

HWAPP# 2862974

560 Fourth Ave., West,
Eugene, . . Oregon,
March 24th, 1935.

Dear Bro. and Sister Runcorn:

I feel I ought to let you know that I was forced to announce over the air this morning that we are going to be forced off the air unless enough money comes during this week to pay the bill---otherwise next Sunday will be the last Sunday.

Two months ago we were beginning to catch up some with bills, but the past two months practically nothing has come in---just enough to keep us alive at the house ---and especially the past month there has been very little.

Our house rent comes due on the 26th---which will be next Tuesday---and unless that bill is paid by Tuesday we have been notified we'll be put out. We are just two months behind all around, and will be three months behind the end of this month. Water and lights, too. There is no money on hand to complete the Plain Truth, which will cost about \$20 this month. It has grown so that it costs a great deal more than it used ~~to~~ to.

Now I do not intend this as a request for your tithe money this time, for of course I feel you should put that where the Lord leads you---but I do think our brethren should know the situation, and how near this work is to being stopped flat and complete. I have been told that the work we are doing here, centering in Eugene, is ~~the best~~ now the biggest and most effective work being carried on anywhere in the church. Now I hope you realize just how I feel about it. I think you know I never did ask anyone for their tithe money, and I never would even suggest the need for our own selves. It is not for US---for, as long as we can keep a roof over us, we are being taken care of, with

Respectfully,
P. Runcorn

2.

plenty to eat, by the Alvadore and Jeans and Eugene people. We have, in past years, gone hungry and actually suffered, ourselves, for the works' sake, and have not said very much about it to anyone. But it is not US that I am concerned for, but THE LORD'S WORK which He has built up here thru us. We have a work here that is reaching THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE. We carried the last warning message to at least 35,000 people in this district last year. This work is reaching the people in the most effective possible way, over the radio, thru print with the Plain Truth, and thru the personal evangelistic campaigns and meetings. I do not say it boastfully, but as you know, this effort here has brought more to the Lord in conversion, has brought more into the Sabbath truth, has brought more into the church, has raised up more new churches, has CHANGED MORE LIVES, has declared the warning message as a witness to more thousands, than all the other efforts put together in this state during the past five years. Surely this work has had God's endorsement. Surely God has blessed it. I have had nothing to do with it, further than trying to just do my best and keep on the job all the time, and keep busy almost day and night, and TRUST THE LORD for the results. But God has blessed and approved this work. It has been growing. It has saved souls, changed lives, brought many into the truth. I simply cannot bear to think of this work having to stop.

Now I was glad for you to give your tithes to Bro. Severson last month, if he needed it and you felt that was the place for it to go. I have wanted to co-operate with him and help him, and have tried to---altho he never came near me for a month after he landed here---in fact not until he had been up there and visited you. I spent nearly all of week before last trying to line up a meeting for him, that we planned to carry together, but with him taking most of the meetings because I am so busy just now with the Plain truth and work here---but we could not get the use of a place to hold the meetings. It seemed that the Lord closed the door to us at every turn. There is room here for a dozen ministers, and I am not like one other used to be, who did not want any other ministers in the field. But I do feel that it is not wise,

3.

nor for the good of the work, nor serving the Lord's work, to stop a really big and effective work that is reaching THOUSANDS of people, and has become perhaps the most effective work going on in the country, just to keep bringing more and more new men into the field---men who may, and may not produce results. You know how many times we have been disappointed in outside ministers before, who appeared just wonderful at first---and usually we were several months or a year or so in finding them out. And so I know you will understand, when I say that under these circumstances it does seem to me that we should not keep bringing in new men AT THE EXPENSE OF STOPPING THIS EUGENE WORK.

I will be frank and say that it appears that just about all the tithes have been going to Bro. Severson since he arrived, and several have told me that he is going right out and asking people for their tithes. I have understood that he is getting his money from Salem, W. Va., but I do not actually know anything about his circumstances or how much he is getting or how much he needs. If he is to work in this state--- (altho I understood he was coming out here to work with the Scandinavian people up in Washington, as people here say they can hardly understand a word he says)---then he should be supported, and should have his needs supplied, and should not be in want, or have to suffer hunger, or do as we have had to do in the past, put children to bed at night crying with hunger, or send children to school on an empty stomach, to stay all day without any lunch. I do not want to see any others have to go thru what we have.

