

Kenneth Hurst Letters 1938-1954

Editor's Note: The Kenneth Hurst Letters consist of correspondence between PB and his son Kenneth, covering over 40 years of their lives. There are some references to PB's first wife Karen Tottrup, her second husband Les, and PB's third wife Evangeline Young (now Glass) – who was also referred to as Noel, or Eva. PB and Karen divorced when Kenneth was still young, and Kenneth lived with her exclusively, as was the common practice for divorced families at that time. Then, due to the travel restrictions of WWII, Kenneth's contact with PB was further delayed until the late 1940s – as such, letter writing was his primary form of contact with PB for many years. Kenneth was a difficult child and had a sometimes challenging path to adulthood. He was a very successful executive for Prentice Hall publishers and did many small tasks on PB's behalf as the latter roamed the globe. His devotion to PB was absolute, even though his own spiritual interests were less strong than those of his father. Most of the letters in this file were handwritten from between 1938 to 1954.

PB had a tendency to make edits, write notes regarding his replies, or insert address information and meeting times on the letters themselves after receipt. We have noted PB's insertions and marginalia, but have not noted edits made by the original author, assuming that they were corrections made at the same time as the rest of the letter. To preserve both readability and the voice of the author, we have corrected spelling errors but have generally left grammar as is.

Less interesting letters have been summarized instead of fully transcribed. Please refer to the scanned PDFs for the full content, or to view all stationary headers, postmarks, unidentified markings, marginalia, etc. Proper names and dates have been written exactly as found in the original for each letter in this file; where we discovered multiple versions of a person's name, we have noted the full name either in the body of the text in {curly brackets} or in a footnote.

In many letters, there are words that are illegible or missing; in such cases we have included either our best guess or the word "illegible" inside {curly brackets}. In rare circumstances, we have added a word or phrase to a letter for readability, which are also noted with {curly brackets}; a footnote was added where we deemed it helpful. – Timothy Smith (TJS), 2020

L40.001

1 - 2
Handwritten postcard¹
Paris
le 21 Fevrier 1938

A² ma femme tres bien - aimee de Paul

¹ Postcard is a photo of PB.

² Page 2

Airmail from Paul to Kenny
c/o Thos Cook & Son
(Bankers) Ltd.
Berkeley Street London W.1
October 11. 1939

[My dear Kenny]

I have your letter of September 6 and was very glad to hear from you. I read the story of your adventures in the billets with mingled amusement and pain: amusement because now you have had to go out into the world alone you will realize what self-reliance means, and pain because there are such wicked people in the world as the steward and his family. However it will be an instructive experience to you.

However I regret that you have returned to London merely because you had such an unpleasant experience at your first billet. The world is made up of good and bad people, both, and as you found in the other billet some families will be most kind to you. During the time of war you are too young to endure the horrid noise of air raids and you ought not to expose your nerves to them. The fact that there have been no raids until now, does not mean that they will not start later; you ought to be prepared and settled away from London. Why wait until they start? So take my advice Kenny and arrange another billet in the country. I would very much like you to try a village where I lived in 1933/1934 for several months, where the people are exceedingly nice as most of them are Quakers (Society of Friends) and yet it is so near to London that you could run up to town once a week to your family. It is called Jordan's Village; the nearest railway station is SEER GREEN and the line runs from Marylebone Station. It is in Buckinghamshire and amidst most beautiful woods. Do try to find a billet there and I shall be most happy to send all the cost. There is a delightful "meeting house" there where every Sunday morning there is a meditation and simple service. It is 250 years old and was founded by George Fox and William Penn. I used to attend the service every Sunday; it is quite³ different from ordinary churches, no humbug or hypocrisy. If you can't find one there, then Seer Green village itself will probably be available.

I enclose postal order for ten shillings [3d]⁴ to help you buy toilet things and personal necessities and pocket money.

You ask me about your work with me. Well of course while the war is continuing we cannot do anything, as Englishmen are not allowed to leave India, so I have volunteered for service here. But the moment this war ends (and I agree with you that it may collapse soon owing to internal revolution in Germany) I shall clear up my affairs here and get back to Europe. Then you will be able to work as personal assistant and secretary until the magazine can be started. So I want you to

³ Page 5

"page 2" typed at top of page

⁴ This indicates 10 shillings and 3 pence, which is £23 or \$37 US today —TJS '19

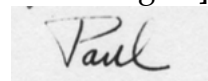
carry on with your studies meanwhile, and become expert in shorthand and typewriting. You might also take up the subject of Correspondence and Letter-Writing. I did not include this in your Gregg course because theirs is purely commercial correspondence, and that is useless to me. You have to learn what is called Private Secretarial Correspondence and you might study that in some good books sold by the Gregg or Pitman Schools. Learn how to write a good letter on your own initiative; this is valuable. Get two or three such books and I shall of course be glad to send a postal order to cover cost.

Personally as mentioned before I do not think this war will last long; however as my health cannot stand the cold winter of Europe I shall have to wait until March before I can return in any case.

Let me know if there is anything you need. I am very disappointed we can't meet soon and I am looking forward greatly to the time when we can.⁵ I ask you to write me OFTEN. If anything urgent, you may use airmail costing 1/3d⁶ and I will refund cost always. Also airmail postcard.

Please note Kenny that "Berkeley Street" has an e after the l. Keep your presence of mind, be calm and philosophical in this dangerous time.

[With lots of love and kindest thoughts]



L40.007

7 - 10

Letter from Paul to Kenneth
c/o Thos. Cook & Son
Postbox 171, MADRAS, India.
January 19, 1940

[My dear Kenneth]

I was delighted to receive your letter of December 19 to-day. But you do not mention having received the £1⁷ order which was enclosed with my previous letter. I want to know whether you got it. However I have considered very carefully the question of your desire to be employed. I know that the value of higher education is immense, especially for the literary work with which you will have to assist me later. However I have decided on a compromise and thus yield partly to your wishes.

By same post I am writing to my friend, Mr EDWARD H. SPICER, (whom you have met) asking him to employ you as an apprentice at the offices of his factory in Watford, Hertfordshire. I am suggesting that you be employed for part of each day (say half-day) only, so that you can devote the other half of the day to improving your studies. Mr Spicer's firm is called ENDOCRINES LTD. and he has a

⁵ "I enclose some stamps which you can use for reply letters and" crossed out by hand after "can."

⁶ i.e. 1 shilling 3 pence — TJS '19

⁷ £40.50 or \$65 in 2011 — TJS '19

most up-to-date office, with clerks, typists, dictating and duplicating machines, because he has a large correspondence and because he sends out some thousands of advertising circulars, booklets etc every month. All the equipment is first class. Therefore you will have an excellent opportunity to learn office routine, modern business methods, filing arrangements, etc and to pick up the very efficient atmosphere which he has created there. He will no doubt agree to my request, but in case there is the unlikely possibility that he cannot, I am asking him to fix you up with some other of his big business friends in Watford; he knows most of them as he is president of the local business and professional men's club. So there ought to be no difficulty, especially as you are to receive no salary from them for the period of learning. I thought you would make yourself generally useful to his secretaries in whatever way they and he wish, doing all sorts of odd jobs and assisting them on the more important ones. Naturally you cannot expect to receive dictation from him to practise your shorthand; that you will have to do elsewhere, but gradually you will do some typewriting, filing, etc. By keeping your eyes open, being observant, you will learn much that will be useful later when you start work with me on my return.

During the other half of the day, I want you to study. Try if possible to get into some kind of school polytechnic, etc at Watford where you can improve your education at a moderate cost. I particularly want you to specialise in knowledge of English - language, spelling, composition, grammar, etc because that will be so necessary later. You will also have to arrange - perhaps at an evening institute - to continue your shorthand study and speed work, to finish and master touch typewriting. You must go on with your shorthand typing study and practice until they are perfect.

Thirdly join the local library and read up useful books for beginners in Philosophy; ask the librarian and he will suggest titles.

Of course it will be necessary for you to live near the factory so I am asking Ted Spicer to find a bed-sitting room for you in Watford with reliable people. I shall arrange to send him money to cover your rent and the cost of your meals (latter may be taken at home or whatever way Spicer thinks best) and also to cover the pocket money which I shall henceforth allow you, as promised in my last letter. All your fares etc. will come out of the expense money, but the pocket money will start at 5/-⁸ weekly. As Watford is on the electric underground railway to Clapham, you can if you wish and convenient, arrange to go to Wandsworth every Saturday and spend your week end with your parents, returning Sunday evening.

I hope this arrangement will meet your wishes and make you happier, as you seem so keen on getting employment. You will also have your own private room where you can study.

As letters by steamer take at least one month and often 5 or 6 weeks between England and India, whilst this business is being settled I⁹ want you to write me by airmail so that the details can be smoothed out without delay. Also airborne mail is much safer, as so many ships are being sunk. So don't hesitate to use airmail, as I

⁸ £11.50 now – TJS '19

⁹ Page 9

shall allow you the postage money, quite apart from pocket money. Please write as early as possible to let me know how the matter progresses.

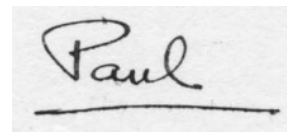
I have asked Mr Spicer to write you to fix an appointment for you to meet him in order to discuss the matter. You had better have his address too. He lives at— Tusmore Lodge, Alexandra Road, Watford. His firm's address is ENDOCRINE LABORATORIES LTD. Watford. He used to have a branch office in London but I think he has given it up owing to the war.

I am keeping well and working hard, but everything is so uncertain at the moment owing to the war. However I am keenly looking forward to the moment when we may meet again, and then you will be promoted to Assistant Secretary! I hope your shorthand, typing, and correspondence work will be perfect by that time! We shall have great fun together clearing up the immense arrears of work which I shall have to clear up when I return to the West. You will be kept more than busy!

Keep as hopeful as you can, because after all this dark period of war is over we shall meet and be happy together; and you will start a new life altogether, in a new career full of opportunities.

Get a little book on "Etiquette" (good manners) and improve yourself so that you will learn to mix with people without doing the wrong thing or saying what is incorrect. Now is the time to study.

I send you my warmest love and peace. Do not hesitate to write for anything you may need.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background. A horizontal line is drawn underneath the signature.

L40.011

11 - 14

Letter from Paul to Kenneth
c/o Thos Cook & Son, Postbox 171, MADRAS
February 22. 1940

My dear KENNETH,

I have just heard that you have gone and got a job in a stockbrokers office. I was in the midst of arranging matters for your immediate future, as you will learn by my last letter. However you have not waited for me to finish the arrangements but have made them for yourself!

The position now is that Mr Spicer has definitely promised to take you in charge, to put you in his office at Watford, where he has a large factory, to arrange for your accommodation with a respectable family there, to arrange locally for the further studies you need to make in shorthand typing, and also some school studies. He will take a fatherly interest in you, as he has met you before and as he is one of my very best and most loyal friends. I have already sent him the money for paying school fees, living expenses and your pocket money. So you will have to alter your arrangements to fit in with those I have planned for you.

