

### THE MEDICAL SCHOOL FIASCO

Readers of The Gathering Call will be interested in recent events relating to the Loma Linda medical school. The 1961 Autumn Council, which is believed by many to have been honored by God's presence, recommended that all four years of medical training be taught on the Los Angeles campus. (R&H, 138:48, Nov. 30, 1961, 12) Most of the leaders seem to have supported this momentous change and R.R. Figuhr offered the bureaucracy's argument in its support. (R&H, 139:29, July 19, 1962, 4, 7, 8) Again we find E.G. White quotations used in support of an event which the leaders must know she would never have supported.

On September 26, 1962 the trustees of the Loma Linda University rescinded the previous action of the Autumn Council and made plans for an eventual four years program at the Loma Linda campus instead of at Los Angeles. Again R.R. Figuhr assumed responsibility for informing the Adventist populous. (R&H, 139, 48, Oct. 18, 1962, 16, 24) Since all Adventist meetings of this nature are believed to be attended by God, one can only ponder the two contradictory actions.

A number of reasons for the change were invented and offered to the readers of the ~~1666666~~ "good old Review!" All were subterfuges. Figuhr stated that "the board has not been influenced by the few individuals who have felt it their duty to bring pressure upon it through various means, such as issuing pamphlets, sending out mimeographed material, et cetera. These activities only created confusion and made the work of the board more difficult!" Now there is both truth and error in the above statement. Let us consider the error first.

Certainly the board was influenced by such literature inasmuch as it was the writings of S.A. Nagel and G.H. Rue which indirectly brought so many to their senses. Both of these gentlemen apparently have considerable influence with Adventist doctors and after their writings became widely known among certain members of the medical profession, the board learned that the flow of large sums of money into the medical school might be terminated. It has been said that more than two hundred Adventist doctors let it be known that they would cease to pour funds into the school should it be moved to Los Angeles. As S.A. Nagel has written: they recognized "PRESSURE FROM OUR MEN OF WEALTH!" (Newsletter, Jan., 1963)

Now for the truth in Figuhr's statement. Read the statement again. This statement is interesting because it refers to writings which were largely compilations of statements made by Ellen G. White relating to the medical work in Loma Linda and in Los Angeles. It is quite true that the gentlemen on the board were not personally influenced by these writings since most of them do not believe in the inspiration of E.G. White. If they had believed in her inspiration, they would never have tried to move the school. Naturally "these activities only created confusion and made the work of the board more difficult"

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