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March 16, 1983

W.S.O. Inc. Letter To The Fellowship

The purpose of this letter is to advise the fellowship of the events that have taken place since the Conference of May 1982 regarding the N.A. book.

We could not enter into a contract with any printer until we had received enough pre-sale money to complete our task; we also needed releases for all the material before we could prepare it for the printer. In September we had enough money to proceed with a printer, approximately $28,000. At that time the board voted to have "Thought Process Press" (T.P.P.) do the printing. W.S.O. Inc. had been doing business with this print shop for two and a half years, indeed they had done all our printing. There had been another bid submitted which was substantially higher than T.P.P. so it seemed better to go with the printer we had been doing business with for sometime.

We entered into a contract with "Thought Process Press" on October 15, 1982. The contract called for $10,000.00 upon signing of contract as advance start up, an additional $5,000.00 upon the approval of the galley proofs and an additional $5,000.00 upon delivery of printing to the bindery. We released $10,000.00 upon signing October 15, 1982. After some delays by the printer and the typesetter all galley proofs were read and approved. On December 9th, 1982 we released another $5,000,00 to T.P.P.

The chairman of the board, at that time, Phil P. was in daily or weekly contact with the printer to check his progress, he told Phil that he was getting closer & closer to being complete. After mid December it began to be apparent that the printer was having problems. Thinking that he might be overloaded with his other work and our

other printing and not have enough time for the book, we decided to have another printer (Dale Pettet) do the other literature printing to ease T.P.P.'s load so that they could complete the book. About three weeks later we learned that there had been no progress made toward completion, all we were getting were excuses.

Members of the board met with the owner of T.P.P. at his place of business on February 12, 1983 and there learned that the "progress on the book" was not even close to what we had been told. It was then and there decided to remove all materials (which have been valued at $4,000.00 to $5,000.00) of ours from T.P.P. and contact our attorney on proper and legal manner of procedure.

On preliminary advice and to expedite matters, three bids were received from other printers. It was decided to go with Dale Pettet Litho Arts who was already doing our printing. D.P.L.A. references were checked out to make sure we had a reliable printer. The Better Business Bureau was also checked.

Everything checked out first rate, this printer has been in the same area for thirty years and has been doing business with the same companies for many years. They had nothing but praise for his work and his character.

At this time the chairman Philip P. was offered a new job with the company where he is employed that neccessitated training and perhaps moving from this area; he felt he had to step down as President because of not enough time to give to his position and the duties of the W.S.O. Inc. Chuck G. was then elected interim President until the next regular board meeting.

A letter was received from Page C. Feb. 28, 1983 wanting W.S.O. Inc. to stop printing the book. In his letter he stated that we were to have distributed the book by September 1982. The attached copy of his letter shows that he did not turn everything over to us until Sept. 15, 1982. The board therefore turned everything over to the attorney for study and decision as to proper legal obligations and proceedures.

The following items were turned over: 1982 W.S.C. minutes, Page C's letters, copy of our structure, W.S.O. Inc. minutes for the past year, W.S.O. Inc. By Laws. While the attorney was going over all this material, we received another letter from Page C. dated March 1st, 1983 asking for a group conscience on the book, this we also forwarded to the attorney.

On March 11, 1983 our attorney advised us that we

had a duty to the entire fellowship to proceed foward with the printing; that we were given a directive at the '82 W.S.C., presale funds were accumulated to that end and we must proceed unless a majority of the fellowship directed otherwise. Page C. by his letter in his own words, seemed to be acting on his own and not through the literature committee or the conference as a whole. Our attorney drew up a contract between the new printer and W.S.O. Inc. for the boards consideration. The board majority voted to follow the attorney's advice and proceed with the printing now. The board also approved of the contract from the attorney.

On March 14, 1983 the contract was signed by both parties and the printing is now underway. We did recover a lot of material from the printer who failed in business and this will expedite the present printing. The target date for the office to receive and start shipping the book is April 20, 1983.

We feel that this board has consistantly acted in good faith and has honestly tried to carry out, in conscience, all tasks and duties.

As in all business affairs, problems do arise, we had ours with the first printer which was completely unexpected, especially after doing business with them for several years and especially so when they put in new presses in September 1982 to do the book.

We would like to ask your region to act only upon what has been approved from the conference as a whole and not upon any individual requests from members acting solely for themselves. This would stop a lot of the rumors and problems that have arisen in the recent past.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the W.S.O. Inc. and we will do our best to answer.

Yours In Fellowship,

Charles B. Gates

Chas. Gates, Interim Pres.

CG/sb

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