lets go after something special. We are going to work on these boys over in Nashville until they get tired of us or give us some money.

In the meantime I am anxious to hear from Brother Benson and know that he has accepted all of this matter in good faith. I am certainly going to see to it that he is continued as a missionary, and would not think of accepting his resignation under any circumstances. If he cannot get back into Mexico, why I am in favor of using him out in the Panhandle of Texas or in the Western end of the state, to do deputation work until such time as we can get him back. The only point was there was not enough work connected with the Publishing House for both of you and if we can use him elsewhere without working any hardship upon him, I think that is the thing he ought to be in favor of also. I feel sure that he will take the right attitude toward it all.

Now in the meantime, I am making my plans to run down into Mexico for a little trip after the meeting of the Convention in Fort Worth. Misses Ford, Hunter and Coleman will doubtless be with me. Please advise me the best way to go. I want to go the best and safest way, and, of course, at the least possible expense. Would it be better to get one of the missionaries to take his car and drive us through from El Paso, or should we go by train? We shall want to go as far South as Mexico City, and, if possible, visit our mission work in Southern Mexico. Please confer with Brethren Benson and Hatchell and make out an itinerary for me, and suggest the best thing to be done under all the circumstances. I want it all worked out before we go to Fort Worth, and I wish you would also suggest just how long we ought to take for the trip. If you can make it within ten days, I will appreciate it, because we will be needed here in the office very much.

With best wishes for you,

M/P

(Over)

Yours truly,



P. S. Please let me say that the NRA Manager here in Richmond ruled that the Foreign Mission Board was a beneficent organization and that we did not come under the ruling of the NRA, so we have never come under the Blue Eagle. I do not think you will be required to come under either.

Also let me say that if I can possibly do it, I am going to find \$800 for those taxes by June 1st, if possible.

M.E.C.

Dear Brother Davis:

I was glad to get your good letter of

Feb. 13th.

I have heard nothing more from Dr. Van Ness of the Sunday School Board. I wrote him a strong letter and I hope that you will follow it up with a letter and with a night message also to Dr. Van Ness. If we fail to get something monthly, then let's go after something special. We are going to work on these boys over in Nashville until they get tired of us or give us some money.

In the meantime I am anxious to hear from Brother Benson and know that he has accepted all of this matter in good faith. I am certainly going to see to it that he is continued as a missionary, and would not think of accepting his resignation under any circumstances. If he cannot get back into Mexico, why I am in favor of using him out in the Panhandle of Texas or in the Western end of the state, to do deputations work until such time as we can get him back. The only point was there was not enough work connected with the Publishing House for both of you and I can use him elsewhere without working any hardship upon him. I think that is the thing he ought to be in favor of also. I feel sure that he will take the right attitude towards it all.

Now in the meantime, I am making my plans to run down into Mexico for a little trip after the meeting of the Convention in Fort Worth. Misses Ford, Hunter and Helman will doubtless be with me. Please advise me the best way to go. I want to go the best and safest way, and, of course, at the least possible expense. Would it be better to get one of the missionaries to take his car and drive us through from El Paso, or should we go by train? We shall want to go as far South as Mexico City, and, if possible, visit our mission work in Southern Mexico. Please confer with Brother Benson and Hatcher and make out an itinerary for me, and suggest the best thing to be done under all the circumstances. I want it all worked out before we go to Fort Worth, and I wish you would also suggest just how long we ought to take for the trip. If you can make it within ten days, I will appreciate it, because we will be needed here in the office very much.

With best wishes for you,

Yours truly,

(Over)

M/F



# Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

P. O. Box 211

El Paso, Texas, E. U. A.

DEPARTAMENTO EDITORIAL

J. E. DAVIS, DIRECTOR

February 20th, 1934

Dear Brother Maddry:

Am just in receipt of the Annuity Policy, or Certificate, or whatever it really is. Thanks for same. This will be a good thing for a lot of us older missionaries. However, I want to continue in this work I am engaged in for a long time yet, if it is the Lord's will. I feel that it has taken all these years to get the necessary preparation for this kind of service. Yet we never know when we are going to go to pieces, and provision for the inevitable is wise.

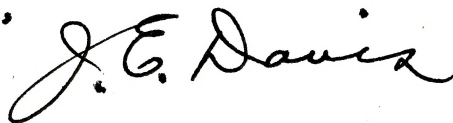
I have heard nothing from Dr. VanNess yet. Am going to send him that night letter tonight, hoping to get an answer from him of some kind. He can not say that we failed to place before him information.

Bro. Benson was in a few minutes ago and said that Mexico City has turned him down flat. Of course, that was to be expected. He will undoubtedly inform you in detail.

May the Lord richly bless you in your work.

