

March 3, 1950

Dr. Arnold T. Ohrn
1628 Sixteenth Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ohrn:

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$5,000. This money was appropriated by the Relief Committee of the Foreign Mission Board for the Volksdeutsche people in Germany. At the meeting of the Relief Committee earlier this week it was suggested that this amount was needed at present.

Sometime ago I wrote to you indicating that the Missionary Education Council of Southern Baptist agencies had expressed the hope that the Baptist World Alliance might publish an up-to-date directory. I must confess that I overlooked the action of the Missionary Education Council for several months, and only discovered my mistake while I was in process of making preparations for this year's meeting. This organization met with the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond early in January and again renewed its request for an up-to-date directory, giving statistical information and including historical sketches. This organization also expressed the hope that the 1950 proceedings of the Baptist World Congress in Cleveland may be made available for sale through our Baptist Book Stores.

It was a genuine pleasure to see you in Washington last Monday.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

FKM:kem
Encl.
Air Mail

Frank K. Means

Ltr. left with Iness. Check to be enclosed -

Baptist World Alliance

PRESIDENT:
REV. C. OSCAR JOHNSON, D. D.
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

GENERAL SECRETARY:
REV. ARNOLD T. OHRN, D. D.

ASSOCIATE SECRETARY:
REV. WALTER O. LEWIS, D. D.

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TREASURERS:
MR. C. T. LEQUESNE, K. C.
LONDON, ENGLAND

THE HON. ALBERT MATTHEWS, LL. D.
TORONTO, ONTARIO
CANADA

March 13, 1950

Dr. Frank K. Means
2037 Monument Avenue
Richmond 20, Virginia

Dear Dr. Means:

Before leaving Washington for a week in Chicago, Dr. Ohrn asked me to write you in reply to your letter of March 3rd.

First of all we want to thank you for the check for \$5,000.00 inclosed with your letter. This has already been forwarded to Mr. Nallinger to be used for Volksdeutsche in consultation with Dr. Lewis.

Dr. Ohrn asked me to say that it does not at this time seem possible for the Baptist World Alliance to publish a new Directory before the Cleveland Congress is over. Such requests as we have sent out for statistics have brought very little response up until now. And besides it would seem the wisest course to wait until the Congress is over, because of the changes there will be in the personnel of the committees, etc.

In the second place, it would seem best to wait until after the Congress because of the fresh information that will be in our hands as a result of the Congress.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Jessie R. Ford
Secretary to Dr. Ohrn

F

EIGHTH BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS
Cleveland, Ohio, July 22-27, 1950

March 22, 1950

Dr. Arnold T. Ohrn
General Secretary
Baptist World Alliance
1628 Sixteenth Street, N. W.
Washington 9, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ohrn:

Dr. Nordenhaug just came into my office to tell me of his conversation with you in regard to the Latin American representatives to the Baptist World Congress. Strangely enough, I was just on the verge of writing you regarding this matter.

The recent two months' tour of our South American fields was intensely interesting and helpful, and I am more convinced than ever that here lies one of the most responsive fields in the world. The Baptist constituency of Brazil is approximately 100,000 at present, and growing constantly.

Regarding representation, the following individuals have been elected by various national groups: Rev. H. C. McConnell from the Chilean Baptist Convention, whose application I am enclosing. Unfortunately it is not signed by the secretary of the Convention, but I have definite evidence that he was elected officially by the Convention and will represent them well. The only national who might have been sent is Mr. Honorio Espinoza, who attended a previous Alliance meeting. Mr. McConnell is a graduate of the University and the Louisville Seminary. He is a very thoughtful speaker.

For Argentina and the River Plate (including Paraguay and Uruguay), Rev. Alfonso Olmedo has been elected. He is a graduate of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, is strongly evangelistic, and speaks English exceedingly well. He is the president of the River Plate Baptist Convention and will be a fine representative. I can recommend him highly, both for his thoughtfulness, his ability, and his spirit.

From Brazil, we are hoping to be able to send Dr. John Soren, the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Rio de Janeiro, which is the largest Baptist church in all of Latin America, with a membership of nearly 2,000. Dr. Soren is the son of the former pastor who was so well known to Southern Baptists for many years. Dr. Soren is likewise a graduate of the Louisville Seminary, is a former president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention, and now serves as vice-president; the only Baptist chaplain serving with the Italian forces on the Italian front during the Second World War; was decorated by Brazilian

March 22, 1950

the Brazilian and American governments; speaks English splendidly (his mother was an American), though he is an ardent Brazilian himself.

When I was in Brazil recently, the South Brazil Mission recommended that we pay one-half of his expenses, with the understanding that his church would pay the other half. I am waiting to hear from him, but I am fairly confident that he will go, even though we have to advance some additional funds. I think it would be in order to write to him directly. I left application forms with the Mission and I am sure that he will be sending them in shortly. Unfortunately, the Brazilian Baptist Convention only meets every two years, so it was impossible for the Convention as such to elect a representative. He is a very able speaker, both in Portuguese and English, and will represent the largest Latin American group in the world.

