

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
OFFICE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84143

February 12, 1969

President A. Harold Goodman
BYU Fifth Stake
725 East Spruce Avenue
Provo, Utah 84601

Dear President Goodman:

Reference is made to your letter of January 27th in which you inquire as to the attitude of the Church regarding Sanka Coffee.

The terms and specifications as found in the Word of Wisdom, Section 89 of the Doctrine and Covenants, remain as stated in that section. There has been no other official interpretation of that Word of Wisdom except that which was given by the brethren in the very early days of the Church when it was declared that "hot drinks" meant tea and coffee.

The Church has not officially taken any other attitude on this matter. Leaders of the Church have advised against the use of any beverage containing harmful, habit-forming drugs or ingredients under circumstances that would result in the acquiring of the habit.

The use of a beverage from which the deleterious ingredients have been removed would not be considered as breaking the Word of Wisdom. This would include Sanka Coffee, and a temple recommend should not be denied to those drinking Sanka Coffee.

Sincerely yours,

David O. McKay

Hugh B. Brown

Weldon Samuel

The First Presidency