Most cordially yours,

*P.S. I am sending you  
a roll of our publications  
for 2nd. Quarter.*





I wrote you some days ago with reference to our proposed trip into Mexico after the Convention. Please consult with the program associated with you at El Paso, and let me know your decision about the trip. Please tell me if we have to get passed 491, February 21, 1934. I think there will be four of us in the party, and we shall want to see as much of our mission work as possible. Will it be best for us to go by train or by auto? I shall appreciate anything you can do for me in working out this trip.

With best wishes, I am,

Yours very truly,

Rev. J. E. Davis,  
Box 211,  
El Paso, Texas

Dear Brother Davis:-

Your letter of February 17th came this morning, and I was glad indeed to hear from you. I was glad that we could pass on to you the \$93.52.

Of course I cannot make any definite promise, but I have high hopes of getting some extra funds a little later, and if I do, I shall certainly divide with you.

I am glad to know that Miss Hale gave you the book, and I hope she will give you another, and that somehow you will be able to pull through.

I hope you will keep up the bombarding of Dr. VanNess. Give him all the information you have, and at last you will have to wire him before you get an answer, and I doubt then if you will get it. I shall reenforce you from this end of the line in every way possible.

With respect to the annual report of the Mexican Mission, it is our desire that you write the report just as you have always been doing. We want to take all of these reports after we get them, and maybe edit them somewhat so that we can make out of our whole report a supplemental mission study book. Of course we would not have time to take all the reports from the different missionaries and stations and whip them into shape and write a report. By all means, we want you to write the report, but we wanted you to keep in mind the fact that what you write is going to be used as a collateral book for mission study. Of course we want you to make it just as fine as you can.



I wrote you some days ago with reference to our proposed trip into Mexico after the Convention. Please consult with the brethren associated with you at El Paso, and let me know your decision about the trip. Please tell me if we have to get passports, and just how we shall proceed. I think there will be four of us in the party, and we shall want to see as much of our mission work as possible. Will it be best for us to go by train or by auto? I shall appreciate anything you can do for us in working out this trip.

With best wishes, I am,

Yours very truly,

M/F

Rev. J. E. Davis,  
Box 211,  
El Paso, Texas

Dear Brother Davis:-

Your letter of February 17th came this morning, and I was glad indeed to hear from you. I was glad that we could pass on to you the \$28.33.

Of course I cannot make any definite promise, but I have high hopes of getting some extra funds a little later, and if I do, I shall certainly divide with you.

I am glad to know that Miss Hale gave you the book, and I hope she will give you another, and that somehow you will be able to pull through.

I hope you will keep up the bombardment of Dr. Van Ness. Give him all the information you have, and at last you will have to wire him before you get an answer, and I don't think if you will get it. I shall remember you from this and of the line in every way possible.

With respect to the annual report of the Mission, it is our desire that you write the report just as you have always been doing. We want to take all of these reports after we get them, and maybe edit them somewhat so that we can make out of our whole report a supplementary study book. Of course we would not have time to take all the reports from the different missions and stations and write them into shape and write a report. By all means, we want you to write the report, but we wanted you to keep in mind the fact that what you write is going to be used as a collateral book for mission study. Of course we want you to take it just as fine as you can.



Feb. 21, 1934.

Rev. J. E. Davis,  
Mexican Baptist Publishing House,  
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Brother Davis:

I wrote you this morning, but am writing again this afternoon to say that I think it would be advisable for you to write Miss Mallory at once and lay on her heart strongly the claims of the Mexican Baptist Publishing House. They are going to make up pretty soon their list of objectives for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering of 1934. They have put in something for the Mexican Publishing House already I understand, but I believe it will be a good thing for you to write to Miss Mallory and tell her of your needs. It certainly would not do any harm, and it may do great good for the future. We must reach out everywhere possible to get some money for that Publishing House.

Also a letter to Miss Blanche Sydnor White, W. M. U. Secretary, Richmond, Virginia, will do good. She is the chairman of their Committee. Of course, you do not want these good ladies to know that I suggested that you write them. Tell them of your desperate need now and something may come of it.

With love and best wishes,

M/P



# Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

P. O. Box 211

El Paso, Texas, E. U. A.

DEPARTAMENTO EDITORIAL

J. E. DAVIS, DIRECTOR

February 24th, 1934

Dr. C. E. Maddry,  
Richmond, Va.

Dear Brother;

Your good letter of the 19th received in due time. Thanks for same. I shall answer it at least partially this morning.

I have heard nothing yet from Dr. VanNess, and now that I have all the "dope" on the situation that I need to wire him a real strong ~~night~~ letter, I am going to delay no longer. I am going to have it in his office Monday morning, and it will be to the point. I shall ask him if we can count on ~~them~~ for anything under the present conditions which are going to be desperate in a short time. I shall ask for a reply at our expense. In fact, I may deposit the money here so there will be no excuse whatever for not answering. They should at least consider the matter and let us know one way or the other what to depend upon.

