

18th of January 1953

Professor Dr. J. von Neumann
Institute of Advanced Study
P r i n c e t o n
New Jersey

Dear Von Neumann,

We have here a very good young mathematician, Dr. Kurt Strebel. He is my assistant, but he is a pupil of Nevanlinna's. Dr. Strebel will shortly be admitted as Privatdozent. Now, both Prof. Nevanlinna and myself thought it would be very good for Dr. Strebel to spend a year in the United States. Would it be possible to obtain a fellowship for Princeton, beginning autumn 1953? I enclose a Gutachten on his Habilitationsschrift, from which you can see what his work is about. His previous publications are:

Eine Bemerkung zur Hebbbarkeit des Randes einer
Riemannschen Fläche. Comm.math.Helv. 1949.

Eine Ungleichung für extremale Längen.
Ann. Acad.Sci. Fenn. 1951.

Ueber das Kreisnormierungsproblem der konformen
Abbildung. Ann.Acad.Sci. Fenn. 1951.

Dr. Strebel is Swiss, a very nice and jolly fellow, and an excellent teacher.

Would you mind sending me an application form, that is, if you judge that Dr. Strebel's chances are good?

Yours most cordially

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(Prof.Dr.B.L.van der Waerden)

enclosure.