State of the state

6, ERSKINE HILL,
GOLDERS GREEN, N.W.II.
Sept. 22nd 1938.

Dear Professor Barth,

Since writing to you two days ago I have been thinking further about my own request to you and realise more clearly how difficult it must be for you to know what aspect of things to choose for the introduction to, my leaflet (in case you are able to do it).

has come to me of the mischievous effects in this country of the Bishop of Floucester's campaign. I am now enclosing for you letters he had in the Times prior to the article in the Guardian. It covers the same points but brings in a good deal of other disculsive material.

These letters are from my own file so kindly excuse, once more, that they are marked for my own purposes. I have however, marked with <u>red</u> certain passages giving the points which I believe will be best for you to mention in anything you may be able to write for me now. I think the most pernicious lie of all is this, - that Dr. Niemoller and the Confessional Church are being legitimately punished for their "political purposes" in resisting the Government!

When the Bishop of Gloucester's first letter appeared I wrote and begged him to inform me of the evidence he had of Dr. Niemoller "using his pulpit for political purposes". The Bishop did not even reply to my letter, but I am interested to see in the article in the <u>Guardian</u> he shifts his ground, and finds proof of this "political purpose" in the disobedience of Niemoller to "administrative orders"!

If you could write a few paragraphs on the question why exactly does Dr. Niemoller and the Confessional Church for obliged to disobey the Government regulations? that would be most useful. Secondly why did "the great majority of German pastors" i.e. "the Evangelical Christians who accept the National Socialist Regine", why can they "carry on their work with more or less success...without any interruption by the State".?

You will think that these are extraordinarily elementary points and that surely we in England must realise the answers to them by now. I can only say in reply that in the main my countrymen are still so grossly ignorant that the Bishop of Gloucester does make an impression; and just because he is a Bishop, many people who do know better, want to avoid the unpleasantness of coming into conflict with him. It is sad for me as an English woman to have to say this to you, but one has to look facts in the face.

Your vincent, & probably Devotor