

27A 10-6-6 Recreation & GA-186
Amusements 10-6-6

See PP 460 (AH 515; MC 87)

Blacking Faces (Letter from Ellen White
re program Letter 32, 1912)

October 18, 1932

See letter 32, 1912

537-25th Street,
Oakland, California

Dear Miss

Your letter of September 25 has been waiting answer for several weeks. When it came, we were very busy getting Elder White off to the Fall Council. Then immediately following his departure, we were kept very busy supplying material which he had called for for use in Battle Creek.

You ask if there is anything from Sister White's pen regarding dressing like clowns, etc., at social gatherings, also is there anything written on blacking up like Negroes.

Answering your last question first, I will refer you to the article, "A Recent Experience" found in the tract Recreation on page 37. This does not mention out and out the blacking up like Negroes, but it was written on July 5, 1912 in reproof of what had taken place on July 4.

The manager of the Sanitarium handed us this note regarding their program at the Sanitarium on July 4.

"The Fourth of July program at the St. Helena Sanitarium included Band Music and Flag Raising at 9:00 A. M.; Instrumental Music during dinner hour; Base Ball Game at 2:30 P. M. From 7:30 to 9:00 P. M. the program consisted of Band Music, Vocal and Instrumental Solos, interspersed with various sports, including some athletic feats, and also some clownish maneuvers by young men with blackened faces and grotesque attire.

"The propose of those planning the entertainment was to interest patients and helpers so they would not desire to go to a neighboring town, where there was a Barbaque and all sorts of sports and amusements."

On Sabbath morning, July 6, Sister White spoke at the Sanitarium and after speaking of the influence the Sanitarium should be for good in bring the truth to the patients, she read this letter which is printed in the tract to which I referred.

On Sunday, "July 7, Elder Farnsworth visited Sister White and among other things she told him about the meeting Sabbath forenoon when she read to the Sanitarium church her testimony regarding the fourth of July entertainment. Regarding it she said,

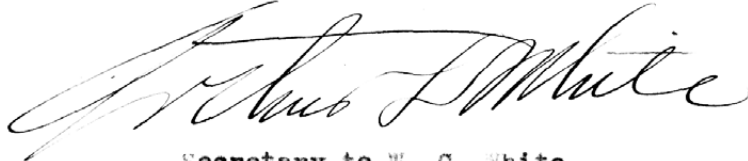
"I saw that this was the way the devil would come in to prevent men and women who know the truth from getting the experience that God desires them to have, that they may be able to help those who are in need of their help."

I do not find any references to dressing like clowns, or anything on hardtime parties in our card index. I think we can find enough general instruction regarding amusement and recreation to cover these things when we consider the principles which have been laid down.

I am enclosing a copy of the tract to which I have referred in this letter.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely your brother,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. S. White". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Secretary to W. C. White

ALW:aw