

C O P Y

May 4, 1949

Mr. B. Bolling
Grand Haven, Mich

Dear Mr. Bolling:

I have just received your letter of May 2nd and I am just as confident as you are and as your doctor is, in regard to your operation which is to take place on May 10th. I also feel that it is wise for your doctor to treat it with the utmost care, using laboratory tests, and to have you under observation for several weeks after the operation. I am happy that you are so fortunate as to have such excellent physicians as those you have mentioned.

During spiritual enlightenment, matters of physical health should not be treated lightly - that I have learned during the many years of my being in our work. Our Beloved Leaders, Prof. and Mme. Roerich, always insisted that we consult the best physicians at any sign of an ailment of which our body gives warning. However, in your letter you do not mention as to the exact spot upon which the operation will be performed. If you could still drop me a line about it I would like to know this.

If you are contemplating a letter to Mme. Roerich, do mention this operation and your doctor's opinion about it. Her thoughts of strength and healing directed to you will be of tremendous significance. I am sure you will not cause her any anxiety, but on the contrary she will establish a still stronger current with you in sending help to you. Of course I do not need to tell you that I shall think of you all this time and especially on May 10th, at the hour of your operation. Perhaps you could direct your nurse to write me a day after the operation, just a few words, as I know you could not do it personally.

You do not say how long you will be in the hospital - will it be for some time? Your staying at home for three weeks afterward is very wise, as the care received at home is always more efficacious than that given in the hospital.

You mention Roger and Donald in your letter - we feel very close to Roger already, Mr. Fosdick and I, but would like to know a bit more about Donald. What are his interests, does he like to read and if so, what kind of books? Does he love art and music?

I presume Mrs. Bolling is on a strict diet now and will not have too hard a time in losing 15 lbs. Perhaps you could also mention in your letter to Mme. Roerich about that fact. I write this because I have in mind the first suggestion and advice sent to you by Mme. Roerich in reference to Mrs. Bolling.

And now I should like to speak of something else which I feel you may wish to know. In coming close to the Teaching and accepting it as an integral part of one's life, we often encounter a number of obstacles. We may have to go through some illnesses and, above all, we encounter many tests. This is all in the nature of our discipleship and growth. In revealing our wholehearted attitude of accepting these tests and occurrences, we grow and are ready for further spiritual enlightenment and knowledge. How else could we be ready to receive it if our spirit and organism be not prepared for it! We hasten our Karma and out-live many things predestined to us, in a quicker way than ordinarily. By that I mean that people who are absolutely not conscious why they are on this earth and what is their mission here, go through life regarding everything that happens to them as an unwarranted blow or misfortune. We say however that joy would not come if misfortune would not precede it; because misfortune, difficulties and obstacles are part of our development. He who lives a placid, uneventful life cannot expect richer and fuller realization and feeling of his responsibility toward mankind. Our service to mankind is one of the reasons why we come to this earth, and it is vital for us to be consciously aware of it. In serving we grow. In serving we also come closer to the Brotherhood and Hierarchy.

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Dudley and I speak often of you and send you our loving thoughts. As we talk about the future, the plans cover most beautiful and significant unfoldment in which you are to be closely associated with us all.

I am sending you thoughts from the heart and will watch your recovery very closely.

Most sincerely yours,

(signed) Sina Fosdick

June 6, 1949

Mr. B. Bolling
Grand Haven, Michigan

Dear Mr. Bolling:

It was a pleasure to receive your letter of June 1st, which contains many interesting details.

To begin with, I want to say that I am happy to hear that your bandages have been removed, and we may be sure that the scars will heal even faster than you have been told. No doubt your health will be on the ascending line from now on.

It is good to hear that the work on the outside of the house is proceeding and probably will be completed by the time the young couple will be out; I presume around June 15th. I do not know when the college year ends, but since you had an agreement with them and corresponded with the girl's father, it seems to me that they will fulfill their agreement.

If you remember, Mme. Roerich suggested quite some time ago that the necessary repairs could be started in the summer, and this is precisely the reason why in one of my previous letters I suggested that we discuss this matter with the architect, I mean the necessary repairs and changes inside the house. After going carefully with Dudley over the whole house, we really found that our ideas of major changes, of general applicability, amounted to much less than would be required under the plan given by Mr. Byrnes, and we wrote down the essential details. I do hope that you will also agree that the sooner we discuss it with Mr. Byrnes, or, for that matter, with any other architect or contractor whom you may suggest, the sooner we may arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. Thus the work could be started perhaps the beginning of July, and it should not take long to prepare the building for occupancy. Dudley and I have not only dreamt about the necessary changes, but, being practical idealists, we have thought out carefully the immediate steps toward efficient fulfillment of the Indications. We heartily concur with you that the building must be made usable for our institutions as soon as possible. The sooner we put our original plans into operation the more feasibly will the general project unshelve itself. In fact I feel free now to tell you something which I did not think it right to impart to you at the time of your operation and during the subsequent period of treatments. It was quite some time ago that I was advised from India to start my musical activities in the house on 107th Street, the suggestion being that I should begin teaching there after the first week in May. Ordinarily I would have immediately consulted you at that time and would have had, without doubt, your prompt advice and cooperation in this matter. But this news practically coincided with the day of your operation, so I felt constrained not to worry you about it. Now I feel free to ask you, what do you think about it and how could that be accomplished? Of course, even then I was pondering as to how to start the indicated activities without the necessary repairs and changes in the house having been made first, and also with the young couple still not having moved out of the house.

Through the establishing of each institution in its own quarters there, the house will become immediately practically suitable for all purposes. In regard to our living there, although we know from experience the restrictions it entails we are quite ready for it, because we know that this is the best way for the rapid advancement, growth and success of the institutions, as there will be then someone to watch over them constantly without losing any valuable contacts. This will, of course, involve a mutual decision with you about the apartment which we occupy at present. Not only this but also the other above-mentioned considerations which Dudley and I together have already covered, will

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have to be in turn discussed thoroughly now with you. Mr. Weed is cognizant of all this, as we took it up with him at our last meeting together. If you could be in New York at the end of June, as I believe you originally thought you could do, we might, all of us together, arrive at the best and most harmonious solution. I wonder whether the date of June 28, or any later day of that week, might be convenient for you to come. Mr. Weed will be back from Canada at that time and will be with us. This could precede a regular meeting with all our other co-workers.

Do you not feel that the question of incorporation would be best taken up by us all at that time? We really have to evolve a simple and practical plan and then proceed with the incorporation. I have no doubt that then the right lawyer will be found and there will be no further delays.

In regard to your possible trip west, perhaps you have already written or cabled to Mme. Roerich and asked her advice about it. If so, undoubtedly you will receive a prompt reply.

I am particularly pleased to tell you that "Fiery World" volume 3 is being distributed most successfully - to date, close to 100 books have been sold. As you know, such business or public activities are greatly handicapped in our present quarters, and we would undoubtedly sell a far greater amount if Agni Yoga Society were housed in proper quarters where members and visitors could freely come.

Since you were our guest at the last ARCA meeting, you will no doubt be interested in our current letter to ARCA Members, which I am enclosing here.

On Saturday, June 11th, we are holding the last meeting of Agni Yoga Associates of this season, and I know that you will be with us in spirit, since you cannot be present.

Dudley is deeply engrossed in his accounting studies and at the end of this month will re-enroll in Columbia University (his Alma Mater) for an intensive course including Organization and Management.

I am working steadily on the new book "Community". It is truly remarkable in its many revelations.

With thoughts from the heart, in which Dudley joins me, I remain

Most cordially yours,