

General Council of the Churches of God 7th Day  
302 East Gruber Avenue  
Meridian, Idaho 83642

March 15, 1970

Greetings to the Brethren:

It seems that it is time for us here at headquarters to send out our mid-winter report again. Time in this dispensation seems to slip by so quickly. It always seems that there is more to do than can be accomplished each month.

There has been a lot accomplished this year. The goals that were set are almost come and gone. Some have been achieved by one means or another, some have yet to see their fulfillment, and some new ones are rising on the horizon. Our main aim is to paint the picture as correctly as can be, and yet be as enthusiastic and positive about what needs to be done in the future.

As you remember, our budget was tentatively set at fifty thousand dollars for the year to accomplish the goals that were set by the General Council in session. Funds have been coming in during the past few months as usual, but because of the extra \$2500 for new equipment due, things became so critical by the end of January that several of the brethren had to loan the General Council \$3500. This amount is on short term loan and must be paid back SOON. The balance due on the new Justo-writers the General Council voted to purchase while in session last campmeeting was \$2500, and the rest was used to pay salaries and bills. At the present time we need almost \$700 for bills due to keep us current. Some of the money that has been loaned is needed to maintain living for these families.

As you know, many organizations advocate budgets and tithes to both churches and individuals. This has never been our aim or purpose, but, we have left it up to you brethren to help with the finances, as you have been individually led by the Spirit of the Lord. Now, this method has proven successful in the past to the extent that we have grown and prospered in furnishing our families with a fine campmeeting and a means of fellowship and communication with many of the dear Saints of God. However, this method often times leaves those here at headquarters with a helpless feeling when they are left without means to carry out the goals that were set by the General Council in session. In this land of plenty it should not be necessary for the work of the Lord to go wanting. Could it be that some of us have so soon forgotten the feeling of enthusiasm that was so prevalent at campmeeting time? Those who work in the office and at keeping the books are ones who have labored for years in His service. Is it fair that they should be placed under this extra stress as a reward for their services? We on the board want you to know that the ones who serve so faithfully have not complained, but it sometimes leaves us wondering just how long they can bear up.

Now we know that we can depend on you, brethren, in the field to respond faithfully as you have in the past. You might think that we are sometimes lax in keeping you informed as to the exact situation at all times here at headquarters, but, it is not our intent to cry wolf at every situation that doesn't go right. There are many problems that come and go that are not necessary to burden you in the field with. Many times we have weathered these storms by just waiting patiently for the finances to come in, but this time it became critical and there is urgent need to repay these loans as soon as possible.

Now for the brighter side of the picture. With a little extra effort, we can clear up these loans and reach our intended goal for the year. The young people's organization has a Youth Camp in the planning and a bus has been offered for transportation. We have a fine choir and there is the possibility of them making some trips into other areas this spring.

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This past few weeks we have had one of the longest rainy spells that we can remember in the valley, and for a while all construction was at a standstill. This, and the fact that the local brethren are doing everything possible to finish the new local church, has brought us to a halt on the new school dormitory. But work will resume when labor and funds and again available. The new local church really looks nice with the beams all stained, walls textured and the woodwork done. Things are going ahead.

May we all get a larger vision for the work that needs to be done in the coming year. Remember, God hath promised strength for each day! May God richly bless you all, is our prayer.

The General Council Board