

GOSSNERSCHE MISSIONSGESELLSCHAFT
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystr. 19/20

78
Berlin-Friedenau, 12th Febr., 1958
Lo/Me.

86
19.2.58
The Church Council
c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. Horo
Ranchi / Bihar
INDIA

Dear Brother Horo!

This is to let you know that our two young sisters Parakleta K h e s s and Daisy Hemrom are going in for their exam at the Bible-School in Salzuflen at the end of March. We think they should stay here for another month or two in order to visit the friends and congregations who pray and work for the Gossner Church in India. They must also have short holidays in order to recover from the strenuous exams. They could then leave here in June or July to take up work in the Gossner Church.

The decision as to what work they are to do on their return to India lies entirely with the Church Council. I would be glad if you would occasionally let me know what kind of church work you intend to assign to the young women.

The two teachers Bahalen B a g e and Seteng H a p a d g a r a have arrived in Mainz-Kastel as scheduled, and are staying there for a bit in order to be equipped with the necessary clothing for the winter climate in Germany and to be introduced by Sister Auguste Fritz in-to the quite different circumstances of life. They are invited this week already to Pastor Dr. Hess, Westkilver/Westfalia, and are subsequently to stay in Espelkamp for a while to be together with Mr. and Mrs. Minz.

There will be no church courses in Germany starting before April 1st so that the two teachers will spend the first weeks of their stay in Germany in learning German. From April 1st onward they are either to go to the Bible School in Salzuflen, where P. Khess and D. Hemrom are, or to the large "Diakonissen" House in Kaiserswerth on/Rhine where they are to be acquainted with the working methods of the Kindergarten. In Kaiserswerth are also young women of the Batak Church pursuing their studies there, and we believe it would be profitable for our two teachers to study and work there in ecumenic community with these sisters from Indonesia. I shall let you know as soon as I myself know where our two teachers will be going on April 1st.

I have to give you very sad news which will affect you too. Our Pastor Heinrich G r o t h a u s died on January 20th, 1958. He was our best fellow worker in the mission work in our German congregations. And he was a real father for the small Indian family living in Germany. You knew him too, and will understand that it will be very hard for us to find someone to replace him.

Finally I want to thank you and especially President Tiga most heartily for continuing negotiations with the brothers of the other group, thereby being willing to make sacrifices on your part. Brother Borutta has written to me about it. I pray God that He give His blessing to your further discussions.

P.T.O.

Should the Church Council consent to the suggestions made by the Kuratorium concerning an evangelisation campaign within the Gossner Church, and invite me to India for 3 months for this purpose, it would be necessary that Brother Borutta postpones his departure from India till Spring next year. I know how hard this decision would be for Brother Borutta and especially for his wife; but without him I could not serve the Gossner Church during my stay in the way expected of me. I have, therefore, written to Brother Borutta and asked him not to forsake the Gossner Church in this hour, but to stand by me as a brother if I should come to India. I do not know what you think of this; but if you think Brother Borutta should make this sacrifice and postpone his return till the beginning of next year I would ask you to beg him on your part to postpone his return to Germany.

With cordial greetings I am,

Dear Brother Horst!

Yours sincerely,

Hans Lokies

(D. Hans Lokies)

The decision as to what work they are to do on their return to India lies entirely with the Church Council. I would be glad if you would occasionally let me know what kind of church work you intend to assign to the young women.

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GOSSNERSCHE MISSIONSGESELLSCHAFT
Berlin-Friedenau
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78 Berlin-Friedenau, 1st February, 58
Lo/Me.

73
Feb 2. 58
The Church Council of the G.E.L. Church
c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. H o r o , B.A.

G.E.L. Church Compound

R a n c h i / Bihar

INDIA

Dear Brother Horo,

The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission thanks you for the letter of the Church Council of December 27th, 1957 (No. 2584/57 - CC - 78) and affirms the resolution of the Church Council to invite Bishop Dr. M a n i k a m as chairman of the Commission.

We pursue the goings-on within the Gossner Church which have become so scandalous that even the police had to intervene with sorrow. You can imagine how much the Kuratorium and all missionfriends in Germany suffer under this disturbance in the Gossner Church. We pray to God daily that he show you all a way for the Church to return to peace and order.

We are also troubled by the news that India and also the district of the Gossner Church is threatened by famine. Should not this general distress lead us all to repent? In addition there is the loss of church money through the crash of the bank in Ranchi and the financial emergency of the Church Council.

We in the Kuratorium have turned over all these things in our hearts, and asked ourselves what we can do on our part to help you. We believe that the discussions in the Commission which are of a legal character are a far too narrow basis for restoring the church to unity and peace. The quarrel in the church seems to us only a symptom of a far deeper disorder of a spiritual nature and can only be overcome by prayer and the Word of God. We are, therefore, suggesting that the Gossner Church should this year - the year of the hundredth anniversary of the death of Gossner - arrange a wide-scale evangelisation campaign throughout the whole church. The Gossner Church is to be offered the Gospel once again. For this service in the evangelisation work all suitable men and women missionaries, Indian pastors and laymen are to be summoned irrespective of the group they belong to. This evangelisation is to be introduced by a preparation course for pastors of about 8 - 14 days and perhaps to be terminated in a kind of church rally (not synod, which would have a partly legal character) in one of the larger parishes. For this evangelistic service the Kuratorium is willing to send me to India. My wife will accompany me. If you agree I want to come immediately after the rains.

This evangelisation is not meant to replace the work of the Commission. This is to go on alongside and should begin as soon as possible. We have written to Bishop Dr. M a n i k a m to this effect and asked him to come to Ranchi as soon as possible.

The Kuratorium has yet another suggestion to make: From the sense of solidarity with you we want to send you a pastoral letter addressing all congregations and pastors of the Gossner Church to be read on Palm Sunday (the death-day of Gossner) in all services. We shall send you this letter as soon as possible and request you to distribute it

P.T.O.

among all pastors and congregations irrespective of the group they belong to. This epistle also has no other purpose than to summon our brethren in the Gossner Church in prayer to obey the Word of God.

We would be very grateful if you would appreciate these proposals and put them into action. We are also willing to bear the costs of printing and dispatching this pastoral letter.

To conclude I have a very earnest and urgent request: hard as it may be for you, do not give up discussing with the members of the other group, and hold fast to the unity of the Gossner Church. May God Almighty through His Holy Spirit give you patience, wisdom and strength to overcome all obstacles that lie on the way to peace and unity in the Church.

With sincere brotherly greetings,
Dr. M. A. K. M. as chairman of the Commission.

Yours,

Hans Lokies
(D. Hans Lokies)

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GOSSNERSCHE MISSIONSGESELLSCHAFT

Berlin-Friedenau

Handjerystr. 19/20

Circulated to Ex. officers. 78
Berlin-Friedenau, January 2nd, 1958

Lo/Me.

The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Chotanagpur and Assam

c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. H or o

R a n c h i / Bihar

INDIA

15
8/1/58
Dear Brethren,

In the name of the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission we thank you for your letter of Nov. 12th, 1957. We were very sorry to hear that the eldest son of our brother President Tiga died after a severe illness. We participate in the grief that has fallen on him and his family by the will of God, and remember him in our prayers. May the promise of our Lord Jesus Christ that comes to us through the words of St. John 14:19: "because I live ye shall live also" comfort you and us.

In your letter of Nov. 12th you express your attitude towards the suggestions the Kuratorium made in its letter of Oct. 3rd and we are very grateful for it.

Unfortunately the session of the Kuratorium will not take place before January 1958; but I have sent a copy of your letter to the committee members that have been appointed by the Kuratorium so that we can discuss together the questions of an amendment of the Constitution and a new order of the Gossner Church. All members of this committee approved your letter.

We are especially thankful that you share our opinion that the chairman of the committee provided for in the Agreement of 7-VII-57 should be an Indian. In spite of this you have repeated your invitation to Mission Director Lokies to come to India. We take this for a sign of your trust in the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission. Unfortunately Mission Director Lokies is indispensable until Summer 1958. The Gossner Mission intends to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the death of Father Gossner on March 30th, 1958. For this day which is to be celebrated all over Germany extensive preparations must be made, among others literary work for which we cannot do without Mission Director Lokies.

In one item of your letter we differ from your suggestions. That is concerning the Board of Adjudication. We are of the opinion that the chairman of this important board in which questions and matters of the different groups are to be handled should be a representative of the Federation of Lutheran Churches in India. You suggest as chairman the chairman of the Mahasabha. We quite understand that in this point you do not wish to go as far as we, and the decisions of course lies with you. And if in this letter we consider this point in detail it is to explain our farther reaching suggestions.

As you know, in former times the affairs of Evangelical Lutheran parishes in Chota Nagpur and Assam were administered in a paternalistic manner by the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission. In the meanwhile the Gossner Church has become autonomous. We approve this development wholeheartedly. On the other hand we fear that the young autonomous

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church might be too isolated. In the same way as in former times it was in close communion with the Old Church it should now seek close communion with other Young Churches in India. And for this purpose it seems to us that a mere membership in the Federation is not sufficient. The close connection between the member churches and the Federation should find expression in one item of the Constitution.

We thought that this connection could best be integrated into the constitution in the part concerning the Board of Adjudication. The advantage would be that the chairman of this board could claim objectivity and neutrality from the beginning.

✓ We are convinced that times will come in India when close union among the Lutheran churches will become necessary. We therefore beg you to reconsider this matter in the Committee. In Germany it is the custom in the synods to invite representatives of the neighbouring churches and of the united Board of administration of the Evangelical Church in Germany. They attend the synod as advisors, and we think this is the least that the G.E.L. Church in India should do.

For this reason we warmly welcome your suggestion under point 4 to invite advisors from other churches for your work in the present committee.

So you see that on the whole we approve your letter of November 12th and only beg you to begin with the work of this committee soon. To conclude we want to treat a few practical matters which need urgent dealing with.

1. You will in the meantime have heard that Pastor Dr. Peusch of the "Kirchliche Außenamt" of the Evangelical Church in Germany has been sent to Rourkela as pastor for the protestant engineers and technicians. In the entry permit the Indian Government has expressly endorsed that Dr. Peusch is not allowed to work as missionary, but as pastor for the protestant Germans in Rourkela. Nevertheless the church board in Germany under which Pastor Dr. Peusch serves has given him an "ecumenic commission". That means that Pastor Dr. Peusch has received from his Home Church not only the permission but also the order to take up connections with the Young Churches in India, especially with the Gossner Church. We commend him to your brotherly love and beg you to help him with advice and deed.

2. At last we have received the entry permit for Pastor K l o ß and his wife. We thank you with all our heart for all the pains you have taken in this matter. At the same time we inform you that we have booked berths for Pastor K l o ß and his wife and that he will be sailing for India on February 28th. What troubles us is the question of his accommodation, and we beg the Church Council to care for this.

3. We remind the Church Council of the offer of our Kuratorium to take two students for study in Germany again and we beg you to name us two qualified students as soon as possible.

4. We let the Church Council know that our attempt to appoint an Indian Pastor for our work in Germany has been successful with the help of God. Pastor Hanukh Minz is eagerly visiting German parishes to preach the Gospel there and to report on the situation and the work of the Gossner Church in India. We can testify that his work is richly blessed by God.

We would suggest that you allow Pastor Hanukh Minz to use the last period of his stay in Germany to become acquainted with matters of church organisation and church administration in Germany. Bishop Dr. Meyer of Lübeck, formerly missionary in the Jeypur Church has consented to introduce Pastor H. Minz into this department of church work. That means, however, that we cannot wait till Pastor Minz has returned to India before we ask for a successor. Therefore, we would be grateful to you if you would already try to find an efficient

young Indian pastor who could continue Pastor Minz' work in Germany. We would be glad if his successor could come to Germany in 1959 so that he could be introduced into his work by Brother Minz.

5. Finally we hope very much that the two teachers of the Tabita School Bahalen B a g e and Seteng H a p a d g a r a for whom we are waiting for a long time can soon start on their journey to Germany. We beg the Church Council to take all necessary steps to overcome the technical obstacles that hinder their journey.

Last of all a brotherly exhortation. On March 30th, 1958 we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the death of Father Gossner. We shall remember all over Germany the blessing that God gave to the work of Pastor Johannes Evangelista Gossner - in Germany as well as in India. When Brothers Joel Lakra and Jilot Tiga visited us in Berlin they placed a wreath at the tomb of Gossner, and in the face of his grave they thanked God in prayer and song for the Gospel that had been brought the Adivasis through His servant Johannes Evangelista Gossner. And we ask ourselves, should everything Gossner did for the Church in Chota Nagpur and Assam be destroyed through the quarrels in the Church which bears the name of Gossner? Are we all to become the laughing-stock of the Roman Church and the Hindus? Or should we not all contribute to restoring peace and unity in our church in India in this year in which we are commemorating the 100th anniversary of Gossner's death? I beseech you, dear Brethren, for the love of Christ go to the brethren of the other party and unite with them and us in prayer to God that He guide us on the right path - the path of peace.

With fraternal greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Hans Lokies

(D. Hans Lokies)

No. 2584/57 - CC - 78. o/c

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

Ranchi the 27 th. December,
1957.

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau,
Handjerystr - 19/20.
GERMANY.

Dear Brother Lokies,

The second annual session of the full Church Council held here from 10 th to 13 th. December '57 has endorsed our letter of 12 th. November '57, which the three Executive Officers had addressed to the Kuratorium. The Church Council has unanimously agreed to invite Bishop Manikam to be the chairman of the committee which is to work for the amendment of the Gossner church constitution. It, however, provided that in the event of any unforeseen circumstances making it impossible for the Bishop to accept the chairmanship of the said committee, Dr. Lokies should be invited to shoulder this responsibility. It is so because it is generally held here that Bishop Manikam and Dr. Lokies are the two christian leaders intimately known by the members of the Gossner Church, who in their turn know the mind of this church, and as such, they would be immensely helpful to this church at the present moment. The Kuratorium would be able to agree to this proposal we believe.

Speaking of the situation in the church, it might be said that it has not improved as was generally believed at the time of signing the "Agreement". It is a painful experience to know that the dissenting brethren have since indulged in the act of wilfully violating the solemn agreement. In spite of repeated requests and appeals they have never sought the co-operation of the church council in having one united church service at Ranchi. They have, on the other hand, insisted on having their separate service continued. Thus they have closed the door for the two groups coming together. Constant propaganda work is being carried on through speeches, actions and pamphlets with a view to extending their illegal activities. They have been directing their actions against the church council so much so that their recent criminal activities at Khutitoly and Ranchi have resulted in the Police drawing up proceedings against them and the church council. They have put obstructions in the working of the Lutheran Theological College at Ranchi of which Rev. J. Lakra is the Principal. This institution has been allotted a separate building as desired and recommended by the Serampore University. This building was so long on rent occupied by the Accountant General of Bihar, which they vacated last July. On September 25 th and November 4 this year when the college was bringing in its library and furniture to this new building, the dissenting group put obstructions at the gate with the result that the Police had to intervene. This kind of incidents are happening after the agreement was signed.

Unfortunately Rev. J. Lakra, whom the church council appointed Principal of the Lutheran Theol Collge, is not acting according to the terms of his appointment. His actions and letters have clearly indicated that he helped the dissenters in putting obstructions before the college on November 4. All official communications sent to him by the church council are passed on by him to the dissenters, who in their turn make resolutions on them. We have personally spoken to him about this, but he clearly says that he can't ignore them. He has been, moreover, neglecting his work in the college since he has now joined the Congress Party. He was recently elected to the State Legislative Rax Council on a Congress Party ticket. It is widely rumoured that he will be taken in the State cabinet, and if that happens he will have to leave the college. If he is not taken in the cabinet, he may insist on remaining as the Principal. It has posed some vital questions: Whether

Whether it is advisable for the Pastors to ~~join~~ take active part in politics, and if they should do ~~whether~~ or not their doing so would endanger the life of the church. *whether*

The church council has so far watched these incidents with utmost patience and forbearance. But, at the same time it cannot afford to stand and stare. It has in its recent session, however, resolved to ask the leaders of the dissenting group and Rev. Lakra to give in writing by 31st January '58 that they abide by the present church constitution and respect the solemn "Agreement" signed on 17th June '57, failing which, the church council under painful necessity will have to declare that they cease to be members of the Gossner church and forfeit all their rights and privileges of the Gossner church from that date. The church council would not want them to be lost in this way. It had to take this step under pressing circumstances and would want them to realise the deteriorating situation fraught with danger which might result in the breaking up of the church. We still hope that something better will come out with the change of heart. We labour with this optimism.

Sisters Bahalen Bage and Seteng Hapadgara are scheduled to sail from Bombay on January 9, 1958 by m.v. "Asia". It is expected that they will arrive in Germany towards the last week of January. We commend them to your care and request ~~that~~ you to give them such training which will enable them to serve and help the Gossner church in her work in the women's department. We express our heartfelt gratitude towards the Kuratorium and the congregations in Germany who have made this possible - the task which the Gossner church would not have done by herself. We are conscious of the fact that the Kuratorium has been helping the church in training her people abroad, and we are highly indebted to you all.

Knowing it well that we do not deserve to ask you for more favours, the church council has in its recent session taken another important decision with the hope that the Kuratorium will renew its former proposal sent to us in its letter of 7.4.55 in selecting two students for technical studies in Germany. The church council has selected Mr. Horasanen HORO and Mr. Ruhma Joy LAKRA for studies in engineering. Both of them are science graduates of the Bihar University who have agreed to pay their journey expenses to Germany. They are prepared to be introduced to non-clerical church work. In the hope of the Kuratoriums inviting them we are asking them to secure their Passports. They will do their language work under the guidance of Bros. Bage and Surin. Since we have made this selection, we would like to hear from you how soon arrangements for their admission to a technical university could be made and whether or not they could begin their studies from the new session this coming year. The Kuratorium, we believe will be willing to bear the cost of their studies and stay in Germany. We would, therefore, highly appreciate if the Kuratorium would send us a financial guarantee in respect of these students. That would expedite the securing of their passports. For details of their studies, kindly send us some literature or prospectus that could be of some help to the students.

Brother Martin Tete has arrived in ~~India~~ India. The church council has assigned him work in the Catechists' Training school as its head. He will take over charge of the school from June next year. Till then he will work as an assistant teacher in the same school. We thank you for all the financial and other help extended to him during his stay in Germany.

The National Christian Council of India have written to President Tiga informing him that the India Government have agreed to permit Bro. Kloss and Mrs. Kloss to come out to India to serve the Lutheran Theol College at Ranchi. They have, however, rejected ~~Bro.~~ Bro. Eckart's application for entry permit. Since this information was given to us we tried through our friends at New Delhi and at one stage we were assured that the government will sympathetically re-consider his case. Bro. Borutta who had been to New Delhi was also given this assurance. But, only a few days ago I was informed by a friend of mine that the govt. have now finally refused to give Bro. Eckart the necessary entry permit. We wonder if you would now think of sending him out here for a brief period for a visit.

Last year I had raised a question before the Kuratorium while presenting my report whether the Kuratorium could help

could help the Gossner church in its economic uplift programme. The Kuratorium had then wanted a detail scheme. That is overdue as we could not give much time and energy to this subject. This question was raised in the recent council sitting. We wondered if the 'World Church Service' could be of any help in this respect. We do not have much information as to the nature and manner of their programme. Bro. Borutta has suggested that you could contact the WCS. May we, therefore, request you to contact them on our behalf and find out what assistance they could give us in this direction.

Bro. Peus and Mrs. Peus have arrived in India. They are now in Amgaon. We have yet to meet them. Bro. Borutta had proposed to station them at RajGangpur for the time being until a permanent quarter is available for them at Rourkela. On consideration we thought that the building at RajGangpur will require great deal of repair work and that that will not be immediately available as the dissenting group are occupying that building. Alternately we thought that it would be advisable if Bro. ^{Peus} lives at Chakradharpur in the old church bungalow. That needs some repair. As Rourkela and Chakradharpur are connected by rail, he will ~~not find it~~ be able to look after his ^{from Chakradharpur} at Rourkela.

work/

Our church land at Purnapani (Rourkela) has not yet been finally left over. That is due to certain trouble going on between some christian residents of the village and the steel company. The local residents are insisting to remain where they are. The moment it is settled, we believe our case will also be finalised. The DWM/LWF has asked us to present them with a scheme. We will take up this matter soon.

We have noted that on next Palm Sunday that is the 30 th. March '58, falls the 100 years death anniversary of our dear Father Gossner. We would celebrate this memorable event throughout the church. We thank you for the photo of Fr. Gossner which you have sent us. We shall preserve them in the church council office as a kind gift from Germany.

By the Grace of God we are all keeping well. Amidst drought conditions and constant troubles we have celebrated christmas. At the threshold of the NEW YEAR we are looking forward for better things to come.

Bringing you the very best of wishes for the NEW YEAR. Please convey our NEW YEAR'S greetings to the inmates of the two Gossner Houses, the congregations who pray for us and to Mrs. Lokies and other friends. YISHUSAHAY to your goodself and to the members of the Kuratorium.

Yours brotherly in CHRIST !

L. E. 27/12/57
Secretary
to the Gossner Ev. Luth. Church.

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GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM
R A N C H I

No. 2324-27/57-CC-105

G. E. L. COMPOUND,
R A N C H I.

The 12th November, 1957.

Kuratorium
of
The Gossner Mission Society,
C/O Director Dr. Hans Lokies,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjery Str.
W E S T - G E R M A N Y

Dear Brethren,

In the absence of the Full Church Council, the Executive Officers have given due thoughts to the suggestions and proposals offered by you in your letter of October 3, 1957. An answer to your letter could not be sent earlier due to several disturbances and emergencies that came in the way. President Tiga's eldest son who was ailing for the last 1½ years was passing through the critical stage, and passed away on the 17th October which was a deep concern for all of us. These and other things greatly disturbed us all.

We do fully agree with you that the Kingdom of God stands first. The Church administration has always held the view that personal or communal differences should in no way come before us when we are serving the Lord in the Church. The administration will have due respect for the rights and lawful claims of every member of the church, and for any dissenting group. At the same time the church administration will have claim over every member or group of persons for their loyalty and support in maintaining and protecting the integrity of our Gossner Church.

We have to proceed constitutionally and the Constitution of the Church in force will have to be the basis. This view was expressed by us from the very beginning. When we say "Constitutionally" we mean to observe it strictly as it is. We hold the view that any problem involving the legal rights and privileges of a person or persons must be solved within the framework of the Constitution in force viz., the one passed by the Mahasabha in 1949, and in doing so, the integrity of the Gossner Church must be positively upheld.

We strongly feel that the Constitution may and should be amended out of constitutional and administrative necessity. If the so-called "Minority Problem" seems to necessitate a change in the constitution, that has to be carefully and properly studied in right perspective after correctly evaluating the situation at hand. If, the Gossner Church administration is to be run on the fabric of communal interests then it will switch on to be an inter-communal organisation and if church administration is to be run by representatives of "Parties" then it will mean that the church is a political organisation. We do fully agree with Praeses Stosch's remarks on the "Preamble" of the scheme presented by the so-called North Zone.

To,

The Secretary. E. E. L. Church;
At. Ranchi.

Now, our remarks on the constructive suggestions offered by you are as follows:-

1. Besides the President of the Church, we agree, to have another officer who will preside over the Mahasabha and share some administrative responsibilities. He would be elected by the Mahasabha, become an honorary officer of the Church and sit in the Church Council and its Executive as an ex-officio member. We would call him "The Chairman". He will be assisted by two Vice-Chairmen during his absence in the Mahasabha. The Chairman will indicate which of the Vice-Chairmen will officiate as Chairman during his temporary or long absence. The Vice-Chairmen will not be members of the Church Council and its executive. They will be members of the Mahasabha. We agree that the Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen be laymen. They should also be elected by the Mahasabha.
2. Board of Adjudication : The Church Constitution provides for a commission of Adjudication in (Article 13:2) of the constitution and Article 4/4 of its Byelaw. This commission is composed of 4 most experienced laymen and 4 most experienced Pastors of the Church and presided over by the President of the Church. It is biennially appointed. We feel strongly that this commission's members should be from within the Church and not from outside. We agree that the Chairman of the Mahasabha should preside over this commission instead of the President of the Church. This Commission will have members who will serve for four years.
3. Finance :- We would give due consideration to the financial aspect of the proposal. In this connexion we commend to the consideration of everybody the "Ranson's Report" which proposes centralisation of finances. Some modifications are necessary in keeping with the existing synodical system. Already the DWM/LWF has suggested legal guarantee against misappropriation of public money and the Church Council has taken steps in this direction. We feel that the Treasurer or the Financial Secretary, as he may be designated, shall have wider powers to deal with church finance. All these will have to be incorporated in the Constitution through amendments or introduction of new sections.
4. We feel that the provisions of the Constitution in the matter of procedure for amending the constitution be followed with no exception. The procedure envisages a long time and we feel that any amendment should not be rushed through. We have to wait till 1959.

(a) The Church Council Officers agree that the following 10 persons should form a committee to

draft amendments to the present Constitution :-

1. Rev. J.J.P.Tiga; 2. Mr. N.E. Horo; 3. Rev. Habil Topno; 4. Mr. Isahak Minz; 5. Rev. Samuel Bage; 6. Rev. J.A.Kujur; 7. Mr. P.D.Panna; 8. Mr. Naeman Toppo; 9. Mr. Sachindramohan Chowdhury; 10. Rev. C.B. Minz; 11. Mr. Nuas Kerketta and 12. Dr. M.Bage.

We hold the view that one or even two persons from outside the Gossner Church, who are conversant with Church constitution be co-opted as legal advisers to help the committee in its work. This committee will cooperate with the committee of yours. We are very grateful to the Kuratorium for the promise of financial help.

(b) Chairman: We thought that Dr. Lokies is the best person to be The Chairman of the Commission. But, since you rightly pointed out to us the wisdom and feasibility of having an Indian to be the Chairman of the Commission, we appreciate your view and we are seriously considering the matter. We need some time to find out a suitable Indian ^{Christian} ~~Chairman~~ leader for the purpose.

(c) We approve that Missionary Borutta be requested to be present in the meetings of the committee as a guest.

For as much as it is impossible to convene the Full Church Council meeting for paucity of funds, we the Executive Officers of the Gossner Church unanimously agree to send the above as an official reply to yours of October 3, 1957.

We are deeply indebted to the Kuratorium and our friends in Germany for their help and prayers at this hour of trial. We send our heartfelt thanks to them all and beseech them through you to pray for us.

Yishusahay to you all !

Yours brotherly in Christ,

J.J.P.Tiga

President.

Borutta

Treasurer.

N.E. Horo

Secretary.

The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church,

Ranchi,

I N D I A .

Copy forwarded to :

President G.E.L.C

Rev. H. F. Borutta

Mr. C. M. Horo

for information.

Translated to cc. copies. 78
GOSSNERSCHE MISSIONSGESELLSCHAFT
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystr. 19/20

Berlin-Friedenau, 18th Sept., 1957.
Lo/Me.

by 24/9/57

Secretary Mr. N. E. H o r o , B.A.
G.E.L. Church
R a n c h i / Bihar
INDIA

*145
24/9/57*
Dear Brother Horo,

I just returned from my holidays and am preparing the meeting of the Kuratorium of the 27th September. Before the meeting I cannot tell you anything about the questions affecting us. Please, be patient.

Today I am going to ask you something. Everybody wants to know something about the statistics of the Gossner Church for the year 1956: how many christianed persons has the Gossner Church, how many parishes, how many pastors, schools, teachers and so on. Certainly you know the questionnaire?

I do not know whether you have had time for these statistics during the last year. There were so many other questions keeping you busy. But if possible, please send me these data as soon as you can. This would oblige me very much.

Please, greet your wife and especially the brothers President Tiga, Bage and Surin.

With kindest regards, heartily yours,

Hans Lohr

*Seery for
24/9/57*

ofc. 78

The 13th August, 1957.

REF: NO 1949-50/57-

The undermentioned document is forwarded to (1) the President, G.E.L.Church, (2) the Treasurer, G.E.L.Church and (3) ~~the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society~~ for information and the needful.

Bh. Lakra.

W. E. ... 13/8/57
Secretary,
G.E.L.Church, Ranchi.

Extract from the minutes of the meeting of the full C.C. held from July 16-20, 1957.

X X X X X

155/57. "Resolved to request the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society to bear the expenses of Dr. Lokies' journey to and fro and his other expenses during his stay in Chotanagpur."

Invitation to Mrs. Hans Lokies.

156/57. "Resolved also that Mrs. Lokies be invited to come along with Dr. Hans Lokies when he comes out to India."

X X X X

File - 78

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam.

Ref. No.1650/57.

G.E.L.Church Compound,
Ranchi.

The 9th August, 1957.

From the President Rev.J.J.P.Tiga, M.A., B.D., S.T.M.

To

The Rev.Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20.,
Germany.

Dear Director Lokies,

Thanks for your letter of 11.7.57 & the
enclosures.

I am glad to inform you that one Dy.
Magistrate came this morning to make enquires regarding Visa
application for Mr. and Mrs. Kloss. I had the papers you kindly
sent to me on the 11th of July and I found it very convenient
to answer all his questions very satisfactorily. I am sure he
was impressed well and the local Government authorities are
going to recommend the grant of visa for Mr. and Mrs. Kloss.

I am also approaching our Government through
the N.C.C. which I hope will be acceptable to the authorities
concerned. Your recent letter to Secretary Horo is very helpful
in this connection. Without these materials I had some difficul-
ties which are now removed.

The Passport officer in Calcutta is asking
questions such as :

What universities the two teachers of the
Tabitha School are going to attend?

Have they been admitted?

Are there no such institution in India where
they can study the same things?

I shall be thankful to hear from you on

With all good wishes.

Yours Sincerely,

Johga 10/8
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Copy of application sent to the
National Christian Council
for Mr. & Mrs. Kloss, Mr Eckart & family

No. 1650/57
copy of the
letter sent to
along with the
copies of his application
the Indian Consulate
① Dated 13.5.1957
② " July 31.1957 " Eckart
12/8

78 114
GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CH.N.& ASSAM.

Ref. No. 1683/57

G.E.L.Church compound,

Ranchi,

The 10th. August, 1957

64
The Secretary,
National Christian Council
Nagpur 1, M.P.

hr 24/8/57

Dear Sir,

64
24/8/57
Please find enclosed an application for Visa on behalf of Mr. Heinz Eckart, his wife and two children. I request you to kindly endorse the application. The Gossner Mission Society has already submitted an application for the same and we request you to kindly recommend the application to the Government. Thanks.

Yours Sincerely,

J. H. Gossner

President, 10/8

G.E.L.Church, Ranchi.

Memo No. 1684-86/57

Copy to :

1. Dr. Hans Likies, Director,
Gossner Mission Society, Berlin,
- ✓ 2. Secretary, G.E.L.Church,
Ranchi.
3. Rev. H.F.E. Borutta,
Secretary, Joint Mission Board,
Chaibassa.



Recommended
J. H. Gossner

BIHAR CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

QUESTIONNAIRE TO BE ANSWERED BY THOSE APPLYING
FOR VISAS ON BEHALF OF MISSIONARIES.

(The questions have been answered by the Gossner-Mission only.
The other questions have to be filled up by the Gossner Church).

1. Name of Church applying
(including administrative
unit-Diocese, Syndical
Board etc.) Quote official
resolution with date.

G.E.L. Church in Chotanagpur
and Assam, Ranchi, India.

