



CHAMPION DEERING McCORMICK MILWAUKEE OSBORNE PLANO

INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY

GESELLSCHAFT M. B. H.



SCHUTZMARKE.

ERNTEMASCHINEN, ACKERGERÄTE, MOTORE, MOTORPFLÜGE, BINDEGARN.

SCHUTZMARKE.

BANK-KONTO:

WIENER BANKVEREIN,
WIEN II.

F. F. A. GOTTWALD, DIREKTOR.

TELEGRAMM-ADRESSE:
INTERVINA-WIEN
TELEFON NO. 44.534.

ÖSTERR. POSTSPARKASSEN-KONTO
NO. 132.641.

WIEN, II/1 February 11th, 1920.

KRONPRINZ RUDOLFSTRASSE 36.

G/B.

Mr. JOHN DIERKING,
c/o INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY,
EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., U.S.A.

My dear Mr. DIERKING:-

I duly received your letter of October 8th and was delighted to hear again from you and Mrs. DIERKING, and must apologize for not writing you sooner. As you may have heard in the meantime that I am leaving here, I have been rather busy since the end of last year, installing my successor Mr. KLAUS, who, as perhaps you remember, was the Manager of the MANNHEIM Branch House. I am going down to ITALY on the 15th of this month on an investigation trip, but I hope to be back here end of next month, when I hope to also have Mrs. GOTTWALD back again in VIENNA, who is since the beginning of December at home in England. I accompanied her as far as BERLIN, where I also met Mr. and Mrs. HERTZ, who gave me all the news about the Dierking friends. Four weeks ago Mr. and Mrs. SAWALL passed through here, and they also mentioned that they had seen you. Conditions in Austria, and especially in Vienna, as you will have read many times, are going from bad to worse and of course you will realise that this country cannot exist by itself and sooner or later it will have to join GERMANY, in order to form part of a larger territory. The resources here in these alpine sections are so small that they cannot feed a capital of over 2,000,000 people, that is one third of the total population, whereas formerly it was a capital of about 50 million people. When I was, in December last, in BERLIN, I saw the great difference in the food conditions between there and here. What this town has suffered the last few years is unbelievable, as we had not only the blockade from outside, but also from inside, as Hungary, which formerly sent about 80% of the foodstuffs here, formed in the war her own food territory, so that this town lives daily from hand to mouth. When then the great breakdown came and also Galicia and Bohemia broke off, this town stood practically before nothing. The patience which these people have shown is really admirable, and it is another side of their spirit of tolerance. Of the old friends, you remember, Mr. WIBIRAL has fallen near GRODEK before LEMBERG in June 1915, leaving wife and one child practically without any resources.



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Mr. John Dierking, East St. Louis.

We moved since the fall 1914 to these new quarters, had a special warehouse built, four stories high, and have splendid office-room, but as we have not seen any machines since two years, you can imagine how we are vegetating in every respect.

I trust that you will not keep me waiting so long as I did you and hope to receive soon the promised long letter, which kindly address c/o Mr. H.L.COWAN, 8, Place Edouard VII, PARIS.

With all good wishes to both of you, and also thanking you for the nice Xmas card, which you sent me, I remain always

Very sincerely yours,

F. F. A. Gottwald