

Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

P. O. Box 211

El Paso, Texas, E. H. A.

DEPARTAMENTO EDITORIAL
J. E. DAVIS, DIRECTOR

November 23rd, 1934

Dr. Chas. E. Maddry,
Richmond, Va.

Dear Brother;

Things are happening, but we have no idea yet just to what extent these happenings are going to affect our work. Of course, in most places already our preachers are not now permitted to preach. Just yesterday, the state of Chihuahua, just across from us here cancelled the licenses it had formerly granted our preachers.

As yet our literature has not been turned back, but it will be soon, almost certainly. For a year or two we have been sending very little to Mexico relatively, on account of the unfavorable exchange. Now, I imagine they will suppress all religious literature in the country. We shall see.

One thing however remains and that is the most of the countries are still open to receive our literature. We are going on just as though nothing were happening across in Mexico. In fact, we have all the literature printed for the first quarter of 1935, and what has been ordered for far-away countries has been sent out already. We are going forward by faith.

Now, one thing I want to treat of especially. You have thrown ~~into~~ the discard one of our most useful men in some respects--Bro. Lacy. I am sorry of this. While he is past 65, yet he is hale and hearty. He can think faster and better than most men.

I need him here. He could be of incalculable help to me in this work, and of great service to the Cause. I would want him to collaborate with me in the editorial department. He would do a great deal of the work and do it well. This is too heavy a burden for one man, though I have gone on with it for almost a year and am disposed to continue, but ~~he~~ could be a great help.

Now, why not continue him as a missionary for 1935 and assign him to work here with me? We have no other who could begin to do what Lacy can in this line. I am asking this for him without his knowing what I am doing. He has two children yet dependent upon him. It looks hard to throw him out on a pittance.

I feel sure every missionary would concur in my plea.

Most cordially yours,

J. E. Davis

November 30, 1934.

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

Dear Brother Davis:

I have your letter of November 23rd with reference to the work in Mexico, and also with reference to the work of the Publication House.

Please let me say that I met the Mexican missionaries at San Antonio, and we did what we could looking to the future of the work in Mexico. It looks as if all of our missionaries will be driven out and we are going to have on our hands eight or ten missionaries with nothing for them to do.

I sincerely hope that you can keep up the work of the Publishing House and that some way may be found to send the literature into Mexico. I hope also that you may be able to keep up the supply of literature for the other Spanish speaking lands.

Now, with reference to the work of Brother Lacy, please let me say that the Foreign Mission Board at its recent session faced this whole question of the retirement of missionaries at 65 years of age. There were some who ought to be retired, and there were some who ought to be kept. Brother Lacy was one whom we would have been glad to have kept on in service for awhile longer, provided there was something for him to do. However, we have kept him one year overtime and he is 66 years of age now. We also are providing for the allowance for the children until they are 21 years of age, each.

The trouble is that there is nothing for Brother Lacy to do unless he comes to the Publishing House to help you. Then, there are Brother Benson and all these other Mexican missionaries who will have nothing to do within a few weeks.

Then, going back a little over a year ago, you told me that you were amply able to take care of all the work of

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the Publishing House and that you did not need Brother Benson. I let him out on that score. Now, with diminished opportunity for sending our your literature, I cannot understand how you need an assistant at this time.

This whole question of retirement of missionaries is a complicated one. If we make an exception in Brother Lacy's case, we will have to make an exception in the cases of many other missionaries whom we have already retired. Unless you knew something of the trouble and worry of it all, you would not understand the problems we face. I suppose there are at least a dozen other missionaries who have reached the age of 65 and who have been retired, who are imploring us to give them some extra funds. I think we are exceedingly fortunate in that we have a pension plan whereby \$500.00 can be provided for the missionaries when they are retired. Of course, none of us want to retire at 65 years of age, but out of the long experience of many mission board, it was found best to set this as the age limit for retirement. The more I go into the matter, the more I am convinced that we have done the right thing. Therefore, we cannot allow anything extra for Brother Lacy.

With very best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

CEM:Y