SUOMEN VIENTIYHDISTYS (THE FINNISH EXPORT ASSOCIATION)

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Helsinki, March 29th, 1938.

Mauritz O. Nelson, Esq., Hotel Clara Larson, Birger Jarlsgatan 29, STOCKHOLM

Dear Mr Nelson,

My friend, Mr. Ryti, has handed over to me your letter of March 24th concerning the possible Finnish-American Chamber of Commerce to be established in New York, and has asked me to send you a few words to inform you of the present/state of the matter.

Certain things have interfered with the founding of this Chamber of Commerce and delayed it, but there is no doubt that it will come into being before long. It is needed as a connecting link between the free economic circles in Finland and the U.S.A., for the strengthening of personal contact and co-operation between these circles for the common end: the development of commercial and other relations between both countries.

During my stay in New York a little less than a year ago, I discussed this matter with foreign trade circles in the U.S.A. and their central organization, as Mr. Cole, according to your letter, has told you, and I found these circles most willing to co-operate in the realization of the above idea. I also became convinced that very much can be accomplished by means of such a Chamber of Commerce, if there is a proper man at the head of it, a man who knows how to take full advantage of the goodwill prevalent in the U.S.A. towards Finland.

The suggestion at the end of your letter strikes me, in the light of what I have heard of your activities from Mr. Ryti, as something very interesting, and I feel that we should closely connect your name with this scheme.

I do not, however, think there is any need for you to come over now for this matter, but probably later on when the solution to the financial side of the problem is more clearly visible. We will keep you posted as regards the development of the plan.

Yours Faithfully,

P.S.

By the way, the writer will be in Stockholm on the 16th

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of next month, staying only one day, i.e. from the night of the 15th to the following night. If you remain in Stockholm until then, there while be a chance for a short talk about the matter. You will probably let me know.