RESOLUTION.

Extract from the resolution of
the meeting of the Executive of
the G.E.L. Church Council held at
Ranchi on the 5th December, 1956.

X X X X

(a) A Missionary to replace Rev. H.F.
Borutta.

Noted that Missionary Rev. H.F.
Borutta is returning back to Germany
early in 1958. A missionary in his place
is required to take up the work
in the Joint Mission Board of the
G.E.L. Church in Chotanagpur and
Assam(India).

RESOLVED that Rev. Heinz Eckart
of the Gossner Mission Society, Berlin,
be invited to replace missionary
Rev. H.F. Borutta in the Joint
Mission Board's work of the Gossner &
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur
and Assam(India) who returns
back to Germany in 1958 for good, and
that missionary Eckart should make it
a point to arrive in India early in
1957. It is further resolved to request
the Gossner Mission Society
Berlin to make all necessary arrangements
for the sending out of Missionary
Eckart into India.

X X X X

Sd/-Rev. J.J.P. Tige.
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Sd/- H.E. Moro,
Secretary,
G.E.L. Church,
Ranchi.

(Vide Appendix A).

2. Name of the Supporting Mission Board or Society.

Gossner Mission Socy.
Berlin, Germany.

3. Name of the Candidate for whom visa application is made.

Mr. Heins Eckart, his wife
Lisbeth nee Laugsfeld and
2 children.

4. Nature of work and proposed location (full details).

To replace Rev. H. Borutta at
Chaibassa, Dt. Singhbhum, Bihar
Rev. Borutta leaves India for
good in 1958.

5. Qualification of Candidate General and Special.

Mr. Eckart has studied Theology
and was a teacher for many
years. He holds the degree of
Master of Theology.

6. Date of the founding of the Church or Mission in India.

Gossner Mission in India was
founded in 1845 and the Church
established by the Mission
became autonomous in 1919.

7. Number of foreign missionaries in different types of work under the body mentioned in 1 above (including those on furlough).

1939 1947 1957

11 5 5

(a) Administrative posts.

x x x

(b) Educational work.

4 4 2

(c) Evangelistic work.

6 1 1

(d) Medical work.

1 x 2

(e) Other (to be specified)

x x x

8. Number of Indians in comparable positions.

957 1115 1234

(a) Administrative posts.

33 43 65

(b) Educational work.

215 245 260

(c) Evangelistic work.

700 818 900

(d) Medical work.

5 5 5

(e) Other work (to be specified) Press 4

4 4

P.T.O.

9. Reasons why it is not possible to appoint in India for the work the Candidate is to do.

There is no one qualified to teach the subjects Mr. Eckart has to teach.

10. Is the present application for replacement or for augmentation of personnel?

Replacement.

11. Is the candidate to work in a new Centre or institutions to be opened?

No

12. If so, has permission of the Government been obtained?

13. Has a visa application for the same or another candidate for the same work been rejected by Government?

No

14. Is the application for first entry or for re-entry?

First Entry.

15. If the application is for re-entry state why a no-objection to return endorsement was not obtained before departure from India?

16. How many visa applications were made in the twelve months and how many of these were granted, rejected or are still pending?

None

17. Any additional information.

Place.....*Ranchi*.....Signature.....*Isaaga*.....

Date.....*10. 8. 1957*.....Designation.....*Resident*.....



GOSSNERSCHE MISSIONSGESELLSCHAFT
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystr. 19=20

Berlin-Friedenau, August 2nd, 1957.

Lo/Me.

78

la
7/8

The Church Council
c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. HORO
R a n c h i / Bihar
INDIA

Dear Brother Horo,

This week at last we have filed in with the Indian Consulate in Berlin an application for an entry permit for Mr. Heinz ECKART and family.

We postponed this application because we wanted to wait to Mrs. Eckart who had shortly given birth to her second child had recovered her normal strength and with it her fitness for the tropics.

We have registered Mr. Eckart as 'social worker for the Christian congregations in the industrial area and manager for the Mission Hospital at Amgaon'. Further he is ment to replace our missionary Borutta, the last missionary we have who intends to return to Germany next year.

/ Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter of application and
/ the filled in form of the Indian Consulate. We beg you urgently to do everything you can from your side to obtain the entry permit.

With cordial fraternal greetings

yours sincerely,

Hans Lokies

(D. Hans Lokies)

Encls.

13. Mai 1957
Lo/Me.

The Indian Consulate

Berlin-Charlottenburg
Joachimsthalerstr. 28

/ Endosed please find an invitation of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam to the lecturer Mr. Hermann Kloss who is willing with his wife to serve the Indian Church.

The GELC is autonomous since 1919, and is administrated by Indian Christians.

/ There are special "terms" which regulate the working conditions between the autonomous Indian Church and the German men and women called by the Indian Church to their service which have to be signed by every German fellow-worker. A copy of these "terms" signed by Mr. Kloss is enclosed.

At the time only very few German fellow-workers are employed in the GELC of Chotanagpur and Assam: one missionary (who is returning to Germany next year), two lady-teachers, one missionary-doctor and one missionary-nurse.

Mr. Kloss is asked by the Church in India to replace Professor Dr. Schultz who had worked at the Theological College in Ranchi and returned to Germany last year. Mr. Kloss is predominantly to be employed as teacher for languages at the Theological College in Ranchi, especially as teacher for German, where he is to teach such men- and women-students as are invited by the Gossner-Mission to university-study in Germany. At present the Gossner-Mission is giving scholarships to two Indian men- and four women-students. Besides, for the first time in the history of the German Mission, the Gossner-Mission has appointed an Indian Pastor to serve German congregations for 5 years in the same way as the German Mission does in the Christian congregations of India.

Thus practically our application means an exchange of Church workers and on this basis we beg you to approve the application for an entry permit for Mr. Kloss and his wife.

/ The forms necessary for the application have been filled in and signed by the applicant, and are enclosed.

We beg the Indian Consulate to consider favourably the application which the Indian Church and the German Mission Society have jointly filed in and give us their support for a permit.

Yours truly,

gez. Lokies

Encl. 4

FORM OF APPLICATION TO BE FILLED IN BY ALIEN MISSIONARY
DESIRING TO PROCEED TO INDIA.

(Note:- If any of the particulars furnished below are found to be incorrect or if any information is found to have been withheld, the visa is liable to be cancelled at any time).

1. Name in full (Surname in capitals):-

.....Hermann, Felix, Waldemar KLOSS.....

2. Surname at birth, if different:-

.....

3. Address:- (a) Permanent.

.....Frankfurt/Main, Brühlstr. 26.....

(b) Present.

.....Berlin-Friedenau, Niedstr. 27
.....b. Lagatz.....

4. Date of Birth:-

.....21. Juni 1925.....

5. Place of birth:- (Country and Town or District)

.....Danzig (City) now being in Poland called Gdansk.
.....

6. Present nationality:-

.....German.....

7. Nationality at birth:-

.....German.....

8. Nationality of Father at his Birth:-

.....German.....

9. Whether holder of a Passport from his/her Government, and, if so, number and date of passport, the place of issue and date upto which it is valid:-

.....Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Personalausweis

.....HE 16-341.696, Frankfurt/Main, 20. 4. 54 - 19. 4. 58.....

10. Whether previously in India, and, if so, places of residence, with dates:-

.....No.....

11. Whether permission to visit India or to extend stay in India has been refused previously and if so when:-

.....No.....

12. Profession or Occupation:-

.....Lecturer (Master of Theology).....

13. Period for which visa is required (Note:- Extension of Transit visas which are valid for a fortnight will not generally be granted).

.....Six years.....

14. Name and address of Missionary or Educational Body to which attached:-

.....Gossner-Mission, Berlin-Friedenau, Handjerystr. 19/20.....

15. Details of Missionary activity to be performed in India:- Invited by the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ranchi/Bihar, to teach ~~in the Lutheran Theological College, Ranchi, among other subjects the following languages: Greek, Hebrew, Latin, English, German.~~

16. Province, Town, ect., of destination in India:-

.....Ranchi/Bihar.....

17. Port of Landing in India:- Calcutta

18. Name and Address of Persons who will furnish information as to applicant and also furnish financial guarantees for maintenance and repatriation if applied to:-

Bischof D.Dr. Otto DIBELIUS
(i) Berlin-Dahlem, Faradayweg 10 In Country of the Applicant.

(ii) Bischof D. KUNST
Bonn/Rhein, Poppelsdorfer Allee 96 Germany

(i) Dr. Raja B. MANIKAM, Bishop In India.
of Tranquebar, Tiruchirapalli, Tranquebar House, South India

(ii) Rev. Silo TIGA, President of
the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ranchi/Bihar INDIA

Signature:- ~~gez. Hermann Kloss.~~

Date:-.....10..5..57.....

I,....Hermann Kloss.....

hereby undertake to give all due obedience and respect to the lawfully constituted Governments in India and while carefully abstaining from participating in political affairs, it is my desire and purpose that my influence, in so far as it may be peacefully exerted in such matters, should be so exerted in loyal co-operation with the Governments.

July 31st, 1957.

The Indian Consulate

Berlin-Charlottenburg
Joachimsthalerstr. 28

The autonomous Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in India has invited Missionary Heinz Eckart and his family to serve in this church. You will find the invitation of the Gossner Church enclosed.

Mr. Heinz Eckart was in the first place trained for the profession of electrician. He was then teacher and at last studied Theology and won the title of Master of Theology.

In 1953 the Gossner-Mission in Berlin applied to the Indian Embassy in Bonn to allow Mr. Heinz Eckart who was then still a student to study at the Theological College in Ranchi. This application was at that time turned down.

At the moment the situation is completely different. Mr. Heinz Eckart has been trained in several directions and has finally finished his university studies. The Gossner Church in India as well as the Gossner-Mission in Berlin consider him very well suited for being a social worker and manager of the hospital at Amgaon within the Indian Church. This work had hitherto been carried out by missionary Borutta at Chaibasa who is the last missionary at work in the Gossner Church of Chotanagpur and Assam and who intends to return to Germany in 1958. Mr. Heinz Eckart is meant to replace him.

May we remark that the Gossner-Mission is the first foreign mission society in India that aimed at absolute autonomy for the Indian Church. Thus the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church of Chotanagpur and Assam was already autonomous in 1919 and established its own Indian administration. The whole property of the German mission was at that time given over to the Indian Church and an agreement settled between the autonomous Indian Church and the Mission Society in Germany according to which a limited number of German missionaries was to work under the direction of the Indian Church without being allowed leading posts. You will find such an agreement enclosed which is signed by Mr. Eckart proving that he is willing to work under Indian direction in India.

The Gossner Church has its parishes mainly in the provinces Bihar and Orissa. These are originally pure rural parishes which are now undergoing the process of industrialization. Under these conditions a man like Mr. Eckart has his special duties towards Christian workmen who are going into factory work. He himself has worked in a factory for some time and is therefore especially qualified to serve the Indian Church as expert. For this reason we beg you to grant him an entry permit to India.

Yours faithfully,

2 Encl.

gry. Lc.

FORM OF APPLICATION TO BE FILLED IN BY ALIEN MISSIONARY
DESIRING TO PROCEED TO INDIA.

(Note:- If any of the particulars furnished below are found to be incorrect or if any information is found to have been withheld, the visa is liable to be cancelled at any time).

1. Name in full (Surname in capitals):-

Heing Martin HOKANT

2. Surname at birth, if different:-

3. Address:- (a) Permanent.

Berlin-Friedenau

(b) Present.

Handjerystr. 19/20

4. Date of Birth:-

31. Oktober 1928

5. Place of birth:- (Country and Town or District)

Germany, Berlin

6. Present nationality:-

German

7. Nationality at birth:-

German

8. Nationality of Father at his Birth:-

German

9. Whether holder of a Passport from his/her Government, and, if so, number and date of passport, the place of issue and date upto which it is valid:-

B 1198666, 21-5-57, Berlin, 21-5-62

10. Whether previously in India, and, if so, places of residence, with dates:-

No

11. Whether permission to visit India or to extend stay in India has been refused previously and if so when:-

Cons/V - 2/53

5-1-53

12. Profession or Occupation:- Missionary. HOKANT as social worker for the industrial area and manager for the Mission Hospital at Amagan.

13. Period for which visa is required (Note:- Extension of Transit visas which are valid for a fortnight will not generally be granted).

.....
.....

14. Name and address of Missionary or Educational Body to which attached:-

.....
.....

15. Details of Missionary activity to be performed in India:- ^{Invited}
.....
.....

16. Province, Town, ect., of destination in India:-

.....

17. Port of Landing in India:- ^{Bombay or Calcutta}

.....

18. Name and Address of Persons who will furnish information as to applicant and also furnish financial guarantees for maintenance and repatriation if applied to:-

- (i) Berlin-Dahlem, Paradenweg 10 In Country of the Applicant.
Bischof D. HUNDT
(ii) Konn/Rhein, Poppelstorfer Allee 96 Germany
Dr. Raja B. MANIKAM Bishop of In India.
(i) Tranquebar, Tiruchirapalli, Tranquebar-Mission, South India
(ii) Rev. Silo TIGA, President of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
Ranchi/Bihar INDIA

Signature:- Shrinivas Chelak
Date:- 1. Aug. 1952

I, Shrinivas Chelak

hereby undertake to give all due obedience and respect to the law-fully constituted Governments in India and while carefully abstain-
ing from participating in political affairs, it is my desire and
purpose that my influence, in so far as it may be peacefully exerted
in such matters, should be so exerted in loyal co-operation with the
Governments.

Shrinivas Chelak

FORM OF APPLICATION TO BE FILLED IN BY ALIEN MISSIONARY
DESIRING TO PROCEED TO INDIA.

(Note:- If any of the particulars furnished below are found to be incorrect or if any information is found to have been withheld, the visa is liable to be cancelled at any time).

1. Name in full (Surname in capitals):- Lisbeth Helene SCHART
Children: Johannes Theodor SCHART, 17-1-55, Berlin
Martin Werner SCHART, 28-1-57, Berlin

2. Surname at birth, if different:-
Laengsfeld

3. Address:- (a) Permanent. Berlin-Friedenau
(b) Present. Handjerystr. 19/20

4. Date of Birth:- 6. Juli 1927

5. Place of birth:- (Country and Town or District)
Germany, Oberschlesien Schönwald Kreis Kreuzburg

6. Present nationality:- German

7. Nationality at birth:- German

8. Nationality of Father at his Birth:- German

9. Whether holder of a Passport from his/her Government, and, if so, number and date of passport, the place of issue and date upto which it is valid:-
B 1072562, 18-5-57, Berlin, 18-5-62

10. Whether previously in India, and , if so, places of residence, with dates:- No

11. Whether permission to visit India or to extend stay in India has been refused previously and if so when:-
Cons/V - B/53 5-1-53

12. Profession or Occupation:- Wife, nursing experience

13. Period for which visa is required (Note:- Extension of Transit visas which are valid for a fortnight will not generally be granted).

.....
Five years
.....

14. Name and address of Missionary or Educational Body to which attached:- **Gossner-Mission, Berlin-Friedenau, Handjerystr. 19/20**
.....
.....

15. Details of Missionary activity to be performed in India:-
Invited by the G.E.L.Church of Chotanagpur and Assam as wife of
Mr. Heinz Eckart
.....

16. Province, Town, ect., of destination in India:-
Bihar, Chaibassa
.....

17. Port of Landing in India:- **Bombay or Calcutta**
.....

18. Name and Address of Persons who will furnish information as to applicant and also furnish financial guarantees for maintenance and repatriation if applied to:-

(i) **Bischof D. Dr. Otto FIEBELUS** In Country of the Applicant.
Berlin-Dahlem, Faradayweg 10

(ii) **Bischof D. KUNST**
Bonn/Rhein, Foppelerfor Allee 96 Germany

(i) **Dr. Raja B. NARIKAM, Bishop of** In India.
Tranquebar, Tiruchirappalli, Tranquebar House, South India

(ii) **Rev. Silo FIGA, President of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church**
Ranchi/Bihar INDIA

Signature:- **Liesbeth Eckart.**

Date:- **1. August, 1957...**

I, **LIESBETH ECKART.....**

hereby undertake to give all due obedience and respect to the law-fully constituted Governments in India and while carefully abstain-
ing from participating in political affairs, it is my desire and
purpose that my influence, in so far as it may be peacefully exerted
in such matters, should be so exerted in loyal co-operation with the
Governments.

Liesbeth Eckart

W 27/7/57

file

G. E. L. Church,
Ranchi

4/27/7/57 No. 1622/57 The 24th July, 1957

Director Hausdorff,
Gossmar Museum Society,
Berlin.

My dear Director Lohries,

In continuation of my letter to you sent yesterday I have to request you on behalf of the the Church Council to kindly grant necessary funds to the Church Council to enable us to convene the special Mahasabha in November, 1957 or some time after the report of the Commission is ready. The usual expense for a Mahasabha is Rs 5000/- but this time it may be more. Let us think of Rs 6,000/- (Rupees Six thousand) only.

Besides this, the Church Council requests your Board

P.T.O.

to kindly sanction necessary funds for the work of the Commission. It is difficult to make an estimate for the same. I hope you, as Chairman of the same, will be able to make some estimate. It will depend very much upon your plans and methods.

Further, on behalf of the Church Council I extend a very hearty welcome to Mrs Lohies. We are sure the Gossner Church will consider it a special privilege to have her in our midst.

With kindest regards and wishes to you and Mrs. Lohies and all the members of the Union.

Yours Very Sincerely

J. B. Jagan 24/7/57

No. 1623/57

Copy to:
The Secretary,
G. E. L. Church.



78

Received on 17/7/57
afternoon
h.E.
17/7

Gossner-Mission-Society

Berlin-Friedenau, 10-7-57
Handjerystr. 19/20
Lo./Ja.

To
Church Council of the G.E.L. Church of Chotanagpur & Assam
c/o Mr. N.E. H o r o , B.A., Secretary

R a n c h i (Bihar)
India

Read before the full C.C.
on 18/7/57
h.E.
18/7

Dear Brother Horo,

To-day I want to write to you only about our great gladness in which we have received the news of the last negotiations between representatives of the Church Council and representatives of the opposition. I hope that the 17th of June 1957 will be a turning-point for the history of the Gossner-Church. May God present it to you and to us that the agreement between the Church Council and the opposition led by Rev. Joel Lakra may lead back the Gossner-Church conclusively to its inner peace and unity.

Please, give my kind regards heartily to President Tiga. We are very thankful to him for the way of proceeding in these negotiations. Last time I was absent from Berlin very often and after returning very overcrowded, but I will write personally to President Tiga in the next days and answer to all his questions. This letter shall be only the expression of my heartiest thank for that done by the Church Council in this difficult situation.

How far I shall be able to fulfil your wish and come again to India when the negotiations will be concluded the Kuratorium has to decide first.

With fraternal greetings

Yours sincerely,

Hans Lokies

Notion taken:

Noted that the C.C. is thankful for the information that the Kuratorium has taken care of the request of making it possible for Dr. Lokies to come out to India as the chairman of the proposed Commission

h.E. 18/7/57.

of 78

*the same copy of minutes of Hill, New printed No. 100-100
referred to and filed in the office of the*

REF: NO 17/3 /57-CC-

The 27th June, 1957.

To

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau,
Handjerystr 19/20,
Germany.

Dear Brother Lokies,

You will be interested to know that the Church officers have agreed with the dissenters in a meeting with Bishop Manikam here on 17th June to appoint a Commission of 10 persons- 5 from each side-which will work out a Constitution for the work of one undivided Gossner Church. This Commission will be headed a neutral man and your name has been proposed as Chairman from both sides. In the event of your inability to accept the invitation Dr. Birkely or Dr. Oberdorfer will be requested. A former invitation will come to you in due course. This Commission will be requested to submit its report within three months from the date of the commencement of its work. For the interim period a workable agreement has been agreed to which you will find in the enclosed "Agreement".

This "Agreement" will be placed before the full Church Council session next month from 16-18, July 1957 when it will be asked to ratify the "Agreement". We are anxious to have you here and we believe it will be possible for you to find time in the midst of your preoccupation to come out to India to serve your dear Gossner Church.

Rev. Santosh Surin Director -designate of evangelistic work will be joining his new duties here on 1st July, 1957. I believe, you have my letter of 10th June in this respect, in which, a request is made by the C.C. for financial aid for two years in order to enable us to launch the evangelistic work anew. I am thinking of presenting a report to the Council next month when it will be in session.

On the advise of two sisters the two Tabitha School teachers are asked to postpone their voyage to Germany till January 1958. This was due to nonavailability of a suitable teachers to replace the two teachers. It is expected that by January 1958 we shall have no difficulty in securing a suitable teachers.

In the absence of money we are thinking of advising President Tiga and Rev. Hemrom to cancel their passage to America. We donot know yet what last moment situation will bring about.

P.T.O.

78

We are all keeping well. With greetings to you and all
Gossner friends for help and prayer.

The 27th June, 1957.

REF: NO 1713 / 57-CC-1

I am yours sincerely,
27/6/57
Secretary,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Dear Brother Lakies,

You will be interested to know that the Church officers have agreed with the dissenters in a meeting with Bishop Manikam here on 17th June to appoint a Commission of 10 persons - 5 from each side - which will work out a Constitution for the work of one undivided Gossner Church. This Commission will be headed a neutral man and your name has been proposed as Chairman from both sides. In the event of your inability to accept the invitation Dr. Birkely or Dr. Oberdorfer will be requested. A former invitation will come to you in due course. This Commission will be requested to submit its report within three months from the date of the commencement of its work. For the interim period a working agreement has been agreed to which you will find in the enclosed "Agreement". This "Agreement" will be placed before the full Church Council session next month from 18-19 July 1957 when it will be asked to ratify the "Agreement". We are anxious to have you here and we believe it will be possible for you to find time in the midst of your preoccupation to come out to India to serve your dear Gossner Church.

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P.T.O.

THE GOSSNER EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSION-1845 : AUTONOMOUS-1919

PRESIDENT : REV. J.J.P. TIGA
SECRETARY : MR. N.E. HORO
TREASURER : MR. G.M. HORO

June 11, 1957.

G. E. L. C. COMPOUND,
RANCHI, BIHAR, (INDIA)

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau.

100 1582/57-ae-78

Dear Brother Lokies,

I am enclosing a copy of the translation of the resolutions passed by the GELC Mahasabha 1957, which will be some interest to you. The Mahasabha, inspite of all the storm around it, has comparatively transacted its business well. A good deal of deliberation took place in regard to property, economic administration, evangelistic work, amendment of the constitution and of course, about the present agitation in the church.

I will discuss a few things here: the Mahasabha has directed the church council to appoint a full time Manager for the Property Board so that church property is properly managed, supervised and maximum benefit out of it available. We will have this Manager from next year. Till then, the organisational aspect of the work will be gradually introduced. A new step has been taken in the field of evangelism by appointing Rev. Santosh Surin as Director of Evangelistic work in the church. He will be under the employ of the church council and will be directly under the Evangelistic Board for his programme of work. Rev. Surin is at present President of the Govindpur Synod and is Secretary of the Tabitha school. He is one of our leading Pastors. He will take up his new office from July 1, 1957, with his headquarters at Ranchi.

This action is according to the directive given to the Council by the Mahasabha. The Church Council while making this appointment was faced with the question of finance. While we were still thinking and discussing possibilities, news from Bro. Borutta came to us that he had been in correspondence with you regarding this matter, and that you have expressed your willingness to finance this new project. The Executive has, therefore, decided to go ahead with this work and desires to make a request to the Kuratorium for financial help, at least for two years, for it is expected, according to our calculation that by that time work will be organised in such a manner that the whole project can be supported by the congr-

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G. E. L. C. COMPOUND,
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congregations themselves. This project will cost Rs.3000. a year i.e., Rs.150. salary p.m. plus Rs.50. travelling allowance p.m. and Rs.600. cost of establishment and equipments a year. That means that the ~~affixxxx~~ running expenditure per month will be Rs.200. and another sum of Rs. 600. will be spent on equipments according to necessity. May I, therefore, request you to kindly consider this request of financial aid, so that in the event of this help coming from you, we can positively ask Bro. Surin to start his work without any delay. I must thank you, on behalf of the Church Council, for your kind willingness to help the Gossner church in this direction.

The agitation in the church is not yet over. Nothing could be done inspite of the fact that outstanding people like Dr. Arne Sovik and Rev. J.D. Asirvadam visited us and tried to solve the problems facing us. Only last mid-May Rev. Asirvadam presented a statement for restoring peace in the church. The Executive of the CC heratily accepted it. This required Rev. Lakra to agree to give in writing by the end of May '57 that he will not hereafter act in contravention of the policy of the Ministerium or the authority of the President of the Gossner Church in respect of ordination within or outside the GEL Church. The CC expressed its desire to immediately restore him to his former position as Principal of the Seminary. The opposing groups were also called upon to call off their activities and restore unity in the church by accepting position in the church as before 15 th. August 1956. To this Rev. Lakra did not agree. It sometimes appears that these people are not serious about any kind of settlement, but are bent upon creating trouble in the church. Their actions amply prove this. There are several instances where they have obstructed the church workers ~~xxx~~ and are obstructing the church council in day to day administration. However, inspite of all these provocations, we think that new efforts should be made. We shall be shortly reviewing the whole situation and take suitable steps necessary.

Bros. Bage and Surin have informed us of their arrival here by the middle of July. B th of them have been assigned work in the Theological College at Ranchi. Bro. Bage has been appointed Principal of the College.

THE GOSSNER EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSION - 1845 : AUTONOMOUS - 1919

PRESIDENT : REV. J.J.P. TIGA
SECRETARY : MR. N.E. HORO
TREASURER : MR. C.M. HORO

G. E. L. C. COMPOUND,
RANCHI, BIHAR, (INDIA)

-3-

We are taking steps to select two science graduates for technical training in Germany, as suggested by the Kuratorium some time past. Selection of theological students is also proposed to be taken up soon. We shall further correspond with you on these matters.

I thank you for informing through Bro. Hemrom's letter that Director Brennecke will speak for us in the CWM meeting in Staten Island. Our Budget has been forwarded to the Bishop R.B. Manickam, President of the India Federation. It will come to the DWM through the India Federation as directed by the Commission last time. We shall take steps immediately to acquaint Bishop Manickam with our financial situation. We are proposing to ask the DWM to give us some financial aid over and above the subsidy for our special evangelistic task. I hope that Director Brennecke and others will be kind enough to support our requests.

Contrary to our expectations, we could not do much regarding Rourkella. Our compound is still untouched, but the company authorities say that that portion of lands will finally be acquired. We have, however, applied for allotment of suitable sites at a place called Joldaa. I am afraid that nothing substantial could be done before the meeting at Staten Island. However, the company authorities are again being contacted. Rev. Christ Bijay Aind, President of the Orissa has been put in charge of the congregations in Rourkella area.

Before I close permit me to go back to the subject of evangelistic work. Rev. Borutta was here this morning and we officers had a long discussion with him re: this matter too. We agreed that we shall constantly keep the Kuratorium posted with the progress ~~xxxxxx~~ made by the Rev. Surin when he begins his work. In the beginning he will have to devote some time in organising the work.

We are all keeping well. Hope this will find you all in cheers. Kindly convey our greetings to the Gossner house people and to the congregations praying for us. With much christian greetings to your good self and your dear wife,

I am Yours sincerely,

Hemrom 11/6

RESOLUTIONS OF THE G.E.L. CHURCH MAHASABHA
MARCH 25 -29, 1957.

CHURCH PROPERTIES:

1. Whereas the Honorary workers of the Board of Management are unable to look after proper management and supervision of church properties, it is RESOLVED that a qualified full time manager be appointed in order that proper management and supervision of widely spread church properties is carried out and maximum benefit out of it is derived. This manager so appointed will not be an ex-officio member of the Board of Management. It is further resolved to direct the Church Council to draw a salary scale, arrange for bonding and finally appointing the new manager with effect from March 1958.
2. RESOLVED that the Treasurer of the G.E.L. Church in Chota-Nagpur ~~and~~ and Assam should also be appointed Treasurer of the Board of Management G.E.L. Church Properties with effect from March 28, 1957.
3. In view of the fact that the G.E.L. Church has some landed properties situated in far off places where there are no congregations of the Gossner church, with the result that such properties are not properly managed, supervised or protected and in fact are accruing more loss than gain; it is, therefore, RESOLVED that such lands, which cannot be in future properly managed, supervised or protected even though they are situated in places close to our congregations, be sold out and the sale proceeds thus obtained be invested in purchasing new immovable properties where ever necessary, from which the church can derive benefits; further
RESOLVED to direct the Board of Management to prepare a schedule of such properties mentioned above and ask the Church Council to take steps in this direction.
4. RESOLVED to give this direction that the work of managing and protecting church properties lying within the jurisdiction of individual Synods be carried out with the active co-operation between the Synods and the Board of Management, G.E.L. Church Properties, and for which purpose the Church Council be asked to frame suitable rules.
5. RESOLVED that the G.E.L. Church Mahasabha nominates two persons in lieu of two representatives of the National Christian Council and the Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India who will serve on the Board of Management, G.E.L. Church Properties provisionally till such time when the N.C.C. and the F.E.L.C(I) do not elect and send their representatives to the Board of Management. The N.C.C. and the F.E.L.C(I) be requested to send their representatives to serve on the Board of Management, G.E.L. Church Properties.
6. It is noted that a large portion of the G.E.L. Church Compound at Ranchi is continues to be occupied by the Army although War emergency period has terminated several years ago. This continuous occupation of the compound has considerably affected the spiritual and material progress of the church at large, it is, therefore RESOLVED that a memorandum be sent to the Union Government requesting them to withdraw the Army personnel from the G.E.L. Church Compound at Ranchi as early as possible.
7. RESOLVED to settle 5 to 6 acres of land being western portion of G.E.L. Church compound at Rajgangpur with the Orissa Cement Ltd., on suitable terms and conditions, for which, negotiations are reported to be going on between the church and the Orissa Cement Ltd.

8. The Board of Management G. E. L. Church Properties be directed to prepare afresh an up-to-date schedule of church properties old and new and supply copies of the same to all stations of the church. All documents of immovable properties should also be secured and preserved in the office of the Board of Management G. E. L. Church Properties.
9. The Church Council and the Board of Management, G. E. L. Church Properties be directed to see that Board accounts are audited annually and be submitted to the Church Council regularly. It is further resolved that budget of the Property Board should also be submitted to the Department of World Missions along with that of the Church Council.
10. Voted that 10% of the income of the G. E. L. Church Press be remitted to the Church Council Treasury.

EVANGELISTIC WORK :

11. It is noted that the evangelistic work is the primary responsibility of the Synods for which, the Church Council gives subsidy ;
RESOLVED that each Synod be directed to form a strong Evangelistic Committee which should work under the guidance and with the co-operation of the Evangelistic Board.
12. RESOLVED to appoint a Director - Supervisor in the church to be in the employ of the Church Council, for evangelistic work, whose duty it shall be to :
I) rouse the spiritual life of the people, by
a. observing Witness weeks.
b. holding Bharam Melas i.e., religious festivals.
c. personal witnesses.
II) to prepare personnel for evangelistic work
III) to collect finances for the work, by
a. raising collections during witness weeks
b. monthly offerings in Rajyabridhi services.
Special stress is to be given to the two points mentioned above.
13. Consequent upon the the launching of innumerable development works around the country, the Gossner Church is suddenly called upon to adapt new methods for evangelistic work, specially when new opportunities are opening up before her;
The Church Council is, therefore, directed to approach the Lutheran World Federation for a special grant for supporting the evangelistic work of the church.
14. Voted to apportion 25 % of the L. W. F. Subsidy for evangelistic work.
15. RESOLVED to approve the Economic Development Plan presented to the Mahasabha by the Church Council and direct it to give wide publicity to it and take suitable steps for working out the plan.
16. RESOLVED to advise the Synods to take suitable steps towards appointing a Promoter according to conveniences, for educating the illiterate members of the Church.
17. Voted to apportion 25 % of the income of the Board of Management, G. E. L. Church Properties, for the Church Council.
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Rev. J. J. P. Tiga M.A., B.D., ST M.