First of all his office is up to date and well run in every way. He does a large amount of advertising work for his products and has a large correspondence also. He uses the latest American methods in his office because he lived in America for many years. You will find that his offices are infinitely superior to the stock brokers office where you are working. This is because his business will not only include the accounting and bookkeeping, which is the principal stockbrokers work, but also advertising correspondence etc If you want to get a wider experience, which is absolutely necessary for my work, you cannot get it in a stockbrokers but only in an office like Mr Spicer's. Moreover he is going to help you get the exact experience needed to help me later, he has promised me that.

I therefore wish you to leave the stockbroker at once and go live at Watford under Mr Spicer's care. The few shillings you may earn at present are not needed and you will get all your expenses paid plus pocket money. We have to think of your future and much more than the immediate present.

The next point is about your schooling. As you failed to pass Matric,¹⁰ I fear it will be a handicap later on. The literary and journalistic work you will do with me later requires a little better education than you have now; at any rate if you can pass the Matric I will be quite satisfied and ask nothing more of you. I therefore propose that part of the time at Watford you attend a school, whether day or evening, where you can be coached in the subjects wherein you failed to pass at the matric exam. Quite aside from the necessity for writing work of having a good education, there is the great self-respect and the respect of others which it will give you. However I know you are tired of school and all I ask is that you give part of your time only to study and the rest to work. In addition you will have to attend a Gregg institute at Watford to complete your shorthand typing study, as I want you to be perfect in that by the time I return to England I want you to reach 100 words per minute minimum in shorthand and 35 w.p.m. in typing.

Thus there is a threefold program arranged for you: work in Spicer's offices, study at a school, shorthand typing completion. This will keep you fairly busy but it is necessary. Mr Spicer will be like a father to you, he had three sons and one also failed in the Matric but Mr Spicer got him to improve himself in the weak subjects and so passed him later. As a result he was able to become a doctor.

Moreover you will learn all about printing and publicity work at Spicer's firm, which will be helpful to our magazine. This you cannot¹¹ learn at the stockbrokers. The essential purpose now is not to earn a few shillings—I am not hard up—but to equip yourself thoroughly for your future work and rise high in the world.

Please don't get dissatisfied because I want you to complete your schooling up to Matric standard. You will benefit by it mentally and never regret it later on. Once you pass I will agree for you to drop schooling altogether and devote more time to office work and literary studies. In fact as soon as you pass the Matric I will arrange for you to take a course in journalism and editing by post from a correspondence college. This is most fascinating work and will prepare you to act as

¹⁰ "Matriculation exam" taken at age 16 (which KTH was at this time) the "O" levels for students. —TJS '19

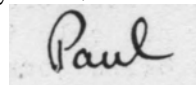
¹¹ Page 13, noted as "page 2" typed on top of page.

Assistant Editor of the new magazine. The latter, by the way, is slowly being arranged for through my friends in the West so that I shall have everything ready to start when I get back, and I want you to be ready qualified by then too.

So please obey me and do what I know to be best for your future; practise a little self control in this matter and you will never be sorry later. Please get busy immediately with Mr Spicer and do not lose any valuable time.

Write me by airmail at once as letters by sea take about 5 weeks to reach me. I shall expect you to correspond regularly with me henceforth in order to keep me informed with your progress in work and study, so that I may advise you properly.

With all my love, as ever,



P.S. You understand I hope that the value of passing Matric is much. It gives a foundation for all higher studies which I shall want you to learn a little of when I return. Moreover it will be a shame for your own cleverness if you let the exam remain unpassed. Please put in a year studying your weak subjects; the year will soon pass, and next spring you can sit for the exam, get through, and be free of the school altogether. After that you will enjoy the journalism and editing course of instruction immensely, I know but I cannot let you take it until your Matric is passed.

P.P.S. It is not necessary to mark your envelopes 'personal' as my secretary does not open them.

L40.015

15 - 18

Letter from PB¹² to Kenny
c/o Thos Cook & Son,
Post Box No. 171,
MADRAS. (India).
8th May, 1940.

[My dear Kenny]

I was delighted to receive today your letter of April 24th as I have not heard from you since your letter of December 19th. I am also glad to hear that you like your lodgings, your office work and are determined to succeed with your studies for the Matric. Now that you are living alone I shall be able to express myself more freely to you than was formerly possible. In fact this was one of the reasons why I wanted you to move away from Wandsworth, the chief reason being that you had written to me that you were unhappy there. I want you to be happy as far as circumstances will allow. Therefore do not hesitate to write to me if you have any complaint with anything. A number of points are to be dealt with:

¹² Determined from handwriting

1. What has become of the typewriter I gave you?
2. I suggest that you always typewrite my address on your envelopes [to secure legibility.]
3. You must write to me more frequently about your activities and thoughts, at least once a month and you must send your letters by Airmail. I have sent Mr Spicer sufficient money to cover all your expenses and he can always get more when necessary.
4. In future I shall always give you the dates of the letters received from you and I want you to give me the dates of the letters you receive from me. In this way we can check the safe arrival of every letter during these unsettled times.
5. So far as the Endocrine company office work is concerned you will of course have to do just the particular jobs which [are] given you, but as I want you to get a good all-round office experience try to be observant of all the several processes and routines which is going on in the office so that you get a wise knowledge and understanding of such work. Be ready to do anything no matter how unimportant it is, as it will improve your ability.
6. Concerning your education I know you dislike your school just as I did when I was a boy. However you have to take it like a medicine as a temporary experience which will do you good ultimately. I want you to pass the Matric as this is the very minimum of a good education and after that I will not press you to go to school, but will let you carry on with a specialised correspondence course at which you can work in your leisure. I particularly want you after you have passed the Matric to work slowly but steadily for the mastery the principles of SCIENTIFIC METHOD and of philosophy as these subjects will help your brains to grow. In the struggle of life a man with most brains comes to the top.
7. When you have completed your short-hand, typewriting course and have reached the speeds mentioned in my last letter that phase of your studies will also be discontinued and will be replaced by a course in Journalism and editing and magazine production so that you may fit yourself to assist me in the production of a new magazine which I will start immediately the war is over and I am free and the Government permit me to leave India, which I am not permitted to do at present.
8. With reference to your health I want you to take the greatest care to keep yourself fit as you are not very strong. First of all take white bread very seldom and eat only brown bread as this is not only much more nourishing¹³ but assists digestion. Next, always have some stewed dried fruit once a day either after lunch or after dinner such as prunes, apricots, figs etc. This too will keep your digestion in good order.
9. Be careful with your bicycle riding as I know the roads around Watford. You have two dangers to guard against. First, motorcars which are very plentiful there. Keep your bicycle near to the side of the road. Secondly the danger is in the excessive strain of climbing hills which gives a liability to rupture as I injured myself through climbing hills with a bicycle when a boy. I give you this warning out of experience. I would suggest, therefore, that you reduce your bicycle riding to the absolutely necessary minimum.

¹³ Page 17, noted as “-2-” typed at top of page.

10. You ask about a book called "Maha Yoga" and your disagreement with the author's statement that one loses one's individuality in Nirvana. I did not agree with all that the author had written but did not like to mention this in the forward as he was a friend of mine and so you notice that I got out of this difficulty by refusing to discuss his ideas, using the words "I am not sufficiently a competent metaphysician." The statement to which you refer is not correct and you are right in disagreeing with it. What one loses is the attachment to individuality but so long as a man has to live in the body, walk eat and work he can do this only by using his individuality. However, perhaps the author meant the same thing but his language was very loose and faulty. The strong attachment to one's own individuality with its desires, hatreds passions, fears and prejudices, prevent a man from realizing the truth, that is Nirvana.

11. Last month I sent you by registered post care of Mr Spicer's address two little books of poems by Sir Edwin Arnold as your birth-day present. Both will be very useful to you in understanding Indian wisdom besides being beautifully written.

12. Yesterday I sent you a packet of foreign stamps by sea-mail. The high value stamps the new American and French issues as well as others which I have not previously sent you were put in a separate envelope inside the packet.

13. I note that you feel rather lonely at Watford but don't worry about that as your present phase is to devote most of your time to study and self-improvement. Your time is very precious to you now because once I am able to get back to England there will be no further time for your education or your studies. So I want you to make the most of the opportunity now available. As for being lonely, do not worry about that either because after I return you will have more friends than most young men of your age you have seen have, lots of friends and not only in England but all over the world. In fact you will have too many.

14. Do you remember the little Indian Newspaper called the Daylbagh Herald which used to be sent to me care of your address? Is it still arriving from India or have they stopped sending it?

15. I hope you are visiting your mother every Sunday, as it is your duty to do so for the present until she becomes more used to being without you.

16. As you know I have often told you of the necessity of being a little gentleman and polishing your manners. I want you to go to W.H. Smith & Sons' bookshop in High Street in Watford and buy a cheap little book costing [perhaps]¹⁴ one shilling on etiquette, [on]¹⁵ How to behave oneself.

17. There is a little enquiry which I shall be grateful if you can carry out for me. Last autumn a new weekly journal entitled "Tomorrow" was started in London by the same firm that publishes the monthly magazine called "The Modern Mystic." I want you to write to the office and find out if "Tomorrow" is still being published and to do this in this way. Send them 7 d. in stamps for a specimen copy of the latest issue of "Tomorrow" and ask what the subscription rates are. This will bring you a reply from them and also a copy of the journal which you may send on to me but

¹⁴ PB inserted "perhaps" by hand.

¹⁵ PB inserted "on" by hand.

include their reply in your next letter to me as I wish to have this information at the earliest possible date, but please do not mention my name in connection with the matter. (I want to find out whether it is still in existence or whether the publication has been suspended.) The address is "King Littlewood & King, [10/13 BEDFORD STREET STRAND, W.C.2.]

[P.S. Don't hesitate to ask Mr Spicer for anything you need and he will give you money to buy it.]¹⁶

[P.P.S. Don't hesitate to send me as many more questions on your reading or thinking as come up.]

L40.019

19 - 20

Telegram from Paul Brunton to Kenneth

MYSORE

28 June 40¹⁷

Thurston Hurst

22 Sheepcot Lane Garstonherts

USE COTTONWOOL EAR STUFFING AGAINST AIR RAID NOISE. I AM WITH YOU IN SPIRIT KEEP MENTALLY CALM

LOVE

PAUL BRUNTON

L40.021

21 - 24

Letter from Paul to Thurston

c/o Thos Cook & Son,

Post No. 171,

MADRAS (INDIA).

15th January, 1941

My dear Thurston,

One month ago I sent you a telegram mentioning that I had not heard from you for several months and enquiring after your welfare. Then within a week of sending it I received your two letters dated October 17th and November 5th. However although I had paid at this end for the cost of your telegraphic reply still no reply as yet has come from you. Four weeks have passed and¹⁸ no answer has come. As therefore it seems that our communications have been broken I am not

¹⁶ First postscript is written on page 15.

¹⁷ Date of postmark.

¹⁸ "still" was crossed out by hand after "and"

sending you a detailed answer to these two letters because it is doubtful whether my letters will ever reach you. I am therefore merely sending a brief answer to some of the points which you raise because your letters show great misunderstanding of my attitude.

(1) I fully accept your giving up all studies for the Matric. exam. I do not attach so much importance to them as you think I do. So let us dismiss this point altogether.

(2) I fully accept your giving up the post at Endocrines Laboratory and your taking any other post that you wish in Watford or any other part of England. The only objection I have is to your taking a post in London itself because the conditions of life there owing to the air-raids are too intolerable and [it]¹⁹ is quite unnecessary for you to endure them.