I am still hoping that it will be possible for you to visit these areas in the coming months or years, and I want to assure you again of our desire here at the Board to be of every possible assistance.

Sincerely hoping that these suggestions may prove helpful, and remembering you in the difficult and important task of preparing for the Congress, I am

Sincerely,

Everett Gill, Jr.

EGJr/tsb

P. S. Have you communicated with Dr. Wilbur Larson, who is the Secretary for Latin America for the Home Mission Society of the Northern Baptist Convention? They have work in eastern Mexico, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Haiti, and Costa Rico. It may be that they are planning to send some representative from Latin America also.

EG

Baptist World Alliance

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LONDON, ENGLAND
THE HON. ALBERT MATTHEWS, LL. D.
TORONTO, ONTARIO
CANADA

March 23, 1950

Dr. Frank K. Means
2037 Monument Avenue
Richmond 20, Virginia

Dear Dr. Means:

In replying to your letter of March 3rd, I am sorry I failed to answer your question about the sale of Baptist World Congress Reports through the Baptist Book Stores. I do not know whether this can be done or not. The problem is whether it will be possible to print an edition large enough to supply the book stores. Heretofore we have printed only a very limited number of reports beyond the number actually ordered at the time of the Congress. I shall be glad to keep this request in mind and see what can be done about it.

Cordially yours,

ATO/JRF



EIGHTH BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS
Cleveland, Ohio, July 22-27, 1950

March 27, 1950

file
Dr. Arnold T. Ohrn
Baptist World Alliance
1628 Sixteenth Street, N. W.
Washington 9, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ohrn:

Dr. Sadler has written to suggest that our Board provide financial assistance to Mr. Jansma and Mr. Hardenberg of Holland to attend the meeting of the Baptist World Alliance. The only way I know that we could do this is through your office. I realize that you probably have allocated the full amount of \$2,000 which our Board provided for assisting European delegates to attend the Conference. I should be glad to know if you have any suggestions to make as to the possibility of adding these two men to the list of those who are being helped through the Baptist World Alliance.

Cordially yours,

M. Theron Rankin

MTR/mef

cc: Dr. George W. Sadler

file

Baptist World Alliance

*copy
Sadler*

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THE HON. ALBERT MATTHEWS, LL. D.
TORONTO, ONTARIO
CANADA

March 29, 1950.

Dr. M. Theron Rankin,
The Foreign Mission Board,
2037 Monument Ave.,
Richmond 20, Va.

Dear Friend:

I have received your letter of March 27th concerning the suggestion of Dr. Sadler as to financial assistance to be given to Mr. Jansma and Dr. Hardenberg of Holland, to attend the meeting of the B.W.A. in Cleveland.

You are right in assuming that the money contributed by the Boards towards a pool has already been allocated, but the Alliance has at its disposal a modest sum of undesignated money, which the Administrative Committee at its last meeting on February 28th authorized Dr. Lewis and myself to use towards helping others outside of Germany and Austria.

It seems that we shall have to give some assistance to delegates from Switzerland, France, Holland and Finland. The money will probably be appropriated with a view to encouraging the Baptists of these countries to do something themselves towards assuring a representation in Cleveland.

Dr. Lewis and I have been in correspondence concerning Holland, and we concur in the opinion that Hardenberg would be a good man to have here. A couple of days ago I wrote to Dr. Lewis that we shall try to secure some money towards helping him to come. Dr. Lewis and I have no objection to Jansma coming, but we do think it more important that Hardenberg should come. You may recall that he is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Seminary in Zurich.

The sum I think Lewis will be offering Hardenberg is about \$200.00, which would take care of his expenses one way and leave a little over, but not enough for expenses in this country, or for his return trip. If you happen to know of some person who would be willing to help some representatives from the countries mentioned above, the B.W.A. will, of course, be very happy to be of any service we passibly can in distributing such money.

With all good wishes, I am

Yours most cordially,

Arnold T. Ohn

ATO/KM

EIGHTH BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS

Cleveland, Ohio, July 22-27, 1950

March 31, 1950

Dr. Arnold T. Ohrn
Baptist World Alliance
1628 Sixteenth Street, N. W.
Washington 9, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ohrn:

I appreciate the attention you have given to my letter concerning Mr. Jansma and Dr. Hardenberg. I am glad to leave this matter in your hands. I do not think it would be advisable for our Board to render direct aid to individuals from Baptist Unions in Europe who wish to attend the meeting of the Baptist World Alliance. We are arranging through mission channels to give assistance to representatives from the Baptist Conventions with which our Board is directly related. I think it is best that we handle all assistance for other people through your office.

With kind regards to you, I am

Sincerely yours,

M. Theron Rankin

MTR/mef