F/78

PRESIDENT, LUTHERAN CHURCH
RANCHI.

Key Co

I have received
papers in connection
with the Revd Eckert
and Klos.

I shall take up the
matter immediately.

J. J. P. Tiga
14/3/57

June 6th, 1957 Lo/Su.

Church Council of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Chotanagpur and Assam
c/o Mr. N.E. H o r o , B.A., Secretary
R a n c h i / Bihar

President for sal + advise
per
12/6/57
I n d i a

Dear Bretheren,

in gratitude to God the Kuratorium of the Gossner-Mission is glad to inform you that our two young brothers Marsallan BAGE and Saban SURIN have reached the aim of their 5 1/2-year-studies in Germany. Saban SURIN acquired the degree of "Master of Theology" and Marsallan BAGE that of "Doctor of Philosophy" at a German University. That is more than we had planned or hoped for.

Unfortunately the departure of both the brothers has to be postponed from the 7th to the 30th of June. That wasn't our fault. The Italian line where we had booked the two brother's passages, does, for the first time after the Suez-conflict, not travel round Africa any longer but again through the Suez-Canal. That was the reason why the departure of the ship, all of a sudden came to be 10 days before the proper time. This, however, was to early for the two brothers, as the verbal examination of Brother Bage which had been to take place in the middle of May was postponed to the end of May respectively to early in June. We at once booked for the next boat which will leave Genua on June 30.

We are very sorry this has happened fearing it could disturb your plans. But there is nothing to be done.

Besides I am unhappy to have to tell you that, for reasons of health, this time I cannot take part neither in the conference of World Missions nor in the Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation in America. So unfortunately I cannot personally support the delegate of the Gossner Church nor the "Requests" of the Gossner Church. Therefore I exactly informed Kirchenrat Dr. BERG as a member of our Kuratorium and Missionsdirector BRENNKE of the Berlin Mission about the suffering situation and the financial necessities of the Gossner Church. Missionsdirector Brennecke will willingly side with Pastor HEMROM in any way. Pastor BERG also promised me to see to come into contact with Pastor Hemrom.

Moreover it would be of greatest importance if at the Assembly as well as in the Commission of World Missions the requests of the Gossner Church could be supported by Bishop Dr. MANIKAM. I therefore think it badly necessary that the Church Council invites Bishop Dr. Manikam before he goes to America. His visit should have double a purpose:

- 1.) a thorough consideration of the financial situation of the Gossner Church.
- 2.) a last attempt to regain peace and unity for the Gossner Church.

To reach this aim the Church Council and the opposition led by Pastor LAKRA should meet. It would be desirable that both the CC and Pastor Lakra and his friends should agree to inviting Bishop Dr. Manikam, speaking frankly to him and following his brotherly advice.

This way the Gossner Church would most clearly prove the Lutheran World Federation its loyalty and confidence thus getting the basis for a brotherly financial help too. The Kuratorium of the Gossner-Mission gives the Church Council the urgent advice to invite the Lutheran Federation of Churches in India and its Chairman to Ranchi.

As to the constitution of the Church, I think, we all are of the same opinion, i.e.: the old constitution is not sufficient but must be altered. This, however, must not cause a splitting of the Church. In all the churches of the world a new constitution, if necessary, will be worked out thoroughly in a team whose members have most different conceptions, even opposite ones. Such a work takes years and must at least be presented to the Church Council and the Mahasabha for enactment. This is the normal way.

The Kuratorium of the Gossner-Mission would like joining in the work of a new constitution. Furthermore the Lutheran World Federation published general directions, just for young, independent churches, which may form the basis of a church constitution. We would advise to appoint a commission with members of both groups to do preparatory work for a new constitution of the church and are willing to support such work financially too (costs for conferences and travels a.s.o.)

God bless your deliberations and decisions !

With hearty brotherly greetings

Yours

Hans Lohr

Seen.
Reply may be sent in the
light of the decision of the
officers.
J. Lohr
13/6/57

File - 78

March 14, 1957

President S.E.L.C

Please find enclosed:

- 1/ Dr. Lokies' letters of 11 & 27 February 1957
- 2/ Personal information sheets re: Rev. St. Eckert & Rev. St. Kloss.
- 3/ C.C. resolutions - Items 9 (a), (b), (c) & (f) of 5/8 Dec 1956. re: invitation to new missionaries.
- 4/ Extract from cc. minute of 5th Dec. 56 Item - 9. which has been sent to Dr. Lokies.
- 5/ Two sets of questionnaire required by the NCC.

Either

(a) We have to support the applications of Pastors Eckert & Kloss for entry in to India

Or (b) to apply to India Govt for entry of these two gentlemen.

The appln of Eckert made in 1952 was rejected reasons not known to us. It was due to certain technical objections. Mr. Eckert was then still a student & he wanted to continue his studies here in India - this is the information I have so far gathered from Bombay.

Lokies however wants that effort be made from both ends.

This matter is to be taken up immediately & hence these papers are submitted for your immediate attention.

W. E. Evans
14/3/57
Secretary

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystraße 19/20

F/ 78
Berlin-Friedenau, 27th of February 57

by 57257 Lo/Su.

Church Council of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Chotanagpur and Assam
c/o Secretary Mr. N. E. H o r o , B.A.
G.E.L. Church
R a n c h i / Bihar - I n d i a

Dear Brother Horo,

thank you very much for your letter of February 16th (No. 291/57 C.C. 78). -
We are very much obliged to you for your willingness to undertake every-
thing possible to obtain entry-permission for Brothers ECKART and KLOSS
from the Indian authorities.

As to the journey of the Indian Sisters Seteng HAPADGARA and Bahalen BAGE
President TIGA now has all the documents in hand. I hope that the 3000 Rs.
from Geneva to the account of Brother BORUTTA have in the meantime arrived.
The travelling costs and board-money that exceed this sum will be advanced by
Brother Borutta and later arranged with him. I have informed him accordingly.

I am expecting your further information concerning the sending of a lady mis-
sionary for womens' work (Tabita-School). Concerning this matter I am also
in correspondence with sisters Anni DILLER and Hedwig SCHMIDT but am under-
taking nothing before I receive news from the Church Council.

Thank you for giving me the exact dates of the meetings of the Church Council
and the Mahasabha. We are willing to send the Mahasabha a message of fellow-
ship. I have also heard that the congregations in Ostfriesland, Westphalia and
Berlin are ^{also} sending greetings to the Mahasabha.

I am sorry that Brothers Marsalan BAGE and Saban SURIN will not be able to
attend the Mahasabha. The reason is that Brother Bage needs some more time
to finish his exam. We have booked passages for the two brothers for the
beginning of June.

In your letter of February 16th you suggested that the two brothers should
return to India together with Miss BODRA. But we have been told that Miss
Bodra will not have finished her studies in England before the beginning of
July, and then she intends to stay in Germany for a month, and our two
brothers thought they could not wait so long for personal and for objective reasons.
We understand their reasons very well, and therefore booked their
passages for June. In any case Miss Bodra will visit us in Germany, and we
are looking forward to her visit. After all she is the head-mistress of the
Bethesda-School and will remain so as long as the Gossner Church has no qua-
lified teacher. Thus we ourselves are eager that she should learn something
about Church work in Germany. Incidentally I want to say that we are very keen
that the Gossner Church should one day produce her own head-mistress. Should
you know of any qualified student or teacher who could be trained for this
post we would willingly contribute to her studies.

I am sorry, as I say, that owing to the earlier departure of Bage and Surin
Miss Bodra will have to return to India alone, but I am sure that she will
be able to travel back to India just as independently as she travelled to
England.

With many thanks for all your greetings to the Gossner House in Berlin and
with all good wishes for you

I am

Yours sincerely

Hans Lokies

(D. Hans Lokies)

78 o/c

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cotonagpur and Assam.

Ref: NO 291 /57-C.C.-78.

G.E.L.Church Compound, Ranchi.
The 16th February, 1957.

From Secretary-Mr.N.E.Horo, B.A.,

To

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Kuratorium,
Berlin-Friedenau,
Handjerystrasse-19/20
W.Germany.

Dear Brother Lokies,

Many thanks for your letter and enclosures of Feb:11, 1957, which reached me yesterday.

Seteng Hapadgara and Bahalen Bage have applied for their passports and I understand that President Tiga is arranging for their passage.

We shall take all possible steps here for the entry of Bros Eckart and Kloss.

In connection with the return of Sister Anne earlier and our invitation for a lady missionary for women's work, I think I should get a clear statement from the Church Council; which will be communicated to you in time.

Now, the final dates of our Church Council and Mahasabha are 21st-23rd March and 25th -28th March 1957 respectively. We shall be expecting a message of fellowship from the Kuratorium as usual. Thank ~~for~~ you for informing me of Bro Saban's success in his second examination, we are expecting similar results from Bro Bage. Now we already know that they will come possibly before the next academic session.

A word or two about Miss S.M.Bodra. She will complete her studies this summer and will return back to India. The Church Council thought that if the Kuratorium could extend her ever helping hands Miss Bodra could visit Germany for a month or so. The LWF is paying her return fare from England to India, expenses of her visit to Germany not included. I have asked her to contact you in this respect. If you can invite her to Germany she can book her passage to Mainz-Kastel by train. Next she can board her boat to India in Genoa - if it can be arranged from Berlin or Mainz-Kastel. She can accompany Bros Bage and Surin. I shall talk over this matter with Dr.Sovik next week when he is visiting us and shall ~~xxxx~~ let you know.

With greetings to you and to Gossner family in Berlin.

I am your sincerely,

W. Horo 16/2/57
Secretary,
G.E.L.Church, Ranchi.

P.S.- Miss Bodra is at
56, High Field Street,
Leicester,
England.

Goßnersche Missionsgesellschaft
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystr. 19/20

11th February, 1957.
Lo/Me.

To the Church Council of the
G.E.L. Church
c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. Horo //

R a n c h i
Dt. Bihar - India

Dear Brother Horo,

As I was on a mission-tour in Bavaria through the whole of January I am afraid my correspondence has suffered delay. For the same reason there was also no meeting of the Kuratorium during this period in which I could have submitted your letters. So I must ask you to forgive me that I have not yet answered your various questions. I am now at home and will deal with the items of your letter one after the other.

/ First of all the most important thing: here is a statement for the two teachers of the Tabita-School Hapadgara SETENG and Bahalen BAGE that we are prepared to bear the costs of their journey to Germany and back and also the expenses of their stay in Germany.

/ As to brothers KLOSS and ECKART here are the requested personal details. I believe we should attack the matter of their entry in India from both ends. I shall consequently very soon file in an application with the Indian Embassy in Bonn.

It is a different affair with Ursula v. LINGEN whom we have sent to England first for a year's training. It will take a year before we can send her to India.

I am glad to hear from you that Sisters Anni Diller and Hedwig Schmidt have decided to stay till Sisters Hapadgara Seteng and Bahalen Bage have returned from Germany. Does that mean that we are not to look for any other German teacher for the Tabita-School? You wrote in your letter of December 1956 that "another lady for the Tabita-School" was to come. Sisters Anni Diller and Hedwig Schmidt had also written that Anni Diller intended to return to Germany earlier than Hedwig Schmidt, and that for that reason we should send another Sister in the place of Anni Diller, so that Hedwig Schmidt could introduce her into the work. It seems that there is some change in this point, and I would be very grateful to you for giving me further information about it.

To sum up: The question of the sending out of Brothers Kloß and Eckart and the coming here of Sisters Hapadgara Seteng and Bahalen Bage has priority; all other matters can be dealt with later.

Thank you for telling me the date of the next plenary session of the Church Council. As soon as possible I will assemble the Kuratorium so that we can draft a message of fellowship but also including a word concerning our mutual responsibility before God for the Church of Chota Nagpur.

And now, above all, many thanks for your last letter in which you tell us about your cousin Notrott KERKETTA. Both Brother Symanowski and I are willing to help him wherever we can. It would, however, be important for us to learn from him whether he has already made a plan for his studies in Germany. We shall then assist him by advice and deed with great pleasure.

I have again to excuse my long silence. All questions between us which have not yet been dealt with, I shall answer very soon. There is only one thing I want to let you know officially: Brother Saban Surin has passed the second part of his exam too on 21st January. He qualified in Philosophy and Ethics. The summary mark for the whole exam was "good". Besides he received the certificate that by this exam he was exhibited the same knowledge required for the degree "Master of Theology". Brother Bage is now also going in for his exam and working hard at his paper and his oral exam. It is much harder for him than for Saban Surin and we therefore beg you to understand, that they both cannot come to the Mahasabha. But we have booked passages for them for June from Genoa. I have also written to Mrs. Bage and begged her to understand this last delay. I beg you and the Church Council to consent to this delay and to understand it.

Yours very sincerely

Hanns Lotze

Encl.

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystraße 19/20

Herr Eckart:

Name: E c k a r t
Surname:
Vornamen: Heinz, Martin
Christian name:
Adresse: Berlin-Friedenau, Handjerystrasse 20/III
address:

Geburtstag und -ort: 31. Oktober 1928 - B e r l i n
Place and date
of birth:

Frau Eckart:

Name: E c k a r t geb, Längsfeld
Surname:
Vornamen: Liesbeth, Helene
Christian name:
Adresse: Berlin-Friedenau, Handjerystrasse 20/III
address:

Geburtstag und -ort: 6. Juli 1927 - S chönwald, Krs. Kreuzburg
Place and date of birth: (Oberschlesien)

1. Kind:

Name: E c k a r t
Surname:
Vornamen: Johannes, Theodor
Christian name:
Adresse: Berlin-Friedenau, Handjerystrasse 20/III
address:

Geburtstag und -ort: 17. Januar 1955 - B e r l i n
place and date of birth:

2. Kind:

Name: E c k a r t
Surname:
Vornamen: Martin, Werner
Christian name:
Adresse: Berlin-Friedenau, Handjerystrasse 20/III
Address:

Geburtstag- und -ort: 28. Januar 1957 - B e r l i n
Place and date of birth:
8.2.57
Me.

Pastor Kloß:

Name: K l o s s , Pfarrer
Name:
Vornamen: Hermann, Felix Waldemar
Christian name:
Adresse: Berlin-Friedenau, Niedstrasse 27
Address:
Geburtstag und -ort: 21. 6. 1925 - D a n z i g
Place and date of birth:

Frau Pastor Kloß:

Name: K l o s s geb. Wreschner
Surname:
Vornamen: Rita, Elfriede Ruth
Christian name:
Adresse: Berlin-Friedenau, Niedstrasse 27
Address:
Geburtstag- und-ort: 8. 8. 1934 - B e r l i n
Place and date of birth:

8. 2. 57
Me.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHURCH
COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD FROM 6-7th December, 1955.

ITEM 8 (d) - TABITHA SCHOOL.

It was pointed out that further training in Women's Work be given to Miss Seteng Hapadgara and Miss Bahalen Bage. The two lady missionaries recommend for sending them to Germany for this purpose. It was further pointed out that it should be ascertained from the two girls whether they offer themselves for life for service in the Church. It was also expressed that avenues for such training be found out, if possible, in India.

RESOLVED: that Church Council officers be authorised to find out avenues in or outside India for training Miss Seteng Hapadgara and Miss Bahalen Bage, at present teachers in the Tabitha School, in subjects determined by the Church Council pertaining to Women's Work.



Referred to be done copy

H. E. L. Church
21/1/57

Secretary
G. E. L. CHURCH
CH. NAGPUR & ASSAM
RANCHI

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTE OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL,
G.E.L. CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM, HELD ON
OCTOBER 22, 1955.

ITEM- 21. DOCTOR FOR AMGAON :

" Voted to invite Dr. Arndt Bischoff and his family of Berlin-Lichtenrade, Franziusweg 65, Germany through the Gossner Mission Society, Berlin, to serve in the Church Hospital at Angaon, P.S. Barkot, District Sambhalpur in the State of Orissa. The existing Terms of Reference will apply to Dr. Bischoff and his family while serving in the Gossner Church."

N. E. HORO
SECRETARY.

No. 24/57-CC-78.

o/c
GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL OF THE G. E. L. CHURCH
RANCHI, BIHAR.

January 8, 1957.

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau.

Dear Brother Lokies,

Many thanks for your kind letter of December 14, 1956 and the good wishes you sent to me and to my family. It is God's providence that Dr. Bischoff & family could sail out from Germany well in time. The freighter "Lindfels", I gather from papers, is arriving at Calcutta on 25 th. January. We shall be happy to have him here. I believe that they were and are safe throughout the long tedious journey.

The trouble in our church has not eased. You must have received some informations from Bro. Borutta about the recent situation. On 9 th. December, on the day of harvest festival here, there was an apprehension of the breach of peace and we had but to take help of the police. Now the matter is pending before the local magistrate. The next date is 12 th. inst. It is not a case as is usually supposed. From our side we never wanted to go to the court but situation was made such that we were forced to seek help of the government officers.

You probably know that we made a last attempt to settle up by inviting them for discussions on 7 th. Dec '56. I am again suggesting and we officers have agreed to invite them again for a discussion on one of these days. In the meantime they are creating much trouble in the congregations outside. We have to devote much time on this matter and most of our office works are suffering. However, we are confident that a solution will be found out now or to-morrow. The dissenters pretty well know that they are mistaken and they cannot go the second mile but, it has become very hard and humiliating for them to return back. They are at the crossroad. They are taking time to see their game over.

We are convening the next Mahasabha to meet from March 25 th. to 28 th., 1957. The full Church Council session will be from March 21 st. to 23 rd. 1957. These will be after the General Elections in India are over. We are expecting Dr. Sovik and Prof Freytag to visit us in February or *March* April. We want them to attend the Mahasabha, if they can.

We shall try to show them our work in the congregations.

We are very pleased to know that Bro. Surin has done excellently well in his exams. Our heartfelt thanks goes to him and to the Gossner Mission Society and all those who in various ways have contributed towards his success. We hope similar things for Bro. Bage too.

With many christians greetings

I am Yours sincerely,

H. E. Evans
9.1.57

N. E. HORO
SECRETARY.

No. 25/57-CC-78.

o/c
GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL OF THE G. E. L. CHURCH
RANCHI, BIHAR.
January 8, 1957.

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau.

Dear Brother Lokies,

I am addressing this letter to you in continuation of mine of December 20, 1956 (No. 2763/56) In that letter I said that the G. E. L. Church Council invites Brothers Eckart, Kloss and Sister Ursula Von Lingen. I sent you extracts from the C. C. Executive meeting dated 5-8 th. Dec, 1956. I am again sending you in separate papers those resolutions which you require at the time of applying for visas in favour of the above.

May I know if you have already submitted applications for Bros. Eckart and Kloss to the Indian Embassy at Bonn for their entry in to India or do you want us to apply here. Last time in the case of Bro. Bishoff the application originated at your end. We supported the application through the National Christian Council.

Kindly favour me with the following particulars regarding Bros. Eckart and Kloss : their full names and addresses, age, dates and places of birth and general and ~~particular~~ special qualifications. The names and other particulars of their wives and children may also be given. Thanks. This is required for answering the questionnaire of the N. C. C which will be requested to move the Indian Government here for allowing entry of the two missionaries and their wives and children.

Regarding the two ladies invited to Germany : their application have already been submitted to authorities for passport and visas. Kindly send a letter saying that the cost of their education and stay in Germany will be borne by the Gossner Mission. Thanks. Sisters Diller and Schmidt informed us that they are willing to stay here until these two ladies return from Germany. We shall be writing you shortly regarding other matters.

With many good wishes in the service of the Lord,

Yours sincerely,

H. E. H. 9.1.57

Preamble.

President ke adesh par samucha Terms of Reference and Preamble parha gaya jo yon hai:-

The Mahasabha of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam receive with gratitude the declaration of the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society dt.3.11.50.and the statement dt.3.11.50 which read as follows:-

"The Gossner Kuratorium is happy that the G.E.L.Church has become autonomous, that there is therefore no need for the missionaries to assume administrative responsibility, and that they will instruct their missionaries accordingly." and "the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society is convinced that in the present situation of the Autonomous Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church, it is no longer necessary or desirable to charge missionaries with responsible administrative posts, and to give them a vote".

The Mahasabha of the G.E.L.Church offers the following terms of reference to the Kuratorium of Gossner Mission Society.

TERMS OF REFERENCE.

- 1.The relationship between the G.E.L.C and the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society shall be that of Daughter and Mother.
- 2.The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society will send missionaries to work in the G.E.L.C.on the request of the G.E.L.C.
- 3.The Missionaries on the field will work as friends and helpers in the development of the G.E.L.C.for specific periods by personally accepting the terms of reference offered by the G.E.L.C.to the individual missionaries through the Kuratorium.
- 4.The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society in Christian love and charity shall undertake to support their missionaries on the Gossner field. The policy is to receive such help through the G.E.L.C.Treasury.
- 5.All missionaries shall be invited to attend the meeting of the Mahasabha. The men missionaries will be invited to attend the meetings of the Church Council, one by one, in rotation according to their alphabetical order. The missionaries will also be invited to attend the meetings of their respective synods. They shall be free to visit the congregations in any part of the Church and to attend the church meetings as they find it possible with information of the synod President.
- 6.All missionaries working in the G.E.L.C. shall be regular members of the Gossner Church.
- 7.All ordained missionaries shall be members of the Gossner Church Ministerium.
- 8.Each missionary will be given a specific work in the Church such as Evangelistic work among non-Christians, Teaching in the Theological Seminary, Production of Christian Literature, Help running of charitable institutions etc.
- 9.The G.E.L.C. provide suitable accommodation for the missionaries working in the field.
- 10.These terms of Reference can be amended by the mutual consent of the bodies concerned.
- 11.All former proposals or drafts of "Terms of Reference" are superseded by these Terms of Reference.
- 12.The 'Joint Mission Field' will be administered by a 'Joint Mission Board' incorporated in the G.E.L.Church, in accordance with the regulations adopted jointly by the Mahasabha and the Kuratorium (vide Mahasabha minutes 1953 p.p.49-52).

Berlin-Friedenau,

May 14, 1954. sd/-Dr. Moeller.

President.

G.E.L.Church Chotanagpur & Assam.

sd/-Joel Lakra.

President.

Kuratorium of Gossner Mission.

Dr. BS08HM.

Member.

sd/-N.E.Horo.

Secretary.

sd/-J.Stosch.

Member.

sd/-Z.Horo.

Treasurer.

Dr. Hans Lohr,
Director
Evangelical Mission Society
Berlin - Friedenau 19/20
West Germany

Dear Brother Lohr,

Thank you for yours of December 14. I am not yet through my ~~work~~ pending work that delayed my communicating to you.

I am enclosing an extract from the minutes of the Church Council Executive. The church council invites Bros. Eckart & Kloss with their families and Sister Ursula von Lingen ^{and another lady for the Fabrika School} to come to the ~~Evangelical~~ church on usual terms and conditions.

We are looking forward to ~~see~~ welcoming all these brothers and sisters whom we invite to our church. We ~~are~~ will be welcoming Fr. Bischof and family next month.

I shall be writing you soon on the situation here and about other matters.

Accept my ~~I send you~~ ^{best} good wishes to you, your dear wife and ~~the~~ ^{our} ~~Evangelical~~ members of the ~~Evangelical~~ family. Also please convey my Christmas greetings to all the congregations which I visited in Germany.

Yours truly
H. Lohr
20/12/56

An extract from the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the G.E.L.Church, Ranchi, dated the 5th December, 1956.

9. Matters from the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society :-

Secretary Mr. Horo placed his written report before the house which he had read before the Kuratorium in October 19, 1956 (see appendix). He also gave a verbal explanation of the talks he had with Dr. Lokies, Dr. Lokies' letter dt. was also placed for consideration.

(a) A Missionary to replace Rev. H.F. Borutta.

Noted that missionary Rev. H.F. Borutta is returning back to Germany early in 1958. A missionary in his place is requested to take up the work in the joint mission Board.

Resolved that Rev. Eckert of the Gossner mission Society, Berlin be invited to replace missionary Rev. H.F. Borutta in the joint Mission Board's work of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam (India) who returns back to Germany in 1958 for good, and that Missionary Eckert should make it a point to arrive in India early in 1957. It is further resolved to request the Gossner Mission Society, Berlin to make all necessary arrangements for the sending out of missionary Eckert into India.

(b) Theological Professor for the Lutheran Theological College, Ranchi in place of Dr. G. Schultz :

Noted that Dr. G. Schultz a missionary Professor of the Lutheran Theological College Ranchi has returned back to Germany in April 1956 for good. A German Lutheran Theological is needed in his place who will also teach language like Greek, Hebrew, Latin and German which is essential for the teaching of general Lutheran Theology and research work.

Resolved that we invite Rev. P. Kloss through the Gossner Mission Society, Berlin to replace Dr. Schultz in the Lutheran Theological College Ranchi in order to teach among other things foreign languages like Greek, Hebrew, Latin and German.

(c) Need of a German Schevester in the mission Hospital Amgaon.

It was pointed out that a German Schevester is needed to help the present staff in the Mission Hospital at Amgaon (Orissa)

Resolved to invite Schevester Ursula vonlingen of the Gossner Mission Society, Berlin, to join the staff of the mission Hospital at Amgaon in Orissa. The Gossner Mission Society be requested to arrange for her sending out to India.

(d) Industrial expert for the Gossner church:

Noted that Mr. N.E. Horo proposed to the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society for the sending out to India in the Gossner Church of an industrial expert.

The Kuratorium suggested submission of a detailed plan in respect of the Economic Development plan of the Church and assured to find out a suitable man in this connexion.

(e) Noted that the Kuratorium /Gossner Mission Society, would like to invite an Indian Pastor in place of Rev. Hanuk Minz, and two Theological Students after Messrs Bage and Surin return from Germany.

(f) President Tiga informed the House that Director Dr. M. Porkson of the Schleswig-Holstein Mission Society, introduced Pastor John Gaus, an American who wants to come out to India as a missionary. Resolved that correspondence be made with Director Dr. M. Porkson suggesting to him that if Pastor John Gaus wants to come out to India he should do so through the Gossner Mission Society.

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam.

Ref: No. 2764 /56.

G.E.L.Church Compound,
Ranchi (Bihar) India.
The 20th December, 1956.

From Secretary-Mr.N.E.Horo, B.A.,

To

Dr.Arne Sovik,
Assistant Director DWM/LWF,
17, Route de Malagnau,
Geneva.

Dear Bro Sovik,

I have received your letter of Nov:6, 1956 but could not send you a reply earlier firstly because of several engagements and secondly because things here in our church ^{were} moving so rapidly that I thought it ~~is~~ was improper for me to comment on the situation at that stage.

By the time this letter reaches, you will have received an official communication from the G.E.L.C.Executive officers on the present situation.. You will find some strong words in our resolution but that is not, ^{with} a view to condemning any outside body - but a frank expression of the mind of the Executive.

Personally I had had a long discussion with Rev.J.Lakra for two days for hours together and offered him alternatives for solving the present trouble but he never came back with his reply though he repeatedly promised me to do so. Even after that we called him and his groups-18 of them on 7th December 1956 to the Executive. They came and the Executive pleaded with them to put forth their ^{grievances} ~~grievances~~ or anything they wanted to say towards solution. ~~Indeed~~ ^{Instead} of doing so they wanted recognition outright and they said that there is a ~~prob~~ parallel organisation in the Church and that their's is a mass movement and they have every right to declare themselves into a Zone. They refused to give their grievances and then unceremoniously walked out including Lakra. We have tried to hear them several times and that is what the FELC(I) wanted. We took the initiative and invited them, they came but refused to avail themselves of the opportunity.

They have now adopted a method of violence. On 5th December they prevented the Professors from taking classes in the Theological Seminary. Lakra's men stood on the doors of the classes with sticks in their hands. On 9th instant there was an apprehension of the breach of peace just after the service. The police had to intervene and now the matter has gone to the Court. They are threatening our workers in the rural congregations with dire consequences. The trouble started with J.Lakra on his personal grievance and it has now taken a turn on communal lines. That is how the matter stands.

We have tentatively fixed 25th-28th March 1957 for our next Mahasabha. The Church Council will meet from 21st-23rd March '57. I think that you will be able to be here with us during those days. I extend you an invitation on behalf of the Gossner Church to visit our church field and the Mahasabha.

With greetings to you and DWM family.

Yours sincerely,

Horo 20/12/56
Secretary,
G.E.L.Church, Ranchi.

Mr. Chairman and dear brothers.

I bring you many greetings from the Church Council of the Gossner Church and from the Indian and missionary friends from Chotanagpur and Assam. It is a privilege to me to be able to attend this session of the Kuratorium of the Gossner-Mission Society. Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to thank the Kuratorium for inviting me to visit Europe and making it possible for me to see several congregations and institutions in this country. I have learned many things and am going back to my country with many experiences.

Let us thank God for the life and mission of the Gossner-Mission Society and the Gossner-Church. God has abundantly blessed the works of these two bodies in the past and may He guide and direct them for His glory in the days to come. The bond of Christian love that binds these two bodies may grow stronger and stronger, so that they are able to fulfill their common missionary obligations.

It would not be out of place to mention here that since past several years situation in India in general has undergone a great change and is still changing. The Gossner Church has found herself surrounded by various problems and responsibilities. It necessitates, therefore, that we recognize this fact in our relationships with each other and seek out, that which is in conformity with God's will. Under the present circumstances it should be our look out that we understand each other properly, with sympathy and patience. We are pretty, well aware of the confusing reports from India but that should not disturb us. Let us face problems with confidence and with christian patience.

I would like to discuss certain important matters of mutual concern and would try to give my opinion and plans about them keeping in view the situation in the Gossner Church and in due respect to the mind of the Church Council. My remarks in this session of the Kuratorium, and may be, some points of agreements and understanding reached upon between us here in this house will be subject to the ratification and approval of the Gossner Church Council.

Missionaries

I thank the Kuratorium, on behalf of the Gossner Church, for securing the good services of Brother Bischoff and his family, who are sailing to India, next month. We welcome them to India and to our Church and assure Bro. Bischoff all cooperation and wish him all success in his missionary task. I wish him and his family a bon-voyage to India. Bro. Borutta is doing a fine job in the Joint Mission Field and in the Church, so also the three sisters Diller, Schmidt and Ilse Martin are doing good works in their respective fields. I also thank the Kuratorium for the good services of Bro. Schultz in the Theological College. We had ~~we~~ wished that he stayed there for some time more. It was very unfortunate that he found himself uncomfortable for some time due to unwelcome incidents in the Church. I wish that personal disappointments do not mar the relationship between us.