I had a talk with Bro. Benson yesterday after receiving your letter. He has written you. I feel sure that he is not offended in any way, but rather, now that the shock of it has worn off, thankful. I know I would be, if I had been a square peg trying to be fitted into a round hole for seven years. I have no doubt at all but that this was the proper move, not that I may not fail, for I see very little prospect now, unless the Sunday School Board comes to our relief, for next year. We may be able to pull through the present year, though that will depend upon how the good Lord takes care of us, and helps us make collections. But next year remains an enigma. But of course, we do not have to cross a bridge till we get to it. And the Lord has provided heretofore, and why will He not continue in some way to make it possible for us to "carry on?"

My son and I attended the meeting of the local Graphic Arts Association last night. The new code was reviewed and discussed from their standpoint. If their interpretations are correct then the Government is playing into the hands of the big fellow and the little competitor will be literally forced to the wall. And the "nasty" spirit of these men made me sick almost. They are gloating over the fact that they have the little printer on the hip, so to speak, and are already making plans to force him into their ring, or out of business entirely. I wonder if we are reverting to the original "cave-man" type, or if we have really ever advanced to anything like Christian civilization. If this is loving the neighbor as onesself, then I have missed the force of it. Jesus enforced the teaching of the prophet, "I will have mercy...." Ah, and these men are prominent churchmen--some Baptists.

As it appears just now the only thing we can do is to get out from under the NRA entirely, though we may be required to pay the scale of labor wage as indicated in the code. I shall take it up



Monday and see what can be done. We should never have rushed into it, and Mr. Benson would testify that I recommended that course, but He rushed right in and signed the NRA when it first came out. Now we are going to have to take the matter up with them in order to get out honorably, if so be we may be able to get out. I am glad you told me the decision of the NRA Manager there. That may help, yet it seems that each one is a law unto himself.

I could not help thinking all the time last night in that meeting that Americans have about ceased to be MEN and have become a nation of automaton. I predict that when the reaction comes, which is inevitable of course, these little dictators, imitators of their "Big Chief" will be the ones submerged. It has always been so, or I do not read history aright. But we are Christians, and while we are in the world, yet we are not of it. We are subject to the powers that be, for we know a poor government is better than none at all. You will pardon my disquisitions, for I just cant help thinking some for myself, and just have no one to unload upon.

Now as to your trip into Mexico. I am going to write frankly, and I know you will consider what I have to say as entirely personal. Of all our men, I suspect the best one to interpret for you would be Bro. Lacy, and he is over there at Saltillo, and not very busy, I judge from what he wrote me a few days ago. He is well acquainted with the whole itinerary. So, since a trip in a car would be altogether out of the range of reason, on account of so many BAD roads and so FEW good ones, it seems to me that you should go from Ft. Worth to Saltillo, pick up Bro. Lacy there and then go on to Mexico City--we have nothing on that line except Saltillo. Then to Toluca, then Morelia, back to Acámbaro, Irapuato, from which point you would want to go to Guadalajara, then back to Irapuato and then Leon, Zacatecas, Torreon, Chihuahua and out at El Paso. Or you could double back from Chihuahua to Torreon and visit some of the churches in the State of Coahuila and out at Eagle Pass. Of course, you could not take in the Pacific Coast unless you took a long time for the trip. I suggest Lacy rather than Hatchell for the simple reason that he can interpret much better than Hatchell, and he knows the whole territory as well as any man we have in the country. And that is an advantage too, he is in the country.

You will want to take the matter of passports up at an early date for it takes an eternity to get anything done in Mexico. Of course, you will have the help of the Ambassador.

I do hope you will feel that it was worth the while. Mexico is a very needy field, and it presents problems harder and harder to handle from the standpoint of missionary activities.

I hope you will find that money for our taxes. If you do that will certainly be a blessing to us in our straitened circumstances. But if you do not, then we shall try to find some way out.

I plan on attending the S.B.C. at Ft. Worth, and shall see you there, D.V. If in the mean time I can be of further help, command me. And I shall try to keep you posted on our movements.

Most cordially, *J.E. Davis*



Feb. 27, 1934.

Rev. J. E. Davis,  
Box 211,  
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Brother Davis:

I have your letter of Feb. 24th.

I will write Dr. Van Ness again myself today urging upon him the importance of making us an allowance for the Publishing House now. I am frankly going to tell him that if he does not come to our relief by the 1st of March that we are going to be in distress. I do not see how you are going to carry on and pay taxes and everything without some help from the Sunday School Board.

Now as to staying under the N.R.A., I took this matter up with the Authorities here in Richmond through our President L. Howard Jenkins. They ruled at once that we were not required to come in, that we were a benevolent ~~charitable~~ <sup>charitable</sup> organization, and that we were not expected to come in under the N. R. A. Of course, we paid the salaries required and had no trouble there. I suggest that you come out in the best way possible and go on without this organization.

