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Rt 5, Box 74A
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Dear Brother

Your letter addressed to Roger Coon was received at our office a day or two ago. Roger is away and I am here, so I will answer. I have stayed on in Washington longer than usual, to press on with the preparation of the manuscript for the last of the six volumes of the biography. Volume One is with the Review and will be off the press next April or May. I have written five chapters for Volume Two, and that will finish the job. The Lord has blessed me with good health, for which I praise His name, and now the end of a big job is in sight.

You ask about a statement in Volume Four, The Lonely Years, and refer to page 396 where I state that the concept of a denominational rejection of the message did not emerge until forty years after the event, or 1928, and you ask what event that could have been.

I am quite familiar with the facts, and in a footnote refer the reader to statements made by A. T. Robinson, C. C. McReynolds and W. C. White, found in the Appendix of Thirteen Crisis Years. This is the printing of the Olson book last to come from the press. Here is the story. Elder Taylor Bunch, teacher of religion at the time at Loma Linda, was invited to take the fall Week of Prayer at Pacific Union College in 1928. He had shortly before that published a pamphlet entitled, Forty Years in the Wilderness in which he likened the experience of Seventh-day Adventists to that of Israel, who God turned back at Kadesh-Barnea and projected the concept that this was our experience since we had rejected the message of righteousness by faith at Minneapolis in 1888. As I recall, there is little in the way of good documentation to support the concept. The men named above referred to in the A. V. Olson book who lived in the community took firm issue with him. They were at Minneapolis, Bunch was not, for he was a child two years old in the state of Oregon. But it was a catchy idea and it has become quite popular with some, in spite of the lack of sound documentary support.

I have tried most earnestly in my book to deal with the matter of the Minneapolis Conference in an accurate and fair manner, supported with contemporary documentation. I did not, in the preparation of the manuscript read what others in later years have written, for I have never found in their portrayal sound documentation which would counter the image given by the documents I have had available through the years. These documents I studied carefully as I prepared the manuscript.

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I trust this information will be of service to you. Please pray with me that the Lord will give me health and strength to bring the task with the biography to completion, and that it may be of real service to the church.

With the best of wishes, I am
Sincerely your brother,

Arthur L. White

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