It is a bit surprising to me that the older missionaries like Bro. Borutta and sisters Diller and Schmidt are all planning to return back home in 1958. We wish that they could stay until such time when proper arrangements could be made in respect of their works. If, however, they cannot stay any longer, then I would suggest to the Church Council to invite a male missionary to take up Bro. Borutta's work and one lady missionary to help us in the Tabita School. It seems to me that the two Indian ladies now receiving training in this country would not be able to return back to India earlier and take up Tabita school work before sisters Diller and Schmidt leave India. The Church Council would make suitable arrangements for the Tabita school even when the two ladies leave India. It was the intention that trained Indian ladies take up the responsibility of this school, and it would be advisable that the lady missionary who comes to India assists and cooperates in the efficient running of this young institution. As far as I remember, the Church Council has invited a theologian to assist us in the Theological College. If one can get the permit and come to join this college, we would be much thankful. Considering the difficulties in securing entry-permit for a foreign missionary I would suggest to the Kuratorium and to the Church Council that the missionary for the college be invited as a language teacher i.e. who could teach Hebrew,

Greek, Latin and German. Perhaps we could convince the Indian Government that the college needs a language expert, which is a necessity too for general theological study and researchwork.

Joint Mission Board.

Much work has to be done in the Joint Mission Field. The hospital at Amgaon is an important item of work. Considering the important role this institute will have to play in future in the boarder districts of Orissa and Bihar, and taking in to consideration the necessity of the social and medical work in the aress covered by the church, I would suggest the following : that this hospital be developed gradually into a training centre for future social and medical workers. There is already an opinion in the Church to open health centres and maternity homes in different parishes of the Church. This will be in keeping with the national extension service of the Indian Government now being done during the 2nd Five Year Plan. It would be advisable that, as far as practicable, Indian medical men and women be encouraged to cooperate in this social and medical task of the Church. The church would, therefore, very much like to send medical men and women for further training in foreign countries.

Economic development plan.

Finance is one of the main problems of the church. The church is thinking as how best to improve the economic condition of the church and the people by utilising the landed properties of the church and by training the people in agricultural and small scale industrial methods. A committee already appointed by the Church Council is making efforts to this direction with the help of the National Christian Council of India. I would suggest to the Church that she invites, if possible, an expert from the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society, who could help and advise us in this direction.

Foreign Education.

I would thank the Kuratorium on behalf of the Gossner Church for arranging for the training of Bros. Bage and Surin and sisters P.Khess and D.Hemrom. I have appreciated the manner in which all these persons are being trained here in this country. I would ask the Church Council, if the Kuratorium agrees, to

to consider whether more students in future could be sent to this country to study theology, engineering, medicine and other subjects according to the need of the Church in India.

Deputation work of Pastor Minz

The Gossner Church is grateful to the Kuratorium for inviting Pastor Minz and his wife for deputation work in Germany. If the Kuratorium feels that such deputation work by Indians in this country would be of much benefit to the Gossner Mission Society, then I would be able to place this subject for the consideration of the Church Council so that proper men could be found out and prepared for this task before they come there.

Recent disturbances in the Gossner Church.

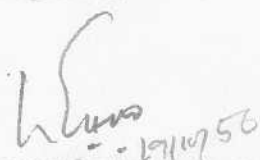
The recent disturbances within the Church at Ranchi are foremost in our minds. Many letters to our friends in this country have come from several individuals in India and they sometimes give confusing picture of the situation. I would try to give you the correct assessment of this situation. A certain aggrieved persons have proposed to rearrange the administrative set-up of the Church by dividing it into two zones, each with a Church Council. i.e. North Zone and South Zone. They went ~~xxx~~ so far as to announce the North Zone with a church council on 15th August 1956. The step taken by these people is not in conformity with the constitution of the constitutional matters affecting the whole church are to be decided by the Mahasabha. The Church Council as the executive committee of the Mahasabha is the proper body to which such matters are to be referred first. All these procedures have not been undergone in this case. These people have tried to take the law into their own hands and are trying to force their point of view by argumentum ad baculum. A couple of people cannot decide a matter affecting the whole church. The Church Council has taken up steps to bring peace and accord within the church. It has appointed a commission to hear the ~~xxx~~ grievances of the aggrieved people.

A question may be asked : What is the reason behind this disturbances ?

I would say that petty personal matters are behind this. It is very easy for an aggrieved man to collect a few equally aggrieved people and create disturbances within the Church by giving it a communal colour. It is equally easy to believe a trouble-creator who speaks in a communal language. In this case, personal prejudices and quarrels are at the bottom and the action taken by the promoters of North Zone is not an honest one. The basis of regional arrangement in this case is communal. It would be disastrous and unchristian like if we divide ourselves into communal compartments.

The dissenters in this case have been trying to obtain recognition by the Federation of Lutheran Churches in India, the Lutheran World Federation and other bodies, they are sending out letters and memoranda. A good many leaders outside the Gossner Church are already thinking whether to intervene or advise in this situation. A similar situation was created last year when the Church council had to say that the trouble ought to be decided within the church by the people themselves. The Church Council then abided by it and it had settled the dispute within the Church though it was widely said that the IELC (India) had sent a commission which settled the dispute. I would, therefore, advise that no society should enter into any discussion with the Church Council or the dissenters in this case too, unless the Church Council asks for it. The legal authority of the Church Council should be respected and that would help the Church in settling this disturbance. Prayer is the best arbitrator of all differences, the best promoter of true friendships, the best cure for envy and jealousy and I would plead with any body for it.

This much I have to say, Mr. Chairman, by way of my report.
Thank you very much.


Secretary,
G.E.L. Church in Chotanagpur
and Assam.
On tour in Germany.

An address given to the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society, Berlin-Friedenau by Mr. N.E. Horo, Secretary G.E.L. Church, Ranchi in the meeting of the Kuratorium in Gossner Haus, Berlin, on 19/10/1956

Mr. Chairman and dear brothers,

I bring you many greetings from the Church Council of the Gossner-Church and from the Indian and missionary friends from Chota Nagpur and Assam. It is a privilege to me to be able to attend this session of the Kuratorium of the Gossner-Mission Society. Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to thank the Kuratorium for inviting me to visit Europe and making it possible for me to see several congregations and institutions in this country. I have learned many things and am going back to my country with many experiences.

Let us thank God for the life and mission of the Gossner-Mission Society and the Gossner-Church. God has abundantly blessed the works of these two bodies in the past and may He guide and direct them for His glory in the days to come. The bond of Christian love that binds these two bodies may grow stronger and stronger, so that they are able to fulfill their common missionary obligations.

It would not be ^{out of} ~~only~~ place to mention here that since past several years situation in India in general has undergone a great change and is still changing. The Gossner Church has found herself surrounded by various problems and responsibilities. It necessitates, therefore, that we recognize this fact in our relationships with each other and seek only that which is in conformity with God's will. Under the present circumstances it should be our look out that we understand each other properly, with sympathy and patience. We are pretty well aware of the confusing reports from India but that should not disturb us. Let us face problems with confidence and with christian patience.

I would like to discuss certain important matters of mutual concern and would try to give my opinion and plans about them keeping in view the situation ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ the Gossner Church and in due respect to the mind of the Church Council. My remarks in this session of the Kuratorium, and may be, some points of agreements and understanding reached upon between us here in this house will be subject to the ratification and approval of the Gossner Church Council.

Missionaries

I thank the Kuratorium, on behalf of the Gossner Church, for securing the good services of Brother Bischoff and his family, who are sailing to India next month. We welcome them to India and to our Church and assure Bro. Bischoff all cooperation and wish him all success in his missionary task. I wish him and his family a bon-voyage to India. Bro. Borutta is doing a fine job in the Joint Mission Field and in the church, so also the three sisters Diller, Schmidt and Ilse Martin are doing good works in their respective fields. I also thank the Kuratorium for the good services of Bro. Schultz in the Theological College. We had wished that he stayed there for some time more. It was very unfortunate that he found himself uncomfortable for some time due to unwelcome incidents in the church. I wish that personal disappointments do not mar the relationship between us.

It is a bit surprising to me that the older missionaries like Bro. Borutta and sisters Diller and Schmidt are all planning to return back home in 1958. We wish that they could stay until such time when proper arrangements could be made in respect of their works. If, however, they cannot stay any longer, then I would suggest to the Church Council to invite a male missionary to take up Bro. Borutta's work and one lady missionary to help us in the Tabita school. It seems to me that the two Indian ladies now receiving training in this country would not be able to return back to India earlier and take up Tabita school work before sisters Diller and Schmidt leave India. The Church Council would make suitable arrangements for the Tabita school even when the two ladies leave India. It was the intention that trained Indian ladies take up the responsibility of this school, and it would be advisable that the lady missionary who comes to India assists and cooperates in the efficient running of this young institution. As far as I remember, the Church Council has invited a theologian to assist us in the Theological College. If one can get the permit and come to join this college, we would be much thankful. Considering the difficulties in securing entry-permit for a foreign missionary I would suggest to the Kuratorium and to the Church Council that the missionary for the college be invited as a language teacher i.e. who could teach Hebrew, Greek, Latin and German. Perhaps we could convince the Indian government that the college needs a language expert, which is a necessity too for general theological study and researchwork.

Joint Mission Board

Much work has to be done in the Joint Mission Field. The hospital at Amgaon is an important item of work. Considering the important role this institute will have to play in future in the boarder districts of Orissa and Bihar, and taking in to consideration the necessity of the social and medical work in the areas covered by the church, I would suggest the following: that this hospital be developed gradually into a training centre for future social and medical workers. There is already an opinion in the church to open health centres and maternity homes in different parishes of the church. This will be in keeping with the national extension service of the Indian Government now being done during the 2nd Five Years Plan. It would be advisable that, as far as practicable, Indian medical men and women be encouraged to cooperate in this social and medical task of the church. The church would, therefore, very much like to send medical men and women for further training in foreign countries.

Economic development plan

Finance is one of the main problems of the church. The church is thinking as how best to improve the economic condition of the church and the people by utilising the landed properties of the church and by training the people in agricultural and small scale industrial methods. A committee already appointed by the Church Council is making efforts to this direction with the help of the National Christian Council of India. I would suggest to the Church that she invites, if possible, an expert from the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society, who could help and advise us in this direction.

Foreign Education

I would thank the Kuratorium on behalf of the Gossner Church for arranging for the training of Bros. Bage and Surin and sisters P. Khess and D. Hemrom. I have appreciated the manner in which all these persons are being trained here in this country. I would ask the Church Council, if the Kuratorium agrees, to consider whether more students in future could be sent to this country to study theology, engineering, medicine and other subjects according to the need of the Church in India.

Deputation work of Pastor Minz

The Gossner Church is grateful to the Kuratorium for inviting Pastor Minz and his wife for deputation work in Germany. If the Kuratorium feels that such deputation work by Indians in this country would be of much benefit to the Gossner Mission Society, then I would be able to place this subject for the consideration of the Church Council so that proper men could be found out and prepared for ~~this task~~ this task before they come here.

Recent disturbances in the Gossner Church

The recent disturbances within the Church at Ranchi are foremost in our minds. Many letters to our friends in this country have come from several individuals in India and they sometimes give confusing picture of the situation. I would try to give you the correct assessment of this situation. A certain aggrieved persons have proposed to rearrange the administrative set-up of the church by dividing it into two zones, each with a Church Council, i.e. North~~ern~~ Zone and South Zone. They went so far as to announce the North Zone with a church council on 15th August 1956. The step taken by these people is not in conformity with the constitution of the church and is in direct opposition to the Church Council. All constitutional matters affecting the whole church are to be decided by the Mahasabha. The Church Council as the executive committee of the Mahasabha is the proper body to which such matters are to be referred first. All these procedures have not been undergone in this case. These people have tried to take the law into their own hands and are trying to force their point of view by argumentum ad baculum. A couple of people cannot decide a matter affecting the whole church. The Church Council has taken up steps to bring peace and accord within the church. It has appointed a commission to hear the grievances of the aggrieved people.

A question may be asked: What is the reason behind this disturbance? I would say that petty personal matters are behind this. It is very easy for an aggrieved man to collect a few equally aggrieved people and create disturbances within the Church by giving it a communal colour. It is equally easy to believe a trouble-maker who speaks in a communal language. In this case, ~~xxx~~ personal prejudices and quarrels are at the bottom and the action taken by the promoters

of North Zone is not an honest one. The basis of regional arrangement in this case is communal. It would be disastrous and unchristian like if we divide ourselves into comunal compartments.

The dissenters in this case have been trying to obtain recognition by the Federation of Lutheran Churches in India, the Lutheran World Federation and other bodies, they are sending out letters and memoranda. A good many leaders outside the Gossner Church are already thinking whether to intervene or advise in this situation. A similar situation was created last year when the Church Council had to say that the trouble ought to be decided within the church by the people themselves. The Church Council then abided by it and it had settled the dispute within the church though it was widely said that the IELC (India) had sent a commission which settled the dispute. I would, therefore, advise that no society should enter into any discussion with the Church Council or the dissenters in this case too, unless the Church Council asks for it. The legal authority of the Church Council should be respected and that would help the Church in settling this disturbance. Prayer is the best arbitrator of all differences, the best promoter of true friendships, the best cure for ~~xxx~~ envy and jealousy and I would plead with anybody for it.

This much I have to say, Mr. Chairman, by way of my report. Thank you very much.

L. E. L. 19/1/56
Secretary
G. E. L. Church in Chotanagpur
and Assam
On tour in Germany.

F r a g e b o g e n

zur Besprechung mit Bruder Horo. Welche Gedanken, Vorschläge oder
Fragen hat Bruder Horo :

- 1.) für die Ausbildung von Daisy
H e m r o m und Parakleta
K h e s s ?
- 2.) zur Ausbildung von weiteren
jungen Mädchen in Deutschland ?
- 3.) zur Frage unserer Einladung
von weiteren Studenten zum
Studium in Deutschland ?
- 4.) zur Frage unserer Einladung
an Mr. K a n d u l n a ?
- 5.) zur Verwendung von Hanukh
M i n z als Heimatar-
beiter der Gossner-Mission
in Deutschland ?
(Besondere Wünsche in dieser
Hinsicht seitens Br-Horo
und auch von Br.Minz?)
- 6.) Ausbildung und Aussendung von
Schwester Ulrike v. L i n g e n
- 7.) Anstellung eines indischen
Arztes und Ausbildung von
indischen Krankenschwestern
in Amgaon ?

- 8.) Was bedeutet es für die Kirche in Indien, wenn Br. Borutta sowie die Schwestern Anni DILLER und Hedwig SCHMIDT 1958 nach Deutschland zurückkehren ?
- 9.) Wie kann die Arbeit, die die deutschen Missionsgeschwister bisher getan haben, weiter fortgesetzt werden ?
- 10.) Wie steht es mit dem Plan einer landwirtschaftlichen Schule ?
Sollen wir dafür einen deutschen Experten schicken, oder wird ein indischer Student dafür in Indien vorbereitet ?
/Eben ist die Nachricht eingetroffen, daß die alte, sehr gute Schule für Kolonialwirtschaft in Deutschland wieder eröffnet worden ist. /
- 11.) Wiederaussendung von Missionaren und Missionsschwestern ?
(P. Peusch als Auslandspfarrer nach Rourkela, P. Kloss als Sprachlehrer nach Ranchi, evtl. einen sehr guten Theologen für das College in Ranchi und Br. Eckart als Nachfolger von Br. Borutta.)
- 12.) Kann, soll und darf das Kuratorium zu der Frage des Kirchenstreites in der Goßnerkirche etwas schreiben oder tun ?

besondere Frage : Wieviel Land ist der Goßnerkirche durch die Regierung genommen worden ?

Nachtrag zur Frage 3 :

Empfiehl es sich, begabte Studneten
auch in Indien ausbilden zu lassen -
mit Stipendien auch aus Deutschland ?

60 Hm =
Alkademie
1959-60
1958-59
1957-58
1956-57
1955-56
Hm

*This estimate was
prepared in the
request of Mr. N. E. Hood*

W. E. Hood

10/19/52

Bethel - Friedman

S U M M A R Y about the capital
investment required for the
establishment of a paper mill
with 1 paper machine having a
monthly output of about 300 tons:

1) EXTENT:

a) Buildings:

Paper machine building, building for power station,
buildings for stock preparation plant and other pre-
paratory departments, building for raw material stocks
and building for finished paper stocks, administration
building with offices etc.

Estimated cost: DM 1.300.000,--

b) Machines & equipment:

Paper machine proper: DM 3.500.000,--
Stock preparation: DM 1.500.000,--
Power station: DM 800.000,--
Finishing machines and other
equipment (Supercalender, cross-cutter): DM 1.200.000,--
Auxiliary equipment: DM 500.000,--

c) Transportation equipment & external
plant and works, water supply system
and water treatment plant: DM 800.000,--

2) Operating funds and sales organization:

Operating funds: DM 1.000.000,--
Commercial sales organization: DM 500.000,--

TOTAL: DM 11.100.000,--
=====

M. L. H. H. H.
Maschinenfabrik
Jane Brückner
Reutlingen
Oktober 1952

JOINT MISSION FIELD.

1. The areas for Joint Mission Field shall, for the present consist of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar and the adjoining territories with Chaibassa as their outpost, though Singbhum lies within the jurisdiction of the G.E.L.C.
 2. There shall be a joint board of control consisting of four members two elected by the G.E.L.C. and two by the Gossner Home Board, and the Joint Board shall have the right to elect its own President, Secretary and Treasurer for two years, alternating the first two positions between the G.E.L.C. members and the Gossner Home Board members. The Treasurer is responsible for the intake and expenditure of all subscription to this work.
 3. The Joint Board shall be the final body for all matters concerning the field and its work.
 4. The Board shall not be a registered body, but shall be incorporated in the G.E.L. Church.
 5. The G.E.L. Church and the Gossner Home Board shall have the right to replace either of their members any time they like.
 6. All workers, foreign and Indian in the Joint Mission Field shall be appointed, discharged, dismissed and transferred by the Joint Board.
 7. Workers, for the Joint Mission field shall be called by the Joint Board both from Germany and the G.E.L. Church. They shall be responsible to supply workers to the Joint Board.
 8. The Joint Board shall submit an annual budget estimate to the Church as well as to the Home Board. After this estimate has been approved from both sides the Church Council and the Home Board must agree as to the repartition of the costs.
 9. The scale of the G.E.L. Church shall apply to all workers supplied by the G.E.L. Church.
 10. The scale and furlough rules of the Gossner Home Board shall apply to the workers supplied by the Home Board.
 11. All the new converts shall form congregation affiliated with the G.E.L. Church Pracharakpans, Parishes, Illakas and Synods and care shall be taken that they become selfsupporting from the very beginning. Any help to such congregations shall be given by the joint Board through the G.E.L.C..
 12. Any new assets that may be acquired shall be vested in the name of the G.E.L.C. If a piece of property acquired by the Joint Board is to be sold the proceeds shall be made over to the Joint Board by the G.E.L.C. Treasury to enable the Joint Board to acquire other property for the Mission work.
 13. For inter-relationship between the Board and the G.E.L. Church the existing rules of membership in the G.E.L. Church shall be applied also to the foreign workers of the Joint Mission Field (Tentatively adopted subject, clarification in course of time.)
 14. This agreement has been reached between the Gossner Home Board and the Church Council in Ranchi. If a third party is to enter this can only be done with the consent of the two parties of the contract.
-

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL MISSIONARIES

(Passed by the G.E.L.C. Mahasabha 25-26th March 1954

and signed by representatives of the Gossner church and
the Gossner mission society, Berlin)

PREAMBLE

The Mahasabha of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran church in Chotangapur and Assam received with gratitude the declaration of the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society, dated 3.11.50 and the statement ~~xxxx~~ dated 3.11.50 which read as follows:-

- and -
"The Gossner Kuratorium is happy that the G.E.L.C. has become autonomous, that there is, therefore, no need for the missionaries to assume administrative responsibility, and that they will instruct their missionaries accordingly. The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society is convinced that in the present situation of the Autonomous Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church, it is no longer necessary or desirable to take charge missionaries with responsible administrative posts, and to give them a vote."

The Mahasabha of the G.E.L.Church offers the following terms of reference to the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society:-

TERMS OF REFERENCE.

(1) The relationship between the G.E.L.C. and the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society shall be that of Mother and Daughter
daughter and

(2) The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society will send Missionaries to work in the G.E.L.C. on the request of the G.E.L.C

(3) The Missionaries on the field will work as friends and helpers in the development of the G.E.L.C. for specific periods by personally accepting the terms of reference offered by the G.E.L.C. to the individual missionaries through the Kuratorium.

(4) The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society in ~~Christ~~ Christian love and charity shall undertake to support the missionaries on the Gossner field. The policy is to receive such help through the G.E.L.C. Treasury.

(5) All Missionaries shall be invited to attend the meetings of the Mahasabha. The men missionaries will be invited to attend the meetings of the Church Council, one by one, in rotation according to their alphabetical order. The missionaries will also be invited to attend the meetings of their respective synods. They shall be free to visit the congregations in any part of the Church and to attend the church meetings as they find it possible with information of the synod President.

(6) All missionaries working in the G.E.L.C. shall be regular members of the Gossner Church.

(7) All ordained missionaries shall be members of the Gossner Church Ministerium.

(8) Each missionary will be given a specific work in the Church such as evangelistic work among non-Christians, teaching in the Theological Seminary, production of Christian literature, help running of charitable institutions etc:

(9) The G.E.L.C. provides suitable accommodation for the missionaries working in the field.

(10) These Terms of Reference can be amended by the mutual consent of the bodies concerned.

Resolved that in view of the above mentioned offer of these Terms of Reference, any other Terms of Reference which may have been given to the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society are thus superseded by these terms.

sd/-Joel Lakra.
22/4/54.

President,

G.E.L.Church, Ranchi.

sd/ Dr. Moeller.

President Gossner Mission Society

Sd/-Z.Horo.

Treasurer,

G.E.L.Church, Ranchi.

sd/ Dr. Böhm

member

Sd/-N.E.Horo

21/4/54

Secretary,

G.E.L.Church, Ranchi.

sd/ J. Stosch

member

sd/ H. Lohies

Director, Gossner mission society

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft

Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 52050
Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, Dep.-K. 4
Berlin-Friedenau,
Konto-Nr. 7480

78

Berlin-Friedenau, am 30. Oktober 1956
Handjerystraße 19/20
Telefon: 830161

Mr. N.^E. Horo

Espelkamp-Mittwald
Mittelgang 7

Dear Brother Horo,

We have found a plane for you by which you can fly from Düsseldorf to Calcutta on 3rd November. I am sorry to say it does not land in Zürich, so you will not be able to go to Geneva. I regret that you will after all not be able to visit Dr. Sovik. I am, therefore, writing to him myself but I should like you to write to him from India or, if you should have enough time, before you leave Germany.

He actually has the intention to come to India in February or March and to visit the Gossner Church. Perhaps he might be able to attend the Mahasabha. That, of course, would have to be decided by the Church Council.

/ Enclosed you will find some photos. The names of the persons are written on the back.

Now let me express my thanks for your visit in the name of the Kuratorium, the Gossner-houses in Berlin and Mainz-Kastel, and in the name of the pastors and congregations which are connected to the Gossner-Mission.

God protect you on your homeward journey and bless your work in the Gossner Church. We know/difficult it will be for you during /how the coming months. But we want you to know that we should be constantly remembering you in our prayers.

/ We are especially grateful to you for your report in the Kuratorium's meeting. I have already written the Church Council at Ranchi about it and I am adding for your own use a copy of the letter to the C.C.

My wife, my children and little Matthias send you their love.

With many thanks yours very sincerely,

Hans Lohr

Enclosures

27th October 1956

To the acting Secretary
G.E.L.Church Council, Lutheran Compound
R a n c h i / Bihar - I n d i a

Dear Brethren,

at our meeting held in Berlin-Friedenau on October 18th, 1956, the Secretary of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church Council, Mr. N.E.HORO was present. We thank the Church Council for sending him, he represented Gossner's Church very well wherever he went. The Rev.Hanukh MINZ was also invited to Berlin for this meeting. He is successful in his Deputation Work, we highly appreciate his service. Mr.Horo suggested that the Rev.Hanukh Minz should be replaced by another Indian Pastor before his service in Germany comes to its end. Mr.Horo urged that he gave his private opinion in this matter as well as in his following suggestions, but he hoped the C.C. would endorse them.

As to the Successor of the Rev.G.SCHULTZ Mr.Horo moved that we should send a Language Expert, in other words a Theologian well trained in the ancient languages, in Latin, Greek, Hebrew as well as in German. We shall endeavour to find such a man, if officially asked by the Church Council.

Further Mr.Horo inquired, if the Kuratorium would send a Missionary to replace the Rev.H.BORUTTA in the Joint Mission Board and a sister for TABITA-School, when the Rev.Borutta and Sisters A.DILLER and H.SCHMIDT return to Germany for good. Mr.Horo also raised the question whether it would be possible to send a trained economist from Germany to advise the Church. We are awaiting the opinion of the Church Council on these questions.

You have probably learnt that the Rev.Dr.Arnd BISCHOFF with Mrs.Bischoff and their youngest child are on their way to India. Dr.Bischoff urged that for the development of medical work in the Amgaon aerea, a nurse trained in midwifery would be needed. The Kuratorium resolved to send a sister to England for this purpose. We trust the Church Council will consent.

As to report on the present situation in Chota Nagpur Mr.Horo gave us, we cannot help expressing our deep concern with the split menacing our Gossner Church. It is hard to understand that in the oecumenical era when the Churches tend towards Union, just our Gossner Church should be divided. We trust the Church Council will remain firm in disallowing any disintegration of our Lutheran Gossner Church.

Saying this we do not give our personal opinion but refer you to the Holy Scriptures as to the Judge in all matters of Christian doctrine and life. S.PAUL writes to the corinthians in his first Epistle Chapter 1 vers 10: "I appeal to you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. Each one of you say's : 'I belong to Paul' or 'I belong to Apollos' or 'I belong to Cephas' or 'I belong to Christ'. Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? And to the Ephesians Ch.4, v.3: "Be eager to maintain the unity of the

spirit in the bond of peace (Compare the version of our Hindi Bible, please.)

May God's Spirit guide you !

Let us pray for the Peace of the Church. -

In common Service of our Lord

The K u r a t o r i u m

gez.

Dr.Moeller

D.Dr. Böhm

J.Stosch

D.Hans Lokies

Reborn with
thanks
I should like to
have a copy of
this letter

19/9
President, G. E. L. Church,
Ranchi, Bihar, India.

Mr. K. Jacobs
Natural Cur
Napier

Dear Mr. Jacobs
Many th
dated the 31

Kuratorium
der
Gossnerschen Missionsgesellschaft

Berlin-Friedenau, 27th October 1956
Handjerystraße 19/20
Telefon 83 01 61

Kuratorium

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G.E.L.Church Council, Lutheran Compound

R a n c h i / Bihar - I n d i a

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spirit in the bond of peace (Compare the version of our Hindi Bible, please.)

May God's Spirit guide you!

Let us pray for the Peace of the Church. -

In common Service of our Lord

M. Weller *D. N. Köhn* *J. Stosch*
D. Hans Lotz

As to the successor of the Rev. Dr. SCHULTE Mr. Köhn moved that we should send a language expert, in other words a Theologian well trained in the ancient languages, in Latin, Greek, Hebrew as well as in German. We shall endeavour to find such a man, it is officially asked by the Church Council.

Further Mr. Köhn suggested, if the Kuratorium would send a Missionary to replace the Rev. Dr. SCHULTE in the Joint Mission Board and a sister for the Rev. Dr. Köhn, when the Rev. Dr. Köhn returns to Germany for good. Mr. Köhn also raised the question whether it would be possible to send a trained economist from Germany to advise the Church. We are awaiting the opinion of the Church Council on these questions.

For have probably learnt that the Rev. Dr. ARND BIRSCHOFF with Mrs. BIRSCHOFF and their youngest child are on their way to India. Dr. BIRSCHOFF urged that for the development of medical work in the Amazon basin, a nurse trained in midwifery would be needed. The Kuratorium resolved to send a sister to England for this purpose. We trust the Church Council will agree.

As to report on the present situation in China Mr. Köhn gave us, we cannot help expressing our deep concern with the tragic situation in the Chinese Church. It is hard to understand that in the ecclesiastical circles the Churches tend towards a union, just our German Church should be divided. We trust the Church Council will remain firm in disavowing any disintegration of our Lutheran German Church.

Saying this we do not give our personal opinion but refer you to the Holy Scriptures as to the Judge in all matters of Christian doctrine and life. I have written to the Kuratorium in his first Epistle Chapter I verse 10: 'I appeal to you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. Each one of you say: "I belong to Paul" or "I belong to Apollos" or "I belong to Cephas" or "I belong to Christ". Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? And to the Ephesians 4: v. 3: "Be eager to maintain the unity of the



Dr. phil. Johanna Walther

Berlin - Wilmsdorf
Mannsfelder Straße 30

Life Story

I, Johanna Elisabeth Walther, was born on the 12th April, 1929, the daughter of Landsurveyor Ottomar Walther, a civil servant, who at that time was a Secretary for Land Surveys, and his wife Erika Walther, née Jaensch, at Halle / Saale. In the year 1935 I entered a state elementary school in Halle. After having finished the normal four years at the elementary school I entered the Helene Lange Girls' High School in Halle, which in the senior classes specialised in domestic science. Therefore after four years I changed and in 1943 went to the August Hermann Franke Girls' High School, a school specialising in modern languages, as I wished to make these my subjects at the University. I remained at this school until I passed my 'Abitur' in the beginning of 1947. I missed one year at this school because I was forced to work in the 'Kriegshilfsdienst' and - after the end of the war - in a 'Landarbeitslager' (Army maintenance and landwork).

My applications to Universities in the Russian Zone of Germany were unsuccessful. Therefore I attended a 'Katechetischen Vierteljahreskursus' (Quarter Year Course for Religious Teaching) in Halle and then I taught at elementary schools in my native town. But I had only the opportunity of teaching for a few hours each day due to lack of accommodation and this was not sufficient to keep me occupied. So I worked for the rest of my time in an organisation which assisted soldiers and refugees (Bahnhofsmision Halle).

In the beginning of 1948 I immatriculated at the 'Kirchlichen Hochschule' in the Western Sector of Berlin. At that time it was not difficult to move from East Germany to West Berlin, although now it is not possible for me to return to the East. While in this school I did less Theology than Philosophy and Literature, therefore it was no decisive change, when in autumn 1948 I continued my studies in Philology with German as a main subject and English and Philosophy as minor subjects at the newly-established 'Freie Universität Berlin'. I remained there until I passed my 'Promotion' and 'Staatsexamen' (State Teachers' Examination) at the end of 1954.

Since January 1955 I have been teaching at the 'Evangelischen Gymnasium' in Berlin-Grünwald. While here I have been admitted to the 'Referendar-ausbildung', a Teachers' Training College, and attend it for two days every week, as is customary in our country.

(Naming my University subjects does not tell you enough about the true significance of my studies. I shall try to explain this: I was always struck by the wonders of spiritual manifestations and their variety all over the world. This it was that gave to my studies inner direction. At first I tried to find this wonder in religious and philosophical pursuits. Even in my literary studies I was not satisfied by restricting myself to the writings of England and Germany, but tried to see these in a wider relationship. The same search led me to investigate Geography and Ethnography early on in my course. My concentration upon the essence and distribution of the Indian religions brought me for the first time into close contact with this country and it interested me deeply. I learnt Sanskrit in order to be able to assess India's spiritual conditions from its own ancient literature, though the demands of my main subjects did not permit me sufficient time to pursue these studies to an extent that could satisfy me. But thanks to my attempts I gained a new insight into my major studies: from Sanskrit I learnt to regard linguistic phenomena as very important in the recognition of the spiritual development of mankind. With new impetus I undertook exact philological studies in my main subject, the Germanic languages, including Dutch and the ancient Scandinavian ones. Therefore the recognition of similar powers to be found in various languages and the studying of their manifestations in conjunction with the spiritual peculiarities of certain nations became the subject of the dissertation for my Doctorate.