But as you know I do not receive a cent from Salem, W. Va., and we have developed the whole work at this end purely on FAITH, and carried it with just what tithes and offerings have been coming. I guess some have thought we receive a lot from radio listeners, but we do not. The radio does not half pay for itself. We do get in a dollar now and then, but it costs us between \$10 and \$12.50 a month, and there is only

one month so far that we have received that much, and some months we do not receive even \$3 from the radio. I have not said one single word about money over the air for six months, until today. Lately I have been preaching the COMMANDMENTS, and just as STRAIGHT, and with all the power I have had, and of course you know that message is cutting down the money we might receive, and not bringing in any money. Perhaps I can send you the past four or five radio sermons, that have been preached since the ones on the Holy Spirit. I have been preaching ever since on GOD'S LAW ---or what SIN is. I have been making it pretty plain, and driving it home pretty straight and pretty hard. I believe that a year and a quarter's practise and experience has helped, and the Lord has been giving me more power lately, in the delivery. At least many have said so. Every indication is that our audience has greatly increased the past six months. The last check-up I made was last summer, when we had about 5,000 listeners every Sunday. Many think it is up to close to 10,000 now. It seems that almost everybody down in this part of the country listens in at least part of the time. The plan I have started in the radio sermons, now, is to go right on thru with the LAW, or the COMMANDMENTS, to the Sabbath. I have used four or five sermons showing that sin is the transgression of any one of the TEN COMMANDMENTS. I have been driving home hard that it is SIN. Now I plan to show the TWO laws, and that it was Moses' law that was done away---then a sermon on Law and Grace---then one on the Two Covenants ---and then start a series of TEN SERMONS, devoting one to each of the Ten Commandments. I plan to start with the last six, defining love to our neighbor. Then the first four, showing how to LOVE GOD. This brings the fourth Commandments LAST, and when I get to it I plan to spend as many Sundays on the Sabbath question as is necessary. But I have been building up to this, and paving the way, and sweeping away all the objections for over a year now, so that when I come to it we ought to have a new flock of Sabbath keepers, if any of the people are honest and willing to DO the truth.

But you see the Devil does not want this program to go on over the air, and he is going to try to stop it right now. I plan to bring the same truths out at the same time

5.

in the Plain Truth.

I am planning to open up the next evangelistic campaign in just a week or two--- just as soon as we get this Plain Truth out. It would never do to come out plain on the Sabbath until after this next campaign is well under way, for it would keep people away. The next campaign will be either in Springfield or Santa Clara. We have a large following both over the radio, and Plain Truth, in Springfield. I wish I could open there with the new tent if we are able to get it.

I am planning, too, a different method for the Plain Truth. I have decided it must come out every month, and promptly on time. That will probably mean cutting down the size, for we simply cannot get out a big issue like this one will be every month. But it is necessary that it reach the people every month. It will stimulate tithes and go a long way toward keeping the work going. I had a fairly good response to the letter I sent with the last issue, getting back, I think \$15 or \$17 from outside people who read the Plain Truth. I think it can be made to pay its own way. We have added ~~only~~ 200 new names since last issue. We received about 20 letters and post cards in one day at the radio station recently. There is more INTEREST in the radio campaign than ever before, but less money, because people will not send money to a fellow who preaches the COMMANDMENTS. I have heard nothing further from the Portland station, and do not believe they are going to get their hook-up thru. When we go on the air in Portland, we will have to make the trip up there once a week.

I think the Jeans brethren will see that at least one months' house rent is paid by Tuesday so we will not be moved out, but our work takes a great deal more money to keep it going than it formerly did, and with the Plain Truth now costing between \$15 and \$20 a month, and the radio \$10 to \$12.50, and postage for a lot of correspondence which we must answer from the radio, etc., it does take some money. The Lord has always supplied it, and kept the work going, and I know He will now, but

He does let us come up against these tests once in a while, and I guess they are good for us.

So what I WILL ask you outright to do is to join us IN PRAYER, and AGREE with us that God will impress the proper ones to send in the needed amount in plenty of time, and enough to clean up all these bills, for it is not right for God's work to be behind, or oweing money.

I sent that letter to Ervin. It was a pretty straight and stiff letter. I challenged him to show me where the article on "Tongues" was not right according to the Scripture, and put it up to him to either show me where I'm wrong and this modern "tongues" movement is right, or else "COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM," as the Scriptures say. I may send you a copy of the letter. I tried to write it in a kind and nice manner, but made it plain.

I hope I can get one more visit to Salem, the farm, and Portland, for two or three days, before starting the next campaign, but it will have to start in just a week or two, now.

Hope everything is--going well with you there. Stand with us in prayer. We sure do need your prayers. There are plenty of evidences that Satan is very busy just now, but ~~ix~~ we can stand and go thru if we pray and believe. Begin to pray for God to open the way for us, for the next meeting---whether it should be in Santa Clara, or in Springfield, or where. There is a call from Coburg, too, and I would almost rather go there than anyplace, but have no way to go and come, without a car. Forgot to mention that Bro. Severson started a meeting this past week in a school house on back another three miles or so from Cantell's and Roy Dailey's place. Have not heard how it is coming.

With love,

