

23, WINDSOR STREET,
DUNDEE.

2nd June, 1936

Dear Fraülein Kirschbaum,

I duly received your kind letter, containing the two introductions from Professor Karl Barth, when I arrived in Berlin, and I rejoiced to have them. I intended to write a letter of thanks, and also to send my congratulations to professor Barth, when the whole household in Berlin including my wife, my daughter and child, and son-in-law, including myself was struck down with a virulent influenza, and were all very ill. The house was like a hospital with doctors and nurses, my wife especially became very ill with bronchial pneumonia, also my daughter. I returned home last night, having left my wife in Berlin, for she is still very weak.

So you will pardon my omission in writing, and will understand. I made an attempt in the last days to meet Jacobi but he was very busy and I could not see him....

Now to the matter of the Gifford Lectures in Aberdeen. Will you kindly say to professor Barth that there are no discussions after the Gifford Lectures, so that he does not need to worry about that. After the lecture the listeners go quietly away. No doubt there may be some informal opportunities for discussion in the evenings, arranged by friends who wish to meet Professor Barth. But for such

his knowledge of English will be quite adequate.

As to the lectures themselves-I still think the method I suggested would be the best - that he lecture in German-the lecture to be not longer than 45 minutes- and be immediately followed by some one, Professor Thomson e.g. who will read a translation, which might be given in 30 minutes. Whether he should give the whole lecture at once, or give it, say in three sections, each section to be followed by the translation, is a matter for further consideration. To give it in three sections might sustain the interest best. But it is very important that a translation should be given. Schweitzer gave the Gifford lectures in Edinburgh in French, but the method was not regarded as a success. Also, it is not a success when foreigners read a translation. I have heard Gifford lecturers doing that, but it was not impressive.

...To turn to another matter. I am hoping that my paper in "Die Freiheit der Gebundenen" has found a good translator, for I sent it in too late to be able to go over the translation myself. Professor Barth will understand that I did not set out to write a eulogium, as I might have done, but to give a sober balanced opinion, built up out of the views of others as well as of myself.

With all good wishes and best regards,
Yours ever *John M. Comarache*