I need not stress the fact that the limitations imposed by the writing of my dissertation did not quench my enthusiasm for the subject in its widest sense. Now I am anxious to return from my long concentration upon the spiritual issues of Germanic peoples to their source, which I believe is to

be found in Indian ideology. I feel this could not be better done than in direct contact with Indian people and their ways of life.

The privileged position of lecturer would afford me unique opportunities of making social contacts with students, something I should greatly value, because I have found during my experience while teaching senior classes in the 'Evangelischen Gymnasium' that this close contact with my pupils is my happiest method for instructing young persons. This should continue the social experiments made with people of my own age while in residence at a students' hostel, where I resided throughout the whole period of my studies. In these surroundings my interests in music and drama matured. I also lived in a students' hostel in Holland, the 'Zendings Hoge School Oegstgeest' near Leiden, for three months and enjoyed my social contacts there in the same way.

I am particularly anxious to be appointed to the University of Calcutta, since I possess friends, both German and Indian, who are living in that city and would help me to settle down and to solve any difficulties that might arise in a new country.)

P.s. 24. Juli 1954

I am still concerned with teaching at the "Evangelischen Gymnasium" and hope to pass my examination of the Teacher's Training College (Pädagogische Prüfung für den Lehramt an Oberschulen Wissenschaftlichen Zweiges) at the end of this year.

Dr. Johanna Malther
Bismarckstr.
Mannsfeld Str. 30



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KURATORIUM INTENDS TO SEND LOKIES TO RANCHI IMMDTLY AFTER

RAINSEASON PLEASE CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS LETTER FOLLOWING=

KURATORIUM GOSSNERMISSION=

N. B—The name of the sender, if telegraphed, should be written after, but sepatated from the text

N. E. HORO
SECRETARY.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL OF THE G. E. L. CHURCH
RANCHI, BIHAR.

No. 2763/56

Dated Ranchi, the Dec. 1956.

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau 19/20,
West - Germany.

Dear Brother Lokies,

Thank you for yours of December 14. I am not yet through my pending work that delayed my communicating to you.

I am enclosing an extract from the minutes of the Church Council Executive. The Church Council invites Bros. Eckart & Kloss with their families and Sister Ursula von Lingen and another lady for the Tabitha School to come to The Gossner Church on usual terms and conditions.

We are looking forward to welcoming all these brothers and sisters whom we invite to our Church. We will be welcoming Dr. Bischof and family next month.

I shall be writing you soon on this situation here and about other matters.

Accept my good wishes to you, your dear wife and other members of the Gossner family. Also please convey my Christmas greetings to all the Congregations which I visited in Germany.

Yours Sincerely,

H. E. L. Church
Secretary,
G. E. L. Church,
RANCHI.

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft
Berlin-Friedenau
Hamburgerstraße 19/20

Berlin-Friedenau, 14th December, 56
Lo/Su. Me.

Mr. N.E. H o r o , Secretary
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council of the G.E.L. Church

R a n c h i / Bihar
I n d i a

Dear Brother Horo,

Many thanks for the letter you wrote me on your arrival in India.
I am glad that your flight back was not interrupted or troubled.

I can imagine how much work you found waiting for you in Ranchi and that you have had no respite since then. Above all you will have had a lot to do with the meeting of the Church Council at the beginning of December. Brother Borutta wrote us about it. I hope you were content with the meeting and I would be glad if you would soon send me a report of it.

Dr. Bischoff sailed from Genoa on the 17th November on the German freighter "Lindenfels" of the Hansa-Line, Bremen. He could not traverse the Suez-Canal, so he must sail around South-Africa and, of course, his arrival in India will be delayed. He will be in Colombo at the end of this month and the ship will be due in Calcutta about the middle of February. Dr. Bischoff will inform you and Brother Borutta. Please, pass on this information to President Tiga.

We remember you and your wife and children in love and prayers for Christmas and the New Year. May God give the church back its peace which has been taken from it, and may He give you strength and willingness to make peace between the parties. May you and we together with glad heart and clear conscience join in the prayer of the angels: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace among men in whom he is well pleased."

With good wishes in the fellowship of the Lord,

Yours sincerely,

Hans Lohrke

78
N. E. HORO
SECRETARY.

NO. 2048/56.

Answer
GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL OF THE G. E. L. CHURCH
RANCHI, BIHAR.

The 14th June, 1956.

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau,
Handjerystrasse 19/20.
GERMANY.

Dear Brother Lokies,

I am in receipt of your letter of May 28, 1956 for which please accept my thanks. Much delay has been made here in forwarding my application for a Passport to the Regional Passport Office at Calcutta. Only yesterday I had interviewed the new Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi who has promised to recommend my application. Certain interested persons here had filed two objections with the Deputy Commissioner, Ranchi against my being granted a Passport. There is no objection from Government side. This has put me to much inconvenience as without a Passport I could not confirm my accepting an accommodation in the P.O. line ship "STRATHAIRD" which leaves Bombay on July 17, 1956 reaches Marseilles on July 29. I am hoping to get ~~my~~ my Passport within this month and if everything is alright, I will sail by the above ship on 17th July.

Bro. Borutta will be coming to Ranchi shortly and then we shall settle things about my journey expenses.

Kindest regards to your wife and your goodself.

Yours sincerely,

N. E. Horo 14/6/56
Secretary,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

June 14, 1956

Dr. H. Lokio,

Director,

German-Berlin Mission Society

Berlin-Friedenau 19/20

Hindenburgstr. - 19/20

Germany

78

Dear Brother Lokio,

I am in receipt of your letter of May 28, 1956 for which ^{please} accept my thanks. Much delay has been made ^{here} in forwarding my application for a Passport to the Regional Passport office at Calcutta. Only yesterday I had interviewed the new Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi who has promised ~~me~~ to recommend ^{my} application. Certain interested persons, had filed two objections with the Deputy Commissioner, Ranchi against my being granted a Passport. There is no objection from Government side. This has put me to much inconvenience & without a Passport I could not confirm my accepting an accommodation in the P.O. line ship "STRATHAIRD" which leaves Bombay on July 17, 1956 & reaches ~~the~~ Marseilles on July 29. I am hoping to get my Passport within this month and if everything is alright, I will sail by the above ship on 17th July.

Bro. Boontha will be coming to Ranchi shortly and then ~~we shall~~ we shall settle things about my journey expenses.

Looking forward to meeting you
att. Kindest regards to your wife and

Your good self

Yours faithfully

MR. 14/6

The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam

Mission Estd. 1845—Autonomous 1919.

President :— Rev. J. Lakra M.A., B.D., S.T.M.

G.E.L. CHURCH COMPOUND
RANCHI, BIHAR, INDIA.

Ref. No

Dated, the 28th July, 1949.
1-8-49

My dear Dr. Wood,

Many thanks for your letter dated 28-6-49 regarding direct payment to Missionaries.

Your points :—

agreed

1. Whether the Missionaries have to be paid through the Church. On this point I would say 'Yes', for they have agreed to work under the constitution and rules of the Church. And certainly even now, if any Missionary is unwilling to remain under the rules of the Church, he at his will can leave the field. I have shown you the rule and all Missionaries working here are aware of the rule.

2. Whether the Federation has agreed. To this also I would say 'Yes', for the Federation has pledged itself to respect, protect and develop the autonomy of the Church by setting up an Advisory Board for seven years from the inception of Autonomy July 10, 1948. Rev. Rupley being the first representative of the Federation.

Further Mr. Z. Hore pointed out the rule at the Federation meeting of 1946, just when the German Missionaries had returned from the camp and the Federation observed the rule till recently when some German Missionary wrote to the Federation Treasurer.

in payment

If there is delay, let us find out some other way which will expedite the payment, rather than going into the rules and breaking them which the Church has adopted. Such things create unpleasantness in the Church and it tells upon the good relationship between the Church and Missionaries which we desire to keep intact.

With kind regards.

Yours very sincerely,

G.C.

to Rev. H. W. Mayer,
Renigunta.

Presidt. G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

to Dr. R. B. Manikam.

V to Secy. C.C. Ranchi.

No.

473/49
1-8-49

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjergstraße 19/20

hr. 56

File - 78.

Berlin-Friedenau, den 28. Mai 1956
Lo/Me.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
of Chotanagpur & Assam
c/o Secretary Mr. N. E. H o r o

R a n c h i / Bihar
I n d i a

Dear Brother Horo:

thank you ever so much for your letter of May 8th, 1956. We have noted that your boat will leave Bombay on July 8th and arrive in Genua on July 22nd. Your journey will then really lead you first to Mainz-Kastel. Brother Symanowski will receive you there. We shall send you a travelling and working programme in good time so that you may think it over on your way here. We will, however, see to some rests for you from time to time so that you shall not be overstrained.

One fact is sure, i. e. that you will take part in the meeting of the Lutheran World Council which will take place in Hurdals Verk, Norway, from the 9th till 15th of August. Dr. Birkeli agrees to your partaking of the meeting. There you will have the occasion of reprting about the Gossner Church, its work and situation, and of explaining the basis of the motion put by the Gossner Church in detail. And this, I think, is particularly important.

As to everything else till later. Your travelling costs will be handed to you by Brother Borutta. Don't forget to mention to him your fare as far as Mainz-Kastel and the necessary amount you need on board so that you don't get into difficulties on your way.

And now let me tell you that I have to greet you heartily for the Kuratorium. We all look forward to your coming and pray of God that He may bless your journey for the benefit of the Gossner Church.

Kindest regards to your dear wife, President Tiga and his family as well as the treasurer, your cooperator and name mate.

We prayingly think of you.

Yours faithfully,

Hans Lotens

of c GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Council Office.
Ranchi the 30 May, 1956. 578

Memo No 1762-63/54 dated, Ranchi the 30 th May, 1956.

The undermentioned document is forwarded to the President/Treasurer, G.E.L.Church, Ranchi for information and needful.

Hum 20/5
Secretary G.E.L.Church,
Ranchi.

(An extract from the minutes of the full church council meeting held at Ranchi on 20.4.55 & 24.4.55)

RESOLUTION : 51/55 (a) to (h)

- (a) Mr. Saban Surin's further theological training in Germany:
We RESOLVE to accept the proposal of the Kuratorium in forwarding Mr. Saban Surin for further theological training in Germany and request her to make necessary arrangements according to her plan.
- (b) RESOLVED to select a qualified theological student for availing that scholarship which was formerly offered to Mr. Saban Surin for study in America.
- (c) We heartily accept the offer of the Kuratorium to train up two technical students in Germany. Further we undertake to select two such students who will receive their training in Germany and in spare time will be introduced to non-clerical work so that in future they prove useful to the church at large.
- (d) The question of sending Miss/Khess be settled up in this sitting of the church council.
- (e) Mr. P.D.Kandulna's deputation to Germany :
The Kuratorium very kindly reminds that her invitation to Mr. P.D.Kandulna to come to Germany for one year still stands.
This fact was noted. Mr. P.D.Kandulna is ready to accept this invitation. Further consideration in this respect is postponed for the time being.
- (f) The Kuratorium suggests that Mr. Marsallan Bage and Mr Saban Surin should further stay in Germany for qualifying themselves by securing German degrees.
It was RESOLVED to agree to the Kuratorium's proposals in respect of Messrs Marsallan Bage and Saban Surin's further training in Germany.
- (g) Union of Gossner-Ebenezar Church :
The Church Council is thankful to the Kuratorium for the very encouraging words she expresses regarding our effort for bringing about a union of the Gossner and Ebenezar churches.
- (h) A German doctor for Amgaon hospital :
The Kuratorium informs ~~xxxx~~ of her intention to send out one Dr. Bartsch for the Amgaon hospital.
It was RESOLVED to invite Dr. Bartsch for the Amgaon hospital

RESOLUTION 67/55

~~xxx~~

x

x

x

x

(v) Pastor Kloss :

RESOLVED to invite Pastor Kloss to the Gossner field.

Letters to :

Dr. Lohies

Dr. Schultz + Symanowski

Bro. Baoutta

Mr. Bage + Swin

Hanukh / Martin Tate / Normal Ming

Rev. M. Steurom

Sebeyan / Ch. Terry / Rev. S. Hoo

L. Toporo, P.D. Kandulna, D. Steurom

C.B. Hing, Rev. Laksa

Z. Khalkha (Cous), N. Bhuniga.

Income Taxpayers -

Issue letters — Appointment of ce. members 1954-61
— delegates for 1957 mahasabha

Statistics — Preparation of chart: allotment of members.
— To be sent to Secy / Kuratorium / Ebenezer church,

Preparation of report — Submission to FELC
for SWP/CWM, Secy / Kuratorium

Records

— Systematic filing of letters - Collection
of records and keeping them.

Pastor Hermann Kloss ✓
~~Pastor Eberhard Pensch~~ (unmarried)

Boon — 21. 6. 1925 in Danzig

Serving in 1955 in the Church of Hessen in Frankfurt.

He had studied Oriental languages and ethnology & later on studied theology.

He studied in the theological Seminary in Neuendettelsau within the Bavarian Church and then at the University of Erlangen, which trains theologians for Bavarian church.

In 1951 he passed his first theological exam.

He is now closely connected with the Gossner mission and his aim is to serve the Gossner church in India.

1954 - he passed his 2nd theological exam.

He is ready to accept the Terms of Reference

Pastor Eberhard Pensch (married)
his wife.

26/5/56
The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam

Mission Estd. 1845 — Autonomous 1919.

File - 78

President:—Rev. J. J. P. Tiga. M.A., B.D., S.T.M.

G. E. L. CHURCH COMPOUND
RANCHI BIHAR INDIA.

Ref No. 7

Dated the 25th May, 1956.

Dear friends,

Please find enclosed copy of a letter from Dr. Lokies dated 19th May 1956 sent to you for your information and necessary action. I shall be happy to hear from you on the matters related to you at your earliest convenience in order that I can send a suitable reply to Dr. Lokies. I think the Church Council has taken on action asking the Gossner Mission to send a substitute for Dr. Schultz. The Secretary may kindly let me have a resolution in this connection if there is such a resolution.

Thanks.

Yours sincerely,

J. J. P. Tiga
President,

G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

No. 180/56.

✓ Mr. A. E. Horro
Secy G.E.L.C.
DT.

Dear Brother Tiga,

Today I am going to answer your letter of March 19th, 1956 and reply to the Church Council decisions of the 29th of February 1956 communicated to us by Mr. N. E. Horo, Secretary to the Gossner Church. The Kuratorium of the Gossner Church in its meeting of the first of May, considered both writings in following way :-

(1) The Kuratorium enjoys the C.C. approves of our inviting Mr. N. E. Horo to come to Germany in order to get to know Church Life here and first of all to see the Mission groups and parishes that have prayed and worked for the Gossner Church in India for more than a hundred years. We would appreciate if Mr. Horo could let us know which boat he will take and when he will arrive here. We asked Rev. Borutta to hand in the money necessary for the voyage.

(2) The Kuratorium welcomes Dr. Bischoff being elected into the Joint Mission Board (instead of Dr. Schultz) and thanks the Church ^{Council} ~~Council~~ for the confidence shown through this election.

(3) As to the question of FOURKELA the Kuratorium has not got a report from Rev. HUBNER-Hannover, representative of the Lutheran Church in Germany, with the following proposals:-

The Church Council is asked to take all measures necessary with the competent authorities so that the Gossner Church may remain the owner of the Purnapani Church Compound.

The Church Council is recommended to most quickly send the best pastor to Purnapani so as to bring there into being a centre of gathering all the Christians from among the Indian working people, technicians and engineers.

An Evangelical Church with parsonage and schoolhouse is provided to be built in the supramodern industry town growing up in the very vicinity of Purnapani. Rev. Hubner suggests to have the Evangelical Church in Germany send there a German parson who should look after the European Christians and work together with the Indian pastor in Purnapani. We are at present training through the German

Government to have the Indian Embassy in Bonn care for a travelling visa for Rourkela to the chosen German pastor. The Gossner Mission has proposed our missionary Dr. PEUSCH to be the German pastor for Rourkela. We therefore ask the Church Council to wait whether the steps the German Evangelical Church has taken with the Indian Government to get a travelling visa for Dr. Peusch will be successful. If not, we shall come back to the Church Council decision of February 29th 1956 and ask the Gossner Church to send an invitation to Dr. Peusch. As long as the negotiations between the Evang. Church in Germany and the Indian Government are going on we ask the Church Council not to take any measures in this matter. With your letter of March 19th 1956 you, dear Brother Tiga, asked to propose a successor for Dr. Schultz who, meanwhile, has returned to Germany. Please be so kind as to wait in this matter for the next Kuratorium meeting that will take place on the 12th of June. It also seems advisable that the desire of having a suitable missionary sent to the College of Ranchi should be uttered not only by you personally but also seconded officially by the Church Council.

I suppose the Kuratorium will suggest as the teacher for the College Rev. KLOSS who at present prepares Brother Bage and Brother Surin for their final examinations and who has special qualifications as a theological teacher. But in this question, too, I ask you to have still some more patience, as I need an official decision of the Kuratorium to make a final proposal.

(4) We heartily enjoy that the Church Council invited the representatives of the Churches of Ostfriesland and Westphalia to visit the Gossner Church in India. We think such visits from Church to Church are very important and thank the Church Council for the sacrifices the Gossner Church is ready to offer during the stay of the German guests. We shall hand these invitations over to the two German Churches in which there are many friends of the Gossner-Mission and the Gossner Church, hoping that this good idea will make the relationships between

the Church in Germany and the Gossner Church in India deeper and deeper. We shall continue reporting to the Church Council about the further development in this affair.

(5) The Kuratorium has noted that the Church Council intends to employ Brother Bage and Brother Surin first as teachers at the Theological College in Ranchi.

We heard from you that Bretheren Bage and Surin produced a motion to the Church Council saying that after finishing their studies for the service in India they would like to be ordained in Germany. We think it a sign of the two bretheren's personal gratitude to the German motherchurch, but consider the decision of the Church Council to achieve the ordination of the two brothers in the proper church as absolutely right.

(6) We are very glad to hear that Mr.KANDULNA has not given up the thought to follow our invitation to Germany. We have always maintained this invitation and left it to Mr.Kandulna when he will visit us. The invitation is meant for a whole year. During this time we shall try our best to let Mr.Kandulna see and study the management and administration of the German Church. First of all we desire to let him know the laymen's church work here in Germany.

As much as we should appreciate of Mr.Kandulna also took his family to Germany, we think the period of one year is too short as to support this plan. Mr.Kandulna will have to be much travelling about so as to take for his family a real advantage of the few months here. Should it however be a really strong desire of his we ask him to write once more to me personally.

(7) Following the suggestion of the Church Council the Kuratorium decided to invite seteng HAPADGARA and Bahalen Bage, the two teachers of Tabita-School, to come to Germany to get to know church work with girls and women. We give both the teachers the advice to start learning the German language as soon as possible.

Finally I want to tell the Church Council that owing to Pastor Symanowski's work in Mainz-Kastell in 17 ecumenical work-camps a new Gossnerhouse has been built on the Rhine. We ask all brothers and sisters of the Gossner Church coming to Germany to consider both the Berlin Mission House and the New mission compound in Mainz-Kastell as their home. In both the houses we pray for the Church Council and for the whole Gossner Church and its parishes, but first of all for the Mission work that is done in the Gossner Church.

I finish up my letter with hearty praying thoughts. We are just before Whitsuntide. May God give you and us His Holy Spirit, so that we are happy to preach His word and remain His obedient servants.

In the time from April 28th till May 1st a big Gossner meeting took place in Mainz-Kastell to inaugurate the new house. On this occasion the Kuratorium welcomed Dr. Schultz after his return from India thanking him for his time at Ranchi Theological College. Unfortunately Dr. Schultz will remain no longer with the Gossner Mission but take an important office within the German Evangelical Church.

With hearty brotherly greetings,

Yours

Sd/- D. Hans Lokies.

BB. Kujar.

1554/56

N.E.Horo,
Secretary.

Gossner Ev.Lutheran Church,
Ranchi, Bihar (India).

May 8, 1956.

11

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20.

Dear Brother Lokies :

Many thanks for your kind note of April 23, 1956. I am really thankful to you, to the Kuratorium and other German brethren for enabling me to plan for a journey to Europe. I have not yet been able to secure a Passport. It has naturally put me in to inconvenience for securing a passage. I have asked the Thomas Cook & Son to arrange a passage for me from Bombay to Genoa in the m.v. "Asia". They have registered my name with the steamship company. If all preliminaries are gone through I expect to sail by the above mentioned ship from Bombay on July 8 reaching Genoa on July 22. I do not know how many days it will take me to reach Mainz-Kastel. This is my tentative programme. As suggested by you, I shall contact Bro. Borutta for the travel expenses. As a matter of fact he has suggested to me to ask him for payments.

It would not be out of place to mention here that consequent upon a discussion here between Dr. Birkeli and Dr. Baetz on the one hand and the GEL church officers and synod Presidents on the other hand in January last the Lutheran World Federation/CWM sent me an application form to apply for a scholarship for training abroad. I have on the advice of the President ~~and~~ applied for such a scholarship. In the meantime the church council members were asked by the President to give their opinion, on which the majority of the members have voted in favour of this proposal i.e., my applying for a LWF scholarship. There was only one objection and that is from Rev. J. Lakra. Similar is the case with Miss S.M. Bodra, Lady Principal of our Bethesda Girls' High School who is also an applicant. It is guessed that some kind of objections might have reached Berlin in this regard, and I am sure this will not upset my programme of visiting you. I am not very much sure about this scholarship, but would like to avail myself of it, if it is forthcoming. This will engage me for one year or so abroad.

As for my travels within Germany and in the neighbouring countries I entirely depend upon you. Since I am looking forward to learning much through this travel, I would like to have some guide literature, if there are any, viz., literature regarding the Kirchentag and the Ecumenical institute at Bossey.

Looking forward to meeting you, I am

Yours brotherly,

H. Horo
8/5

VIA AIR MAIL
MIT LUFTPOST
- PAR AVION



Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft
Berlin-Friedenau
Händelstraße 19/20
Germany

Secretary
Mr. N. E. H o r o
G. E. L. Church Compound
R a n c h i / Bihar -INDIA



hr. 304/56

GOSSNERSCHE MISSIONSGESELLSCHAFT

Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystraße 19/20

Berlin-Friedenau, 23. April 1956
Lo/Su. Me.

Secretary
Mr. N. E. H o r o
G. E. L. Church

R a n c h i / Bihar - INDIA
G. E. L. Church Compound

78

Dear Brother Horo:

Thank you ever so much for your letter of the 16th March and especially for sending me the decisions the G. C. took at its meeting of February 29th, 1956. - Our Kuratorium will not consider these decisions before May 1st, 1956. On this day we shall meet in the new Goßner-House finished by Brother Symanowski in Mainz-Kastel. Right after the meeting I shall let you know the Kuratorium's opinion on each item.

I am particularly pleased that you accepted our invitation to come to Germany. Please let us know when you are leaving India and when you are arriving in Germany. Allow Brother Borutta, please, to give you the travelling costs. We shall settle accounts with him later. I shall also write to himself for it.

Hoping we shall meet again in Germany before long
I remain

Brotherly Yours,

Hans Löffler

Rev. H. F. E. Borutta,
G. E. L. Church,
Chaibasa
Dist. Singhbhum.

Chaibasa, 18. VII. 1955

h2 297155

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40

78

To:-

The Secretary, Mr. N. E. Horo
G. E. L. Church,
Ranchi.

Dear Brother Horo,

I just want to inform you about the telegrams I have send. Yesterday on Sunday I sent the following Express Telegram to the Rt. Rev. Bishop Sandegren: "Pray on behalf of Church. Kindly support by wire before DOM Helsinki churchh's request for full subsidy". "Borutta"

To Dr. Lokies too I sent the following Express telegram: " Please support before DOM Helsinki churchh's request for full subsidy. Borutta - Schultz".

I just posted a letter to Bishop Sandgren explaining the situation and reason for the telegram. I have much hope, that this will be of help towards our beloved Gossner Church.

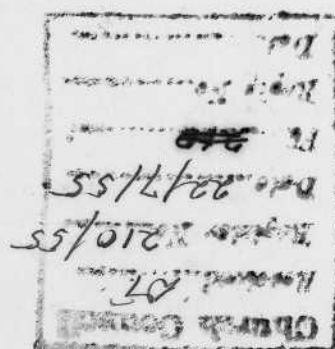
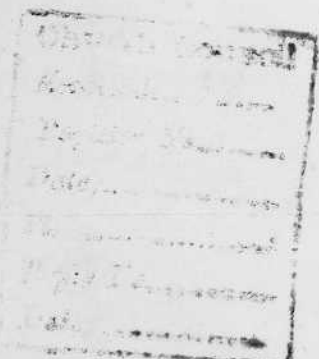
After having left you, I told Dr. Schultz about Dr. Lokies letter and requested him to give his signature too, what he gladly did.

We still can do much more, than we did by our telegrams. Let us pray that God in His mercy may guide the bretheren in Helsinki in such a way, that our request may be fulfilled.

With best wishes and greetings I am

Yours very sincerely

H. Borutta



F. 78

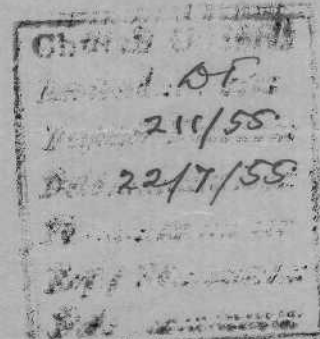
78

D. Hans L o k i e s

Berlin-Friedenau, 15.7.1955
Handjerystr. 19/20
Lo./Ja.

To

President Joel L a k r a
G.E.L.Church-Compound
R a n c h i (Bihar)
INDIA



Dear Brother Lakra,

Thank you very much for your letter of 7.6.55. In the meanwhile Bishop Sandegren wrote to me about his visit to Ranchi and informed me of the results of his talks with you and other brethren. I am very glad to hear that all brethren are willing to do everything they can in the coming extraordinary Synod for the maintenance of unity and the reestablishment of peace within the Gossner-Church. I have informed all members of the Kuratorium of the letter of bishop Sandegren and begged them to remember you and the Gossner-Church in their prayers. We have purposely not interfered with these affairs; but we have never stopped praying, and beg God daily, that he may give you all the spirit of Truth and Love.

I have special question to you personally. I know that Dr. Sovik intended to visit Rourkela in order to discuss with the Lutheran World Federation, whether it would be worth while to build a church, a school and a hospital in this new industrial district. I would be grateful to know whether Dr. Sovik has been in Rourkela, or whether he has talked to you about it. Please write to let me know.

On July 16th I am going to Finland, where the Department of Missions of the Lutheran World Federation is this year having its meeting. I hope I shall see Dr. Manikam there. As you know the Gossner-Church has applied for a grant of 60.000 Rs. I am willing to support this application strongly, but to be able to do it wholeheartedly I would have preferred the Mahasabha to have been held earlier, the Gossner-Church to have had a legal church-leadership, and the financial matters clear. Perhaps I shall be asked what has become of the missing 20.000 Rs. You yourself know best that the Lutheran World Federation is not indifferent to what is happening in Ranchi. When one member suffers the whole body suffers. But I am glad to be able to tell the Conference that there are all signs for the Gossner-Church finding back to the right way. That will contribute greatly to the chance that you will receive a grant this year too.

I thank you again for your detailed report. We alle send you cordial greetings which we beg you to pass on to your wife and family.

I remain in undiminished affection and friendship

Yours

Hans Lokies

N. E. HORO
SECRETARY.

No. 1141/56.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL OF THE G. E. L. CHURCH
RANCHI, BIHAR.

78
Dated 16th. March, 1956.

Dr. H. Lokies,
Director
Gossner Mission Society.

Dear brother Lokies,

I thank you and the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society for inviting me to visit Europe to be able to acquaint myself with church life in Germany. I specially thank the Gossner Mission Society for very kindly volunteering to meet my travelling costs.

The Gossner Church Council has now allowed me leave to undertake this journey to Europe. I have seen the tentative programme for my journey prepared by you. I accept this programme and request you to kindly arrange for my participation in the Conferences.

I have applied for my passport and have requested Thomas Cook & Son to arrange a tourist class berth in a LLOYD Triestino Ship "Asia".

Please convey my sincere greetings to members of the Kuratorium, I am

Yours sincerely,

W. E. Horo
16/3/56

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam.

No. 1139/56.

From Secretary, Mr. N. E. Horo, B.A.,

To

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau.

Dear brother Lokies,

The President Tiga and myself are now back from our tour in Surguja, Raigarh and the Western part of Ranchi district. We went out immediately within few hours of the rising of the Council meeting on 29th February. I can now inform you of the Council's decision which concern you too.

1. The Church Council is thankful to the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society in inviting the Secretary of the Gossner Church to visit Germany in order to acquaint himself with church life in Germany and to attend certain important church meetings in the continent.
2. The Church Council has resolved that Dr. Arndt Bischoff, the new missionary Doctor for Amgaon be elected as G.E.L. Church representative in the Joint Mission Board (vice Dr. G. Schultz). Until Dr. Bischoff arrives in India and takes up the work, the rest of the members should carry on the work.
3. The Council has decided to take up pioneering mission work at Raurkella. The President Tiga and Mr. P. D. Kandulna have been authorised to further deal with the Hindusthan Steel Ltd, and the Ministry of Iron and Steel, Government of India in the matter of obtaining the permission to retain our Church Compound at village Purnapani which lies in Project's Town area. Further it has been RESOLVED to request the Gossner Mission Society to send a German Pastor (Minister of Religion) to take care of the German Engineers and their families at Raurkella. It is further resolved that a suitably trained Indian Pastor be appointed to help the German Pastor at Raurkella.
4. Further the Council has "RESOLVED to invite representatives of the Churches of Ausfrizland and Westfalen (Germany) to visit the Gossner Church in India in order to be acquainted with the different works of the Gossner Church and to strengthen the relationship with that of the Churches of Ausfrizland and Westfalen."
5. Messrs. Bage and Surin have requested the C.C. for the permission to be ordained in Germany under the auspices of the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society. In this regard, the C.C. has unfortunately to disappoint them since according to practice an opportunity will have to be given to the Gossner Ministerium to give its opinion in the matter of declaring them as candidates and their ordination. The C.C. is deeply indebted to the Gossner Mission Society for giving Bros. Bage and Surin intensive training in Germany.

The Council has further decided to appoint Bros. Bage and Surin to be Professors in the Lutheran Theological College at Ranchi for the present.

6. In the recent Church Council meeting the question of Mr. P. D. Kandulna's deputation to Germany again came up. Mr. Kandulna, who was present in the meeting expressed his readiness to go abroad. In case, he said, arrangements could be made to take his family too, some time would be taken to prepare himself for the journey. If it is he alone, things would be easier both sides. Not knowing all the circumstances in Germany we wait to hear further from the Kuratorium.

