## The Finnish Character

Ellen Kocher [van Kampen] October 14, 1972 Helsinki, Finland



This time I would like to tell you something general of the Finnish character.

Finnish people are very polite, especially when they are addressed by a foreigner. The young people are highly educated and are all very intellectual. The universities look quite different than those in Germany, for example. There is a quiet and busy atmosphere due to the students' eagerness in hearing their lessons and learning as much as possible. They really like to study. There is no open rebellion or demonstration of the students.

Finnish people never express their opinion very violently. They are very much introverted and do not have much contact to each other. Even in a family they often do not know if the other is believing in God or not. At least they do not talk about it.

This has very much to do with their education. From childhood on they are taught to show an unmoved face and not to express any feelings.

The advantage of the character is that they are very honest and steadfast. They do not easily change their opinion.

You can really trust them. On the other hand it is very difficult to move them because they do not show any reaction. If we are teaching them the principle, it is hard to say how far and deep they understand because they do not say anything.

So we need especially much love and heart to move them. If we once have success to move this people's heart, they will be very strong fighters, somehow they are like rocks. In history they had 44 wars against Russia. They do not easily give up.

Here are very many prepared people and we are very busy and running every day to reach out to them and lead them to the family.

I hope I can tell you soon of big success.

Many greetings from Finland to our beloved Korean family,

Ellen Kocher