


Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc.
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May 7, 2003

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Dear Brothers:

This is to provide additional information to the letter dated October 28, 2002, regarding the transfer of printery operations from Brooklyn to Wallkill. Considerable work has been accomplished in the six months since that letter was sent out. This letter will outline the progress to date and indicate areas in which your assistance is being requested.

Despite the hard winter, much has been done to prepare the site for the printery addition. Preparation of the site is ongoing, allowing for existing utilities to be relocated and new utilities to be installed. Foundation work has just begun. Steel erection will be performed in July and August of this year. The scheduled completion date is February 2004, at which time the first of the existing presses will be relocated. The new presses are scheduled to arrive in March/April 2004.

As you can appreciate, this is truly a monumental task. To put it in perspective, the goal is to complete a building twice the size of a typical Assembly Hall in a nine-month period. We feel that with Jehovah's blessing and the assistance of the united brotherhood, this task will be successfully accomplished. How can you help?

There is a tremendous need for both skilled tradesmen and general laborers to assist with the work. The trades in critical demand include masonry, plumbing, mechanical, sheet metal, electrical, elevator, heavy equipment operation, carpentry, painting, concrete/structural, and commercial glazers. If you have these or other construction skills and your circumstances allow, we invite you to submit the *Application for Temporary Volunteer Program*. This can be obtained from the Congregation Service Committee.

In the printing industry in the 1970's, letterpress was rapidly replaced by offset printing. The cost of keeping up with that advancement was large, since all printing equipment in the Society's printeries needed replacement and/or modification. Nevertheless, the Governing Body was confident that Jehovah would provide what was necessary to get the work done. Letters were sent to U.S. congregations in April 1979 and January 1980 to explain the situation. Jehovah's spirit was evident from the

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incoming donations, which met the cost to equip the entire global network of Watchtower printeries for offset printing.

We are equally confident that donations will cover the expenses of the present large project. For example, worldwide the cost of just the new high-speed presses and ancillary equipment that have been ordered for six branches, including the United States, is \$60 million. This does not include the cost for other printery equipment, building costs, and related expenses. In this endeavor, your support and contributions to the Worldwide Work are greatly appreciated. First Chronicles 29:9 says: "The people gave way to rejoicing over their making voluntary offerings, for it was with a complete heart that they made voluntary offerings to Jehovah; and even David the king himself rejoiced with great joy."

Your individual, family, and congregational prayers for Jehovah's blessing on this project are very much needed. In the final analysis, the successful completion of not only the Wallkill printery project but all theocratic projects is due to Jehovah's holy spirit, as Psalm 127:1 states: "Unless Jehovah himself builds the house, it is to no avail that its builders have worked hard on it. Unless Jehovah himself guards the city, it is to no avail that the guard has kept awake."

May Jehovah richly bless the work you are doing and your loving support of his earthly organization.

Your Brothers,

Watchtower B. & F. Society
OF NEW YORK, INC.

Enclosure

PS: Please have this letter read to the congregation at the first Service Meeting after its receipt. Then post it and the accompanying illustration on the information board.