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AR. 558

109

A WEEKLY ILLUSTRATED FAMILY NEWSPAPER - \$2 A YEAR, IN ADVANCE
660 S. FOURTH AVE., LOUISVILLE, KY.

March 9-1910.

Dr. J. M. Frost, D.D.,
Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Brother:

You have written hurriedly and so not always clearly in yours of March 4th. There is certainly no shadow of ground for us to have any personal feeling in this matter, the Illinois case. We differ on a question of denominational interest and that does not touch our personal relations, or I judge, your Board or my paper.

Your reference to the Religious Herald is not clear because of my youth, my memory not being clear regarding those old matters. The Herald wanted, if my supposition is correct, at least you seem to imply it, some sort of cooperation with Northern Baptists. My contention is that we shall keep free from entanglements and recognize limitations to our two territories, that is, adopt a policy of comity which would put us on a peace basis and give no occasion for a war basis. Of course neither the deceased secretary, Dr. Morgan, nor any Northern society could for a moment "outline our policy for us". I do not see the relevancy of that expression.

This week's World contains an article from Dr. Thrognorton, the first presentation from his side which has come to us. I would not have hesitated to publish anything from anyone prominent enough to speak for them. Of course when you wish to speak for them our columns will be open.

Beloved, there is no difference between the Northern Baptist Convention and the three Societies. Perhaps you know something of the almost breach between the two. I know that the leading spirits of the Convention wish to give us a square deal and I am persuaded that to retaliate upon the Convention for the past sins of the Societies would be to play into the hands of the Societies and utterly confuse the leaders of the Convention. I cannot believe that you wish a state of war between the two Conventions, a line of conflicts on the border between the two. At times your letter seems to imply that you do, but I will not believe it without a clearer avowal to that effect. I am anxious indeed to break bread with you at the Seelbach and to talk the matter over in our old time fraternal spirit.

Sincerely yours,

J. N. Prestridge

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March 10, 1910.

Rev. J. M. Frost, D.D.,

Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Dr. Frost:-

I have just received a letter from Dr. T. B. Ray saying at length that the Foreign Board office believes it would not be wise to inject that discussion into the Convention. He expresses somewhat the same fears as Dr. Levering in the letter enclosed. I wrote to him and I wrote to Dr. Ryland, chairman of the Committee. I believe the discussion would do good and am anxious to hear it. Shall I press for it anyhow? I have committed it to Dr. Ryland.

Yours sincerely,

J. Prestridge

Just read my yesterday letter to you. I did not mean, as my words might imply, that you desire a diving line fight, but that your letter might imply a readiness to accept such a condition of those secretaries pressed for it. I am anxious to appeal to a higher Court over the Ohio, & turn those secretaries away from any such purpose. Selector - we caught a settlement with the N.C. Mr. Hobart told me the other day that the Home M. Society was anxious for us to leave New Mexico. I think an agent of the H.M.S. did that thing. Mr. Hobart said he was at the meeting, being a member (over)

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EDITORIAL
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March 16-1910.

Dr. J. M. Frost,
Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Brother:

Your letter returning the one from Mr. Levering received. This letter is like you and I appreciate its expressions of regard.

The parties who passed "the word round" that Dr. Mullins was writing these Illinois editorials are mistaken, he did not write a word of them. He ruled regarding the Argus and the World also that having an official head position he could not write for me save over his own signature. I believe it is always understood that a paper is responsible for its editorials.

Dr. Gambrell has written that he is tired of limitations regarding the Southern Convention and is in favor of contending for all the territory possible. I am surprised at the spirit of his letter. The logic of it seems to me is to ignore, if not to disfel- lowship the Northern Baptist Convention.

I have just had a long talk with Dr. Maybie. He talks freely about the mistreatment the South has received, grieves over the Illinois situation and says the Northern Convention as a whole is suffering sacrificially with elements here and there, comparative- ly small, and says the Northern Convention as a whole will give the South a fair deal in the spirit of the Master. Dr. Frost, I believe in my soul that not only New Mexico, but Oklahoma as well, may be heartily ceded to us by the Northern brethren. I know its mind in these matters. If we antagonize it it will become helpless to hold

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certain forces in leach, that is for the present. Certainly our not receiving the Illinois fraction does not force them to operate with the Illinois State Convention. Were it not better for peace to abound ~~and~~ for them to do their own work for a time until clearer vision may come?

With the coming of bright days and the lectures of Dr. Mabie we are all happy up this way. He is certainly doing some great work and I rejoice that these lectures are to be published in a small book.

Fraternally yours,

J. N. Prestridge

Dictated not read.