7. In conjunction with the two Govindpur Sisters the C.C. has recommended two young ladies-Miss Seteng Hapadgara and Miss Bahalen Bage for training abroad preferably in Germany. They had their training in the Tabitha School and at present they are on the staff. It would be profitable if they are acquainted with the nature and manner of work being done for women in Germany.

We had a profitable time here in February. Three Directors of the LWF, Dr. Birkeli, Dr. Vaetz and Dr. Vajta visited us within last two months. The Pastoral Conference was a successful one and our Pastors have gone back to their Congregations with newer knowledge and vision.

With greetings to the Kuratorium and your goodself.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

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The 6th March 1956.

To

Thos. Cook & Son,
(Continental and Overseas) Ltd.,
4, Dalhousie Square,
Calcutta--1.

Dear Sirs,

I am being invited by the Gossner Mission Society in Berlin to visit West Germany and to attend some important church meetings in Norway and Switzerland. Therefore, apply for a cheapest available tourist class passage from Bombay to Genoa. I have to reach Germany at the end of July 1956.

Since my passage money is being paid by the Gossner Mission Society, Berlin(West Germany), They advise me to seek a berth in a Lloyd Triestino steamer.

I am applying for Passports and visas etc. and shall confirm this passage arrangement the moment I secure them. Kindly let me know at your earliest.

Yours faithfully,

Handwritten signature
Secretary,

G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

DT.

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft.
Berlin Friedenau.
Handjerystrape 19/20.

13rd of February 1956.

To the
Church Council of the
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
c/o President Jilo Tiga
Ranchi/ Bihar.
India

Dear Brother Tiga,

from your letter of 30.10.1956 to Mr. Bage I heard that the Church Council has accepted the latter's suggestion of giving the secretary of the C.C. Mr. N.E.Horo, leave for Germany. The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission is also of the opinion that it must be very useful and important for the G.E.L. Church if its Secretary had the opportunity of becoming acquainted with church life in Germany. Mr. Bage has suggested the following programme for the journey:

Attendance of the "Kirchentag" in Francfort, which takes place from 7.12.8. 1956.

attendance of the Commission on World Mission (Lutheran World Federation) in Hurdalsverk/Norway (9.-15.8.)

visit to the two Gossner Mission houses in Berlin and Mainz-Kastel,

tour through the most important parishes and circles of friends who sacrifice and pray for the Gossner-Mission in Germany,

inspection of institutions of the Inner Mission (e.g. Bethel) and finally participation in a course in Chateau de Bossey near Geneva, arranged by the World Council of Churches for missionaries and delegates of the Young Churches.

The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission approves this programme and considers a participation above all in the Mission Conference of the Lutheran World Federation in Norway, as the best opportunity for the Gossner Church to explain and justify your request for further financial help. In its last meeting on January 26th 1956, the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission decided to invite the secretary of the Church Council, Mr. N.E.Horo, to Germany provided the Church Council gave its consent.

As this consent has now been given I have the order by the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission and the pleasure of inviting Mr. N.E.Horo for journey to Europe. The travelling costs will be paid by the Gossner Mission in Berlin. It would be desirable for Mr.Horo to arrive in Germany at the end of July.

The Kuratorium send you warm greetings and prays God's blessing on yours and the Church Councils responsible work in the administration of the Gossner Church.

In the fellowship of the Lord
Yours sincerely

*Copy forwarded
to Mr. N.E.Horo Secy.
with the request to apply
for passport and passage
immediately.*

*J. Tiga
President
20/2/56*

Sd/DHans Lokies.

2 Lokus
Berlin.

J.O 0032

INDIAN POSTS AND

22 XII 57



TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

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N. E. HORO
SECRETARY.

51 78
No. 358/56
GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL OF THE G. E. L. CHURCH
RANCHI, BIHAR.

The 23rd January, 1956.

To

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director, Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin Friedenau,

Dear Brother Lokies,

Your letter of January 14 reached me quite in time, for which many thanks. Brother Borutta probably gave you a wrong information. We have received your letters of Nov. 3 and Dec 9, 1955 and through them we have learnt that you have taken action re: Brother Bischoff's entry into India. We are taking steps to help expedite the matter.

Dr. Birkeli and Dr. Baetz visited us here on Jan 8. They left for Madras the following day along with Brother Tiga. We could not take out our LWF guests to show some of our centres due to their short visit. However, majority of our Synod Presidents had come to meet them. We had a busy session with Dr. Birkeli throughout the day on Jan 9, and had a very fruitful talk. We feel now that we have come more closer to Geneva. Now, many of us know Dr. Birkeli and Dr. Sovik personally.

Brother Tiga will be back here in two or three days time from Madras. Myself and Kandulna could not attend the significant Madras meetings due to paucity of funds. Brother Tiga and Borutta had attended. In the meantime, myself and brother C.M. Horo were busy constructing a wall fencing along the Main Road here from the Christ Church to the Stosch Hostel. In spite of certain oppositions and non-co-operations from some of our misguided brethren, we started working without funds and now it is almost complete (except plastering). ~~xxxxxx We plan to fence the entire Compound gradually. God willing, we shall with public donations and "Shramdan"-voluntary labour, complete the Bethesda Girls' High School Hall, repair the Gossner School and build new houses. The only thing we need is your fervent prayers.~~

Dr. Vajta is visiting us on Feb 12. We are arranging a Conference for Lutheran Pastors in North India. The Ebenezer and Madhya Pradesh Evan: Lutheran Church Pastors are joining us here. The Conference with Dr. Vajta will be from 12-16th Feb. Gossner Pastors conference will extend up to 23rd Feb. This will be P.T.O.

will be really a wonderful opportunity for our Pastors.

I understand that you have been informed of the recent negotiations re: Rourkella by Brother Borutta. We have yet to finalise things in this direction.

Many thanks for the wonderful Christmas Cards and let me thank you on behalf of the Church Council for taking good care of the little adibasi Community living in Deutscheland. Thank you again for greeting the Church Council which meets in the last week of February next.

be Fraternal greetings to you and the Kuratorium on my half and on behalf of the Church Council.

Cordially Yours.

Secretary,

G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

B.L.23/1/56.

P.S. Please pass on the enclosed letter to Bros. Marshall and Saban. Thanks.

Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystrasse 19/20
Germany

ber. 18/1/56

14. January 1956

Lo/Su.

To
The Church Council of the
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. H o r o , B.A.
G.E.L. - Church Compound
R a n c h i / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Horo,

Brother Borutta wrote me so far the Church Council has not yet received our answer of President Silo Tiga's invitation for Dr. Arndt BISCHOFF. I am a little surprised, for on November 2, 1955 I wrote my thanks for this invitation to the Church Council telling at the same time that we had produced the necessary motions at the Indian Embassy in Bonn. We know that late in December the Indian Embassy sent our motions together with some questionnaires to the Indian Government in Delhi.

We would be so much obliged if the Church Council would directly try its very possible to get the entrance permit to India for Dr. Bischoff and his family.

Dr. Bischoff is very thankful for the invitation through President Tiga. A life desire will be fulfilled through it, and he will thank the Church Council for this invitation personally too.

I have heard Dr. BIRKELI will also come to Ranchi. He is a real friend to the Gossner Church, and I hope that, after his visit to Ranchi, he will be ready to help still more than before.

We greet the Church Council with hearty blessing desires for the work to come particularly in the mission field and the industry area (Rourcela).

Please greet the whole Church Council for the Kuratorium.

Yours

Hans Lotties

enclosed:
Questionnaire
Dr. Bischoff.

Greetings wether for
President Rev.J.Tiga
or Rev.Joel Lakra

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Translation.

Recklinghausen, December 7th, 1955
Herner Straße 8

Dear Brother,

from a brotherly meeting in the Advent time we
great the pastors of the Recklinghausen Synod
and are pleased to remember your lectury in our
cercle. We have the strong desire to assure you
that we are closely connected with you in the
belief of the returning Lord.
Please occasionally hand on these our greetings
tothe communities.

The Pastors of the District Synod.

With praying thoughts

Yours

s. G e c k

Superintendent

Superintendentur
der Kreissynode Recklinghausen

Bankkonto Kreissyn. Kasse:
Städtische Sparkasse Recklinghausen Nr. 3375

Tgb. Nr. /

RECKLINGHAUSEN, den 7. 12. 195 5
Herner Straße 8

Fernsprecher: Recklinghausen 3252
Superintendent Gekd · Superintendentur

Herrn
Präses der Goßner-Mission
C h o t a - N a g p u r
Indien

Sehr geehrter, lieber Bruder!

In der Adventszeit bruderlich versammelt grüßen Sie die Pastoren der Synode Recklinghausen. Wir erinnern uns gerne an Ihren Vortrag in unserem Kreise. Es drängt uns, Sie unserer Verbundenheit im Glauben an den wiederkommenden Herrn zu versichern. Geben Sie bitte unseren Gruß an Ihre Gemeinden gelegentlich weiter!

Die Pfarrer der Kreissynode Recklinghausen/Westfalen.

In freundschaftlicher Verbundenheit

fr
m. gmt,
Superintendentur

CLASS AMOUNT

No.

DATE

78
INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

RECEIPT FOR INLAND TELEGRAMS

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

CLASS AMOUNT

No.

DATE

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

INLAND TELEGRAM

A

OFFICE OF ORIGIN.....

SENT AT.....

WORDS

CODE

SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS

TO
BY

(SENDER TO WRITE BELOW THIS LINE ONLY)

(DELETE CATEGORY NOT REQUIRED) ORDINARY/EXPRESS/NON-STATE/STATE/

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
BY SENDER, e. g.,
"REPLY PAID", Etc.

TO

NAME

HANS LOKIES

ADDRESS

HANDJERYSTR 19/20

TELEGRAPH

BERLIN-FRIEDENAU

OFFICE

SPACE FOR POSTAGE STAMPS
BELOW ABOVE LINE AND AT
THE BACK.1. NAME OF THE SENDER
SHOULD BE WRITTEN IN
A SEPARATE LINE JUST
BELOW THE MESSAGE IF
REQUIRED TO BE TELE-
GRAPHED.2. ADDRESS FULLY AND
CORRECTLY FOR QUICK
DELIVERY.3. USE HIGH DENOMINATION
STAMPS AS FAR AS
POSSIBLE.

A HAPPY

CHRISTMAS

TO YOU

IN CASE OF COMPLAINTS OR APPLICATION FOR REFUND, ETC., KINDLY SEE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN IN CLAUSES 47, 372 AND 388 OF POST AND TELEGRAPH GUIDE

(ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR STAMPS)

(ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR TEXT)

NOT TO BE
TELEGRAPHED

NAME AND
ADDRESS OR
PHONE No.
OF SENDER

Letter

(N. E. Horo)

2412

G. E. L. Church, Ranch

= HOROS =

he. 13/12
Gossner-Mission

5778
Berlin-Friedenau, 9.12.1955
Handjerystr. 19/20
Lo./Ja.

To
Church Council of the
Gossner-Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Chotanagpur & Assam
R a n c h i / Bihar
INDIA

Dear Brother Horo,

The Kuratorium of the Gossner-Mission thanks the President Tiga and the Church Council for the invitation of Dr. B i s c h o f f to serve the Gossner-Mission as doctor in the Hospital at Amgaon. We applied for an entry permit to the Indian Embassy under the 23rd. November 1955, and we beg the Church Council to support this application on its part from Ranchi. We know how urgently Sister Ilse Martin needs the assistance of a doctor and would be very grateful if the grant of the entry permit could be speeded up.

Brother Borutta told us about the mission work among the Harijans in the neighbourhood of Badampur, and we ^{/are} too of the opinion that with regard to the present situation of the Gossner-Church and the Gossner-Mission it should be entrusted to the Baptists. We are very grateful that the Church Council has decided to do so.

We are extremely interested to know how the work is going on in Rourkela. The Lutheran World Service promised its help at the Mission Conference in Finland, and is waiting to begin work. Please let us know how far you have got in your negotiations.

As to the further building of the Amgaon Hospital we shall raise the money here in Germany, only it is not possible to transfer the money in one sum, just after we have granted Missionary Borutta a new car. But we hope to be able to send the whole amount in instalments by the end of January or beginning of February.

Dr. Bischoff is at present getting his outfit for his medical service and is ready to leave for India any time.

With best wishes for Advent-tide

yours sincerely,

Hans Lotties

The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam

Mission Estd. 1845 — Autonomous 1919.

78

President:—Rev. J. J. P. Tiga, M.A., B.D., S.T.M.

G. E. L. CHURCH COMPOUND
RANCHI BIHAR INDIA.

Ref No.....

Dated the 1st Nov 1955.

To
Dr. Arndt Bischoff and family
Through, The Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Haudjeristrasse 19/20

Dear Dr Bischoff,

It is a great pleasure
for me to extend to you ^{and your family} a hearty
invitation to come and work as a
doctor at Hugaon, P.S. Barlet,
district Sambalpur in the Orissa
State, ^{India}. It will be interesting for you
to know that the G. E. L. Church in
Chotanagpur and Assam has opened
a ^{hospitality} dispensary at Hugaon and
we need a medical doctor imme-
diately. * We are very thankful to

* The church Council of the
G. E. L. Church has
unanimously
invited you
for the same

the Gossner Mission Society for
its kind offer to meet all
your travelling expenses and
to support you in full as long
as you are here working for
the G. E. L. Church.

he 1974
To
the Church Council of the
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
in Chotanagpur and Assam
c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. Horo
R a n c h i / Bihar
India.

Dear Brother Horo!

Although as yet I have received no official information concerning the Mahasabha, but only heard through Missionary Borutta about the important events of the synod, I should like to express my great joy that God has answered our prayers.

While the Mahasabha was on in Ranchi, we had a synod here in Berlin too: the synod of the Church of Berlin-Brandenburg. More than 200 members of the synod from Berlin and the Province Brandenburg which belongs to the Soviet-Zone were assembled here. And on the day of the Mahasabha in Ranchi the whole synod prayed for the Gossner Church in Chotanagpur and Assam, including the Mahasabha in their prayers, and I assure you that all our mission friends especially in Ostfriesland prayed for you in these days. And so we gratefully accept the result of the Mahasabha as coming from God. We greet Brother Tiga as the new President of the Gossner Church and wish him God's blessing for his responsible office. We also pray for you as the Secretary of the Gossner Church and Brother C. Mukut Horo as the treasurer of the Gossner Church and the members of the newly elected Church Council wishing you God's blessing for the work ahead of you. May God grant the new Church Council and the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission cooperation in mutual good faith.

At the moment our concern centres around the question of the Missiondoctor. We know how vitally important it is for the newly founded hospital at Amgao that it should have an efficient doctor. For only if it has such a doctor there who is always present can it develop in a way that we can answer for, not only before God, but also before man and especially before the Indian Government. Therefore I would be very grateful if the Church Council would undertake all necessary steps in this matter.

Here are the personal/dates of the doctor whom the Kuratorium recommends sending to India:

1. Mr. Arndt B i s c h o f f,
Berlin-Lichtenrade, Franziusweg 65
Borne 22.10.1898 at Leipzig.
Dr. med. (all degrees of the medical study)
2. Mrs. Elsa B i s c h o f f, née Tauchnitz
borne 16.10.1914 at Leipzig.
3. Child Arend Manasse B i s c h o f f,
borne 28.2.1949 at Großröhrsdorf bei Dresden.

From here we have taken all preparations necessary, so that he can depart for India any moment.

In the fellowship of the Lord

Yours sincerely,

W. L. K. R. S.

Dear Brother Horo!

Although I have received no official information concerning the Malabar, but only heard through missionary friends about the important events of the synod, I should like to express my great joy that God has answered our prayers.

While the Malabar was on its journey, we had a synod here in Berlin too: the synod of the Church of Berlin-Landmark. More than 200 members of the synod from Berlin and the Province of Brandenburg which belongs to the Soviet-Land were assembled here. On the day of the synod, the whole synod prayed for the German Church in Malabar and Assam, including the Malabar in their prayers, and I assure you that all our mission friends especially in Malabar prayed for you in these days. And so we gratefully accept the result of the Malabar as coming from God. We greet Brother K. as the new President of the German Church and wish him a blessing for his responsible office.

We also pray for you as the Secretary of the German Church and Brother C. M. K. as the Treasurer of the German Church and the members of the newly elected Church Council wishing you God's blessing for the work ahead of you. May God grant the new Church Council and the Kustorum of the German Mission cooperation in mutual good faith.

At the moment our concern is about the question of the Malabar. We know how vitally important it is for the newly founded hospital at Ambo that it should have an efficient doctor. Not only it is for such a doctor there who is always present can it develop in a way that we can answer for, not only before God, but also before man and especially before the Indian Government. Therefore I would be very grateful if the Church Council would undertake all necessary steps in this matter.

Here are the personal data of the doctor whom the Kustorum recommends sending to India:

1. Mr. K. R. S. (all doctors of the medical study)
Berlin-Landmark, Frankfurter Str. 10
Born 22.10.1898 at Leipzig.
2. Mrs. K. R. S. (all doctors of the medical study)
Born 10.10.1914 at Leipzig.
3. Mr. K. R. S. (all doctors of the medical study)
Born 22.10.1919 at Leipzig.

GOSSNER EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH,
RANCHI, BIHAR, INDIA.

Ranchi,
November 10, 1955.

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau,
GERMANY.

Dear Brother Lokies,

I have pleasure to inform you, late though that the extra-ordinary mahasabha of our church passed off very smoothly and all business were conducted affably under an atmosphere of peace and cordiality. It was one of the very peaceful mahasabhas we have ever had. We knew, it was all under God's guidance and the Spirit of the Lord was present throughout. The Kuratorium's message and greetings from many friends and institutions were read before the house and the Mahsabha thanks them all for their christian greetings and God's blessings. We in our church are thankful to innumerable friends in Europe and America who constantly prayed for the safe conduct of the session, who prayed for God's blessings on the mahasabha and for His glory above all things. We were conscious of the fact that you in Germany were especially concerned for our church and were unceasingly praying for us and the church. Glory be to God our Father, who has listened your prayers wonderfully and the result has come encouragingly good. I on behalf of the mahasabha and the church extend hearty thanks to you, the Kuratorium and innumerable friends in Germany for your prayers and intercession and greet you with the familiar "YISHU SAHAY" Please convey this greetings to everyone of you and ask them to pray for us ever more. Thanks.

You have by now known the election of Rev. J. J. P. Tiga as President and Mr. Christ Mukut Horo as Treasurer of the church. Please remember me as Secretary of the church.

During the Mahasabha Bro. Borutta shew me one of your letters in which you had mentioned about Dr. Bischoff's willingness to serve as mission doctor at Mngaon. We brought this matter in the CC meeting following the mahasabha. And, the CC has resolved as such: "Voted to invite Dr. Arndt Bischoff and his family of Berlin-Lichtenrade, Franzinsweg 65., Germany through the Gossner Mission Society, Berlin, to serve in the G. E. L. Church Hospital at Angaon, P. S. Barkot, district Sambhalpur in the State of Orissa. The existing Terms of Reference will apply to Dr. Bischoff and his family while serving in the Gossner Church."

Our President has already extended an invitation to Dr. Bischoff and his family which he wrote out before me at Chakra-dharpur while on way to RajGangpur. We had met Bro. Borutta at CKpur and had asked him to mail it. I think it must have reached him by now. ~~Applications~~ Applications for coming to India should now be made and for that purpose I think the above resolution of the church council of the G. E. L. Church will do. The council is very thankful to you all and the Kuratorium for this co-operation and we are looking forward to meeting the Bischoffs. Please convey my greetings to them.

Greetings to you and your family,

Yours in the service of the Lord !

Handwritten signature and date: 10/11/55
Secretary
G. E. L. CHURCH
CH. NAGPUR & ASSAM
RANCHI

Rev. F. E. Borutta
G. E. L. Church,
Chaibasa,
Singhbhum.

Chaibasa, 2.XI.1955

To:-

The Secretary of the G. E. L. Church
Mr. N. B. Horo, BA.,
R A N C H I.

Dear Brother Horo,

as promised ^{about} here are the copies
of both the letters, we talked at Chakradharpur.

I hope you had a good time in Rajgangpur, i.e.
your mission was an successful one.

With best wishes and greetings, I am

Yours very sincerely

F. E. Borutta

Rev
- 9/11/55

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The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam
Mission Estd. 1845 --- Autonomous 1919

President:- Rev. J. J. P. Tiga, M A, BD, S. T. M.

G. E. L. Church Compound
RANCHI BIHAR INDIA.

Ref No.....

Dated the 1st November 1955

True Copy

To:-

Dr. Arndt Bischoff and family,

Through:

The Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystr. 19/20

Dear Dr. Bischoff,

It is a great pleasure for me to extend to you and your family a hearty invitation to come to us and work as a doctor at Amgaon, P.O. Barkot, district Sambalpur in the Orissa state, India.

It will be interesting for you to know that the G. E. L. Church in Chotanagpur & Assam has opened a hospital at Amgaon and we need a medical doctor immediately. The Church Council of the G. E. L. Church has unanimously voted to invite you for the same. We are very thankful to the Gossner Mission Society in Berlin for its kind offer to meet all your travelling expenses and to support you in full as long as you are here working for the G. E. L. Church.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely

J. J. P. Tiga, President.

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K u r a t o r i u m
of the Gossner-Mission-Society

Berlin-Friedenau, 27.10.1955
Handjerystr. 19/20
Lo./Ja.

To
Joint Mission Board
of the Gossner Evangelical- Lutheran Church
c/o Rev. H. Borutta
Chaibasa, Dt. Singhbhum
Bihar / India.

Dear Brethren,

In its meeting of 11. October 1955 the Gossner Mission resolved to offer the Joint Mission Board the services of Dr. Arndt Bischoff as missionary doctor with his wife and youngest son.

We would be grateful if the Gossner Church and the presidency of the Joint Board would apply for an entry permit for Dr. Bischoff and his family. At the same time we would be obliged to you for giving us advice and few hints as to what we from our side can do to obtain the entry permit from the Government of India.

Dr. Bischoff is ready to leave for India any time.

Below we are giving you the necessary personal details so that you can take the first steps towards the application.

- 1.) Mr. Arndt Bischoff,
Berlin-Lichtenrade, Franziusweg 65,
Borne 22.10.1908 at Leipzig.
Dr. med. (all degrees of the medical study)
- 2.) Mrs. Elsa Bischoff, nee Tauschnitz,
borne 16.10.1914 at Leipzig.
- 3.) Child Arend Manasse Bischoff,
borne 28.2.1949 at Grossröhrsdorf, near Dresden.

In the hope that the extra-ordinary synod of the Gossner Church has taken a good course under God's blessing I greet you in the name of the Kuratorium.

Yours sincerely,
Hans Lokies.

To be Read in CE meeting

Gossner-Mission-Society

Berlin-Friedenau, 29.9.1955
Handjerystr. 19/20
Lo./Schr.

To
Church Council of the
Gossner Evangelical-Lutheran Church
c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. Horro, B.A.
G.E.L.-Church Compound
Ranchi / Bihar
India

Dear Brother Horro,

As you know I attended the meeting of the Mission Committee of the Lutheran World Federation in Helsinki end of July. Following that I was on holidays with my wife in Denmark for the whole August. Soon after my return to Germany I had to go to West-Germany and carry through an evangelisation week in Detmold. This week I am off to Bavaria in order to attend a meeting of all German Mission societies together with Brother Symanowski. So I beg you to understand my long silence. Today I want to affirm what I have already told you and the Church Council by telegram. The Lutheran World Federation has approved the application of the Gossner Church for a grant and granted a sum of approximately 12.000 \$ for 1956. It will not be quite the whole sum, because the principle of the Lutheran World Federation is that their grants should be slowly reduced from year to year. However the difference between the sum applied for and the sum granted is very small, and we should be very grateful for this result.

I was rather sad that you had assumed I had not intended to support your application with the Lutheran World Federation. I do not understand how you or anybody else could conceive such an idea. The letters I wrote you, only contain my request to send me material which would be useful to support your application. But even without this material I should have backed the application of the Gossner Church with all the arguments at my disposal. That goes without saying, and I beg you and the Church Council with all my heart to trust the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission and me in future, that we only have the best for the Gossner Church in mind. It makes no difference who is President of the Gossner Church or whether there is none at all for the time being. These personal affairs are the sole concern of the Church Council and the autonomous church itself. We can only pray God that he give the Gossner Church the right President. And we also pray God that he lead the discussions of the coming synod to a good end.

Then we inform you that the Lutheran World Federation has also granted a sum of 2.500 Rs. for building and repairs for the Tabita-School. I have already written Sisters Anni Diller and Hedwig Schmidt about it. Only the sum will not be accessible till the beginning of next year.

We have great difficulties concerning the missionary doctor we want to send you according to your desire. As you know we had

definitely fixed on 2 doctors, and now both of them have had to withdraw their consent for good reasons. So we have had to look out for a new efficient doctor. At present we are in negotiation with 5 doctors. They are all well recommended by the Tropics-Institute in Tübingen. So now we hope at last to find a doctor whom we can definitely send to you for service in the Hospital of Amgaon.

On October 10th we are having our next Kuratorium meeting. I would be grateful if you could write me something about the situation of the Gossner Church by then, so that we can bring all your problems and worries before God in our prayers. It was a great joy to me to hear that President Topno has accepted the commission of Acting-President. Please give my greetings to him, the treasurer and the members of the Church Council.

To you yourself go the thanks of all of us for the efforts and the work you have taken on yourself for the best of the Gossner-Church between the two synods.

God's blessing on the Gossner-Church, your congregations, pastors, teachers, catechists and elders. With greetings also in the name of the Kuratorium

I am

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Doctor of Joint Mission Board

L. L. L.

1. Dr. Arnat Bischoff. - date of birth 22nd Oct 1908 born in Leipzig

Doctor of medicine - address - Berlin - Lichtenrade
Franziskusweg 65

2. wife - Elsa. (maiden name - Tauschnitz) born in Leipzig on 16th Oct 1914.

3. Son - Manasse Arend Bischoff born in Berlin on 28th Feb. 1949

We have great difficulties concerning the missionary doctor we want to send you according to your desire. As you know we had



To

Church Council of the

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church,

c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. H o r o , B.A.

G.E.L.Church Compound

R a n c h i / Bihar

INDIA

MIT LUFTPOST
PAR AVION
VIA AIR MAIL

Sender: Gossner Mission Society
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystr. 19/20
Germany



o/c.

TERMS OF REFERENCE PASSED BY THE MAHASABHA

DATED THE 25th & 26th March, 1954.

PREAMBLE.

President ke adesh par samucha Terms of Reference and Preamble parha gaya jo yon hai:-

The Mahasabha of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam receives with gratitude the declaration of the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society dated 3.11.50, and the Statement dated 3.11.50, which read as follows:-

"The Gossner Kuratorium is happy that the G.E.L. Church has become Autonomous, that there is therefore no need for the missionaries to assume administrative responsibility, and that they will instruct their missionaries accordingly." and "the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society is convinced that in the present situation of the Autonomous Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church, it is no longer necessary or desirable to charge missionaries with responsible administrative posts, and to give them a vote."

The Mahasabha of the G.E.L. Church offers the following terms of Reference to the Kuratorium of Gossner Mission Society.

TERMS OF REFERENCE.

1. The relationship between the G.E.L.C. and the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society shall be that of Daughter and Mother.
2. The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society will send missionaries to work in the G.E.L.C. on the request of the G.E.L.C.
3. The missionaries on the field will work as friends and helpers in the development of the G.E.L.C. for specific periods by personally accepting the terms of reference offered by the G.E.L.C. to the individual missionaries through the Kuratorium.
4. The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society in Christian love and charity shall undertake to support their missionaries on the Gossner field. The policy is to receive such help through the G.E.L.C. Treasury.
5. All Missionaries shall be invited to attend the meeting of the Mahasabha. The men missionaries will be invited to attend the meetings of the Church Council, one by one in rotation according to their alphabetical order. The missionaries will also be invited to attend the meetings of their respective synods. They shall be free to visit the congregations in any part of the Church and to attend the Church meetings as they find it possible with the information of the Synod President.
6. All missionaries working in the G.E.L.C. shall be regular members of the Gossner Church.
7. All ordained missionaries shall be members of the Gossner Church Ministerium.
8. Each missionary will be given a specific work in the Church ^{such} as evangelistic work among non-Christians, Teaching in the Theological Seminary, Production of Christian literature, help running of charitable institutions etc.
9. The G.E.L.C. provide suitable accommodation for the missionaries working in the field.
10. These Terms of Reference can be amended by the mutual consent of the bodies concerned.

see next page.

11. All former proposals or drafts of "Terms of Reference" are superseded by these Terms of Reference.

12. The 'Joint Mission Field' will be administered by a 'Joint Mission Board' incorporated in the G.E.L. Church, in accordance with the regulations adopted jointly by the Mahasabha and the Kuratorium (vide Mahasabha minutes 1953 p.p. 49-52).

Berlin-Friedenau,
May 14th, 1954.

KURATORIUM OF GOSSNER'S MISSION.

sd/- DR. MOELLER
President.

DR. BOHM
Members.

sd/-J. Stosch.

G.E.L. CHURCH CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

sd/-Joel Lakra.
President.

sd/-N.E. Horo.
Secretary.

sd/-Z. Horo.
Treasurer.

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DR. MOELLER
DR. BOHM

J. STOSCH
KANDELER

CHR. BERG
MÜHLNICKEL

B. OTTO
H. DZUBBA

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Registered Under Indian Societies Act 1860

Mission Estd. 1845—Autonomous 1919.

Secretary : MR. N. E. HORO B. A.

Ranchi, (Bihar) India.

The 8th July, 1955..

No. 2630/55

Dr Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Board, Berlin.

Dear brother Lokies,

I thank you for the Kuratorium's kind message for our Special Mahasabha, which you have sent me. Before it reached me here I wrote you a letter on 16th June, 55 in which I informed you of the cancellation of the Special Mahasabha. Now I can tell you with much confidence that a Special Mahasabha will meet here on 19th October, with a view to electing C.C. Officers afresh. This arrangement has now been agreed to and is widely supported.

Some friends of the Lutheran Federation (India) including Bishop Sandegren came to Ranchi on 28th June who claimed themselves as ~~xxx~~ forming a Federation Commission. A Federation Commission was never asked for, and we three officers (Rev. J. J. P. Tiga, myself and Mr. C. M. Horo, new Treasurer) were always protesting against this attitude of the Federation. We told these friends that we intended to settle our own affairs within the Church. We decided to take a bold step. Rev. Tiga the President myself and the Treasurer, all of us, decided to tender our resignations to the C.C. Executive and in the night of 30th June we went to meet Rev. Lakra and told him that we intended to resign in order to pave the way for holding a Special Mahasabha on 19th October. After a night long consultation with his men Rev. Lakra in the morning of 1st July brought to us this good news that all proposals that we gave him were acceptable to him. Immediately we went to Bishop Sandegren and thanked the Lord together.

I had already sent out notices for an Executive meeting of the C.C. on 5 and 6th July, 55. In this session of the Executive, Rev. J. J. P. Tiga and Rev. J. Lakra's resignations were accepted with immediate effect and immediately an Acting President (Rev. Habil Topno of Burju) was elected. The Treasurer' P.T.O.

and my resignations will come into effect from 12th October, 1955, seven days before the Special Mahasabha. The Acting President will be in office till the Special Mahasabha. Rev. Lakra has been given a work in The Theological College here. He has accepted the work. Rev. Tiga reverts to his former office as Principal of the College. In this way we have been able to find out a solution of the trouble, by the help of the Lord, within the Church, and I can say it more confidently that the Lord has heard your prayers.