(3) I fully agree with²⁰ your discontent and disillusionment with modern politics and society. But you will not help to put matters right by sinking in the social scale yourself to the level of a mere tramp. If you want to help your fellowmen you must, on the contrary, rise above them, make yourself strong and wise and successful and then you can render them a thousand times more help than you could have done by being at the bottom of the ladder. To achieve this you need courage and determination and above all hope with which to confront the terrible conditions which now prevail on account of the war. So instead of writing that you want to give up the battle of life and take to suicide you must strengthen your inner self all the more and trust me when I say that if you will only stick to me and remain obedient you will with absolute certainty eventually rise to such a position where you can do great good for suffering humanity not merely in the spiritual sense but just as fully in the material sense. I have given a great deal of thought and work to these matters for the last couple of years. This is just what I wish to do myself and for what I am eagerly looking forward to your assistance after the war when we can meet again. But meanwhile you have to learn to be patient.

(4) You are completely wrong in thinking that the only work I have for you after the war will be that of an office boy. On the contrary I have very big ambitions for you and my one desire is to fit you as rapidly as possible for an important executive post where you may employ your own office boys if you wish. And this is the moment to tell you that the proposed magazine will only be a minor activity on my part. I have far ambitious plans than that and therefore a much more important post than that of an office boy to offer you.

(5) Your refusal to accept any money from me because you think it will be sponging does credit to your heart but not to your head. I have plenty of money, much more than I know what to do with because I live very simply and therefore I must get rid of it somehow. So the question of sponging simply does not arise. Furthermore you forget our blood-relationship and it is the duty imposed by my conscience to look after your material welfare. Much more than these things is the love between us and therefore your happiness is my happiness and your misery my misery. If you insist on such foolish conduct as to refuse my financial help and sink

¹⁹ PB inserted "it" by hand.

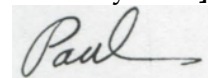
²⁰ The original editor changed "that" to "with."

into a miserable existence, to starvation, poverty and illness, you will not only be conferring misery upon yourself but equally upon me for I shall take it very deeply to heart. I earnestly beg you therefore to dismiss this ridiculous notion that you are sponging on me and to realise that we have to help each other as friends. Who knows one day our positions may be reversed. I may be in need of money myself and if you are in a position to help me I shall certainly come and ask you for it without imagining that I am sponging on you. I must therefore insist that you let me make you an allowance sufficient for your boarding and lodging, clothing etc. which I can arrange to pay through your mother if you like (Last week I asked my Bankers in London to pay them something on your account and this together with the balance in Mr Stafford's hands should suffice for immediate needs until I hear from you when I shall be delighted to arrange for [a]²¹ regular allowance²² [of £2 weekly]²³ to be paid you). Considering the fact that you are out every night and all night on your duties in the local volunteers defence guard and that you have to sleep during the day it seems very foolish for you to take a post. I will suggest instead that you take a course of reading and study and select the books to suit your own taste and interest. This has nothing to do with the Matric. and you may read up on any subject you wish. Furthermore you can also use some of this leisure to perfect shorthand and typewriting practice which is absolutely essential so that you will be better equipped to work for me after the war.

Please note that as the cost of airmail letters via America has apparently deterred you from writing as frequently as you should and as the savings in time is now only a week or two you can send future letters by the England-India Airmail route which carries the letters by ship to South-Africa and then by air to India and which costs I believe, only 1/3.²⁴ Above all this it is urgently necessary that you telegraph me immediately giving your address to me for communication and assuring me of your welfare. If necessary I can arrange to have money telegraphed to your own address so that you can get it within a couple of days of my receipt of your telegram.

I beg of you to send me a telegram as soon as and if you receive this letter. I have authorised Gill to meet all costs of your telegraphing me fully, as I must know that you are keeping well and I must have your new address so that communications between us can be restored. Give me your fullest confidence always for you have my fullest sympathies, and don't hesitate to place every problem before me.

[With all my love]



P.S. Should you telegraph me the words (Bankers Limited) are not necessary in the Thos. Cook [& Son] address.

²¹ PB changed "the" to "a" by hand.

²² Page 23

²³ PB inserted " of £2 weekly" by hand.

²⁴ 1 shilling, 6 pence – TJS '19

L40.025

25 - 28
Duplicate of L40.021

L40.029

29 - 34
Letter from Paul to Thurston
c/o Thos Cook & Son
Post Box No. 171
MADRAS (India)
22nd January, 1941

[My dear Thurston,]

Last week I wrote to your old address at Watford and the next day received a telegram from Len stating that you have returned to live with him at his new address. With your two changes of address and the fact that no reply has yet arrived to my telegram to you on 14th December although the cost of your reply was paid for by me in advance, it is very doubtful whether you will get that letter. Moreover Len's telegram has re-assured me so that some of the matters touched on in my previous letter are now out of date. However I must write you again to cover certain essential points.

1. Forget my request about your studies for the Matriculation²⁵ examination. I quite agree with your giving up these studies.

2. I quite agree to your giving up your post at Endocrines Laboratories. The trouble there has arisen because of a misunderstanding by Mr Spicer of the fact that you had gone there to learn rather than to work. I had requested him not to pay your salary so that your time could be devoted to learning office work. Instead of that he put you on an unimportant work and so there was no use in continuing in such a post. I fully understand and sympathise with the dreadful conditions produced by the air-raids and by the fact that your nights are taken up with your volunteer duties in the Defence Guard necessitating your finding sleep during the day. Under these circumstances I would strongly suggest²⁶ that rather than waste further time taking up a post you devote your spare time, if any, to a course of reading of books selected to your own tastes and interest plus the determined effort to bring your short-hand and typewriting practice up to perfection. I will arrange with Len to pay an allowance to cover all your expenses so that you should be absolutely free to carry out this plan. I am doing this with a view to your being better equipped for working with me after the war as this is much more important than any experience you can pick up from an office.

3. Please get out of your head absolutely once and for all the idea that you will be sponging on me by accepting my help, or sponging on the [Gills] by living with them. So far as the latter is concerned you are too young to be living alone in the

²⁵ "Matric." in the original.

²⁶ Underlined by hand

world and therefore you should be under protection of your own family. So far as the former is concerned it is my duty as your blood relative to look after your welfare and if you refuse to permit me to do this you not only prevent me from doing my duty but you are bringing much unhappiness upon me. I am keenly looking forward to our reunion after the war when I [shall]²⁷ try to get a permit to visit England as soon as possible. But if you are going to ruin your health your life and your character before then what have I to look forward to? I therefore beg of you to dismiss this foolish idea that you will sponge on me and remember that if ever our positions should get reversed and I should be in need of money I would not hesitate to apply to you. If however your pride still stands in the way, then let us make a business proposition of the matter. You can keep an account of all the money I spend on you taking it as an advance on account of salary due and we shall deduct the total amount by instalments from your salary when in the happier future I hope you will be in my employment. This should settle the matter but if it does not I beg you to remember the love between us and to realise that you will only hurt me exceedingly by refusing my help. Finally I have got plenty of money because I live very simply and have got to get rid of it somehow. Meanwhile please collect from Mr Stafford whatever balance of money is in his hands and this together with the sum which I asked Thos Cook & Son (Bankers) Ltd., Berkeley Street, London, to pay Len ten days ago should cover all expenses for the near future until I can hear from them or from you and make a settled arrangement. Don't forget to treat yourself to all the winter clothes needed as you must keep fit especially whilst you are out during the cold nights on your Home Guard duties.

4. Your queer belief that the only work I shall have for you after the war will be that of an office boy astonishes me. On the contrary I nurture very big ambitions for you and it is my hope that from the very beginning you will employ your own office boys!²⁸ The proposed two magazines will only be one of my activities. There are going to be a number of others and it is up to you to prove by your reliability of character [and] willingness to obey that you will be fit to work with me.

5. I fully sympathise with the²⁹ discontent and disillusionment that you express about modern social and political life. However it is no use to sink into despair about such matters but on the contrary equip [yourself]³⁰ to rise up and play your part in³¹ service to mankind,³² thus helping the world instead of mourning over it. These matters are much more complex than you can understand at present for there are two sides to every question but you know well enough that at the bottom of all these troubles lies the ignorance of³³ the spiritual purpose of life both on the part of the rich as well as on the part of the poor. Will it not therefore be a noble task to help remove this ignorance and thus indirectly help remove the material miseries

²⁷ PB changed "should" to "shall" by hand.

²⁸ The period was changed to an exclamation point by hand.

²⁹ PB changed "your" to "the" by hand.

³⁰ PB inserted "yourself" by hand.

³¹ "the" crossed out by hand after "in."

³² Page 31

³³ Page 33

which result from it?³⁴ This is my aim and I hope it will be yours.

6. It is most important that you write me regularly at the very least once monthly, better still once fortnightly no matter how briefly and so keep in touch with me on the outer plane. You can state your news if any about what you have been doing or studying and [air]³⁵ therein your latest views or experiences. Had you obeyed my request of last year and written me more frequently the unhappy circumstances which arose at Watford regarding your post and your lodgings would have been settled satisfactorily much earlier. I only want to see you happy and I will not stand in the way of any change whatever if that is³⁶ going to make you happy but unless you keep me frequently and fully informed on what is going on, there will naturally be considerable delays under the slow communications of war time. Moreover much can be done in urgent matters by telegram as I am constantly doing with Myron and the expense is nothing to me. Please note that whenever I telegraph you in future it will be on the reply-paid system so that you have nothing to pay at your end for sending me a reply.

7. Your letters of October 17 and Nov. 5th are the last I had from you.

8. If you find that it is not possible to do any study at all at Enfield owing to air-raids, you may if you wish move out to some quiet village in the West of England as Mrs Hutchinson has done and I shall be very glad to meet all expenses but this is a matter which I leave entirely to your decision.

9. Please let me know definitely whether you will be called up for the Army when you reach the age of 18 or whether it will be when you reach the age of 19.

10. Please allow me to correct another queer idea of yours, that is that any of my friends are patronizing you for my sake. I assure you that it is only because of what I have told them about you and the great hopes that I have for your future work as a colleague of ours that they have entered into friendly relations with you. We all form a little band devoted to the spiritual service of humanity, they want to welcome you to join as a member of this band. You will therefore not resent Myron's desire to open correspondence with you or even help you in any way because he is simply doing with you what he has already done for dozens of other people to whom I have introduced him. Don't think he is treating you in any other way than he is treating our other future collaborators. Moreover it is not very nice [for]³⁷ you to reproach me with this because it was when you once wrote me that you were very lonely at Watford [I]³⁸ immediately requested Myron to correspond with you in the hope of easing your loneliness a little. It is very hard to find true friends. You are therefore not to refuse his offer of friendship. Please be more gracious and less churlish.

11. Thank you for telling me about the short story in the Hospital Savings Association's Magazine. Of course the author is an impostor. I have not written any short stories for years. If you know the date of this particular number of the

³⁴ Three vertical lines are drawn in the left margin of the last two sentences of this paragraph.

³⁵ PB inserted "air" by hand.

³⁶ PB inserted "is" by hand.

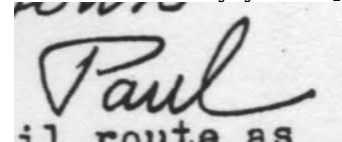
³⁷ PB changed "to" to "for" by hand.

