

HWAPP #3145  
8/24

Eugene, Wednesday, 11/14/34

Dear Otto:

Have neglected to mail this letter I wrote you. Took it to the P.O., found I did not have your address, put it in my overcoat pocket, and forgot all about it. I suppose you never do that.

A rumor has been started in the state here that I've pulled off, and gone out for myself. I find it was based upon the expression on the circular for the Alvadors meetings, "NON-DENOMINATIONAL." When confronted with this, I expressed the conviction that we were non-denominational, and that our message was to call people OUT of the sects and babilon of denominationalism, according to Rev. 18:4. Surely the organization Christ formed was not a denomination. There were three of them then, at least, the Sadducees, the Pharisees, and the Essenes, but He rejected them and denominationalism, and sought to bring people in the BODY OF CHRIST, under the name Church of God, not into divisions, and class cliques within that body, each a denomination. I have supposed all our ministers considered themselves non-denominational, and that at least many of them advertised their meetings in this way. But if we are only another denomination, then I think we should know the truth. My idea of organization is that we perfect LOCAL organizations that the brethren may assemble themselves together for the worship of God, to help, encourage, and edify one another, to hear the Word preached, and to GROW in grace and knowledge. That, further than this, there is absolutely no purpose in

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organization except to facilitate the carrying of the Gospel, and particularly now, in these last days, the last WARNING MESSAGE phase of it, to the world. And that the organization is merely a MEANS to the END of WARNING the world, and of bringing as many as will come into CHRIST JESUS.

Now I have been surprised to find, in the last few days, that some of our brethren—even some of our ~~most~~ leading brethren and best friends—seem to have a different idea of the organization. They have not put their ideas into these words, yet it seems the conception they have is this: the ministers are working FOR the organization—the objective, the END of our work, is to bring folks into the ORGANIZATION, and instead of the organization being the MEANS of bringing them into Christ, the idea seems to be that Christ is the means of bringing them into OUR sectarian organization. Now one conception is just the OPPOSITE from the other. If the majority of our brethren, have this same idea then, if it is the wrong idea, it ought to be corrected. If our ministers, the 12, and the 70, have this idea or conception of our organization, then I think I should know it, but I certainly have never believed this was the idea. Are we, as ministers, out working first and primarily for CHRIST—to WARN all we can warn of the impending judgments and plagues, and to bring all who will into CHRIST, and for the purpose of nourishing them in the newborn Spirit, bringing them into, or organizing them into, local churches—with the organization being merely the MEANS to this end, and, in itself entirely SECONDARY to this one great main purpose? Or are we, as ministers, merely working for the organization, with our first and paramount mission being to bring more people into our organization? I want a clean-out ~~new~~ understanding

HWA going it alone? He says "no"

MISSION, NOT A CHURCH — JUST AS R. NEWELL SAID

spirit of Mussolini, Otto, but we DO want the SPIRIT OF CHRIST, and when Peter was FILLED with that Spirit, he preached sermons that converted 3,000 and 2,000 people at a time, and Philip preached so that whole cities repented and were converted, and if we had some of these men among us today, our message would go out with real POWER. I know I can make these suggestions to you, for you know me and understand me. I know we are not carrying the message with POWER. We are not carrying it to the MILLIONS, but only to the dozens and the scores. I am very frank in saying I think we must think less of OURSELVES---less of our own organization and its rules etc., and more of GETTING OUT THE MESSAGE TO THE MILLIONS.

I'm not the one, however, to make these suggestions to the leaders in the east and middle-west. It will come with so much better grace from you. They know you and have confidence in you. You are overseer for the Western states. Can't you make some suggestions along these lines? Can't we make a START toward using the power of radio and the printing press for real attractive, professionally-planned and designed evangelistic literature. We may have to start with the smallest local radio stations, and ~~then~~ with a few tracts and booklets. Let's start in a small way, according to present means, and then unitedly petition God to enlarge the means that the work may grow and expand until we are circulating literature even more than the Adventists, and preaching over the biggest most powerful radio stations regularly. If our eyes are on the LITTLE things of the work, we'll do little things for God. If we catch the vision, and keep our eyes on permitting Him to do BIG THINGS thru us, God will do it.

