

Life Insurance

(Also in D F 516)

QA - 103

7-0-2

St. Helena, Cal. June 24, 1929

Wallowa, Oregon.

Dear Brother

I hold in my hand your letter of June 15th in which you present in a very clear way the objections that present themselves to your mind as regards Life Insurance.

I think I look at the matter as you do. As I have studied the teachings of Christ about the trust we are to place in Him and the care which He has for us, I have felt that my relationship to Him was the best Life Insurance that I could carry. As I study the brief statements in the TESTIMONIES regarding Life Insurance, I recognize that there were two evils which were being combated by the messages sent through Sister White. One related to the ~~praction~~ *praction* of our brethren in becoming agents for patent rights and agents for Life Insurance. The other evil related to the prospective loss of precious money, and the prospective loss of much more precious faith in our Lord and Master.

In view of these considerations I have never felt any burden or inclination to take out Life Insurance or Accident policies. I have thought it possible that the time would come when on account of the wrecklessness of automobile drivers that may be met on most any road, that I might be forced to take out an Accident Policy. As yet I have not done so.

The question of Insurance has been introduced to me by many of our brethren, and I have never felt free to enter into an extended argument regarding it. I plainly tell them that in view of what has been written and in view of the provision made by our General Conference for the care of superannuated workers and their families, that I have no inclination and feel no duty to spend money on Insurance.

Many have presented to me the arguments made by your brother, and these arguments have led me to feel that the Lord had not placed upon me the duty of centuring them or endeavoring to convert them. Nevertheless as for me and my house, we will trust in the Lord.

I am of the opinion that the example and the testimonies of influential men in the cause of present truth ought not lead us to swerve from the pathway indicated by our individual consciences, neither should it lead us to feel the burden that we must bring them in line and insist upon their seeing the matter as we see it.

When I read Elder Wilcox's letter in the "Review and Herald", ^(Jan 19, 1928) my heart greatly rejoiced. It expressed my conviction and my views, and since its publication I have referred those who bring the question to me to his article as a clear statement of that which I believe to be correct.

I have never heard any criticism of the article, and I am inclined to believe that the report given you that he was "called down by the General Conference Committee" is an error and has no foundation in truth. Individual members of the Committee may have expressed disagreement or even censure, but the expression of individual members must not be taken as the action of the Committee. I receive the reports of all meetings of the General Conference Committee, and read them carefully; and I have never observed any action relating to this matter. I feel very confident that the individual members who may have criticised Elder Wilcox could not have secured any vote of censure or disapproval.

Now Brother Oliver, I have expressed to you quite freely my views, as regards the matter of wherein I disagree with men who have talked with you. You can secure the facts by writing to Elder Wilcox or to the Secretary of the General Conference Committee.

It is my belief that thousands of S.D. Adventists have refrained from taking out Life Insurance because of their belief that by so doing they would meet the disapproval of God, and it is my belief that hundreds of thousands of dollars that otherwise would have gone into the Treasuries of Life Insurance Companies have been saved to the individual and to the cause.

With kindest regards and praying that God may lead you in His ways and that you may see light in His Light, I am,

Sincerely your brother,

W. C. White