

45-55 48 Street, Woodside, L.I., N.Y.
10 December, 1946.

Dear Grace Hallam,

You were vividly in my thoughts at the second Associates meeting. A new Associate said that the meeting was "both stimulating and calming". I felt you would know what was behind the words and would agree with it. As you realize, we hope to gain in creative enthusiasm at these gatherings and also, bit by bit, to understand more deeply and constructively the Teaching. In connection with our talk at the October Associates meeting (see my last letter) about the "Banner of Peace" and related subjects, some typed passages from the books were distributed to those members who could make extra copies. One of these sets of extracts is herewith enclosed.

You say in your last letter that "the list of references is not progressing very rapidly". No doubt you were experiencing an ebb tide, according to natural law, and the "full" may already be with you. By now, for example, you have probably discovered several remarkable passages in "Fiery World II". They made me think of you.

As regards copying the paragraphs selected - that is an individual matter. In my own case, I always feel the gain has been greater and more unified if sections are copied, but I realize this as a personal reaction. The use of hand as well as of eye (calling upon another sense) seems to be involved. Reading the finished product aloud takes in a third sense and sometimes brings with it broader revelation.

Yes, these recent sections from "The Letters of the Mahatma" are precious. As you know, we are advised to read the books at various times of day and under different conditions, mental and emotional. The passage you cite, "Read less - meditate" seems to me to emphasize that advice. It points to the making one's own of what is read, to its application under current conditions. The final result might be briefer but more frequent readings, as one learns to rely more and more upon the Teaching as thus revealed. This fits closely with your earlier comment (quoted, you say, from Mr. Jones) on "spiral levels" of various passages. Once we have the "spiral" idea in this connection, then if each in his own daily life applied it, realizing this truth as related to the individual's own "spiral levels" of development - surely there lies its creative value. There also, I am sure, lies the value for you of the affirmation you quote. And what you say of all creatures having their part in the Plan, that too has its constructive implication. Each must feel his responsibility for highest effort toward complete playing of his part. As you read the books you will note how this thought is repeated. Such passages give wonderful courage in our united labor and deep joy as we continue to strive.

So far, the season at Headquarters has been an extremely busy and interesting one, filled with experiences, contacts, opportunities. We do all we can - and see more beyond. Think of us, as you too live your full creative life from day to day.

With love from a fellow striver,

Faithfully,