Calle 2/a N° 207 La Paz B. de Mexico
6.5.24

Dear Syñor Basave

Have just received your letter re the trisection of
an angle of 60°. I have attempted in vain so far to disprove
the solution, at the same time I am inclined to think that
in its present form the demonstration is not quite absolute
There is a possible apparent loophole. I think the
construction itself retains it: but it is necessary to develop the
construction to show this if I am right. For the present I
will go on "pegging away" & send you the final results later
on. With respect to geometry & mathematics, my knowledge
is quite elementary. I have purposely limited myself to
Euclidian geometry and have only gone a very little way into
the range of the "higher mathematics. On the other hand
I have generally been rather successful in solving chess,
geometry & number problems. Let me say that long ago
I grasped the fact by myself that Euclidian geometry has
nothing absolute about it: and therefore readily accepted
the dictum of the great French mathematician Henri Poincaré,
"There is no such thing as a true system of geometry but
only the most useful." Euclidian problems are thus little
more than mental exercises like chess problems. Only it
would seem that the solution of a problem in one e.g Euclidian
system can be adjusted to solve the problem in another
geometry e.g. that of spherical or pseudo spherical space.
and so on.

In the meantime as the two solutions of the problem
how to trisect a straight line, are quite beyond cavil &
were totally ignored & grasped by European scientific friends
to whom I sent them, I enclose them on the chance
they may interest some of your mathematical friends
They are both so extraordinarily simple that it seems
incredible that professional mathematicians have
for centuries cudgelled their brains in vain to find
a solution.