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GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
6840 EASTERN AVENUE NW.,
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TELEPHONE RANDOLPH 3-0800

August 18, 1959

CABLE ADDRESS
"ADVENTIST" WASHINGTON
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"GENERAL CONFERENCE"
WASHINGTON, D.C.

UNION and LOCAL CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

Dear Brethren:

The group at Waco, known as Davidian Seventh-day Adventists and also as the Shepherd's Rod, have been giving some fanciful interpretations to prophecy. Among these have been time-setting interpretations. They predicted certain great events to take place a few weeks ago. When these did not materialize, they were left in confusion, and invited Elder A.V. Olson, who happened to be in that area, with others, to meet with them, in an endeavor to help them understand wherein their error lay. Meetings were held on their grounds, by their invitation. The response seemed encouraging and it appeared that at least some would be won back to the church.

They then urged that a small group of their number meet with a similar group appointed by us, to discuss theological problems. This we agreed to, with the expectation that they were coming to us sincerely for help. Meetings, extending over a period of six or seven days, were held, in which they set forth as fully as possible certain points of their faith, and then our men responded, endeavoring to point out wherein they had erred.

I must say that, to date, the result of this discussion is disappointing. Their evident purpose was simply to find an opportunity to meet with us and discuss doctrines. They have now left, and it is possible that they will be making some propaganda of this meeting. Our thought is to give a minimum of publicity to this meeting, well knowing that publicity is the thing that they seek. It seemed wise, however, to the Officers to send out to the Conference Presidents and heads of Bible departments in our Colleges this word of explanation so that, in case a question arises concerning this meeting, you will be informed. Should you need further particulars on any special point, we shall be glad to do our best to reply to your questions.

An excellent pamphlet on the Shepherd's Rod was prepared some-time ago. The cost of it is only twenty-five cents, obtainable at the Review and Herald. The title is, "The History and Teachings of the Shep-

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herd's Rod. This is excellent material for any who have to meet the problem of these people.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very cordially your brother,



R. R. Figueroa

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copy-Bible Dept. in Colleges