³⁸ PB inserted "I" by hand.

magazine please communicate it with necessary details to Mr Potter, the manager of M/s. Rider and Co, 34 Paternoster Row, London, and tell him you are doing it at my request and say that I ask him to take immediate action to put down this imposter.

Well, my dear Thurston,³⁹ I am sending you my inner peace and strength to help you in this terrible ordeal through which you are⁴⁰ passing in England but it will always depend on your own mental receptive attitude how much of this you can take in. We must hold on and hope on knowing that the night is ever darkest just before dawn and we must try to equip ourselves to work for a better world for everyone when this nightmare has come to an end.

[With my peace, affectionately yours,]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul". Below the signature, there is some faint, partially legible text that appears to say "11 route 88".

[P.S.] Please cancel my previous request to send your letters via American Air-mail route as I find this very little faster from your end but does save a couple of weeks for letters sent from my end. You may therefore write to me via England-India Air-mail route which will also be a bit cheaper for you but I shall continue to send my letters sometimes via America and sometimes direct to England.

P.P.S. If ever you cable me, the shortest cheapest address is: PAUL
BRUNTON Postbox 171 MADRAS.

L40.035

35 - 38

Letter from Paul to Kenneth
c/o THOS. COOK & SON

Postbox 171
Madras, India
April 5. 1941

My dear Kenneth,

Since your letter of 5th November and the combined radiogram of February 27 I have not heard from you. I know that you have written me but I know also that some of the mails have been lost through ships being sunk. I am therefore writing you by a new airmail route, which although costly, is very speedy.

Oh yes, I also received your Christmas card; it arrived 3 ½ months after you posted it! However it was a lovely one and I was most happy to have it.

I wish I could hear from you once a month but it seems this wish, although expressed more than a year ago, is not likely to be realized. I quite understand the awful conditions due to the war and the difficulty in getting one's mind down to the mood of letter writing. All the same a few words will suffice.

Naturally I am glad you got back home and feel happier among your own

³⁹ "my dear Thurston" is either underlined badly or faintly crossed out.

⁴⁰ "all" crossed out by hand after "are."

people. You will also be better looked after. But I am not very glad that you took a job in London despite the dangers and inconveniences there. However I will not interfere with your moves; do what pleases you but please do it only after consultation with your parents. You have nothing to lose and much to gain by at least hearing the advice of more experienced people. But whatever you work at remember that yours is the age to learn; don't think of a job as a means of earning but of learning. Fit yourself for the work which will come to you after this war ends. And don't forget to keep up shorthand which is essential for the later work.

During⁴¹ such a dreadful period as the present there is little an individual can do outwardly. But amid all its horrors remember there is a Higher Power and that the contact with it is gained through making the mind still and calm; it is this distraction of attention inwardly which is the secret of yoga. In the very midst of these ordeals if you try to switch attention to this remembrance, you will, whilst remaining aware⁴² of the external happenings, simultaneously feel the inner presence of something that is like a Witness or Spectator of it all. That something is your divine self. I know this is hard to achieve at first but it yields to perseverance in a surprising way. And I am always here to help you. Thought, when keen and concentrated, conquers distance.

However I am sure you will come through this alright. We have something to live and work for. The same fate which separated us will also unite us at the proper time.

Don't worry about Spicer, if he writes to you. He over-values these matric exams etc. A good character, self-control, understanding of the purpose of life, are worth a thousand matrices. And your work at Endocrines had served its purpose too.

My own health has much improved and I am doing my bit again. At present I am in Calcutta and will be travelling all over Bengal for a month, then have to go to the North. I have no time to do any writing work however. The first volume of my new book may be published by Riders soon after you get this. It is very technical and dry, as it was written for the scientific type of mind. We have to help all kinds of people. But I am keeping the real final doctrine back for the second volume which I shall write after the war. With it I close my Oriental researches. We shall work in and for the West. I hope you are alright as to clothing, pocket money, etc.; if not let me know. Don't stint yourself; you must keep as fit as possible. It is amusing to recall my first job in London was in Chancery Lane, off Fleet Street, quite close to the scene of your first one too! I was very thrilled by those early activities, too, as I suppose you have been.

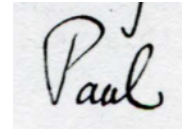
If you want to write me by this quicker route, which is best because safe; no sinkings; you can forward your letter to Mr Frantz and he will be glad to put it in a fresh envelope and remail it. This would save most of the expense to you. It costs him nothing either as I have to adjust all these matters later.

Give my love to mother and Len. I hope they are bearing up bravely.

With my peace,
[affectionately]

⁴¹ This paragraph and the first three lines of the following paragraph are surrounded by a handwritten line.

⁴² Page 37



L40.039

39 - 44

Letter from {PB}⁴³ to Ken
c/o THOS. COOK & SON
Postbox 171
MADRAS, India
Delhi
June 23. 1941

[My dear Ken,]

Your letter of March 15th has reached me. As the part-airmail service has ceased, you will observe that it took three months to reach me by sea. Accordingly I am writing via the American airmail which, I estimate, will enable me to reach you within half this time. May I suggest a quicker mode of communication from your end? It is to write your letters on thin airmail paper and send them to Myron for enclosure with his own letters to me. He writes to me once a week unfailingly, by Trans-Pacific airmail, and thus I can get your letters more quickly and certainly more safely. He will be delighted to do this as he is already doing it for other of my correspondents whilst I am also sending letters thru him in the same manner. After all he is my representative, legal business and personal, and so his job is to be of service. Incidentally please note that if you write Cook's address here as P.O. 171 (which appears on your envelope) this is not correct. It must be either P.O. Box 171 or Postbox 171. The suggested new mode will free you from the expense of heavy airmail postage whilst placing its benefits within your reach and if you agree I will also send further letters thru Myron and thus reduce my own expenses. Incidentally would you please make a definite statement in your letter that you have never received the telegram which I sent you reply-paid in mid-December last. This will enable me to put in a claim for refund of the unused reply-portion of fee paid.

I fully agree with what you say about your Home Guard duties and I am glad you resigned. We have to learn our limitations and you are certainly not physically of the type suitable for the army. There is no sense in injuring your health at such a young age. It will be time enough to endure all that when you are called up for military service later on. Meanwhile it is nearly as important to develop the morale of the people and by equipping yourself with correct spiritual knowledge you can help to do this.⁴⁴ War is fought in the mind as well as with the body. This is where England has already conquered because our cause is right and just (despite our past errors) and the Germans suffer, I know, from a guilty conscience. The end I foresee for them is a nervous collapse, sudden and complete, when karma strikes the

⁴³ Author determined from handwriting.

⁴⁴ A box was drawn around the rest of this paragraph. Starting between "this" and "War."

appropriate hour. There are many matters I would like to discuss with you relative to politics economics and sociology, as viewed from an integral spiritual-practical viewpoint and with special reference to conditions after the war, as it is up to us who see a little deeper and farther to formulate policies for the guidance of mankind in this critical age. It is clear that the underdog will come into his own but this may be done crudely and brutally or wisely and peacefully. I am all for help to him but the harsh violent methods of the Communazis stand convicted by their results in practice. In connection with this point please read the last chapter of my new book, [The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga.]⁴⁵ which I have written to Len to get from Riders and read and then present to you as a gift from me.⁴⁶ Unfortunately the book does not deal much with 'mystical' matters as it is intended to reach an intellectual-scientific type but the second volume which I shall write after the war, will reveal the higher mysticism which combines what is best in yoga philosophy science and action, whilst revealing that final truth which none of them can reveal.

I am sorry there is a little misunderstanding about my remarks anent your job. I quite agree that a man without work loses his self-respect but you overlook the fact that youth is the time for study and that you are still a youth, not quite a man. And it is because I know that you will work harder than the average man when later you will be associated with me, for we shall be so busy in worth-while service of mankind, that I wanted you to take advantage of this period of youth and finish your studies as far as possible, for later you will have little time for that. However I have agreed to let you follow your⁴⁷ own wishes in the matter and so I am pleased to learn that you are getting useful experience at Ellam's. In fact I would even suggest that you change your job two or three times a year in order to obtain different kinds of experience! In this way you will still be learning and yet satisfying your sense of self-respect. Book-keeping work will be little needed by you later although it is quite good that you should be familiar with its principles. I most particularly want you to get experience in handling correspondence of the best type, in shorthand-typing of letters and notes, so that later on you will⁴⁸ be able to handle some of my letters on your own initiative and save me much time. As for editorial work you may also try to get into an editorial office, even in very junior capacity, so as to pick up the atmosphere and observe what goes on there. For later you will have to be Assistant Editor of two journals, among other jobs! Our plans for the journals progress well although they can't materialize until the war is over, but then they will start suddenly. Concerning correspondence again, you will profit more by studying American models as English letters are usually too stilted formal and dull. Let Myron send you a couple of books on the subject. I want you to learn how to write a letter in an authoritative tone, lively and interesting, direct and crisp, to-the-point, and yet dignified enough to represent PB

You can drop French studies as they will be of little use after the war. If only

⁴⁵ "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga" is written at the top of the page by KTH and inserted here with an arrow.

⁴⁶ Underlined by hand.

⁴⁷ Page 41

⁴⁸ This paragraph marked by hand with a line down the right margin and an arrow pointing to the middle of the text.

you can become a perfect master of one language—English—that will be more than enough linguistically. Incidentally it may amuse you to know that the only ribbons I and my secretary use on our typewriters are Ellam's! We can get them easily here in India and find them the best for our purpose. I am also interested to hear that you have been learning a little salesmanship. This is most valuable and has been brought to a fine art in America. For whether one is selling typewriters or the idea of the kingdom of heaven, personal influence plays a great part. And this depends on our demonstrating in our own personalities all those positive qualities which make a man attractive and successful.

The passage in my letter of January last about wasting your time ruining health⁴⁹ did not refer to taking a job—good heavens no!--but to your momentary and emotional statement last October that you were fed up with life and was going to become—of all things—a tramp! That all my high hopes of you should end up in a ne'er-do-well tramp was a shock to me as it was to you. But I am glad that your better sense soon reasserted itself and you dismissed the foolish notion. I had ambitions (!) in that direction myself when a boy and did actually materialize them for about three ghastly weeks when I decided that such a life was good neither to me nor to others and I dropped it like a hot cake. Life is too brief for such experiments, we have got lots to do to make something of our own lives and to be of service to mankind; the struggle is hard and bitter but we must not be cowards and run away from it. Perseverance along the RIGHT direction must end in success, not the kind which is measured merely by a financial-yardstick but the kind which touches the whole of man—mental, moral, physical and philosophical.

You ask for a small remittance to cover postages to me and Myron. I have already placed in Len's hands and also transferred from Stafford to him, a substantial sum of money to be used for your expenses of every kind—such as clothing, amusements and postage, and you are to use this unhesitatingly so far as my correspondence is concerned as I want to hear 'plenty and often' from you as the Americans say.

