



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 18, 1978

Reverend Maurice E. Lehman
Lyndon Mennonite Church
1960 Horseshoe Road
Lancaster, PA 17601

Dear Mr. Lehman:

Permit me to share with you one of the most poignant letters that I have ever read. It comes from a young man, 21 years old, who was brought up in Christian mission schools.

"Now I am no longer the former man you knew. Apart from my body, which is the same, my whole mind and thought have changed. I have become a new man in a classless revolutionary pioneer corps, a loyal believer of Marx-Leninism. I shall never live for myself alone, but for the masses. What satisfies my aspirations now is the progress of a happy socialism to a communist state. In this new teaching, I have found unimagined blessing and happiness. I am very sorry that I must inform you that I no longer believe in God nor worship Him. I can no longer address you as a religious brother, but I send you my revolutionary love."

The unreserved devotion and unwavering loyalty of this young man to what he believes is true is most impressive. It forces me to examine my own personal commitment to Jesus Christ who alone can make "any person a new creation"; it also makes me examine my personal responsibilities as a Christian educator who is charged to provide high quality theological and Christian higher education at Eastern Baptist Seminary and Eastern College.

Perhaps you feel as I do that we - pastors, educators and laity, Christ's body - must renew our zeal and fervor and must with strong conviction and purpose "present our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable unto God". (Romans 12:1) Through our corporate witness, we can send Christian "revolutionary love" resounding throughout the world, bringing forgiveness, healing and wholeness.

We are most appreciative of your prayers and concern. As an alumnus, would you encourage your congregation to support Eastern's mission of theological education in 1979? Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Through the "revolutionary love" of Jesus Christ, I am

Sincerely yours,

Daniel E. Weiss
President

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