Sincerely, in HIM,

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on this point, to know just what is our real conception of organization. If my conception is that of the body as a whole, then I want to state this conception as clearly as possible in a short article in the Bulletin, so we may all come to know and understand the true church conception of organization.

When I mentioned my conception to two of our brethren, that my idea was our ministers were out, first of all for Christ, and that the organization was secondary, and merely the MEANS to this end, I was told that when I accepted licence and credentials I would find that I was out working FOR the organization, first, above all---and that I must advertise my meetings as being conducted by "The Church of God, Seventh Day." Now I'm sure none of our ministers ever have advertised their meetings this way in advance. None of the S.D.A.'s do, and the public never learn they are Adventists or Sabbath-keepers until well along in the campaign. To advertise our name at the start is only to hang up a big warning: "Sabbath-keepers---STAY OUT!" That is the way the public would read it.

My idea of organization is that it is for the one purpose of INCREASING the effectiveness and power and results of each minister, not of impeding his efforts or holding back.

Is not my conception the correct one? And if so would not a brief, and to-the-point statement of the purposes of organization in the Bulletin help to clarify the situation? We must all be TOGETHER, all HELPING, all PUSHING forward, not holding back. We must leave the POLITICS behind. Meetings at Alvadore coming fine. Largest crowd yet last week. Started the 5th week Sunday night with 84 out. One conversion from Radio sermon Sunday. Expect to baptise from two to five next Sabbath. Pray for the meetings.

≈ AICF argu-  
ment 40 years  
later.

So far as I know, the attendance at Alvadore is breaking all records for meetings in Oregon. It is larger than we had at Firbutte, or at Eugene. I do not know what Bro. Ray averaged at Lancaster, but we have had over 100 three times, in the 70s and 80s several times, and only once below 40. Average so far, now in the fifth week, between 55 and 60, for a every-night average. I believe the L<sup>rd</sup> will give us another church at Alvadore.

One added thought. It seems to me that our first and paramount duty now, is to shout the WARNING of impending judgments, plagues, and the coming of Christ, as a WITNESS---not the converting of the world, but the sounding of the last WARNING. That should be our FIRST duty, and secondly, the conversion of as many souls as possible, and thirdly, after that, the bringing of people into our organization---and that only those who are really converted, and have accepted the true doctrine. If this is to be our united objective, then we must use RADIO and the PRINTING PRESS to reach the MILLIONS. It can be done. God will open the way. He will provide the money and means, as rapidly as we are prepared and ready. Let us make the START, and prepare ourselves, and look to HIM for the power, first of the SPIRIT, and then secondly of the money, to push this work forward until we are reaching millions where we now reach hundreds. It can be done, Otto. Let's catch the vision. Remember, with GOD, ALL THINGS are possible! God's Word says this WILL BE DONE---and if I have the time sequences straight, it is to be done in the next two to five years---possibly within two, and certainly within five more years. God will send SOMEONE to do it. Will it be us? We have the understanding of the MESSAGE, no one else is preaching it. I hesitate to express these ideas for a bigger, greater work to those back East I have never met, for once when I did, mentioning we were not doing as big a work as we should, to Bro. Dugger about five years ago, he had the spirit of Mussolini. We don't want the

Eugene, Tuesday, 11/13/34

Dear Otto:

See I didn't mail your letter, because I didn't have the address when I got to the P.O., so put it in my overcoat pocket and forgot it till now.

This past week, the fourth at Alvadore, was the best attendance yet, not going below 47 or 48 all week, and over a hundred once, and around 70 or 80 a couple times. We started the fifth week Sunday night with 84 out, and last night, a rainy night, 43. Had one conversion as result of Sunday's radio sermon. Expecting to baptise between two and five this week---may wait until Sabbath and baptise them all at once.

