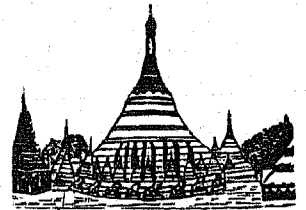


IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

JANUARY 18, 1937



DR KARL BARTH
ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

DEAR DR. BARTH,

I AM NOW PLANNING TO ATTEND THE YOUTH CONVENTION OF THE BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE MEETING THERE IN ZURICH FROM AUGUST SEVENTH TO ELEVENTH. I WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO ARRIVE THREE MONTHS EARLIER TO STUDY THEOLOGY WITH YOU EITHER IN CLASS IF YOU ARE LECTURING OR PRIVATE HELP AS TO READING AND GENERAL PURSUANCE OF THEOLOGICAL STUDY. I HOPE ALSO TO FIND A GOOD PIANO TEACHER UNDER WHOM I MAY HAVE SEVERAL LESSONS DURING MY STAY THERE.

I AM A B.A. GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, U.S.A. AND A GRADUATE OF THE LOUISVILLE BAPTIST SEMINARY IN KENTUCKY. I TOOK GRADUATE WORK IN SOCIOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA. FOR ONE TERM IN 1928 I STUDIED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND. I TAUGHT ENGLISH AND MUSIC AT RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE IN VIRGINIA FOR TWO YEARS RESIGNING TO TAKE A POSITION AS SPECIAL LECTURER IN SOCIOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SHANGHAI FOR SIX MONTHS STOPPING OVER ON A WORLD TRIP. THE POSITION OPENED HERE FOR ME AS PASTOR OF IMMANUEL CHURCH SO I HAVE BEEN HERE SINCE JULY OF LAST YEAR. I WISH I COULD STAY LONGER BUT I MUST GET BACK TO AMERICA THIS SUMMER.

ONE OF MY GREAT HANDICAPS IS THE LACK OF FINANCES AT THE PRESENT TIME TO DO THE THINGS I DESIRE. I HAVE SOMEWHAT WORKED MY WAY ALONG AND HAVE BEEN MOST FORTUNATE SO FAR. OF COURSE I WOULD HAVE TO DEPEND UPON WHAT LITTLE I HAVE SAVED AND WHAT I COULD GET FROM HOME FOR MY EXPENSES THERE. MY FATHER WENT BROKE IN THE AMERICAN DEPRESSION WHICH HAS MADE IT HARD FOR ME SINCE. I DO SO MUCH HOPE THAT I CAN STUDY WITH YOU FOR AT LEAST THREE MONTHS AND ALSO HAVE PIANO LESSONS ON THE SIDE. I COULD LEAVE HERE IN APRIL GETTING THERE FOR MAY, JUNE AND JULY.

WILL YOU PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO WORK WITH YOU AND KINDLY GIVE ME SOME IDEA AS TO THE EXPENSE? MY GRATITUDE IS EXPRESSED IN ADVANCE.

YOURS SINCERELY,

*Thomas Eugene West**My age is 34 years.*