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From: Bruce Mann

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689 Freeman Street
Prince George, B.C.
June 3, 1956

Mr. John Allen Chalk
Box 119
Creed-Hardeman College
Henderson, Tennessee

Dear Bro. Chalk,

We are very glad to hear of you from Bro. L. D. LaCourse of Calgary, Alberta, and to know that someone would consider coming so far, not knowing the circumstances.

Yes, we need someone to labour here for the Lord's church. I would like to let you know what to expect, etc.

We are sponsoring a radio program here (a fifteen-minute broadcast each Lord's Day at 8:45 A.M.) and have a notice in the paper weekly, but otherwise there has been little done to bring the church before the people since 1950. The town has grown a lot since then, with a population now of 12,000 or more. Bro. Roy Tidwell, then of Edmonton, Alberta, was

here for ten days in the fall of '54, but there wasn't any field work done. So you can only guess as to what knowledge the people here in Prince George have of the true gospel of Christ.

In 1947 my father got Bro. J.C. Bailey to come and hold a meeting and from then on there were a few members of the church meeting regularly. There were added in '47 - one; in '48 - five; in '49 - three, and in '54 - one. Now some have moved away, some have fallen away and if the past two Lord's Days are a true indication of the faithful, two met (my wife and I) - we have five boys, two, but ranging in age from 3 weeks to almost nine years - . We meet in the Elks Hall each Lord's Day morning at 10:30 for Bible classes, with worship at 11:00. At present, that is our only assembly during the week. There are actually five members of the church, including a U.S. Air Force lad who comes in occasionally from the nearby radar base, who attend more or less regularly.

I don't want to discourage you from coming, but neither do I want you to expect the work to be easy to accomplish and be greatly disappointed. Progress will doubtless be slow and the few members will first have to be strengthened.

We need an evangelist here all the time for some time. I gather from the information I have that you are going through college and are only available for the summer months. You could very possibly be of great help in that time. You would be expected to do the radio broadcast, possibly some newspaper articles and of course, field or personal work. However, you might have a workable plan that could be put into effect.

At present, I am forced of necessity to lead the singing, teach the Bible class, do the speaking and act as secretary and treasurer for the few here. Of course, I have a regular full time secular job and am also building and remodeling our home. I am not a preacher.

but do the best I can since there is no one else who can and/or will take a leading part.

You asked about the necessary clothing for this climate. Summers in Prince George are usually quite mild, and my wife, who is from Montana and went to school in Texas, believes clothing suitable for spring wear in Tennessee would be all right for summer in Prince George. Throughout May the weather has been very sunny and warm, with the temperature climbing up into the high seventies and low eighties. If you plan to stay longer than for the summer, you will naturally need winter clothing quite different from what would be required in the southern U.S.

We do have some rain here during the summer but not an excessive amount. Few people wear raincoats or carry umbrellas.

I contacted the immigration officer here and he informed me that if you were coming only for the summer, all that

would be necessary would be for you to have a letter from an organization recognized in Canada (that is, the church) stating your purpose in coming to Canada, etc. In other words, they want assurance that you are what you claim to be and are not coming under false pretenses. I am sending along a letter which you can present to the authorities at the border, and it would probably be a good idea to have one from someone at the college there or from a congregation with which you have worked.

If you decide to stay in Prince George indefinitely, it will be necessary for you to obtain a passport and comply with all the immigration laws at the border, which will include a medical examination and chest X-ray. Of course, the medical report, etc. will have to be made on the official forms ^{which} are available at the customs office at the border.

It would be best for you to plan to travel by bus from Vancouver to Prince

George.

Our telephone number is 872-L-3, should you wish to contact us by phone.

I will be expecting to hear from you soon as to whether or not you are coming and when you will arrive, if you decide to come right away.

In His service,

Bruce Mann

If you decide to come and will let me know the amount of your fare to Prince George by wire, I will forward it to you immediately.