With the new Treasurer, our accounts have seen improvements and the Federation friends have been able to recommend for the speedy release of the subsidy which was stopped since last January 1, 1955. I write this to keep you posted with the happenings ~~in our Church~~ in our Church which you so much love. Before I forget, I must tell you that brother Borutta was very helpful to us during these days of consultations. He deserves praise.

The situation in the Church has come down to normal and we hope everything will be smooth in the next Special Mahasabha. If you allow me, I shall advise the Acting President to read out the message of the Kuratorium in the Mahasabha or will you send a fresh one? This, as you please.

With Yishusahay to you and to the members of the Kuratorium, I am

Yours Sincerely,

Secretary,

G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

B.L. 8/7/55.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Registered Under Indian Societies Act 1860

Mission Estd, 1845—Autonomous 1919.

Secretary : MR. N. E. HORO B. A.

Ranchi, (Bihar) India.

No. 2698/55.

The 15th July, 1955.

To

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Kuratorium,
Berlin-Friedenau,
West-Germany.

Dear brother Lokies,

I am receipt of your letter of July 2 which reached me on 11th inst. Evidently my letter of July 8 crossed on the way with yours. In that letter I have written to say that now peace and concord has been achieved. The Church Council appointed by the Mahasabha of 22nd April 55 is accepted by all sections. This of course, excludes Rev. J. J. P. Tiga and Rev. J. Lakra. A new Acting President (Rev. Habil Topno) has been elected who has joined his office on 5th inst. New elections of office bearers will take place in the Special Mahasabha of 19th October, which has been convened by the Executive of the Church Council. As such, there should be now, no doubt from any body. Informations to this effect has already been sent to the F. E. L. C., Bishop Sandegren and others.

The question of Rs. 20,000/- is clear from the beginning I do not think we have officially written you about that. Out of this money only Rs. 3975/2/- was taken by the former treasurer from the General Account. To-day it has come down to Rs. 2937/12/-. Rest of the money belongs to the Provident Fund account. This account is still under audit and all records and books are with the F. E. L. C. Auditor. All these accounts are standing in the name of the former treasurer Mr. Z. Horo and he has accepted them as such. I do not see how this will affect our application for financial aid. This amount of Rs. 20,000/- (now it is less than that) which is not of the General account (except Rs. 2937/12/-) should not be linked with the question of financial aid. We have not heard anything regarding this Rs. 20,000/- from the Department of Missions L. W. F. and they have not said that

P. T. O.

that due to this matter subsidy will not be granted. We hereby explain our position and say that the present Church Council is the legal Church Council and request you to support our cause, if you think it advisable.

Regarding Miss Khess I am not in a position to say more than what has been written to you already.

This day we sent a telegraphic message to the G.E.L.C. Auditor to send his Audit Reports to the D.O.M., L.W.F. so as to reach them by the 20th instant.

Hearty greetings to you from the Acting President, the Treasurer Mr. C.M. Hore and myself.

Sincerely yours.

Secretary,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

B.L. 15/7/55.

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Mr.
N.E. H o r o , B.A.
R a n c h i / Bihar

G.E.L. Church Compound
India

MIT LUFTPOST
PAR AVION
VIA AIR MAIL

Pastor D.H.Lokies, Berlin-Friedenau,
Handjerystr.19/20

Germany



Gossner Mission Society

Berlin-Friedenau, 23.6.1955
Handjerystr. 19/20
Lo./Ja.

To
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Chota Nagpur & Assam
c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. H o r o , B.A.

R a n c h i (Bihar)
INDIA

Dear Brother Horo,

Enclosed in this letter is an
address of our Kuratorium to the Mahasabha for
its extraordinary session. We ask you to be so kind
to deliver it to the Mahasabha.

With hearty greetings

Yours sincerely,

Hans Lotz

Enclosure!

Office of the Secretary
G. E. L. Church Council
Chotanagpur & Assam
Ranchi, Bihar.

No. 2309/55-cc-78

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Mission Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau,
Handjerystr 19/20

Ranchi the 16 th. June, 1955.

Dear brother,

This is in continuation of our letter of June 2. It is regretted that in that letter an important decision of the church council in connexion with Miss Paracleta Khess' training in Germany could not find mention, hence this letter.

It may be remembered that the two girls Misses Khess and Hemrom were to reach Germany sometime in January last, which, of course, did not come off due to non-availability of passports and vizas. There were certain other things which came off in the C.C. meeting held from 11 to 13 th January 55. It was in this meeting of the CC that some members raised an objection against Miss Khess' going to Germany. It was said that a marriage negotiation was going on for her and members thought that under such circumstances it did not look nice to send her for a deaconess' training. This line of church work required a good deal of personal sacrifice and devotion. A married life is equally important. The girls were asked to give an undertaking in writing that they will serve the church for first five years after their training, unmarried. Besides, there was a strong public feeling against this particular girls going to Germany under such circumstances. Miss Khess was asked to confirm her previous undertaking, which she did. Even then the Council did not find herself agreeable to her going. On 13 th. January, decision about her deputation was postponed for further consideration. This matter was to come up in the CC meeting scheduled to meet from 13 th. April '55. But, before the CC could meet, the two girls left India for Germany. Rev. J. Lakra was arranging everything about their passage. He reserved first class seats for them and they sailed. They left Ranchi in early April. Rev. Lakra told me about all these before their departure, and I reminded him about the CC resolution whereby CC had postponed consideration Re: Miss Khess. I also reminded him about the Council's intention to keep these girls for a year or so in the Tabitha school. To this I wrote you in my letter dated March 22. The intention of the CC was to send them, if possible, with Schultz. I also pointed out to him your letter of March 7 in which you have informed us of the Kuratoriums suggestions to give these girls more opportunity here in order to pick up German language and acquire a good knowledge of the Bible. But, in spite of all these good suggestions Lakra took everything upon him to send them. When the CC met on 13 th April, it demanded explanation. THE CC disowned everything in respect of Miss Khess. Subsequently the CC on 25 May decided to inform the Kuratorium " .. that the Church Council has not sent Miss Paracleta Khess to Germany for higher training." This was passed by a majority of votes. There is nothing against Miss Hemrom.

We have been thinking seriously how best to improve the Tabitha school, for which, the two Govindpur sisters have advised us from time to time. This year we have opened a Pracharak's Training School at Govindpur from this month. We are anxious to build these two central institutions as strong and living as possible. In course of our talk with the two sisters, we wondered whether the Kuratorium could further help the CC in some way. We were thinking and thinking and finally the CC in its executive meeting on May 16 decided to make a definite request before the Kuratorium. It resolved to request the Kuratorium for a sum of Rupees 40,000- (forty thousand) to be spent in the following manner : Tabitha school - Rs. 2500 (for repairs and extension Rs.

(four thousand)

and extension Rs.1300 and for stipends to 5 teacher students Rs.1200. @ Rs20/- p.m.).Pracharaks' Training school for providing teaching appliances,furniture, Libraray etc.

This resolution is being sent to you for the consideration of the Kuratorium.In making this request the CC is conscious of the tremendous work the Kuratorium has at hand, however, we trust that friends in Deutscheland will pray for our efforts that we are making in our own humble way.We also know that unless the LORD HIMSELF buideth our efforts would be in vain, still we trust that the LORD will certainly make us HIS instruments in the lesser human beings like us.

Dear brother, I have now received your letter of June 9. We rejoice in the knowledge that our friend in ~~the~~ Germany are fervently praying for us here.WE have certainly found ourselves in troubles.We are, however, trying to resolve everything & seek the guidance of the Holy Ghost so that we can see ~~our~~ the WAY.Our efforts are but feeble and we do not think we ourselves can restore peace. We can be the instruments through which HE works.

You will be more sorry to hear that the intended special Mahasabha can not sit on 30 June.Two thirds requests from the Synod Presidents have not come and in the absence of this constitutional necessity, we cannot call this mahasabha.However, we are ~~trkm~~ trying to find out a solution.Rains have now set in and it becomes very difficult for our delegates to come for such meetings.In the meantime we are carrying on our work.We are having difficulties, no doubt, but we must work. It is ~~immaterial-whether~~ immaterial whether I become the Secretary or Tiga becomes the President. He can also serve well who stands by.

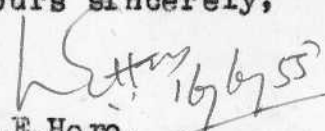
We pray that may God give us understanding.May He show us the way.

May we thank you and the Kuratorium for the words of encouragement and prayer that you are having for us here.We also thank you all friends and workers in the Gossner Mission in Germany for the blessings.

With christians greetings,

I am,

Yours sincerely,


N. E. Horo.

Pastor D. Hans Lokies
Berlin-Friedenau
Handjerystr. 19/20

June, 9th, 1955

Germany

Mr.
N.E. H o r o , B.A.
Ranchi /Bihar
G.E.L. Compound
India

Dear Brother Horo,

thank you very much for your letter of June 2nd. -
You can well imagine that we were very troubled about
the events in the Church Council and the Mahasabha and
that we had a rather sad Whitsuntide. But it made us pray
more fervently than ever for the Holy Ghost; not only for
the Gossner Church in India but also for us. We all regard
your letter as an answer to our prayers. We rejoiced over
it and were delivered from our anxiety.

Yesterday we had a meeting of the Kuratorium, and I was
asked to thank everyone of you who by his efforts had contri-
buted to the restoration of peace and unity in the Gossner
Church.

We also thank you for informing us about your resolution
concerning our brethren Bage, Surin and Mr. Kandulna. Further
we are grateful to you for letting us know ^{what} you have
decided concerning the Gossner- and Ebenezer Churches, (re.:
Dr. Bartsch, Rev. Klimkeit and Dr. Schultz).

Be assured that we earnestly pray for the plan^{ed} Mahasabha.
All fr-iends and workes in the Gos sner Mission in Germany
wish you Gods blessing for this meeting.

Yours sincerely

Hans Lokies

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Mission Estd. 1845—Autonomous 1919.

Secretary : Mr. N. E. Horo, B.A.

Ranchi, (Bihar) India.

No.

78/51
Che 2nd. June, 1955

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Berlin - Freidenau Stubenrauch Str.
12, Germany.

Dear Brother,

Hereby I acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 5 and 7, 1955 and also of the message the Kuratorium sent us for the Mahasabha.

There has been an inordinate delay in replying you, mostly due to unsteady circumstances in which we found ourselves after the Mahasabha. The Mahasabha this time was not smooth. Due to certain unavoidable circumstances the Mahasabha took drastic action and deposed Rev. J. Lakra and Mr. Z. Horo from the offices of President and Treasurer respectively, dissolved the Church Council, elected new office bearers and an Ad interim Church Council for next three months. And, there followed troubles. Rev. Lakra was up against the present C.C. He created a party on communal lines and appealed to the Federation (India) for intervention. The Federation wanted to send a Commission. The C.C. flatly refused that but welcomed some representatives of the F.E.L.C for studying the situation. Rev. E. Raman the Vice-President of Federation along with Dr. Sovik of the L.W.F. visited Ranchi on 26th May, '55 and left here only yesterday. They took three days to study the situation and we have now agreed, according to their advice, to convene an Extra-ordinary session of the Mahasabha on June 30, 1955. The present office bearers and Rev. J. Lakra (He still claim himself to be the President) will resign in this Mahasabha and a fresh election will take place under the Chairmanship of a pro-tem Chairman. There all happened during the last six weeks. We are thankful to God who has shown us the way and we are now looking forward to meeting on the 30th June, to elect new office bearers. I am Secretary of the Church for next thirty days and so I thought it my urgent duty to communicate to you the decisions of the Church Council on the point the Kuratorium very kindly sent us for our deliberation and decision. They are the following :

1. The C.C. agrees to the proposals regarding Brother Surin's further training in Germany and so it " resolves to accept the proposals of the Kuratorium in retaining Mr. Saban Surin for further theological training in Germany, and request her to make necessary arrangements according to her plan". It further resolved to select a qualified theological student for availing that Scholarship which was formerly offered to Mr. Saban Surin for study in America.
2. " We heartily accept the offer of the Kuratorium to train up two technical students in Germany. Further we undertake to select two such students who will receive their training in Germany and spare time will be introduced to non-clerical work so that in future they prove useful to the Church at large".
3. Mr. P.D. Kandulna was informed of the invitation which he has from the Kuratorium. He has expressed his readiness to accept this invitation. Now, it depends upon him when he can find himself going. The C.C. has yet to make arrangements for him. We shall write definitely when every thing is finalised.
4. As to the further staying of Brother Bage and Surin in Germany, the C.C. has resolved " to agree to the Kuratorium's proposals".
5. " The Church Council is thankful to the Kuratorium for the very encouraging words she expresses in our effort for bringing about a union of the Gossner and Ebenezer Churches." We consider Rev. Khondpan's visit to Germany a Significant one. We believe, he will be persuaded to visit us here too, that we can all come closer to each other in the ecumenical relationship. (Many thanks for the 2 photos which have been passed round).
6. The C.C. regrets to note that the Klimkeits' cannot come out

out to India again due to Mrs Klimkeit's protracted illness.

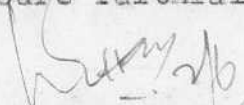
However, we believe Pastor Klimkeit and his family will immensely be utilised by the Lord, in their own country, for His glory. As to Dr. G. Schultz - the C.C. desires that he and his family should come back to India after spending their furlough in Deutschland. This is a unanimous decision of the C.C. We know, how valueable he has been for our church here. The C.C. pleads with the Kuratorium to send him back amidst us again.

Dr. Bartsch is welcome here. The C.C. has "resolved to invite Dr. Bartsch for the Amgaon Hospital". We hope, the Kuratorium for his letter and wishes that the bond of Christian love and relationship should be strengthened between us evermore.

The C.C. has now come to know about the nature of Correspondences that has passed between Rev. J. Lakra and Rev. J. Klimkeit. The C.C. makes a note of it and takes this matter as closed.

All official letters may please be communicated C/O The Secretary G.E.L.C. as usual. Thanks.

With greetings to all members
of the Kuratorium.
Yours faithfully


SECRETARY,

G.E.L.Church, Ranchi.

M/2-6-55.

Kuratorium
der
Goßnerschen Missionsgesellschaft

Church Council
Received <i>BB</i>
Register No. <i>CC 175</i>
Date <i>12/4/55</i>
By <i>51</i>
Book No. <i>51</i>

51
Berlin-Friedenau, am 7.4.1955
Stubenrauchstraße 12 Handjerystr. 19/20
Telefon: 83 01 61
Ho./Ja.

The Church Council of the
Gossner-Evangelical-Lutheran-Church
in Chota Nagpur and Assam
c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. H o r o

R a n c h i (Bihar)
INDIA

Dear Brethren,

As we have learnt the Church Council will meet on April 13th 1955 to prepare this years's Mahasabha. We beg you to be sure we shall remember you in our prayers. May God bless your deliberations and your decisions. May He guide your hearts and give wisdom, love and the strength of His Spirit in carrying through the two meetings:

For the meeting of the Church Council the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission presents you the following points for discussion and decision:

- 1.) We learn from the last letter of the Church Council of March 22nd that we may expect the arrive of Pastor Hanuk Minz and his wife in the course of this year. In spring 1956 the two young girls elected for studying in Germany will arrive here, accompanied by Dr. Schultz and his family. We should like to express our joy at this and we thank the Church Council for all the pains taken in this matter.
- 2.) We once more beg the Church Council to leave in Germany not only Mr. Marsallan B a g e but also Mr. Saban S u r i n so that he may finish his studies here. We have learnt but lately that you have decided Mr. Saban Surin to continue his studies in America. We should consider this as highly regrettable, as in that case Brother Surin would not be able to finish and complete the studies on which he has spent so much time and work. We once more offer the Church Council to let Mr. Surin have here all the degrees he could get in America. We hope and shall try to let him pass his examination as a B.D. next autumn and as a S.Th.M. at the end of next year.
Would it not be more profitable to the Church to give the scholarship offered for America to another qualified student of theology? So another theologian, trained in a foreign country, would be at disposition for future Church work. Mr. Surin is, of course, quite ready to submit obediently to any decision of the Church Council and we put the whole question into the hands of the Church Council. But we beg the Church Council to consider the question once more and to tell us what has been decided.

Another student will be sent to avail of this scholarship.

*Placed on 24/4/55 for 51
considered 7 Apr - a.
her. 24/4*

3.) We then refer again to a plan which for sometime already has been considered in our Kuratorium as well as in the Church Council. It is about letting Mr. K a n d u l n a come to Germany in order to study here a for a short time. We should like to repeat our invitation for Mr. Kandulna to come to Germany for one year. It would be necessary for you to pay for his passage here and back, while we would charge ourselves with any costs arising from his stay here and from any travelling in Germany. We should be very pleased if Mr. Kandulna could come to Germany so as to get acquainted with the different branches of Church work as: Home-Mission, church administration and church law.

4.) Besides we have to make another proposition which out-passes all the brotherly help we have been giving until now to the Gossner-Church. We should be glad if Indian students not only of theology could come for their studies to Germany. Therefore the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission has resolved to give help. We offer the Church Council to grant ~~two~~ scholarships for two really qualified students at a German Technical-University or Mining-University. We beg you to pay for the passage here only. All the other costs arising here in Germany and for the passage back after the studies are finished, will be paid by the Gossner Mission. We have but one condition: That the two students during their vocations should be ready to let themselves be introduced to non-clerical church work so as to enable them to help in the Gossner Church in India in spare hours.

This proposition would in no way stop the efforts of the Church Council to help Indian students to study in Germany by the agency of the Indian-Steel-Company. On the contrary: We should like to encourage the Church Council in that direction.

5.) Finally we should like to express our joy that the relations between the Gossner Church and the Santal Church seem to grow closer and closer. We guessed as much from what we read in the last letter from the Church Council.

We had, in the mean time, the visit of Rev. Khondpan, the President of the Jeypur Church, and received him as a dear brother in our house and in the parishes of Berlin connected to us by friendship. We enclose two photos taken at occasion of his visit at the new Gossner House.

We take this visit as a hopeful sign of the growing closeness of ecumenical relations between the neighbouring churches and the churches of the whole world.

- 6.) As to sending out new missionaries we have made definitive proposals in our letter to the Church Council of April 5th 1955. We should like to add a few words about sending out ~~to the Mission~~ a medical doctor. For months we have been in negotiations with Dr. B a r t s c h , son of the former Gossner missionary Paul B a r t s c h , at last of Darbhanga. He is willing to go as a phisician to Amgao, as soon as the Joint Mission Board calls him. He himself, his wife, and his eleven years old son have been tested for fitness for a tropical climate and have been declared fit. So the Kuratorium has determined to propose him for being sent out to India. The final decision has not yet been taken, but it will be so towards the end of the month. Only then the Kuratorium will be able to make the Church Council a definite proposition.

/private As a last item we have to acquaint the Church Council of a correspondence that has caused us great care and pains. Private letters have arrived written by the brethren Dr. Schultz and Rev. Tiga addressed to members of our Kuratorium. They refer to a letter written by our missionary Br. Klimkeit to Br. President Joel Lakra. The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission does not think it correct to go into the details of this correspondence and to write about it officially to the Church Council before the brethren Rv. Tiga and Dr. Schultz have told the Church Council themselves of the whole matter. We make use of the contents of Br. Klimkeit's letter to President Lakra only so far as it concerns the relations of the Church of Westphalia. Br. Klimkeit in his letter to President Lakra makes certain private propositions which ought not to have been made without knowledge of the Church Direction in Westphalia and the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission. We regret that the missionary Br. Klimkeit wrote such a letter without the knowledge of the Kuratorium and we shall ask him to account for it as soon as the Church Council has given its opinion of the whole matter.

As to the relation of the Church of Westpahlia to the Gossner Mission in Germany and the Gossner Church in India, President of the Westphalian Church, Rev. W i l m , has already sent the Church Council his reply which we entirely approve of.

With many good wishes for a blessed and joyful Easter-time

Yours faithfully

D. Hans Lohrke

Mission-Director

Enclosures: 2 Photos.

Church Council
cc 176
08/12/55
Home Board
of the
Gossner Mission Society

51

51

Berlin-Friedenau, 5.4.1955
Handjerystr. 19/20
Lo./Ja.

To
Church Council of the G.E.L.Church
c/o Secretary N.E. H o r o
R a n c h i (Bihar)
INDIA

Placed on 24/4/55
Consentation
cc.

Dear Brother Horo,

Many thanks for your letter of 22.3. I am very glad for your telling me that the next Church Council will only take place on 13.4. and the Mahasabha from 18. - 20.4. That means that our Home Board has time to make certain suggestions early enough and can send the Mahasabha greetings and a message.

I shall therefore convene a meeting of the Home Board as soon as possible and let you know of its resolutions in an official letter. On this meeting we shall discuss the items of your letter of 22.3..

Today I want to let you know the following: Our Home Board has decided to suggest in the place of Missionaries Dr. Schultz and Klimkeit a German theologian named Pastor Hermann K l o s s who for the beginning is to help and cooperate with the Gossner Church.

There is also another clergyman, Pastor Eberhard P e u s c h and his wife who have applied. He too as Pastor Kloss has passed his two theological exams, but he wants to take his degree as doctor of theology so that he would not be ready to go to India before the beginning of next year. As soon as that will be possible, we shall make suggestions to the Church Council in this matter.

/in

Today however the only matter is that of the unmarried Pastor Kloss, born in Danzig 21.6.1925, and now in the service of the Church of Hessen in Frankfurt as ordained minister. Pastor Kloss had at first studied oriental languages and ethnology, but then he decided to study theology. So at first he studied in the theological seminary in Neuendettelsau within the Bavarian Church, and then at the University of Erlangen, which trains theologians for the Bavarian Church. In 1951 he passed his first theology exam there. And from this time on he has been in close connection with the Gossner Mission, because he had the wish - if God so willed - to go to India and serve the Gossner Church there. In 1954 he passed his second theology exam, and from that time on he has been ready to be sent to India. The Home Board has now summoned him to Berlin, where he is to help in the home work of the Gossner Mission and to prepare himself outwardly and inwardly for the work in India. Pastor Kloss is Lutheran.

As there will be a great gap in the staff of the Theology College in Ranchi when Dr. Schultz returns to Germany and Mr. Klimkeit will be missing, we suggest that for the beginning you call Pastor Kloss to

Ranchi as teacher of Theology. We believe him to be a conscientious worker, fitted for the post of theology teacher, and we are sure that he will perform his duties in the Gossner Church faithfully in other sections of the Gossner Church as well. He could be sent at any time.

The Home Board assumes the responsibility as hitherto for the costs of the journey there and back as well as the salary. Brother Kloss is willing to accept the terms of reference. We can do no more than recommend him in this letter. Should the Gossner Church want his services and invite him as teacher for the Theology College, the Home Board would be willing to furnish further details, especially for the applications for an entry permit.

Believe us, we beg you, that we have only this offer to your Church after we had won certainty in our prayers. We know that we human beings can err, and that Christ alone as the Head of His Church can call the right workers for the Mission and equip them with the gifts of His Holy Spirit. Therefore we have laid the whole matter into His hands. But we beg the Church Council to bring the whole matter before God together with us, so that the right decision can be made.

In the fellowship of the Lord

yours sincerely,

Hans Lotties

Today however the only matter is that of the unmarried Pastor Kloss, born in Danzig 21.6.1925, and now in the service of the Church of Hesse in Frankfurt as ordained minister. Pastor Kloss had at first studied oriental languages and ethnology, but then he decided to study theology. So at first he studied in the theological seminary in Regensburg within the Bavarian Church, and then at the University of Erlangen, which trains theologians for the Bavarian Church. In 1951 he passed his first theology exam there. And from this time on he has been in close connection with the Gossner Mission, because he had the wish - if God so willed - to go to India and serve the Gossner Church there. In 1954 he passed his second theology exam, and from that time on he has been ready to be sent to India. The Home Board has now summoned him to Berlin, where he is to help in the home work of the Gossner Mission and to prepare himself outwardly and inwardly for the work in India. Pastor Kloss is Lutheran.

As there will be a great gap in the staff of the Theology College in Ranchi when Dr. Schulte returns to Germany and Mr. Klimkeit will be missing, we suggest that for the beginning you call Pastor Kloss to

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM

NO. 907/55.c.c.5

G.E.L.Church Compound,
Ranchi.
The 22nd. March, 1955.

Dr. H. Lokies,
Kuratorium,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin - Friedenau.

Dear Brother Lokies,

Thank you for your letter of March 5, 1955, which will be placed before the next session of the Church Council scheduled to meet from April, 13, '55. In the meantime, I am acknowledging receipt of your letter and let you know that we are extremely grateful to you for accepting our few suggestions with regards to the Terms of Reference. We have been trying to improve conditions with Tabitha School with the very valuable suggestions from the two sisters at the spot. It was very kind of Miss Schmidt who could make time to attend the opening session of the Church Council. I believe, She has been able to see for herself the Church Council at work.

It is very unfortunate that an able man like Dr. Schultz should leave for home so early, but we do not intend to comment on the decision of the Home Board. It is Dr. Schultz's own desire, you write, which is taking him back to Germany. Well, we have only another one year to work with him. We shall be really missing his very important work in the Indian Church. You do not inform whether you are thinking to send any other Missionary in future, but we guess you are most certainly on the look out for one. You tell another disappointing news about the inability of the Klimkeit to return back to India. That is really missing one of the most experienced Missionaries in our field.

Due to non-availability of the passport in time, Mr. & Mrs. Minz could not sail for Germany in good season. This delay is regretted as that has put you to many an inconvenience, and further delay means more inconvenience. I don't know when they shall be able to get the berths. When you suggest a warmer season, when they should arrive in Germany, that means they should have to leave India towards the end of this year. I do not know what you propose them to do here.

The two ladies, it should be now definite, should leave India along with Schultz & family sometime next year. This arrangement will provide mere opportunities for them to learn German Language and the field work. Both of them are in the Tabitha School; studying under the guidance of the two sisters. As regards their special training - specific branch of work for which they are to be sent to Germany, We shall be able to give you a more confirmed and final information after the two Govindpur sisters ^{and} the Church Council has been fully consulted. The special aptitude and ability of the two girls and the need of the Church are to be taken into consideration.

As far as the cases of Bage and Surin go, we entirely depend upon your advices. While we thought Bage will come back after two years we intended that Surin should go to America for further training. For this purpose, he had already approached us and an application to the Director, Department of Theology LWF had already been addressed. We had informed Surin about it and at the same time we had requested you to recommend him for this undertaking. We do not quite know what happened to his application. Now, you inform us of your intention to retain him in Germany and say that German equivalent

equivalent degree can be available for him. He is already in Germany 4 years now and we do not quite know what more time will be necessary for him to undergo this new training. We shall however be awaiting your detailed information in this connexion.

We are just back from the Santhal Paragana Benagaria-headquarters of the Ebenezer Church was the venue of our preliminary meeting with the representatives of the Ebenezer Church. We met on 11th & 12th March. Conference has constituted a Drafting Committee which will be meeting for the first time in Mornai Tea Estate, Assam in May next. This preliminary Conference has decided to work for the union which may take some time to finalise. On 13th March, there was a joint ordination service in the Benagaria Church where Mr. Mathuselah Tudu was ordained. This was an impressive service ever held. Our delegation consisted of Rev. Lakra, Rev. Tiga, Rev. Kula, Rev. Zakariah Chalkho, Rev. Samuel Bage (Simdega) Rev. M. Hemrom (Assam), Mr. Lalit Chohan Sandil (Manbhum), Mr. P.D. Kandulna and the undersigned.

Our Mahasabha is meeting from 18th-20th April, 1955. The full church council meets on 13, 14 & 16th April. The Church. The Church Ministerium meets on 15th April. There is an Ordination service at Christ Church on 17th April. We shall be expecting message of goodwill and encouragement from the Kuratorium as usual and may we ever grow richer in christian experience and charity through the Christian bond of love that we have in CHRIST JESUS

YOURS IN THE LORD,

W. S. 22/3/55

SECRETARY,
G.E.L. CHURCH, RANCHI.

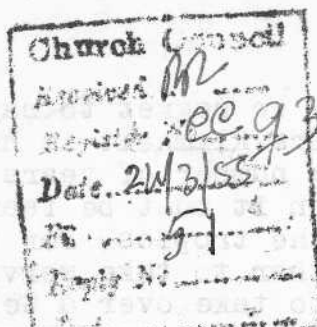
Gossnersche Missionsgesellschaft

Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 52050

Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, Dep.-K. 4

Berlin-Friedenau,

Konto-Nr. 7480



Berlin-Friedenau, am March, 5th 55

Handjerystraße 19/20

Telefon: 83 01 61

Lo/Su.

To
the Church Council of the
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
in Chotanagpur and Assam
c/o Secretary Mr. N.E. H o r o
R a n c h 1 / Bihar

India

Dear Brothers,

thank you very much for sending us back the Terms of Reference as they were resolved in the plenary session of the Church Council. Your letter was submitted to the Home Board in its meeting of 9.2.55 and was unanimously approved by it. The Home Board also received a report from Sisters Anni DILLER and Hedwig SCHMIDT on the resolutions of the CC concerning the TABITA-SCHOOL. The Home Board is very joyful over the active help of the Church Council for the progress of the Tabita School and thanks the responsible brothers for all the aid they have given the Tabita School. That the CC has decided to have extra 5 teachers a year trained at the Tabita School for religious instruction we consider most important and promising. The Home Board on its part is willing to contribute a scholarship-help of 100 Rs monthly.

Further the Home Board lets the Church Council know that Professor Lic. SCHULTZ according to his own desire and according to an arrangement with the Home Board agreed on before his departure to India intends to leave the service of the Gossner Church in 1956. At his request we are already preparing to secure berths for him and his family in time. Most probably he will return to Germany next year February.

The Home Board regrets that the departure of Pastor MINZ and his wife has been delayed. It is the same with the two Indian young women who have been selected for study in Germany by the Church Council. On the otherhand this delay may have its positive sides. For Mr. and Mrs. MINZ it is sure to be better for their health if they arrive in Germany in the warmer season. As to the young women who are to come to Germany, their coming later need not be a disadvantage if 1.) they are further taught German in the Tabita School and 2.) acquire a good knowledge of the Bible. In fact the Home Board suggests a further postponement of their journey so that they could travel to Germany with Brother SCHULTZ and his family. The Home Board would also be grateful to the CC if it would let us know clearly for what section of work the young women are to be trained, e.g. whether they are to be prepared for teaching at the Tabita School or to take over the management later on. The Home Board intends this only as a piece of advice or a suggestion for the CC. The decision and of course the selection of the girls for study in Germany is wholly in your hands.

We are very sad to have to give you the very disappointing news that Missionary KLIMKEIT cannot return to India. While the undersigned was in India he was asked on several sides to send

KLIMKEIT to India again. We regret to say that is impossible, as it has turned out that Mrs. Klimkeit is no longer fit for the tropics. She will need a number of years before she becomes quite well again, and even then it must be feared that she will not regain her fitness for the tropics. For this reason Missionary Klimkeit has decided either to take service in the home work of the Gossner Mission or to take over a German parish. We hope that he will remain as fellow-worker in the propaganda work of the Gossner Mission, even if he does have a small parish. However he can no longer work for the Gossner Church in India.