I note what you have to say with reference to our proposed trip into Mexico. I am rather disappointed and nonplussed by it. We had thought that maybe we could get one of the missionaries to take his car and carry us on a visit to the mission fields, and that we would pay the gas and oil and a little extra. If we have to go by train to all of these places, I doubt if we are going to have money enough for traveling fund for the purpose at this time. Of course, I should like very much to see the work in Mexico, but we are greatly straitened just now for travel fund and I had not thought about the question of good roads in Mexico. I can readily see how we could not make the trip in a car, and the trip from Fort Worth to Mexico City and return is going to be pretty expensive on the train.

We understood here also that we would not have to secure passports to go into Mexico, but just get permission on the border as tourists. How about this?

I have written to Brother Benson suggesting that if he cannot get into Mexico, he could do deputation work in West Texas. I wish you would feel him out on this proposition and write me.

With best wishes,  
Yours truly,

M/P



# Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

P. O. Box 211

El Paso, Texas, E. H. A.

DEPARTAMENTO EDITORIAL

J. E. DAVIS, DIRECTOR

February 28th, 1934

Dr. C. E. Maddry,  
Richmond, Va.

Dear Brother Maddry:

I have your two letters of the 21st. Thanks. I was glad to get the suggestions, all of which I have acted upon without delay, hoping that some of them might possibly bring help.

I wired Dr. VanNess and as usual he has not answered. I told him to answer at our expense, yet nothing to date. Possibly they are to have a Board meeting around the 1st and he is waiting for that. Well, we shall see. If he does not answer, he will keep on hearing from us till he has to turn us down, or help us, one or the other. I am rather persistent when I think there is anything to be gained by it. And until they do say "no" there is hope.

I have written to Miss Mallory and Miss White, as you suggested. I think I presented our case fairly well to Miss Mallory. To Miss White, I reminded her of what she already knew about our work here (for she has been here, and knew about us when she was in New Mexico) and then told her of our distress. I told Miss Mallory that we were going to have to find more than \$3000--I did not ask her for that amount at all, but just left it for her to draw her own conclusions--in order to get through the year.

I find that only one report is lacking and I sent that brother a reminder yesterday. When that gets in, the first time I find a little time to give to the editing of the report, I shall do my best at it. I happen to know that our people do not get much out of the reports as published in the Annual of the Convention, since they do not even know where to look for it, and so I think your idea is a capital one, and I shall take pleasure in "doing my part." Of course, when it gets there, you can blue pencil it to your heart's content without in the least offending me.

I had Breth. Benson and Hatchell in conference yesterday, and we agree that it will be hard for you to see much of the work in Mexico in ten days. The itinerary I outlined in my former letter will take you some 15 days to cover, we think, since there are not many trains. Also you should be careful about your application for passport, since they are determined not to let preachers of any kind into Mexico, and you will find that old Bro. Josephus D. will not find it within his official power to change internal policies of the country.

We agree that it will be better for you to go in at Laredo, as I suggested before. You know Dr. F. M. McConnell, of Dallas, is organizing a party to make a tour of Mexico just after the meeting of the Convention. We thought it might be well for you to go into Mexico with that party, unless perchance regulations governing it would require you to stay with it. I am writing Dr. McConnell today, asking him to



get in touch with you and give you details. You could separate from the company after getting well past the border. I imagine you would still have need of passports. We shall see.

Now we have a brother Dominguez, at Laredo or San Antonio, who is rather influential in consular affairs of Mexico. (He is vice-consul and is located in San Antonio, I am informed.) Now he can help a lot and I think will gladly do so. I am writing Bro. Marrs today, and shall ask him to find out all he can and inform you.

Better not delay matters at all, and above all things, do not let it slip that you are a preacher. You can go in as an author or a teacher, or anything most except a preacher. And this question is asked directly and has to be answered clearly. Bro. Dominguez can tell us how best to camouflage that, in a legal way, of course.

So you see we are working away at this end of the line, and I know you are busy at that end. Hope all comes out well, since "all's well that ends well," eh?

May the Lord richly bless you. If you would like to get the missionaries together, I suggest that you have them all meet you in Ft. Worth. From here we can all get passes, Bro. Marrs is not very far away, if he feels able to venture, the LeSueurs generally make a trip up this way each summer, and those brethren at Saltillo are not very far from Ft. Worth, while Bro. Engleman is young and does not mind a long trip. I remember that I used to really enjoy them, despite the hardships connected with them. This is a MERE SUGGESTION.

I think that is all for this time, and I have many things pressing for immediate attention. May the Lord richly bless you.

Most cordially yours,

*J. E. Davis*