MAIN 5-1240



CABLE WATCHTOWER

July 15, 1967

The Honorable Ivan Allen, Jr. Mayor of the city of Atlanta, Georgia Atlanta, Georgia

Sir:

In the month of June, 1966, a brochure was sent to me, Nathan H. Knorr, President of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, with the heading "Atlanta Invites You." Our Society has given consideration to your letter of June 14, 1966, that came with the brochure, inviting us to hold a large convention in Atlanta. I very much appreciated your letter. The brochure also contained a letter from the Governor of the State, as well as letters from the Atlanta Convention Bureau, the Atlanta Hotel, Motel Association and the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

We had considered coming to Atlanta during the days of July 6-13, 1969, Sunday to Sunday inclusive, and we concluded that we would very much like to have the use of the Atlanta Stadium, which I believe has a seating capacity of about 57,000 people.

I wrote a letter to Mr. Sidney Scarborough, dated May 25, 1967, concerning our plans for 1969. I am enclosing a copy of this letter that sets out all of the details. However, I am sorry to say that up to this writing I have not yet received an answer to my letter. Whether the letter may have gone astray, or whether Mr. Scarborough is no longer in charge of the stadium rentals, I do not know. I thought I had the right information that Mr. Scarborough would be the man who could answer my questions.

I have been working with the officials in the National and American Baseball Leagues in regard to adjusting dates in 1969, so that we could use various stadiums throughout the United States. I had thought that we would by this time have a reply from Mr. Scarborough, whom I believe to be the general manager of the Atlanta Stadium and the one to deal with in these matters, telling us what the price would be, whether the dates we desire would be available and whether the stadium is open to conventions such as ours.

We anticipated bringing 40,000 to 45,000 people to Atlanta during the eight days of the convention in 1969. But to work

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out our program for the summer of 1969 we must know well in advance whether organization controling the Atlanta Stadium would rent the stadium to us and work out arrangements with the Society for the use of the stadium during these particular dates.

I know that Mr. Joseph Cronin of the American League and Mr. Warren Giles of the National League have appointed two gentlemen to speak to me about trying to work out dates for 1969 so that we could use Yankee Stadium and Atlanta Stadium, as well as other ballparks, such as Comiskey Park, Busch Memorial Stadium and the Anaheim Stadium. We have had very fine relations with the New York Yankees, Chicago White Sox and the other stadium officials mentioned, but for some reason we do not have any definite word from Atlanta, Georgia.

Perhaps your good offices could put me on the right track as to the person with whom I should communicate so as to get an answer to our request for use of the Atlanta Stadium on the dates we need it. We would be delighted to come to Atlanta and we like the facilities that you describe in your brochure. I would be very happy to come to Atlanta to see the stadium and the facilities available and to talk contract terms and to let the gentleman in charge know what we have done thus far with other stadium officials across the country.

The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society would be happy to arrange for a large assembly in Atlanta, Georgia July 6-13, 1969. May I please hear from you with your suggestions on what I might do in this matter?

Sincerely,

N. H. Knorr President

NHK/ag