You ask for news about me and my activities. Alas I am so hard-pressed and always in such tremendous arrears with work and correspondence that I have just about enough time to deal with the matters requiring discussion between us. However I will try and tell you the story in my next letter, if possible. I have been travelling a great deal the last few months and covered thousands of miles in an infernal temperature. My literary work is a thing for spare moments; I am trying to do something for the British cause in India in the way I can do it. At the same time I seize opportunities for my mystic and philosophic researches so far as this country is concerned in them. So my life is a strange hotch-potch, busy but interesting. My secretary has been down with fever for several weeks but is now recovering. He asks me from time to time about news from you. If you were out here with me and could do shorthand-typing it would save a couple of years of my life and a bit of my health, as so far I have not succeeded in finding any Indian secretary who could be as dependable as a Western one. The Indians are not to blame however as English is an alien tongue for them and moreover ideas of efficiency punctuality initiative and

⁴⁹ The original editor inserted "ruining health."

resourcefulness are recent Western introductions to which they are only gradually becoming accustomed. I had actually planned in the summer of '39 to send for you and let you finish education at Mysore University whilst working on a parallel course of secretarial training, but the war came a little earlier than anticipated. So we must wait till it is over before you can start the great JOB for which I fully believe you incarnated. And it is not to work for me but to collaborate with me as a co-server , [not as a secretary but as an executive.]

Give my love to Mummy and Len, accept it for yourself, [with my peace]

L40.045

45 - 50

Letter from Paul to Kenny
c/o THOS. COOK & SON

Postbox 171
MADRAS, India
4 August 1941

[My dear Kenny,]

Your direct letter of April 17 and the one thru M.F. dated 18 May have reached me. I am really delighted that you have now bestirred yourself to write me more regularly. It will be for our mutual benefit, as you will eventually discover. In your first letter you speak of having endured the worst air-raid yet known over London so I am most pleased to learn elsewhere that the past two months have seen hardly any raids at all; this no doubt being due to the German planes being occupied in Russia, where I hope German blood will be spilled on so vast a scale as to, in Steiner's teaching on the subject of blood, "Purify" them, or in plain language, teach them a much-needed lesson and wake them up to the wicked path they are treading. Anyway you must endure this remaining period of the war with the hope and patience that we are nearing its end and that, as I firmly believe, you have something to live for which is important and hence destiny will protect you.

Thank you for your kind remarks about the literary style of "The Inner Reality." However it is really a book of slightly-polished lectures, something spoken and not written. You will be seeing a copy of my new book "The Hidden Teaching about Yoga" and there you will observe a much different style, as befits the subject, much drier no doubt. Incidentally as some serious misconceptions are likely to arise in the minds of readers, I have written a pamphlet to clear these up and Riders will distribute me free at my expense. So in a couple of months or less they may have it ready and you must read it. The misconceptions are chiefly that reason is the highest faculty and that I have renounced mysticism or yoga; both such notions are absurd. But I wanted to reserve for the second volume description of the faculty higher than reason, viz, what Buddha called "insight" and the mysticism higher than the stuff which ordinarily passes for it and which I have named "Ultra-mysticism." All these are parts of the secret doctrine of India. In the second volume which I am beginning now, I shall try to achieve a union of beautiful style and lofty thought, making it my best work hitherto.

Let me know more details of the business experience you are getting, I am most interested in them. And also whether you are doing something with shorthand-typing for yourself.

To answer some points in your letter; (1) Do not misjudge Mr Spicer's silence. First of all it is not necessary to acknowledge Xmas cards, although it is certainly nicer to do so. Secondly I know that he is tremendously busy in America having had to start a new factory there, find customers and construct an entire business single-handed. So be patient and rest assured that he is a real friend as you will be able to prove for yourself one day. (2) My health is better and I have done much travelling and war work, of an interesting character. (3) Potter tells me that he has extracted an apology from the H.S.A. impostor and a promise not to do it again. (4) Certainly you have the right to get the clothes you want about of the money from Stafford; that is what it is there for -to be used for your benefit. I hope Stafford has paid up, as Spicer instructed him to do so last April; if not I can quickly force matters on hearing from you. (5) I am delighted to hear that you go into the countryside week ends and appreciate the beauties of Nature at this season. I am also glad that you have a companion and if you can help him spiritually without mentioning the word it will be good for both; anyway it will make you more sociable as you have a tendency to be very reserved. (6) M.F. is no longer my personal representative. I had to cancel that, but he remains my legal rep. and friend and will continue to forward mail for you. (7) You ask for a list of all books published to date. Here it is: (in order of publication) "A Search in Secret India" "The Secret Path" "A Search in Secret Egypt" "A Message from Arunachala" "A Hermit in the Himalayas" "The Quest of the Overself" "The Inner Reality" "Indian Philosophy & Modern Culture" "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga." (volume 1) Don't trouble to buy any, as I can give you a copy after the war. (8)⁵⁰ You mention that "Tomorrow" has recommenced publication and that "Modern Mystic" has ceased. Their business methods are not very straight, as they never paid for my last article whilst a friend who sent a subscription to Modern Mystic from here not only never got a copy (even of back numbers) but was not even informed that it had ceased. However I have never expected such journals to do other than fail after a time as they are usually run by enthusiasts without business experience or balanced practicality. This reminds me of a little job I request you to undertake for me. The older series of "Tomorrow" that is from first issue to the last one prior to ceasing publication, is something I want to get hold of. The reason is that one of the two journals we are going to start immediately after the war will have certain resemblances to "Tomorrow" i.e. we both seek to combine the spiritual with the intellectual and the idealistic with the political-social-economic. Our ideal will be to bring the kingdom of heaven down to earth. The important difference between us however is that Tomorrow bases its social-economic program on Steiner's threefold commonwealth idea whereas we shall simply absorb whatever we regard as sound in Steiner and discard what we regard as fallacious, taking a broader view than his, wherein I find my world-wide experience will be most invaluable. I want therefore to see what Tomorrow has achieved along these lines. Your job will be to go to their office and procure a

⁵⁰ Page 47, noted as "-2-" typed at top of page.

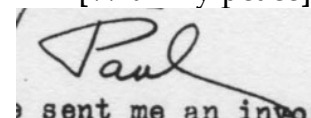
complete set of the old series. If you go with a written order from Len's bookshop, you will be able to get them at trade discount probably. Anyway do not quibble about the cost as I want the set even if the price is double the published price. Get the money from Len, who has some reserve to my credit. If they have no copies left then insert a small advert in the re-started Tomorrow and no doubt some reader will be able to supply you. Failing that then apply to Len asking him to advertise in "The Clique" for it. This is the second-hand booksellers trade weekly exchange journal and thru it one can usually get any book or periodical. Price is immaterial to me. I rely on you to succeed in carrying out this commission successfully by the use of initiative and enterprise if necessary. After you have got the set, do not send them to me as many books have got lost in transmission here and I don't want to risk such loss again.

Simply store them for me with the other things in a safe place. I will collect them from you as soon as the war ends in whatever way will then be best. Moreover as you mention having subscribed to the new re-started series of "Tomorrow" please keep each copy after having read it and store it with the old series for me too. If you have thrown any away kindly repurchase and replace. Charge your subscription to my a/c please so Len will pay for it. I would advise your making the subscription for smallest period as they seem so unlucky⁵¹ and might expire again soon, as well as being so dishonest. They never even replied to my letter about the payment for my article. I would readily have excused them had they told me they were in financial difficulties but I might have got a set of the journal out of them then. Incidentally you will be glad to hear that we have now got the printing press in America and a splendid cover is being designed. Soon I shall have proofs of the printing get-up and I have already written some articles for the first issue. If you like to try your hand at writing a short article I should be glad to see it, criticise it frankly and send it back for revision. I would suggest as subject something about what should be the attitude of Youth after the war toward spiritual and material reconstruction of society, but if you prefer another subject that will be alright with me.

Please hand the enclosed note to Len.

Hitler's invasion of Russia may bring him early victories but it will only assist his ultimate defeat. The end of the war cannot be far off now. I am eagerly looking forward to our meeting once again in England. We shall have grand times then as it will be necessary to relax after the strain of this war period. I am glad you are with Mother again and being properly looked after. Keep on nourishing your mind with high thoughts and noble aims, take care of the health of your body, and remember that my love for you is always there.

[With my peace]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul". Below the signature, there is a line of text that is partially cut off but appears to say "sent me an invo".

P.S. Here is another little job. Get in touch with Messrs Romeike and Curtice,⁵² Romeike and Curtice, Ltd. 35 Shoe Lane, Fleet Street, E.C. They have sent

⁵¹ Page 49, noted as "-3-" typed at top of page.

⁵² Since mass media traditionally has been limited solely to print media, naturally the monitoring was also limited to this media. The world's first press clipping agency was

me an invoice for one guinea as subscription to their press clipping service. The service is for collecting reviews of my new book which may appear in the English press. Please get the guinea from Len and pay it to them. The earlier instruction was for them to send the cuttings to Rider & Co but as that will cause confusion with Rider's own subscription I want you to ask them to send the cuttings to you and will you please save them for me and enclose with your letters to me? Give them the title of the new book. Thanks. I want to know what press reception it has had. Tell Romeike and Curtice that my address is changed from c/o Riders to c/o yourself.

L40.051

51-52

Letter from Paul to Len

4 August 41

Dear Len

It is a long time since I heard from you but I presume life goes along in routine fashion, that you are still managing the bookshop although I wonder how trade can be carried on with the wartime handicaps of low funds and constant strain. And I trust you and Karen are keeping well and are comfortable in your new apartments.

I am still compelled to carry on here in India but believe the war won't last very long now and then we can all see each other again. I shall be so pleased when you can all have a peaceful life again free from the terror of the skies.

How is the Steiner work getting along in England? And have more of his books or lectures been published? I shall look forward to seeing the new publications and reading them with real interest after my return to England. Even though I disagree with some of his views I recognise the soundness of others, whilst I have always admired his own personal greatness after we heard him lecture in 1919. Good heavens, how long ago. I think you too went with me.

Today I have instructed Thos Cook (Bankers) of Berkeley Street to pay you £17-10-0 (seventeen pounds ten shillings)⁵³ but as I wrote by the part-sea part-air route they will get my letter about one month after this reaches you. The money is for the usual allowance and for Ken's pocket money or clothes. I have asked Ken to pay a bill for me and also to purchase some journals, will you please give him the necessary money out of the funds. I presume Stafford has paid up what he owes otherwise I can have Spicer arouse him if you tell me. I also want you to give Karen one pound⁵⁴ as a present for her last birthday which I wanted to do but was too busy

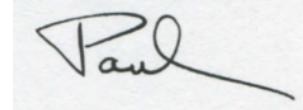
established in London in 1852 by a Polish newsagent named Romeike. Actors, writers, musicians and artists would visit his shop to look for articles about themselves in his Continental stock. It was then that Romeike realised that he could turn this into a profitable business. The agency later became Romeike & Curtis and is now part of Cision – TJS '19

⁵³ £642.00 using the retail price index or £2,220.00 using average earnings in 2011. – TJS '19

⁵⁴ £36.70 using the retail price index or £127.00 using average earnings in 2011. – TJS '19

at the time to arrange. I am sure you won't object; the past has gone like a dream and we have all changed and I hope become broader minded after the troubles of the past twenty years. I am sometimes worried about her chest and lungs, which are so predisposed to weakness, and believe it would be a good thing for both of you to emigrate to California after the war. If you are interested let me know and I'll think over the question of helping you get a job there.

