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The Ellen G. White Estate

(Incorporated)



“Elmshaven” St. Helena, California

January 15, 1936.

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11339 Tamarac Street
San Fernando, California.

Dear Brother

I hold in my hand your letter to me and Bro. Robinson of Dec. 18. relating to a statement said to have been made by a certain minister that Sister White wrote things that she instructed the Seventh-day Adventist people to withhold from the public until they thought the time had arrived for publication, and the reason for withholding the matter was that the people would not accept the statements or understand them until a much later date. Then you ask if there are any such books or such literature that we are withholding from the Seventh-day Adventist people until the Conference tells us to let it out.

In answer to your questions I will say, emphatically, no. There is no basis for these statements. Ellen White wrote much that was for publication. She wrote much to individuals and to churches and to the workers in institutions, to whom the messages were addressed and intended for. Time and time again we have gone over this matter and have been able to say to our brethren that all the main features of her instruction are in print and we do not see any good to be accomplished by putting into print repetition of that which is already been published. If put into books it would ~~not~~ make ~~any~~ pages and much time and labor and money would be wasted in printing over and over again that which has already been placed before the people.

Documents addressed to individuals regarding matters of interest to themselves, would not be of value to the general public or to their brethren. ~~But~~ Then as time goes on and there arises disputes and arguments regarding specific issues, we sometimes find that in letters of counsel and reproof to ministers and to laymen and to churches, that there ^{are} counsels given that point to a solution of the subject under dispute. Then we copy out such portions of the original document as seem to have a bearing on the present issue and put it into the hands of discreet men to be used by them in helping to find the right way. Sometimes serious disagreements and misunderstanding are helped by a reference to counsel and reproofs given in times past.

We cannot tell what the future may have in store for us or what we may find by diligent searching in the writings to meet specific difficulties. This matter will work out in time, but to say that there are things that we are instructed to withhold is a misrepresentation and a falsehood.

If you will name to us the minister who has brought to you the report that you have passed on to us, we will take pleasure in communicating with him and possibly can save a number of people from being misled by incorrect statements.

Sincerely your brother,

W. B. White

WCW:lfw.