

Baptist World Alliance

The Foreign Mission Board has received so many inquiries concerning the "Russian Bible Society" that we think it advisable to make this public statement that we are unable to secure any information to warrant our giving endorsement of any kind to the activities that are conducted under this name.

Inquiry in Washington revealed that at the time of the inquiry, mail advanced to the "Russian Bible Society" was being forwarded to the Rev. Basil Malof (formerly called William Fetter), General Delivery, Long Beach, California, and that there were no evidences of any Bibles being sent out of Washington.

A special committee appointed in March, 1948 by the Dallas Baptist Pastors Conference to secure information concerning the "Russian Bible Society" made the following report which was published in the BAPTIST STANDARD of March 18, 1948:

"After two weeks of investigation, a special committee of the Dallas Baptist Pastors Conference brought an unfavorable report on the Russian Bible Society, Inc., of Washington, D. C. The conference adopted the report, which included the recommendation that this Russian Bible Society should not be endorsed by the pastors.

"The committee reported finding that the society in question had no connection with, or endorsement by the Baptist World Alliance, the Southern Baptist Convention, the District of Columbia Baptist Convention, or the American Bible Society.

"The committee was composed of W. A. Criswell, J. Howard Williams, Thomas T. Holloway, Julian Atwood, David M. Gardner."

Baptist World Alliance

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

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

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

April 13, 1950

Dr. M. T. Rankin
2037 Monument Avenue
Richmond 20, Virginia

Dear Friend:

The other day I sent you a copy of the memorandum prepared by the president and secretary of the Alliance regarding the pre-congress conference to be held in Cleveland, Ohio during July 17-21.

I am now writing you on behalf of the President, Dr. Johnson, in order to invite you to become vice-chairman of the Commission on Baptist World Missions.

Prof. Kenneth Latourette has been asked to take the chairmanship. He has replied with a very gracious letter in which he strongly expresses his interest, and expresses his desire to do this work. He has, however, some other commitments at the time the Commission will be meeting. He would be able to be present only during a part of the meetings of the Commission. He, therefore, raises the question whether it would be possible to have some one else chair the Commission during his absence.

In my opinion the Commission on Baptist World Missions cannot be expected to present much in the way of a report during the Cleveland Congress. But the Commission should be able to get well under way with its work, and could then be continued as a study commission. The main object for the meeting of this Commission in Cleveland would then be to get acquainted and to agree upon a plan for future work.

Dr. Johnson and I both hope most earnestly that you will be able to take upon you the vice-chairmanship of this Commission. You will be doing our Baptist world fellowship a real service in complying with our wishes. We think the work of this Commission is fraught with real possibilities for our future co-operation as Baptists in various parts of the world. Please do not, therefore, be deterred from accepting by the press of your many other duties. You know how it is, if you want some one to take on a job and do it well, you have to pick some one who is busy already.

With the best of wishes for you and your work, I am
Yours most cordially,

ATO/JRF

Arnold T. Ohn

EIGHTH BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS

Cleveland, Ohio, July 22-27, 1950

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

April 28, 1950

Mr. Everett L. Deane
2037 Monument Avenue
Richmond 20, Virginia

Dear Everett:

Thank you for your letter of April 27th inclosing check for \$1,000.00 for the feeding centers in Germany. We are very glad to have this on hand, and shall be sending it on to Germany within a short time. We certainly appreciate the fine way the Foreign Mission Board has stood by us in the work we have been doing for relief in Germany and other places.

I hope you can soon find an excuse to come to Washington and visit our Headquarters Building. If you are ever here on Sunday and will let me know, I will be glad to come down and take you over the building. My home phone is Adams 1247.

Dr. Ohrn is due to get back today from Norway, and leaves tomorrow for California. He will then have two days in the office before we leave for Chicago. Such is life.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Jessie R. Ford
Secretary to Dr. Ohrn

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