Accept my best wishes
With affectionate regards to Karen and yourself

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paul', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

L40.053

53 - 56

Letter from Paul to Kenneth
care of Thos Cook & Son,
Post Box No. 171,
MADRAS (India).
15th October 1941.

KENNETH THURSTON HURST
15 Summerhill Grove
Enfield.

[Kenneth, my dear,]

Your letter of August 26th received. I had previously acknowledged safe receipt of your letters of April 18th and May 19th. So none of your correspondence until date has been lost at sea. If you continue to send your letters through Myron you will find that this is the safest and quickest method of communication as compared with the ordinary sea-borne route which is exposed to so many dangers.

I am glad to hear that you are working in a Protected Establishment and hope you will be able to remain there permanently. We are all born with different temperaments and it is better that you should do the work suited to your sensitive and refined temperament rather than something very brutalising.

I was also pleased to hear that you were able to take down your manager's dictation during the vacation of his secretary. It is most essential that you should not neglect your shorthand practice so that when the time comes [for] you to use it in a worthier cause your speed and accuracy will be found not wanting.

I don't understand your lack of suitable clothes. The balance of money which I sent to Mr Spicer last year was intended to be exclusively devoted to your needs. There is therefore no need to ask for my permission to touch it. It is there for you to touch as and when required without any previous reference to me. Moreover I want you not to be sparing in this matter but to have everything that you need. Don't stinge yourself because if you are not properly clothed during the harsh English winter you will only invite illness. You will find that the best underwear for the British climate is Jaeger All-wool Vests and Pants. This is what I learnt after bitter

experience of your beastly climate. Don't worry about the expense. I have been periodically also sending [Len]⁵⁵ some money part of which is intended to cover your various needs. You should also take care that you get good nourishing food when you lunch out in London. There are some excellent vegetarian restaurants not far from your office, or at least there used to be before the bombs got busy. There is one called Food Reform Restaurant in Funnival street, just off High Holborn. There is another called Vega which is in a little street between Leicester Square and Haymarket. You might also experiment occasionally with the curry vegetables and rice lunch at one of the Indian Restaurants whose addresses you can look up in the directory. Curry is very warming during the cold winter. If you cannot afford these restaurant prices out of your meagre salary please tell Len that the cost of your lunch is to be charged to me.

I⁵⁶ believe I wrote to you on the subject of meditation in my last letter. However it will not be possible for you to make much progress in this whilst war conditions last but I assure you that as soon as we meet after the war I will initiate you in such a way that you will get the most advanced results almost immediately. So please be patient. Meanwhile you will find it helpful to concentrate on the mental image of your guru during the beginning of your mediation. What you are practising at the present time is not altogether wrong as you believe because it is doing some spade work even though it is not producing striking results. But the method I have advised you will produce the speediest results and you might even find it helpful to use a photograph of your Guru for a couple of minutes for concentration purposes before starting and if you can do so a similar concentration on the mental image before falling asleep at night will be helpful.⁵⁷ However conditions are not very propitious to meditation in England just now but it is the time when right action can be practised. You will get all the mystical experiences that you hanker for and more as soon as we meet after the war.

It is unnecessary to mention our relationship when signing further letters [to]⁵⁸ me. Please forgive me for mentioning this point.

Here is a little commission which you can⁵⁹ carry out. Write to Watts & Co.,⁶⁰ Burbank, Barnet Lane, Elstree, Boreham Wood, Herts, and send them 1s. 4d. (this includes postage)⁶¹ for a copy of the book MRS EDDY PURLOINS FROM HEGEL by Walter M. Haushalter. After you receive the book please pack it carefully and send it to me in India by registered book-post. It is most important that you should register the packet as otherwise I shall never receive it. Get the cost from Len. Thank you.

Don't worry unduly about my health. We have all got to learn the truth of what the Buddha taught that this is a world of suffering and transiency and nobody can be exempt from such illness. The practical lessons of experience are more

⁵⁵ PB changed "them" to "Len" by hand.

⁵⁶ There was a handwritten bracket in the right margin of this paragraph.

⁵⁷ Underlined by hand.

⁵⁸ PB changed "with" to "to" by hand.

⁵⁹ PB changed "ought to" to "can" by hand.

⁶⁰ Page 55. "-2-" typed at top of page.

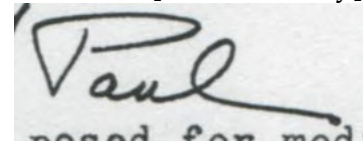
⁶¹ PB inserted "(This includes postage)" by hand.

instructive than the verbal lessons from books. Anyway I shall manage to carry on for quite a time yet. I have got a little job to do and will carry on until it is finished although the burden increases as I grow older. However I look forward to the day when I shall secure some help from you and two or three others to ease some of this burden after the war.

Please see the current issue of the OCCULT REVIEW for the first instalment of an article which will remove some of the misconceptions about the new book.

Hope on and hold on. Cheerio. Give my love to Mother and Len

[affectionately]

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paul', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right. Below the signature, the words 'posed for med' are faintly visible.

P.S. If you want, you can get a copy of the photograph specially posed for meditation purposes from Myron.

L40.057

57 - 58

Airgraph from Paul to Kenny
c/o Thos Cook & Son,
Post Box No. 171,
MADRAS (India).
23rd February 1942

15 Summerhill Grove,
Bush Hill Park,
Enfield, Middlesex, Eng.
Airgraph

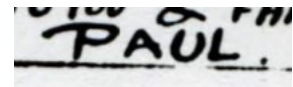
[MY DEAR KENNY,]

Your Xmas card has reached me and I have sensed that a letter from you is also nearing here. As soon as it arrives I shall write again. 2. This is to introduce the new Airgraph service which is only operating from our side at present but may shortly start in the reverse direction also so that we will be able to reach each other more often now. 3. I was delighted to have your lovely Xmas message and you know that it is heartily reciprocated. We have to wait patiently for the coming of peace when I shall be permitted to return to the West and we can meet once more and begin that new wider happier and better life wherein we shall both be mutually associated thereafter. I have kept all your cards for the past three years and they give me much pleasure. 4. Please tell Mother that last November I sent her 2 lbs of tea in a gift box but it may take quite a long time to reach her. 5. What I am most concerned about at the moment is your being called up for the army. Please send me a wire at my expense on receipt of this letter stating your latest position in reference thereto. I will then send a letter of special advice. You⁶² must hold on bravely to

⁶² The rest of this letter is enclosed by a handwritten line around it.

your ideals meanwhile, knowing that the trials of wartime will come to an end eventually. Mankind is not only working out bad karma and being purified through present sufferings but also, if the anti-Axis forces win, preparing the way for a coming age which will be more spiritually minded and kinder to the poorer classes. I am quite confident we shall win and that Nazism will be exterminated. It is really a holy war against unseen evil forces using human instruments, like the one which preceded the destruction of Atlantis. 6. If you have not already done so I would like you to read H. P. Blavatsky's "Key to Theosophy." It should prove easy helpful interesting at your present stage. 7. In your meditation start as if you were switching on an electric current and aspire to the universal Mind, appealing to it to enter into your consciousness. [8. REMEMBER: COURAGE, CALM, CONFIDENCE.

WITH ALL MY LOVE TO YOU & FAMILY,]

A small, rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to be "PAUL" with some additional scribbles above it.

L40.059

59 - 60

Airgraph from P. Brunton to Kenny
c/o Thos Cook & Son,
MADRAS (India)
16th March, 1942.

Kenneth T. Hurst
15 Summerhill Grove
Bush Hill Park,
Middlesex.

My dear Kenny,

Your letter of November 6 has only now reached here. In future it will be quicker if you send mail not through Myron but direct via "England-India" airmail until the "Airgraph" scheme is launched from your side. (1) I am delighted to learn that you made some contacts with persons interested in the spiritual quest. It makes the way less lonely and besides you may be of service to them. (2) Thanks for your trouble about Romeike & Curtice Press Cutting Agency. However as the book was published in August, most of the reviews will have already appeared before your contact with the firm. Will you therefore please ask Mr Potter of Rider & Co. for a list of names and dates of reviews which had previously appeared, supply this list to Romeike's and ask them to supply all the back review-cuttings except the following which I already have, Times Literary Supplement, Psychic News and Patriot. Offer to pay extra if required but if they refuse then collect the back cuttings yourself by applying to the papers concerned and buying the back issues as dated. In the latter case, cut out also the printed name of paper which usually appears over the Editor's column. Particularly don't miss the one which appeared in "The Listener." When you have the lot of back reviews send them all to me here. Later and future reviews may be accumulated by Len and sent after six months' time. (3) I am waiting

patiently to hear about your Army position, hope you will send me a photograph (unmounted) of yourself in uniform. (4) Here is an occult tip: Always use your full name when signing important documents or letters or even in general use. For your godfather "Thurston" was a great occultist himself. The old Egyptians believed in the magical value of names and the introduction of "Thurston" into your signature will bring good influence to you. Moreover the triple name is very impressive especially if you have ambitions to become a writer one day. (5) I am so happy that you often think of me. We must wait patiently until the German gangsters are smashed and the way is ended so that we may all meet again. Until then you know my love always enfolds you. Meanwhile fortify yourself with dogged faith in the Overself which is the only reality worth holding to.

[AFFECTIONATE REGARDS TO MOM & LEN]

L40.061

61 - 62

Letter from Paul to Ken
c/o Thos Cook & Son,
Post Box No. 171,
MADRAS (India)

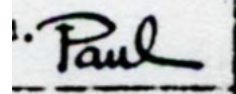
KENNETH HURST
15 SUMMERHILL GROVE,
BUSH HILL PARK, ENFIELD
MIDDLESEX

[My Dear Ken,]

Your letter of January 20 (via Myron) has reached me but those you mention as having sent on Dec. 2 & 12 have not arrived so far, so it seems they have been sunk en route. Perhaps it will be safer after all to write via Myron as he is apparently able to use airmail service not available from Europe. You might enquire from him. (2) Mother safely got the box of tea I sent her, I believe. Please tell Len I have today airgraphed a remittance of 14 guineas to him partly for you and partly for him. (3) I am not surprised you failed to pass the exams for the Royal Air Force, as I know they are fairly stiff. However you must go where fate puts you and even as a humble 'Tommy' you will be doing your bit in this terrible struggle against the Nazi criminals. Anyway you will get plenty of flying experience after the war when you are able to work with me as I like flying. (4) This country is now right in the war zone and the air raid season has opened here in South India. We expect to have a lively time. (5) Hitler is sure to get a big black eye this summer from the Russians and his people will begin to awaken from the evil spell he has thrown over their minds. Thus as their own sufferings increase they will have to learn the age-old karmic lesson that crime does not pay. (6) If the leaders of the postwar world try to make it a better one for the toiling masses, then the war won't be all loss but will also be some profit. But our work is different; it will be to contribute those spiritual ideas which are needed to remove the materialism which is the real cause of all this wickedness which mars human history. Ever since you were a babe I have always

hoped that you would join me in this work and it is beautiful indeed that you have come of your own accord and by your own inner and spontaneous growth to perceive its paramount necessity. To leave a corner of the world even a fraction better than you found it is to justify your existence as nothing else can. So it is with holy joy that I am waiting to welcome you when karma permits. With my peace and affectionate regards to Mother and Len and yourself. Tell them my health is slowly improving and I hope to be alright again when I can get a change of climate after the war is over.

