Adventist Publishing Houses Consider Reorganization

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists has released the following statement regarding the Pacific Press and Review and Herald Publishing Houses.

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Publishing Houses Re-structure Under Consideration

In June of 2013 the administrations of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and its North American Division asked the boards of Pacific Press Publishing Association and Review and Herald Publishing Association to consider a merger in order to achieve publishing and production efficiencies. The boards of both publishing houses expressed a readiness to study and respond to a detailed merger proposal being developed by a taskforce composed of representatives from the General Conference, the North American Division, and both publishing houses. In the course of its assignment the taskforce came to the conclusion that it was best not to proceed with a merger. Consequently the plan was discontinued and no proposal was submitted to the boards.

As with the publishing industry in general, financial challenges have continued. In response the General Conference and North American Division administrations have examined available options other than merger. A proposal under development is to maintain two publishing entities, one attached to the General Conference and the other attached to the North American Division. The unit attached to the General Conference would not operate printing and production facilities. Instead, the printing and production needs of this house would be entrusted to the North American Division’s publishing house.

On April 24, 2014 the General Conference and North American Division administrations requested the boards of both publishing houses to indicate their readiness to receive a formal proposal for the
re-structuring of publishing in the North American Division. A prepared statement to the boards from Ted Wilson, General Conference President, and Dan Jackson, North American Division president affirmed that “the publishing ministries will be a dynamic part of the Revelation 18 prophetic mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.” Further, the two presidents agreed that “neither…the Review and Herald nor the Pacific Press, has a strong future without an integral involvement with the NAD and its mission outreach.”

Both boards have responded positively. Within the next few weeks the specific details of a re-structuring plan will be completed and submitted to the boards for their response.

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