Bro. Ray wrote there is a rumor going around that I have withdrawn from the church and am going out for myself. I now find he bases his rumor on the circular which advertised the Alvadore meetings, on which the expression, "non-denominational," appeared. I have always understood we were non-denominational, and that we were calling people OUT from sectarianism, and the babylon of denominationalism, according to Rev. 18:4---and that this was exactly the way all our ministers are doing. Am I wrong? Are we only another sect or denomination? If so, I never knew it. I was called on the carpet for this. I said I was trying to win souls for CHRIST, and that I supposed the organization was merely the means to that end. I was told by two of the brethren (not Bro. Ray) that I was mistaken, that it is the ORGANIZATION I am

He felt end was near

of our 2. ... supposed to be bringing people into. Now if I have misunderstood, I want to know just what our position is. Is the organization the MEANS to the end of spreading the Gospel to more people---of proclaiming that last WARNING MESSAGE to the world---of bringing people INTO CHRIST; or is it just the other way around, and is Christ only the MEANS to the END of bringing people into our organization?

cf. HWA's  
later years  
ALCF, etc.

I was told that hereafter, if I accept licence and credentials, I will have to advertise, in opening any meetings, that these meetings are being conducted by "The Church of God, Seventh Day." Is that the way our ministers are doing? If so, I'm sure it's something new, for that is merely to say to the people---"I'm a Saturday-keeper---DON'T COME." The S.D.A.'s never advertise that their evangelists are Adventists, and the crowd never finds it out until well along in the campaign, after they have gotten the interest of the public. We can never draw an attendance any other way, and I've always thought all our ministers worked the same way. I always have. When I worked with Taylor, we did it that way, and also when I worked with Roy Dailey. That's the way Sam and I worked it in Salem. It's the way Stith worked it in his meetings here. I'm sure that these brethren merely misunderstand. I'm hoping and praying that the POLITICS are GONE from our organization, and that the organization is the MEANS of spreading the Gospel with greater power, not of impeding it---of winning souls to CHRIST, rather than to the organization. We must choose which is primary, and which is secondary, Christ.

the organization. I have felt that our OBJECT AND PURPOSE was to  
 1st of all proclaim the LAST WARNING MESSAGE as a WITNESS to the  
 world--to the MILLIONS of the world, rather than to convert the  
 whole world, and secondly, to bring to repentance and to Christ,  
 as many as possible of those we proclaim the  
 TRUTH, and to FEED them spiritually and help them to GROW in grace and  
 knowledge, that we bring them into the visible organization AFTER

we have brought them into CHRIST, so they can assemble together  
 with other brethren, receive our literature and help in every way  
 possible. I have never seen our organization as a CLUB, or a SOCIETY,  
 or a CLASS GROUP, or CLIQUE, and I feel sure the other ministers do  
 not. Surely it is the means to the end, and not the end or objective  
 in itself.

Are we not to be far more jealous of bringing a soul to  
 real repentance and to Christ, than of bringing one into our  
 organization? If the latter is the aim of a minister, he will let  
 down the bars in spite of any safeguards, and you'll find we'll have a  
 bunch of self-righteous PROFESSING Christians, whose standard is their  
 own works, and whose hearts are not surrendered, and who really do  
 not have, and are not led by the SPIRIT OF GOD.

I hope and trust that this view is in perfect harmony with that of  
 all our ministers. The object of LOCAL organization is for the assembling  
 together, to edify one another, that the local flock may be fed, and  
 increase in knowledge and grace and in the Spirit. The ONLY object  
 or reason whatever for any organization further than that of each local  
 unit in each town, that I can see, is to facilitate the carrying of  
 the message into a constantly expanding wider field. This cannot be done  
 without organization. The organization is merely the MEANS to this end.  
 Am I right in my view of this?