Calmness; confidence, courage: the best is yet to be.
Always with you to the very end.



L40.063

63 - 68

Airgraph from Paul to Kenneth
c/o Thos Cook & Son,
Post Box 171,
MADRAS (India)
8th May 1942.

I was extremely happy to receive your letters dated Feb. 14 and March 8 through Myron. Receipt of your letter of January 20 has been previously acknowledged. There is no doubt now but that the quickest way for letters here is via Myron, as his own letters reach me in less than a month. Moreover it is much safer being an all-air route whereas the direct route from England is part air and part sea and some letters get sunk by enemy action. (2) As I previously informed you the two letters sent by you in December were lost en route but that is because the new all-air route had not then been established. The letter which you wrote on September 16th, 1941 also failed to reach me. Incidentally it is not possible for me to check your receipt of my letters properly because you state the dates on which they were received in England, instead of stating the date on which I wrote them. Please do the latter. I have sent you two airgraph letters, February 28 and end of March. If there are any points in the lost letters which you think I ought to know, please repeat them again. The Mrs Eddy book has not reached me yet. If it doesn't arrive within the next {3} months you will have to buy me another copy and keep it in reserve for me until the war is over. But books always take twice as long as letters to reach here. (3) Your big surprise about the girl was not quite a surprise for I had been expecting to hear something like it and wondered when you would have the courage to tell me. I am a little amused but quite pleased for it will round out and balance your character and also give you a little happiness. It is indeed a piece of karma and I am sure you knew her in a former life. I am glad however that you don't propose to think of marriage yet. You are both far too young for that and should have a broader experience. You might then each meet somebody else who would be more

suitable or else confirm the choice by love grown stronger still. The most important thing in marriage for one of your ideals is to find similar ideals in your wife, otherwise it won't work out well as you know by my example. I have no objection to your getting married at the proper time, if you should wish to, but do please wait until my return to England after the war⁶³ for⁶⁴ personal discussion as to when such a time should be. Otherwise you may ruin all chance to work with me. I am glad Mother and Len find Laura a nice girl for I know they are good and critical judges in such a matter. Is she interested in your spiritual beliefs? What particular work does she do in the office? (4) I was delighted to receive your latest photo. It shows quite an old-looking young man, full of growing wisdom, earnestness, self-control but perhaps a trifle too serious. Don't forget to laugh now and then, don't miss the comedy pictures at your cinema, develop a taste for good radio music, remember to present a smiling face to the world, for all this is a part of the philosophical life, too. (5) I am very pleased that you realize now that pacifism and conscientious objection to war would be unworthy of you. They are ideals which are correct only for monks, hermits and those who have renounced the worldly life, but quite incorrect for you and I who remain in the world to serve mankind. And at a time like now when we are fighting such devils as the Nazi gangsters, who would destroy all spirituality all truth and all religion, pacifism is sheer idiocy. The Bhagavad Gita explains that selfless action is much higher than self-centred renunciation. So we all have to support the war as a sacred duty but we can do it without hatred and simply to teach the Germans and Japs that crime does not pay; if they learn this lesson we actually help them spiritually. (6) Yes I have read Sir Richard Acland's book (sent to England for it, in fact, because I read one of his speeches in the House of Commons) and fully agree with every word of it. It is such practical spirituality which I regard as a part of our future post-war work, the other part being instruction in meditation and philosophy. (7) Your theory as to whether all mankind or only a few will attain ultimate salvation is correct. We shall all get there in the end but most will arrive involuntarily by suffering and a few through voluntary effort on the quest. Hence we call the former 'the path of the ant' because it crawls slowly and the second 'the path of the bird' because it flies quickly.⁶⁵

The⁶⁶ fact that God dwells in all mankind is, however much the masses are unaware of it, a guarantee of their eventual self-discovery as Spirit. I am dealing quite fully with this question in the second volume of my book, which will be finished at the end of this year, war permitting, as also with many related questions. (8) Yes, India is in the war zone now and she has the opportunity, which England and America have had for similar reasons, to find her soul and present a united front to the enemy. How far she does so is a test for her real as against her reputed spirituality. Unfortunately the pseudo-spirituality of Gandhi is influential here but here in Madras there is a little rebellious awakening against it by the Provincial Congress. (9) It is not surprising that my recent book left you a bit confused. The subject is deep and difficult but can be caught very quickly if personally explained

⁶³ "(Continued in Airgraph 2)" typed at bottom of page.

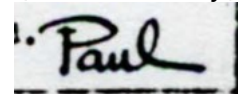
⁶⁴ Page 65. "continued from Airgraph 1) typed before text.

⁶⁵ "(CONTINUED ON No. 3)" handwritten at bottom of page.

⁶⁶ Page 67, "(Continued from Airgraph 2)" typed before text.

and discussed. I shall make it so easy for you when we meet one day, that I guarantee you will have the essence of it within less than a month! Meanwhile just ruminate over the following: During a dream you believe the people, houses, streets and conversations are real, the walls seem solid and hard, but after you awake you know it was only a yarn spun out of your own mind. That means it was only a series of ideas. Well, during waking life everything similarly seems real and solid but from the higher consciousness the sage sees that it is something like although not actually a dream, something spun out of the mind. (10) I am sorry but not surprised to hear from you that you don't think E. H. Spicer's thoughts and yours run on the same set of rails. It is a very long time since I heard from him but from what mutual friends in America tell me he has been getting sidetracked and a little unbalanced. I would be interested to know in what thoughts you found him discordant, as I may later want to try and pull him together. (11) Please give Mother and Len my love and say I hope they will send me a few lines soon. Tell them my health is fairly good now and I hope they are keeping well too. I hope too they enjoyed the tea I send them for the New Year.

[Affectionately]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul", enclosed within a rectangular border.

L40.069

69 - 70

Airgraph from Paul to Ken
Dr P. Brunton c/o Thos Cook & Son,
Mount Road, MADRAS,
July 22.

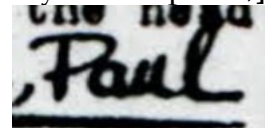
KENNETH HURST
15 SUMMERHILL GROVE
BUSH HILL PARK
ENFIELD. MIDDLESEX

[Dear Ken,]

Your letter of May 9th has arrived here. I last wrote you by Airgraph on June 26th. As you have been accepted for the Royal Navy and as you say that fate might send you to Indian waters I shall not be surprised to receive a telegram from you one day to meet you at Bombay, Colombo or some other port which of course will be a great joy to me. It may be a remote chance but imagination costs us nothing. I am willing to travel to any part of the Indian coast, south, east or west at any time to meet you. (2) I am hoping to get an airgraph letter from you because the service from England to India was opened two months ago and this will get your communications to me within one month. (3) With regard to the money I wrote in April to Cooks, Bankers, London to remit 14 guineas to Len. This will be as usual partly for his account and partly for yourself. This request however was sent by Airgraph and I don't know whether a Bank will regard that as sufficient authority;

so you must let me know as early as possible. (4) What you have done about the reviews of the new book is quite in order. You may keep them until the war is over. You might however ascertain whether the review in the LISTENER is taken from a broad-cast radio talk or whether it was written only for the journal itself. This is both interesting and important to me. You may get this information by writing a letter to the editor. (5) I am keeping fairly well and working hard to bring my new book to conclusion within the next few months. (6) The critical political situation which has developed in India and which affects our war position will be known to you through the London newspapers. It is a consequence of the views held by Gandhi and provides a warning to the danger of being a mystic alone without having the philosophic training to counterbalance it. It is not enough to be swayed by feelings of what are believed to be intuitions. They must be checked and disciplined by reason and practicality. (7) I was amused to hear that you tried to study Kant and had to abandon him. This is the usual experience of nearly everyone. It is not your "fault" but Kant's as he loses himself on the one hand and is unable to express himself on the other. However I will give you the essence of what Kant had to say in a single conversation when we meet again one day and thus save you the headaches with which he rewards his readers.

[With my love & peace,]

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul", with some illegible text above it.

L40.071

71 - 72

Airgraph from Paul to Ken
Vani Vilas Road,
Mysore.
5th September 42.

Kenneth Hurst
15 Summerhill Grove
Bush Hill Park
Enfield. Middlesex

[My dear ken,]

Your letters of May 30th (direct) and June 24th (through Myron) have reached here safely. My last letter to you was dated June 26th and there was probably a further one on July 22nd although we have no definite record of that one. I am still looking forward to receiving the first airgraph letter from you but so far it has not materialized. The airgraphs from other correspondents in England have reached here in less than a month. Let me know whether the use of all capitals in the present letter is readable as unfortunately we have only the elite type (extra small size) on our typewriters. Hitherto the airgraphs I sent you were typed on a borrowed machine which had the standard size type. If you can possibly send me your reply

on an airgraph form written in all capitals just like this one on your little Underwood machine which has also elite type this will enable me to see what the finished result is when it reaches the other end. It will be necessary however to use a perfectly black ribbon and one as nearly new as possible. Thanks. (2) I am not surprised that you gave up dancing as the present type of jazz is rather degenerate and ugly if not immoral whereas the old fashioned dances like the waltz had some dignity and grace. (3) I am delighted that you read the book on Mahayana. It is an excellent and authoritative work. For your information it is split up into many sects and the pure truth is difficult to get hold of through books unless one has been personally initiated by a competent lama. I have had that good luck. (4) Mr Gopalkrishnan is still with me and I have conveyed your apologies to him. As you are now beginning to write me more frequently and as I have settled down in Mysore to complete by book you may use the above address until further instructions. I am now concentrating solely on the book to bring it to a quick end and shall send the manuscript by airmail to England in November.

(5) with reference to your interest in Sir Richard Acland's [work]⁶⁷ although I agree substantially with its principles and aims please always remember two things, first that we must go to the root of earthly economic and political troubles. This is both the right and best way to approach them in the end and the root lies in human ignorance. Until mankind learn about it through inward unity and feel goodwill for each other, there will never be a really successful solution of its various problems. Therefore it is more important for the few who have realized this to concentrate their very limited time and energy upon the alteration of mankind's {wrong} ideas and upon the planting of true seed thoughts. The second thing want you to remember is not to get too entangled with any other kind of work but to keep yourself within a certain reserve so that you will be absolutely free of all ties to associate yourself in work with me after the war of which there will be more than enough to keep you busy. This said, I am pleased with what you have done and are doing and I am sure your experience with Acland will be helpful to you in the future.

[With my peace and love]

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script. Above the signature, there is some faint, illegible text that might be "the hope".

L40.073

73 - 74

Airgraph from Paul to Kenny
C/O Thos. Cook & Son
Postbox 171, Madras, India
October 29, 1942

Kenneth Hurst
15 Summerhill Grove
Bush Hill Park

⁶⁷ PB inserted "work" by hand.

Enfield. Middlesex

[Kenny dear,]

Your letters of July 13 and airgraph of August 13 have reached me. All your letters as mentioned in your list have reached here except the one of June 13 which was sent via Myron. It must therefore be presumed lost in transmission. As this is the second one to get lost this year – probably through enemy action – may I request you not to send any letters via Myron henceforth but to use the airgraph service only? Watch out for and use early a new “air-letter” service which will start from England to India at the beginning of December. The advantage will be that you can send a larger number of words and that the cover will be sealed and larger.

