

Sanitarium D J 757
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Sanitarium, California,

February 18, 1913.

Prof. C.W.Irwin:

Pacific Union College,
St. Helena, Calif.

Dear Brother Irwin,--

Last Thursday I received your short letter of February 12. At that time I was very busy with a line of foreign correspondence. But now I must no longer delay my reply.

You speak of the manuscript entitled "Department of Students," which has been prepared for the new edition of "Christian Education," and make inquiry particularly regarding the three paragraphs on page five, which are new matter.

With reference to these paragraphs, several questions may be considered. One would be, Are these paragraphs in accord with Mother's views as to what it is right to do in our dealings with a certain class of students.

Another question to be considered is, Whether her thought regarding this matter is stated in such a way as to be correctly understood. This is worthy of faithful consideration. There are so many interests involved, so many ways of looking at the problem under consideration, so many viewpoints from which a statement of this sort may be studied and criticized, that it is certainly right that it should have very faithful

consideration before it is published. Often people read into a statement many things that were not contemplated when it was written. And this makes it important that everything that is to be printed shall be studied in its many bearings before it is sent to the printers.

Another question worthy of our consideration at this time is the advisability of using this chapter in the book.

You will remember that in our first collection of MSS this subject was not included, and when the Cooranbong statement was called for, it was thought that it ought not to stand alone, but that a more complete presentation of Mother's views should be given than was found in that one MS.

The first part of the article was found in Testimonies Vol.IV, and the paragraphs regarding which you have made inquiry were drawn from the records which I had made of several interviews with Mother, at different times. Not being able to write shorthand, I was not able to make as complete a record of what she said, as a shorthand writer could have done, but I wrote down many of her statements in longhand, and fixed other statements in my memory. When they were written out, Mother went over them carefully, and commented on each principle, expressing her approval. Otherwise we should not have included these paragraphs in the article.

Regarding the articles used in this collection of manuscripts for the new edition of "Christian Education," mother has expressed the same wish as regarding other manuscripts being prepared for publication,--that as far as possible all phases of the subject be taken into consideration.

One of the most perplexing problems we have to deal with in preparing Mother's writings for publication, is in just such matters as this, where the conditions of a family, or a church, or an institution are presented to her, and warnings and instruction are given regarding these conditions. In such cases Mother writes clearly and forcefully, and without qualification regarding the situation presented to her, and it is a great blessing to us that we have this instruction for our study in dealing with similar conditions elsewhere. But when we take what she has written, and publish it without any description, or particular reference to the conditions existing when and where the testimony was given, there is always the possibility of the instruction being used as applying to places and conditions that are very different.

Very much perplexity has been brought into our work in this way, by the use of what Mother has written on the subject of diet, and on the use of drugs, and on other subjects that you will think of without my enumerating them; and when the time has come for instruction to be given to some individual, or family, or church, which presented the right course to be taken, under conditions which were different from those contemplated in former writings, the exception made, or the different course advised in view of the different conditions, ~~has~~ has often come as a surprise to those who felt that the instruction they have been studying, was of universal application.

In our book-making, as we have met this perplexity, Mother has given us very comprehensive and emphatic instruction, as to how we shall deal with such matters. We are endeavoring to follow that instruction faithfully. It was in response

C.W.I.-4-

to this instruction that several manuscripts were prepared that mother read at the last General Conference, among which was the article entitled, "Faithfulness in Health Reform." <

Returning to the subject of the article, "Department of Students," I will say that we shall give it another careful study from the viewpoint presented in your letter. And if it is thought best to use the article in the book, we shall be pleased to see it as free as possible from ~~any~~ any statement which will be misunderstood, misapplied, or misused.

Mother and her secretaries are always thankful for any effort made by our friends to point out the possibilities of misunderstanding and misapplication of the statements made in her writings, and we ask you and your associates to help us in any way you can along these lines.

I am away behind in my work, but before many days I hope to find time to come up and visit the school.

Yours very truly,

W. C. White

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