

Burlington, Ont. Feb. 11, 1987

Dear Brother Bill:

Greetings in the Master's Name:

I received your letter of Feb 11, and on behalf of the brethren and sisters in Kenya we thank you for your kind donation from your ecclesia and also the anonymous contribution.

I would like to answer your letter and address my remarks to yourself and also your ecclesia as I feel that you are missing the whole objective as to what we are endeavouring to do.

Since issuing the last report we have received much encouragement from the brotherhood with only dissenting remarks from yourselves, Houston and Detroit. The contributions to the Fund have been most generous as an indication of support to help those in need.

Bro. Ed Truelove came to Burlington two weeks ago and stayed four days in order that we could discuss the correspondence received and to bring me up to date on Kenya conditions generally. Bro. Ed will be sending a report out in the very near future to report his findings and also to clarify the subject of the Assistance fund. On this subject we are in complete agreement.

The subject of the Assistance fund has not been done in a corner, as you indicated. At the Hye gathering we had a good discussion on the subject of assistance to Kenya and Chile and I have the tapes which record all of the comments.

The Houston Ecclesia have expressed the wish that the care of the family in Chile be left up to them and they want this project to continue as before.

Our impression from conversations with the Houston brethren was that it was costing \$500. per month to support Bro. and Sis. Martinez and they were having difficulty in meeting this obligation. knowing this, would you not feel that some way should be found to lighten the burden? we were unaware that private donations to the cause were being sent to Houston. As it is the Houston Ecclesia's wish that things remain as they have been, we are happy to comply with their wishes and Bro. Ed will indicate this in his report. Those who have been supporting this effort should send their donations to Houston and we will not interfere.

In our report of Dec. 5, 1984 we stated that the arrangement proposed was but a start and we welcomed suggestions for it's improvement. The objective being the welfare of our brethren and sisters.

I agree with you that the amount of money required to look after a family in Chile is out of proportion to assisting the numbers we have in Kenya. It was not the intention to assume the responsibility or financing the costs of keeping the Chilean family. It was that of assisting the Houston Ecclesia with a portion only of these costs. But as this is not wanted, we will support the Kenyan brethren and sisters. However, we would like to have the freedom to assist a real need where an Ecclesia is not able to assist a brother or sister when a real problem arises. This can occur if a family is in isolation.

For the most part 95% at least of the fund will go to the welfare of the Kenyan brethren and sisters.

In administrating the fund, I do not feel this should be left up to myself or with Bro. Ed and myself. In asking brethren to assist as advisors in every country, it was a way to arrive at decisions without consulting the whole brotherhood. Brethren are generally not prompt to respond in these matters. Would you like to appoint someone from your ecclesia to be consulted? We trust that you will.

Your ecclesia has been a very willing supporter of the Kenya fund for which we are thankful.

I trust that I have been able to clarify our position as taking a positive step to support Kenya and when the occasion arises assist any brother, sister or family in our fellowship who are in dire straits.

Can we withhold help when we have the ability to assist? We cannot see such occasions happening very often and perhaps not at all but would you sooner leave such assistance to be assumed by those who are aware of the need? This burden could be too great to alleviate so could an appeal not be made to an Assistance fund for help?

Bro. Ed's report should clear this matter but in the meantime write him directly with your further thoughts and send me a copy.

Your brother in the One Hope.