In our Home Board meeting we also discussed the future of Brothers Marsalan B a g e and Saban S u r i n . As you know it had first been arranged between the CC and the Home Board that the 2 young men were to stay in Germany for two years, and now they have been here for nearly 4 years and have not yet even finished studying. We would quite understand if the families of both Brothers not only, but also the Church Council became impatient and asked when at least the studies would be over and with which result. We beg the Church Council to be patient and to allow the two brothers to stay here till they have completed their studies. As you know Marsalan BAGE is working at a philosophical dissertation at the Freie Universität Berlin. And we hope that he will be able to return to India with a German University degree. Besides that he is continuing his theological studies, which are also terminated by an exam. In this way Brother Bage will be qualified to serve the Gossner Church in important sections.

With Saban SURIN things are a little different. Both Brothers have passed their Greek exam well after having made their exam in Hebrew. We take the opportunity to tell the Church Council that we very much appreciate the diligence of the young brothers and are happy every time they have passed one of their exams. We beg the CC to allow us to keep Suban SURIN here still he has completed his studies in Germany. The Home Board promises the CC that he too will return with practically the same degree he would have acquired in America. We would consider it as disastrous if Saban Surin would break off his studies in Germany now and go to America, however tempting that may be. The Evangelical Church in Germany will arrange that the degrees he acquires in Germany will be in no wise less valuable than those he would make in America. We shall give the CC details as soon as we have discussed the matter with Bishop DIBELIUS.

We thank your office very much for sending us the addresses we had asked for of all the synod presidents. Would you please also let us know when your Mahasabha is taking place this year.

We send the Church Council our warmest greetings and pray God to bless your work in this year, and we remember and in our prayers the whole of the Gossner Church in Chota Nagpur and Assam, her pastors and all who serve the Church in its congregations and bid you

Yishu Sahay !

James Loveless

The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam

Mission Estd. 1845—Autonomous 1919.

President:—Rev. J. Lakra, M.A., B.D., S.T.M.

G.E.L. CHURCH COMPOUND
RANCHI BIHAR INDIA.

Ref No. 4332/54

51
Dated the 31st. Dec. 1954..

Dr. Alfred Hannemann,
Berlin Dahlem,
Podbielskiallee 56.
GERMANY.

My Dear Dr. Hannemann,

My brochure on the visit of Director Lokies has been too long, I believe, and you have almost no time. Therefore, as suggested by you, I am sending just a note signed by the Officers of the Church. I trust you will be able to find a corner for this note.

I am extremely sorry for my delay, but I could not help in any way. My plan was too big and the disturbances too many. I almost pine for the dearth of time. I do request you to kindly forgive me.

With kindest regard to you.

J. Lakra
Yours very sincerely,

DIRECTOR LOKIES VISITS
INDIA

Director Lokies was born in India while his father Missionary Lokies lived at Knutitoly. His golden age of childhood was spent at Knutitoly. At the age of ten or eleven he left India for Germany.

After about 50 years he returns to the land of his birth. In this connection the following facts are recorded :-

1. Director Lokies visited the five large Provinces of North East India viz, Assam, Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh in which area the Gossner Church has spread out at present. This area includes the Autonomous Church Field, the New Joint Mission Field and the Surguga Lutheran Mission Field.
2. Besides the above area of the Gossner Church Director Lokies visited Madras which is in the ~~Kings~~ Leipzig - mission area, Rajahmundry which lies within the Andhra Lutheran Church, the Breklum Field and the Santal Ebenezer Church. At Rajahmundry he attended the meeting of the Federation of the Lutheran Churches in India. While in Bengal he attended the convocation of the Serampur University which is the only institution in India which confers theological degrees. He attended the Gossner Church Mahasabha (General Conference) on March 25th. and 26th., 1954.
3. These visits of Director Lokies were made within a little more than four months. He left Ranchi on the 9th May, 1954, having landed in Bombay on the 26th. of December 1953. The programme was so crowded and heavy that the critics said the Gossner Church authorities were going to kill Director Lokies. There was no vacant time and no leisure for Director Lokies.
4. Everywhere in the Gossner Field, the Director was met and welcomed by hundreds and thousands of our brothers and sisters and children ^{with} such signs of love as hand-washing ^{and gathering}. All were very eager to meet him and hear him. People came on foot walking ten to twenty miles. The Director met not only the congregations, but Pastors, Catechists, Teachers, Young people, Women Children and Committee and Council members, separately, discussing matters of respective ~~interests~~ interests. Director Lokies could intelligently discussed the problems of different groups and interests and his suggestions were very helpful. He could grasp and understand the problems and tried his best to convince the people. To the congregations he always spoke on a text from the Bible. He never touched politics in his speech.
5. His love for India and the Indian Church is a unique. His missionary ideals are far above the ordinary level. ~~xxxxxxxx~~ He undauntedly upholds the independence of the Indian Church. He ardently believes in the co-operation and collaboration of the daughter and the mother churches. He is a zealous for the ~~xxxxxxx~~ Evangelization of the unbelievers, but he never goes to offend any group of non-Christians. During his whole itinerary, Director Lokies wonderfully respected and kept the Indian Church authority.
6. Director Lokies has given a new life to the relationship between the daughter and the mother churches. The Terms of Reference which he defended in the Mahasabha, are unique in the history of Missions. ~~xxxxxxxx~~ They open a new way of cooperation and collaboration between the younger ^{above mentioned} and the older churches. They release a new spiritual force for the work of the Evangelization of the world. These terms of Reference are worthwhile to be adopted by the other churches and missions.
7. It is worthwhile to record here the resolution of the Gossner church Mahasabha (General Conference) ^{above mentioned} on the visit of Director Lokies which reads as follows :-
Resolved that the Mahasabha of the G.E.L. Church express ~~and~~ records its grateful thanks to the Home-Board, Berlin, Gossner Evangelical Missionary Council, the Lutheran World

World Federation and to Director Hans Lokies , for the ~~more~~ most fruitful visit of the Dr. Lokies to the G.E.L.Church including Joint Mission Field , and Surguja Mission Field . It further records that the visit of Director Lokies to these areas and the Manasabha in session, have brought innumerable blessings and encouragement to the G.E.L. Church . This visit will ever be remembered by the coming generations in the Church.

J. C. K. K.
President,

H. Lokies
Secretary,

N. E. HORO
SECRETARY.

Dr. H. Lokies,
Director
Gossner Mission Society.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL OF THE G. E. L. CHURCH
RANCHI, BIHAR.

Dated 16th. March, 1956.

Dear brother Lokies,

I thank you and the Kuratorium of The Gossner Mission Society for inviting me to visit Europe to be able to acquaint myself with church life in Germany. I specially thank the Gossner Mission Society for very kindly volunteering to meet my travelling costs.

The Gossner Church Council has now allowed me leave to undertake this journey to Europe. I have seen the tentative programme for my journey prepared by you. I accept this programme and request you to kindly arrange for my participation in the Conferences.

I have applied for my passport and have requested Thomas Cook & Son to arrange a tourist class berth in a Lloyd Triestino Ship "Asia".

Please convey my sincere greetings to members of the Kuratorium, I am

Yours sincerely,

Suey Horo

Please send under your
signature that resolution of
the Council regarding Drs
P. Rhess and Felix Hunziker
deputing them to education on
HSJ and any other mentioned
where Dr. Lohies calls them
to Germany.

J. C. C.
29/11/51

51

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

No. 3757/54.

From:- Secretary Mr. N. E. Horo, B. A.,

G. E. L. Church Compound,
Ranchi (Bihar)
The 12th October, 1954.

To
Director Hans Lokies,
Kuratorium,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau,
West-Germany.

Dear Dr. Lokies,

I have pleasure to inform you that the Church Council of the G. E. L. Church has decided to send two girls for training in Germany. Miss Daisy Hemrom and Miss Paraklata Khess have been, as such selected who will be leaving India most probably along with Rev. and Mrs. H. Minz. Miss Hemrom has already joined Tabitha School and the two sisters have recommended her for this training. Miss Khess will be joining the Tabitha School soon.

We hope our selection will be approved by the Kuratorium^u and the two girls will be accepted by you in Germany gladly.

B. L. 12/10/54.


Secretary,
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

NO. 3757-52/54.

G. E. L. Church Compound,
RANCHI.

ANNALS.
The 12th October, 1954.

From:- Secretary Mr. N. E. Horo, B. A.,

To

Miss Daisy Hemrom, Tabitha School, Govindpur.
Miss Parachata Khess, B.A., Bethesda Girls High School, Ranchi

Dear Sisters,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the G. E. L. Church Council has selected you for foreign training in Germany. You are required to join Tabitha School immediately and get yourself prepared for the training.

As required by the Church Council, you are hereby requested to intimate me in writing of your acceptance of this offer. Relevant extract of the C.C. minutes is given below for your information.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary,
G. M. L. Church, Ranchi.

B. L. 12/10/54.

Extract from the minutes of the meeting of the full C.C. meeting held from 28th September to 3rd October, 1954.

"Resolved that Miss Daisy Hemrom and Miss Praclata Khess be selected candidates for foreign training in Germany. After returning from Germany they will work for the Church for life but for first five years without marriage. The above be communicated to the two girls and their acceptance be taken in writing."

Der Dr. Lokies,

I have pleasure to inform you that the Church Council of the S.E.L. Church has decided to send two girls for training in Germany. This Daisy Hemron and this Paraklata Khes have been ^{as such} ~~therefore~~, selected who will be leaving India most probably along with Rev. & Mo. H. King. This Hemron has already joined Tabitha School and the two sisters have recommended her for this training. This Khes will be joining the Tabitha School soon.

We hope our selection will be approved by the Kuratorium, and the two girls will be accepted by you in Germany gladly.

51

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

NO. 3756/54.

G. E. L. Church Compound,
Ranchi (Bihar)
The 12th October, 1954.

From :- Secretary, Mr. N. E. Horo, B. A.,

To

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Director,
Gossner Mission Society,
Berlin-Friedenau
West-Germany.

Dear Dr. Lokies,

Please send a financial guarantee for the passage to and fro for Reverend and Mrs. Hanuk Minz and also for their financial support for five years of their stay in Germany. Rev. and Mrs. Minz are here and they need such a certificate from you in order to obtain their Passport.

Sincerely Yours,

[Signature] 12/10/54

Secretary,
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi.

B. L. 12/10/54.

To whom it may concern.

This is to certify that the Gossner Mission Home Board Berlin has decided to invite Rev. and Mrs. Hanukh Minz to Germany to visit the Churches here. The Gossner Mission Home Board undertakes to bear all of their travelling expenses both ways and also be wholly responsible for all their expenses while in Germany.

Dear Dr. Loxies,

Please send a financial guarantee for the passage to and fro for Reverend and Mrs Hanukh Ming and also for their financial support for 5 years of their stay in Germany. Rev. and Mrs Ming are here and they need such a certificate from you in order to obtain a their Passport.

Yours truly,

W. E. H.
12/19/57

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Registered Under Indian Societies Act 1860

Mission Estd. 1845—Autonomous 1919.

~~SECRETARY'S OFFICE~~ 1959

58

Ranchi, (Bihar) India.

No.

4285/54

The

30th Nov. 1954.
22nd December

The Kuratorium of the GOSSNER'S MISSION ,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Handjerystrasse,
GERMANY.

Dear Brethren,

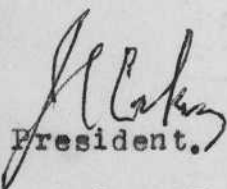
We are in receipt of the "Terms of Reference" with your suggestions for some alterations. These were decided to be finalised in the full Church Council which meets only twice a year. Recently it was discussed.

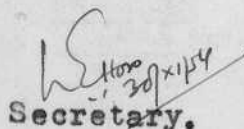
The first two suggestions in respect of Nos. 1 and 4 are accepted. In respect of No. 5, the Council felt that the original wordings prepared by the Extraordinary Mahasabha are most suitable i.e., " .. in rotation according to the alphabetical order". As a matter of fact in the Mahasabha the opinions of the Missionaries including that of Dr. Lokies were obtained before it was finalised.

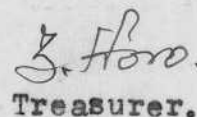
The last two paragraphs are transformed in to Nos. 11 and 12 as suggested. Accordingly one copy of the "Terms" is returned herewith duly signed by the Council officers.

along with
the preamble

With our cordial YISHUSAHAY


President.


Secretary.


Treasurer.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
in
CHOTA NAGPUR AND ASSAM (INDIA)

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

NO. 3432/54

G.E.L. CHURCH COMPOUND,
RANCHI.
The 24th Augus, 1954.

From,
Secretary:- Mr.N.E.Horo, B.A.,

To

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Mission Director,
Berlin-Friedenau,
West-Germany.

Stubenrauchstr-12
Stubenrauchstr-12

Dear brother Lokies,

I must apologise for not being able ~~to~~ as yet to send you Indian Postages and Church Statistics which I promised to send. I am collecting the same. I have not forgotten my promise.

Brother Lakra and I are going to Madras next Saturday i.e. 28th August to attend the enlarged Executive meeting of F.E.L.C. It will meet from 1 - 3rd September, 1954.

Our Pastors' Retreat has been convened this year and it will commence from 11th September till 27th September, 1954. The Ministerium will sit on that occasion. We are expecting a requested statement to be sent to the Gossner Ministerium Secretary (Rev. S. Surin, Takarma, P.L. Lassia, Ranchi) by Rt. Rev. Bishop Lilje on two points- (1) Immortality of the soul. (2) Child belief. You know the subject too well. Could you persuade the Right Rev. Bishop to oblige the Gossner Ministerium in this respect? As there are two opinions in this subject here, I am afraid it will greatly harm the Gossner Church in future. Personally I want the matter to be clarified. Hence, this request.

Yours sincerely,

24/8/54
Secretary,

G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

B.L. 24/8/54.

51 78

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM.

NO. 3433/54

G. E. L. CHURCH COMPOUND,
RANCHI.
The 24th August, 1954.

From,
Secretary- Mr. N. E. Horo, B. A.,

To

Dr. Hans Lokies,
Mission Director,
Berlin-Friedenau,
~~West-Germany~~
West-Germany.

Stubenrauchstr-12

Dear brother Lokies,

I thank you for your letter of Aug 3 and 9th, 1954. I have placed these before the Executive Officers meeting. These will also be put up before the full Church Council which is meeting from 28-30th September, where certain decisions will be taken re: Rourkela and many others.

Brother Hanukh Minz has not yet come to Ranchi. He is held back due to serious flood occurring in the Brahmaputra. I learn from Pastor S. Horo (Tezpur) that Minz will be staying with them until floods have receded and rail links are repaired. The Council has decided to send him to Germany. This decision was taken in full C.C. meeting on 29/3/54. Minz has been relieved from his duties at Tinsukia (Assam).

Only Gospel according to St. John ^{in Kharia} has been published so far. Translation of Old Testament and New Testament is nearing completion and I hope, by next year, the whole Bible will see publication. I shall send Bage one copy of St. John's in Kharia.

The Statistics which you wanted has, I find, been sent to your Berlin address on 16.6.54. In case that has not reached you, I am enclosing one. I am really sorry it is not in your hands as yet.

We are applying to the Hindustan Steel Ltd. for some lands to enable us build Church buildings, hospital and School buildings and parsonage. If the firm Krupp-Demag give money for building purposes that will be very nice indeed. List of technical hands are being sent to them. We are glad to know that the Kirchliche Aussenamt has accepted brother Symanowsky's proposal and so let us hope that Krupp-Demag will agree to provide money for the project.

We shall consider in our next C.C. meeting to provide an Indian Pastor for spiritual welfare of the German Engineers. Co-operation from the National Lutheran Council will be possible, it appears, from correspondences passing between you and Dr. Schlotz. I think, it will be possible to give an estimate of the total costs involved in this project before the meeting of L. W. F./C. W. M. at Hockelum. This information is being required by the C. W. M. at their Geneva Office.

I shall let you know of our Council decision in respect of Co-operating with the World Mission Prayer League. Personally, I feel, there should be no hesitation in securing the co-operation of the League.

More in my next letter.

Cordial greetings to you and Prases Stosch.

Yours in the Lord,

K. N. S. 18/54
Secretary to the G. E. L. Church, Ranchi

B. L. 24/8/54.

Handwritten: 20/5/54

Kuratorium
der
Gossnerschen Missionsgesellschaft

Berlin-Friedenau, am May 14th, 1954
~~Stubenrauchstr. 12~~ Handjerystr. 19/20
Telefon:

To the
Council of the Gossner Lutheran Evangelical Church
R a n c h i / Bihar
India

Dear Brethren,

We are in receipt of "The Vote of Thanks" passed by the MAHASABHA on March 31st, 1954 relating to Director Lokies' visit. Thanks be to our Lord for blessing Director Lokies' work. We are also grateful to you for the cordial reception you gave him, for all the expenses incurred and chiefly for the fine spirit which prompted all your meetings with him.

The "Terms of Reference" passed by the Mahasabha in March are at hand. We accept them, suggesting a few slight changes in their wording only, viz :

- § 1 should read "Daughter and Mother" in accordance with the logical sequence of the sentence.
- § 4 Instead of "The Kuratorium ... shall undertake to support the Missionaries on the Gossner field " we should say "The Kuratorium ... w i l l under- take to support t h e i r Missionaries in the Gossner field ".
- § 5 It seems to us preferable saying "alternately" instead of "in rotation according to their alphabetic order", leaving the decision to the C.C. which Missionaries' presence or counsel would be desirable at the particular case.

The "Resolutions" annexed to "Terms of Reference" should be transformed into paragraphs 11 and 12, as shown in our revised draft of these "Terms of Reference."

Two Copies of them duly signed by the Kuratorium are enclosed. If the slight alterations proposed by us are agreeable to the C.C., we suggest that both copies should be signed by the C.C. authorities and one of them returned to us.

With our cordial "Jisu Sahay "

the K u r a t o r i u m of Gossners Mission

encl.

Handwritten signatures:
H. Koller, J. Stosch, Chr. Jung, Dr. Oetting, A. Wolm, G. Querner, A. K. F. K. F. K.

Translation of the Terms of Reference for foreign Coworkers of the
 Gossner Church.
 Drafted by the Kuratorium for the G.E.L. Church, May '64.

1. Having the member of the Lutheran World Federation and participating in the fellowship of the World Council of Churches the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church of Chhotanagpur and Assam has the desire that the members of the other brother Churches should cooperate in mastering the task imposed upon the Gossner Church. This desire is based on the Holy Spirit and ought to be the desire of every Christian Church in this age.
2. In ecumenical candour and freedom the Gossner Church claims the right through its constitutional authority to invite such Fraternal workers who do not dictate the terms of its faith but cooperate for its own happiness (II Cor. 1, 24) because the Gossner Church is not a Missionfield any more in the sense that without its agreement foreign Church workers could be sent to it.
3. The Gossner Church emphasises this right so much the more also before the Government of the Indian Republic because (a) on the basis of its short history it is conscious of the possibility to receive valuable help and spiritual enrichment from such coworkers of friendly brother Churches in the variety of works and services imposed upon the Gossner Church. (b) The Gossner Church knows that its autonomy is inviolable and respected by the non-Indian coworkers in full loyalty.
4. The Gossner Church is conscious of its relationship to the Church of reformation in Germany with special gratitude and love, because it owes its life and origin to the work of Father Gossner's emissaries. Therefore the Gossner Church will be specially glad to receive (male & female) coworkers from the German mother Church and has a special confidence in the Gossner Mission of Berlin nominating fit workers.
5. During the period of work being stipulated or not stipulated these fraternal workers are responsible not only to the organisations of their home Churches which have sent them, but also to the Gossner Church and its organised bodies.
6. The task of the coworker is to be expressed as precisely as possible and an indenture is to be drawn up in order to avoid possible misunderstandings and disappointments and to make rights and duties clear. The authorities of the Gossner Church still reserve to themselves the right to put up general terms of reference for such indentures.
7. The Gossner Church has aims to grant dwelling and appropriate salary to the invited coworker. As long as the Church is not yet in the position to do that, it is grateful when help is given for this from the side of the sending organisation (Gossner Mission Ecumenical bodies, brother Churches.)
8. In principle all fields of Church work (Theological teaching, mission work, diaconia and education, women and youth work etc.) are open for such coworkers. The KSS of the Gossner Church will let the brother Churches and ecumenical institutions know for which work the cooperation of experienced foreign brothers and sisters is specially desired.
9. They are requested to cooperate in those central bodies boards of the Gossner Church which are related to their service being as a rule "advisers". The governing bodies of the Church will from time to time receive them in their midst for report and discussion about their work.
10. The Gossner Church welcomes also the invitation of its own servants and coworkers as fraternal workers to other brother Churches whether for deepening their education and training or for their cooperation. Only in such a mutuality and such an exchange the Gossner Church sees the unity and practically proved community of Christ's body on earth manifested.

To Lyke M.
1954 TGR

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Preamble

President ke adesh par samucha Terms of Reference and Preamble parha gaya jo yon hai:-

The Mahasabha of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam receives with gratitude the declaration of the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society dated 3.11.50, and the Statement dated 3.11.50 which read as follows:-

"The Gossner Kuratrium is happy that the G.E.L. Church has become Autonomous, that there is therefore no need for the missionaries to assume administrative responsibility, and that they will instruct their missionaries accordingly" and "the Kuratorium of the Gossner mission Society is convinced that in the present situation of the Autonomous Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church, it is no longer necessary or desirable to charge missionaries with responsible administrative posts, and to give them a vote".

The Mahasabha of the G.E.L. Church offers the following terms of reference to the Kuratorium of Gossner Mission Society.

Terms of Reference.

- 1/ The relationship between the G.E.L.C and the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society shall be that of Daughter and Mother.
- 2/ The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society will send missionaries to work in the G.E.L.C. on the request of the G.E.L.C.
- 3/ The missionaries on the field will work as friends and helpers in the development of the G.E.L.C. for specific periods by personally accepting the terms of reference offered by the G.E.L.C. to the individual missionaries through the Kuratorium.
- 4/ The Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society in Christian Love and charity shall undertake to support their missionaries on the Gossner field. The policy is to receive such help through the G.E.L.C. Treasury.
- 5/ All Missionaries shall be invited to attend the meeting of the Mahasabha. The men missionaries will be invited to attend the meetings of the Church Council, one by one; ~~alternately~~. The missionaries will also be invited to attend the meetings of their respective synods. They shall be free to visit the congregations in any part of the Church and to attend the Church meetings as they find it possible with the information of the Synod president.
- 6/ All missionaries working in the G.E.L.C. shall be regular members of the Gossner Church.
- 7/ All ordained missionaries shall be members of the Gossner Church Ministerium.
- 8/ Each Missionary will be given a specific work in the Church such as: evangelistic work among non-Christian, teaching in the Theological Seminary, production of Christian literature, help running of charitable institutions etc.
- 9/ The G.E.L.C. provide suitable accomodation for the missionaries working in the field.
- 10/ These terms of Reference can be amended by the mutual consent of the bodies concerned.
- 11/ All former proposals or drafts of "Terms of Reference" are superseded by these Terms of Reference.
- 12/ The 'Joint Mission Field' will be administered by a 'Joint Mission Board' incorporated in the G.E.L.Church, in accordance with the regulations adopted jointly by the Mahsabha and the Kuratorium (vide Mahasabha minutes 1953 p.p. 49-52).

Berlin-Friedenau,
May 14th, 1954.



President

members

G.E.L.Church, Chota Nagpur and Assam

H. C. K.
President

H. E. H.
Secretary

J. H. O.
Treasurer

* in rotation according to their alphabetical order.

President ke adesh par samucha Terms of Reference and Preamble parha gaya jo yon hai.:-

The Mahasabha of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam receives with gratitude the declaration of the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society dated 3.11.50, and the Statement dated 3.11.50 which read as follows:-

"The Gossner Kuratrium is happy that the G.E.L. Church has become Autonomous, that there is therefore no need for the missionaries to assume administrative responsibility, and that they will instruct their missionaries accordingly" and "the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission Society is convinced that in the present situation of the Autonomous Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church, it is no longer necessary or desirable to charge missionaries with responsible administrative posts, and to give them a vote".

The Mahasabha of the G.E.L. Church offers the following terms of reference to the Kuratorium of Gossner Mission Society.

President & Treasurer

30/11/54

Enclosed is the "Terms of Reference" as altered by the Kuratorium in respect of nos. 1 & 4. The last two paragraphs of the original "Terms" as passed by the Extraordinary Synod are transformed in to nos. 11 & 12 which alterations are accepted by our recent Full Church Council.

In respect of no. 5, the original wording is being maintained about which the Kuratorium is being informed.

Please put your signature in the covering letter to the Kuratorium & in the two copies of the "Terms" one of which is being returned to the Kuratorium.

Office

Send the
Team attached along with
original covering letter
after putting down the
in the Terms

Seal
30/11/54

30/11/54

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Mission Estd. 1845—Autonomous 1919.

Secretary : Mr. N. E. Horo, B.A.

Ranchi, (Bihar) India.

No.

The 195 .

The Kuratorium of Gossner's Mission,
Berlin - Friedenau,
Hindenburgstrasse,
Germany.

58

Dear Brethren,

We are in receipt of the "Terms of Reference" with your suggestions for some alterations.

The first two suggestions in respect of Nos. 1 and 4 are accepted. In respect of No 5, we feel the wording of the Mahasabha i.e., "in rotation according to their alphabetical order" is most suitable. As a matter of fact, the Mahasabha put this wording after a careful consideration in which Dr. Lokis' opinions of Dr. Lokis and other missionaries present were obtained.

The last two paragraphs are transformed in to paragraphs 11 and 12 as proposed. ~~After accepting the above suggested alterations.~~ One copy of the "Terms" is accordingly returned herewith duly signed.

With our cordial Greetings

President

^{H. Horo}
Secretary

Treasurer

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
in
Chotanagpur and Assam India

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Mission Estd. 1845—Autonomous 1919.

Secretary : Mr. N. E. Horo, B.A.

Ranchi, (Bihar) India.

No.

The December 1954.

The Kuratorium of Gossner Mission,
Berlin-Friedenau,
Handjerystrasse,
GERMANY.

Dear Brethren,

We are in receipt of the "Terms of Reference" with your suggestions for some alterations.

The first two suggestions in respect of No.1 and 4 are accepted. In respect of No.5, we feel the wording of the Mahasabha i.e., "in rotation according to their alphabetical order" is most suitable. As a matter of fact, the Mahasabha put this wording after a careful consideration in which opinions of Dr. Lokies and other missionaries present were obtained.

The last two paragraphs are transformed into paragraphs 11 and 12 as proposed. One copy of "Terms" is accordingly returned herewith duly signed.

With our cordial Vishusahay.

President.

Secretary.

Treasurer.

G o s s n e r E v a n g e l i c a l C h u r c h
i n

C h o t a n a g p u r a n d A s s a m (I N D I A)

B.L.21/12/54.

Göfnersche Missionsgesellschaft

Bankkonto: Bezirksbank Friedenau,
Rheinstr. 1, Konto 7480
Postscheckkonto: Berlin NW 7950

Berlin-Friedenau, am 30.10.51
Stubenrauchstraße 12
Telefon:

Mr. C.D. SIRKA
Secretary
G.E.L. Church
RANCHI (Bihar)
India

Dear Brother Sirka,

Unfortunately I was in West-Germany attending important church conferences when your letter of Oct. 10th arrived here. For this reason I was not able to send you the resolution of the Home Board concerning the Joint Mission Board before. I am sorry to hear that in the meanwhile the meeting has already taken place (27.10.). That is very unfortunate, but I am afraid I cannot help it.

I hasten to send you an extract of the minutes of the Home Board meeting which President Joel Lakra also attended, and with it the text of the statutes of the Joint Mission Board which the Home Board formulated on the basis of the meeting of July 16th.

We had certainly sent President Joel Lakra the wording of these statutes personally, but you are right: officially we should have sent the statutes to the Church Council through you. Please forgive me this lapse. I should be very sorry if for this reason the Church Council should have been prevented from taking a definite decision on the Joint Mission Board. It is wholly my fault, and I beg you to express my regrets to the Church Council.

You write that the meeting of the Church Council was to take place immediately after the Centenary Jubilee of the Mundas. I hope our greetings and good wishes arrived in time for the great day. We were ourselves very unhappy that none of us could come; but we can't always act as our heart inclines us to. I myself am very tied by heavy responsibilities and my work in Church and Mission, and cannot do what I should like. You may be sure that in spirit we were with the Centenary Jubilee with all our hearts and partook in the joy of all.

We were very pleased at the arrival of Brothers Bage and Surin. Nobody was exactly informed concerning their arrival and so they both arrived surprisingly in Mainz. But now they are there, and we are glad to see how keen the two are to adapt themselves to conditions in Germany, to learn the language, so as to begin study soon. You will surely have heard further details through my fellow-worker, Brother Symanowski.

Please give the cordial greetings of the Kuratorium to the Church Council,

yours sincerely,

Hans Lorenz

2 enclosures

8.7

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

Mission Estd. 1845—Autonomous 1919.

Secretary: Mr. C. D. Sirka.

Ranchi, (Bihar) India

No.

The

195

JOINT MISSION FIELD

1. The area for a Joint Mission Field shall for the present consist of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar and the adjoining Territories with Chaibassa as their outpost, though Singhbhum lies within the jurisdiction of the G.E.L.C.
2. There shall be a joint board of control consisting of four members, two elected by the G.E.L.C. and two by the Gossner Home Board, and the joint Board shall have the right to elect its own President, Secretary and Treasurer for two years, alternating the first two positions between the G.E.L.C. members and the Gossner Home Board members. The Treasurer is responsible for the intake and expenditure of all subscriptions to this work.
3. The Joint Board shall be the final body for all matters concerning the field and its work.
4. The Board shall not be registered body, but shall be incorporated in the G.E.L. Church.
5. The G.E.L. Church and the Gossner Home Board shall have the right to replace either of their members any time they like.
6. All workers, foreign and Indian in the Joint Mission Field shall be appointed, discharged, dismissed and transferred by the Joint Board.
7. Workers for the Joint Mission Field shall be called by the Joint Board both from Germany and the G.E.L. Church. The Berlin-Board and the G.E.L. Church shall be responsible to supply workers to the Joint Board.
8. The Joint Board shall submit an annual budget estimate to the Church as well as to the Home Board. After this estimate has been approved from both sides the Church Council and the Home Board must agree as to the repartition of the costs.
9. The scale of the G.E.L. Church shall apply to all workers supplied by the G.E.L. Church.
10. The scale and furlough rules of the Gossner Home Board shall apply to the workers supplied by the Home Board.
11. All the new converts shall form congregations affiliated with the G.E.L. Church Pracherakpans, parishes, Ilakas and synods and care shall be taken that they become self-supporting from the very beginning. Any help to such congregations shall be given by the Joint Board through the G.E.L.C.
12. Any new assets that may be acquired shall be vested in the name of the G.E.L.C. If a piece of property acquired by ~~the Joint Board~~ by the Joint Board by the G.E.L.C. Treasury to enable the Joint Board to acquire other Property for the Mission work.
13. The existing rules of membership in the G.E.L. Church shall be applied also to the foreign workers of the Joint Mission Field.
14. This agreement has been made between the Gossner Home Board and the Church Council in Ranchi. If a third party is to enter this can only be done with the consent of the two parties of the contract.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Secretary,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Treasurer,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Members of Executive Committee:- 1.

2.

3.

4.

5.