

"Cedarcrest" New Ganaan Connecticut

1  
January 8<sup>th</sup> 1935.

Dear Madame Loeberich, —

It is with some hesitation that I undertake this letter to you, for in spite of Mr. Horch's assurance that anything I may say will be well received, I feel that it is somewhat of an imposition to expect one whom I have never met to read even the briefest account of my life and ambitions, which is what Mr. Horch has suggested.

3. of you and to all spiritual things. It is an added impetus to scale the peaks as is the thought in 'Agri Yoga', 'Hierarchy', and the 'Heard'. They have meant much to me.

If I must tell you of myself I think I may pass over the first nineteen years of my life with the explanation that they were thoroughly conventional; the type of life one would expect of an only son of social position and sufficient means, with our possible exception. I early gained an independent turn of mind, perhaps from being

4 sent away to school at 2  
The age of nine. This was  
occasioned by the death of  
my father six years earlier  
and my mother's inability to  
do anything with me.

In 1929, after refusing  
to go to college (as I very  
much doubted its virtues as  
applied to me) and spending  
the greater part of the winter  
in assembling an anthology  
of poetry, privately printed  
as "Immortal Verse" with E.  
S. Buchanan, a Scotchman  
who was supposedly tutoring  
me, I went to South America  
with the intention of continuing  
around the world, an un-

2. I am somewhat re-assured, however, when I remember your kindness in sending me, through Mr. Storch, three indications from the past which have done much to encourage me and explain certain thoughts which have puzzled me, especially during the past five or six years. These messages also assure me that we are not really strangers, and if indeed beauty be a bond we should truly be close, for, as Mr. Storch has told you, I am so fortunate as to possess Professor Koeberich's "Heavenly Himalayas" which has brought me much joy and a feeling of proximity to both

5. Realized ambition. I re-3  
mained on the one continent  
I en "Cedarcrest" New Canaan Connecticut mouth  
and returned after traversing  
portions of Brazil, Argentina,  
Chile, Peru, and Bolivia, re-  
turning through the latter  
country across its northeastern  
portions, the Beni River, and  
then following down the Acre  
and Purus Rivers in Brazil  
into the Amazon to Para, and  
thence by plane to Miami and  
home.

The bare itinerary of the  
trip conveys little of its value  
to me. Aside from traversing,  
part of the time, more or less  
untravelled country, a valuable  
experience in itself, the jungle

7. The last five years in evolving a new alphabet of existence.

In 1931 I went to Hawaii and from there to Japan, where after a two-day-assu-  
uaintance I asked the girl who is now my wife to marry me. She was a dancer. Strangely enough I felt "destiny" at work here. It was as if I had been impelled from without. After a short stay in Japan I returned to Honolulu where we were married on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 1931.

Shortly after we returned to New Zealand. The following year we again briefly visited Japan, also Russia, Spain, and Java, and returned to Honolulu.

8. for eight months. Then 10<sup>-4</sup>  
Hollywood for three months  
when I returned to New Tanaan  
and built the house in which  
we are now living. My wife  
came here several months  
later, after touring the coast  
with Michio Mo, and on  
September 2<sup>nd</sup> 1934 a daughter,  
Valerie, was born to us. This  
completes my material history  
to date.

• We must now expand our  
small "studio" into a house.  
I realize the necessity at this  
time of providing for my-  
self a room in which I may  
work undisturbed at all times  
and which will not suffer the

6. and the mountains, and the  
the silence, and time to think,  
did much in opening new  
vistas to me, and I truly be-  
lieve that it was here for the  
first time that I really thought.  
Before, I had readily accepted  
what was told me about the  
worth of my position in the  
world, the superiority of my  
environment, and the value  
of money and society. It is  
needless to tell you what  
nature does to such compla-  
cent beliefs. They have been  
shattered beyond repair, and  
I have been spending, (not,  
unfortunately, without inter-  
ruptions and digressions), the



9. Disturbing aura of another 5  
person. I hope in April to  
satisfy this need by building a  
suitable room where I may  
work and meditate. My only  
fear is to contract too many  
material possessions and  
obligations.

Three years ago I became  
intensely interested in the East  
for no apparent reason. Nat-  
ural attraction has carried  
me on. I have learned a  
little of Buddhism, the Vedas,  
the Upanisads, the Mahabharata,  
Zoroastrianism, Mohammedanism,  
the Katala, and the Egyptians.  
"Isis Unveiled" fascinated me, but  
oh! how meagre and false

11. as a means of bringing joy to others but also a clarifying of my own thought, of finding the truth without which I realize the paucity of all else. But truth and knowledge have the same facility of receding as a mirage in the desert. Only too often the visionary oasis becomes sand and trickles through my outstretched fingers, — but I have merely reiterated what to you is well known.

That I desire truth, beauty, knowledge is not strange. How could it be otherwise? One cannot approach truth without wishing to possess it: one

12. cannot possess it without <sup>to</sup>  
wishing to share it - wisely.

Incoherent though this  
letter may be, may it convey  
to you my sincere desire to  
share in whatever knowledge  
you may think me fit to  
receive and whatever advice  
you wish to offer. To you I  
send my admiration and prof  
fer myself for what I am  
worth in the struggle of the  
world for enlightenment the  
battle of spirit and matter.

A message to the Master is  
in my heart but what words  
I can summon fail utterly  
to express it.

In all sincerity,  
Philip Hansen His

10. Most of the available literature is. One must grope in the dark!

My ambition for some time has been to write. Lately it has narrowed itself to a desire to convey to the world some of the beauty, truth, and knowledge contained in the Eastern Teachings. It is my lack of knowledge combined perhaps with insufficient self-discipline, an inclination toward self-laziness, which has kept me silent till now. I see such writing (I am sometimes tormented with doubt whether this be my proper medium - I feel so much that I am unable to transfer to paper) not only