I shall be very interested to hear at once if you are called up for the royal navy service. It will be quite a change for you as a jollyjack tar! Still I do feel you are rather young for that sort of activity and hard life but I am sure you will make a success of it as you have of earlier jobs. I am very proud to learn too that you delivered your first public speech so easily and hope you will take pains to cultivate this exceedingly useful talent.

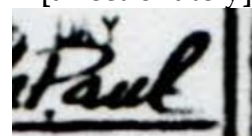
You have not yet acknowledged receipt of my airgraph of June 26; and by now you will no doubt have received my further airgraphs of July 22 and [September 4].

Do you remember the Hutchinsons where I took you once to spend a week end in Kent[?] They have done tremendous work for the American soldiers serving in England. Now they are doing red cross work. They always liked you so I hope it will be possible for us all to meet again in England after the war at their lovely house. Incidentally I shall be grateful if you will not discuss your political views and activities until I am back in England after the war is over. It will only lead to misunderstanding. Let it suffice that I sympathise with them completely. Also forgive me if I reiterate that politics will never solve humanity's problems, even material problems, because they are at bottom spiritual problems. Therefore you should reserve your best thought and energy for this fundamental task of {so} improving yourself morally mentally and yogically as to be able to help change their character, reduce their selfishness, and dissipate their materialism. I am harping on this because I see civilization in grave danger of self-destruction unless it awakens to a more spiritual outlook, a destruction which will not be avoided by the mere gaining of political rights.

I am getting my bodily health in better form through practising some of the old yoga of body control postures and am working at the completion of my book with added strength. Three quarters of it has now been sent to England and the rest will be dispatched before Xmas.

please give my love to mum and Len. We shall all meet again one day. Take every care of your health. I remember you in my meditations.

[affectionately]

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul", with a vertical line to the right of the name.

Airgraph from Paul to Kenny
C/O Thos Cook & Son
Post Box 171, Madras (India)
15th December 1942.

Kenneth Hurst
15 Summerhill Grove
Bush Hill Park
Enfield. Middlesex

[My dear Kenny,]

Your airmail letter of 18th September, Christmas card of 19th Sept. and airgraph letters of Oct. 23rd and Nov. 7th have safely reached here. My last letter to you was dated 29th Oct. I am so pleased that you have been able to write so often hitherto but if you find it difficult to do so henceforth I will understand. I have not written you for quite a long time owing to the fact that I was on the final lap of the book and had to concentrate intensively. Well, the manuscript was completed this week and if all goes well will be published next spring. It is entitled "the wisdom of the Overself." Henceforth I propose to write to you once every month. Your letter of April 11th sent through Myron was lost in transit but now that the safe airgraph service is available there is no further reason for you to send anything through Myron again. (2)⁶⁸ I shall be interested to hear after the war is over all about your adventures as a sailor and shall wait patiently until that happy time. Meanwhile amid all the dangers and hardships of your new life, your protective talisman should be your faith in the higher spiritual forces. You are fighting a good cause, in a war which is a titanic struggle between the forces of good and the forces of evil. Remember the inspiring words of Krishna on the battlefield to Arjuna and do your karmic duty with confidence in the knowledge that you are doing what is right. You will be constantly in my thoughts and meditations. (3) keep yourself adequately and warmly clothed, for you must protect your health against climatic exposures of your new work. Don't forget if you have need of money for more clothing to draw upon Len as I shall keep him periodically supplied for any of your needs. (4) I was very interested to hear about your progress at Ellam's. Please keep in touch with the manager as he wishes you to because there may be an interval of time after the war is over before we can get together, such an interval may be anything from six to twelve months. It will not depend upon me of course, but upon circumstances beyond my control. In any case you have nothing to lose by keeping in touch with the manager and should I be unable to avoid this interval it is as well that you should be able to fill it up gaining further experience. (5) when you have a stabilised address to which mail can safely be sent, let me know, but please note that it will have to be written in block letters on the airgraph as it is difficult for me to decipher it otherwise. The rest of your letter was quite legible. (6) I am glad to hear you have hopes of interesting Laura in your ideals and it will certainly be excellent for both of

⁶⁸ This area marked (2) has a handwritten line around it.

you if she comes to accept them through genuine understanding and not merely to please you. It will be some years before you will be in a position to marry and when you do it should be to link your future with a fellow pilgrim on the path.⁶⁹ (7) please give my kindest thoughts to mum and Len. Don't forget to send me a postcard photograph in uniform – head and shoulders will do.

[With my peace and love, Paul]

L40.077

77 - 78

Airgraph from Paul to Kenny
C/O Thos Cook & Son, Ltd.,
Post Box No. 171, Madras, India.
14th January 1943

Kenneth Hurst
15 Summerhill Grove
Bush Hill Park
Enfield, Middlesex

[My dear Kenny]

Your airgraphs of November twenty-third and December ninth have reached here. My last one to you was dated December fifteenth. Please do not write to Mysore again as I shall be on the move but henceforth use my permanent mail address – c/o Cooks, Madras.

last year you informed me that on June the thirteenth you sent me copies of all the press reviews of my last book through Myron. Unfortunately these copies never reached me and must be presumed lost at sea. However, I have received all those reviews except one from somebody else. Will you please send me the original cutting or a written copy of the missing review, which is from a journal called "the book window." Keep the other printed ones for me until after the war.

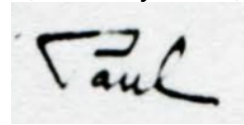
I hope you will not misread the negative injunction mentioned in my last letter to wait {few} years before marriage to be a positive advice that you should marry. It is nothing of the kind. On the contrary if you can wait until you are about thirty you would thus be able to devote your best energies to what will be the busiest time that lies ahead to both of us after the war and you will thus be absolutely free to do so. Anyway we shall discuss this matter one day when we are able to meet and the sole purpose of my mentioning this specially is to emphasize that you should not get yourself into any entanglement or promise before that time. Forgive the warning, but be on your guard against those who may try to lead you astray into drink and women.

Try to do your new duties with inner calmness and other efficiency, but whatever you are doing, try to keep ever in the background of consciousness the remembrance of the Overself. It will be both a form of yoga and a protective

⁶⁹ This sentence encircled with a line around it and inserted into this place. It was the last sentence in the letter.

influence. I never forget you and ardently work [for]⁷⁰ the day when you will come into the blessed realization of the divine peace, joy, strength, understanding and unselfishness.

[With my love,]



L40.079

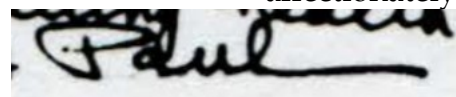
79 - 80

Handwritten letter from Paul to Kenny
c/o Thos. Cook & Son
Postbox 171, Madras. India.
MAY 28, 1943

My dear Kenny,

Your airgraphs dated December 21 and April 14 received but your communications of Feb. March and April have not arrived. I presume they went by letter mail and this (whether air or sea) has unfortunately taken nearly half a year in most other cases! Anyway I am delighted to hear from you after such a long silence, which I understand. I wonder what you thought of the terribly cold Canadian winter. I am proud of you and know you will play your part in this world struggle against Nazi demonism in accord with the noble philosophy you hold. Having the right motive and higher ideal, you may later go into the fight calmly knowing that it is your sacred duty, and remembering that there is no other way to remove this Satanic menace to mankind except by killing as many German bodies as possible. (2) I believe all you say about Laura and am glad you have such a nice friend. Lead her thoughts upwards towards our teaching by steps and if you want her to write me, I shall reply. (3) Have no anxiety about the future. You will come through safely, I am sure, for you have something worth while to live for. I wonder if you know how much I am depending on your help when we are both free to meet again. I shall need it greatly, owing to ever-increasing work and failing health.

With my peace,
affectionately



L40.081

Handwritten letter from Paul to Kenny
c/o Thos Cook and Son Ltd.
Postbox 171, Madras India
JUNE 13/43

⁷⁰ PB inserted "for" by hand.

Seaman K. Hurst
Jx 392216
R.N., T.A.G. School
C/O Fleet Mail Officer.
Halifax. Nova Scotia (Canada)

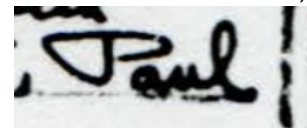
My dear Kenny,

Although I have not heard from you since sending my airgraph last month, I feel impelled to send you a few more words because of the critical new phase the war is entering. So many years have passed since we last met and so much has developed in both of us that our next meeting will be an event indeed! And I am convinced that you are going to come through alright, so go ahead with faith in doing the duty to which war has called you. In my eyes it is a sacred duty because Nazism would {illegible} all spirituality in mankind and because Hitler is Anti-Christ.

If you have space to {help} and time to read my new book, get a copy either from Myron (who has some of mine) or from Rider's (who have been instructed to let you have it if you write). The American edition will be much better, as type is larger and paper superior. By the time this reaches you, however, you may have read it and I shall value hearing your reactions to it quite frankly.

The divine arms enfold us all, despite all appearances to the contrary, and the divine love is always there. I want you to share this knowledge and this peace which I have found, so I keep you in my sunset meditations daily. One day we may do something together for mankind. I followed your suggestion and sent Mother something for her birthday. I am very much better in health again although still needing rest. Once again, have faith fully. God will protect you. Wonderful powers are at work.

LOVE,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul", followed by a vertical line.

L40.083

83 - 84

Handwritten letter from Paul to Kenny
C/O Thos. Cook & Son.
Postbox 171. Madras India
July 20/43

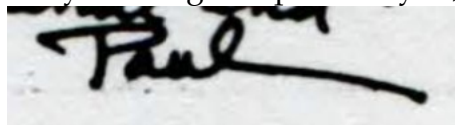
Acting Leading Airman Hurst, (K.T.)
Jx 392216.
Royal Navy, T.A.G. School,
C/O Fleet Mail Officer
Halifax, (Nova Scotia) Canada

Kenny, my dear,

Since I wrote you by airgraph last month, your own airgraphs of June 3 and 18 have been received. But your 5 letters of February & March have not be received. How were they sent? Please note that all airmail letters should be registered. Otherwise they are stolen for the sake of their high value stamps. Most of my America airmail correspondence was stolen for two years until the precaution of registration was taken.

I am delighted that you went to Washington and met Myron. It is important that you become friends, because of the future. I am also pleased that you like him. He has the best virtues of Americans generally – there are faults too, of course, but I hope to weed them out of him when I get back. Anyway he has been and will be a great help to me. I am also pleased that you appreciated the States – a grand country. If they can work in co-operation with England after the war it will be for the benefit of both. There were friends of mine in New York you should have met too – a cable would have brought you an immediate wire in reply but this will now have to wait. Don't hesitate ever to wire me, if possible, although I know that it is usually impossible under war conditions.⁷¹ To find a few minutes for meditation every day is now becoming increasingly necessary for you, so that our inner communion may become stronger. The Divine presence is your best safeguard but you must look inside regularly to feel for it. 1944 will open a new vital period in world material and spiritual history.

My blessing and peace to you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

L40.085

85 - 90

Handwritten airgraph from Paul to Kenny

c/o Thos. Cook

& Son, Postbox 171.

Madras. India.

September 2/43

A/L.A., