

March 10, 1939

Elder F. D. Wells
112 St. Louis Ave.,
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Elder Wells:

The Kings Heralds quartette and I have a good many friends in Texas; as you know the boys themselves are from Texas and their relatives and friends have been anxious for a long time for us to hold a meeting in Huston. From the day I spoke in the Huston church I have always been interested in that city. However whenever they have written to us about it I have told them that the only way I knew of getting our Voice of Prophecy group there at some time in the future would be for our Radio Program to be in some way put on the Texas Net-work of the Mutual system so that we could continue our Radio work while we were there. You see our Union Conference here has organized our present program on a Union wide basis. We are on the California and Arizona segment of the Mutual System. We are always near enough to some outlet in the system so that we can continue our Radio broadcasts as we move around from city to city with our big tent, which we keep going summer and winter. The income from Radio land covers the entire cost of our Radio broadcasts, the local and Union Conferences subsidize our income to pay our salaries and office expense.

I don't know whether our Union would work something out along this line or not. I have said nothing to anybody about it. The Mutual system has just lately taken over the Texas stations net work of about twenty-six stations, I believe, including the one in Fort Worth and also the one in Huston. This blankets the whole state of Texas.

Our present broadcasts here in California and Arizona consist of two proadcasts, one Sunday morning at nine o'clock

which would be eleven o'clock in Texas. We have fifteen minutes in the morning which is a sustaining program, that means it is free. The Network likes it well enough to give us the time. Our program consists largely of songs by the Kings Herald's, and short scripture readings and appropriate poetry. This does not cost us anything, but is a builder toward our night program which comes on at nine thirty on the Pacific Coast and would be two hours later in Texas. Such a program would have to be put on twice if we went that far East, so as not to be too late. Our night program costs us about \$360 each Sunday night, but as I said, our income from Radio land runs from \$1400 to \$1600 a month. From one half to two thirds from our people, and the rest from non-Adventists.

If some way could be worked out to put us on the entire Texas Net Work, which would cost about \$250 or \$260 each Sunday night, for a period of four or five months, I think we could have a good time in Huston. However, I am talking strictly as a private individual and not trying to start anything. I am just telling how it could be done if everybody was agreed for us to have a leave of absence from the Coast for a period long enough to hold a meeting there.

God is blessing us here in Phoenix. We have a large tent, in fact two tents, heated with big gas blowers, so that we can continue right through the winter as well as the summer. The blowers belong to the Union Conference and are sent from place to place. We usually use a tent owned by the Local Conference. The one we have here is rented from a company here in the city. We carry on our program in a little different way from that employed by most of our Evangelists. We have a smaller tent pitched right at the front of the big tent and to one side. In this tent Sister Curran assisted by her husband, Elder Howard Curran, conducts what we call Pictured Truth, each night from seven to seven thirty. The tent is a 40 x 60 tent, and is filled to capacity each night, with hardly standing room. Our regular meeting starts at seven thirty in the big pavillion. This Pictured Truth Series turns into the Baptismal class about two thirds of the way through the series. We find that the people who go through two meetings each night and are finally carried right through every point of faith in the Pictured truth Baptismal class know this message from A to Z when we get through. I wish you could run out this way and stay over a few days with us and see just what we are trying to do. Possibly you could take a week and vacation in Phoenix. We expect to be here through March and April and possibly into May. We like to run our meetings at least sixteen weeks, sometimes a week or two longer if the interest is good.

Our next meeting has been scheduled for Southern California and probably will be in some part of Hollywood. Each Conference in the Union gets a meeting in its turn. We have already been in Northern, at Lodi, Central at Shafter, Southeastern at San Diego, and now we are in Phoenix. By using the wire of the Richfield Reporter which comes from Hollywood, we are able to continue our Radio work over here.

This letter is already pretty long but it might be that whether anything is worked out or not, between the two Unions, you might be able to get them to take our Sunday morning sustaining Program as this part of the Mutual system is doing. That would be of

interest to our people and it might help later on in getting our work started in a larger way.

I surely believe that Texas is a great field in which to win souls and I am glad you are down there as I know you always back up strong Evangelistic work. May the Lord bless you as you lead out in those great cities which I believe will someday help to greatly strengthen the cause of God in the world.

I am,

sincerely your friend,

H. M. S. Richards

HMSR/rl

P. S. Elder Wells, I am anxious that our Union brethren do not get the idea that I am dissatisfied or trying to get into some other place of labor as I am not. I have simply answered the questions of friends who wanted us to come into their part of the country, and told them that I knew we never could come unless our Radio Program extended with us, that is under the present line up. I am sure you understand this.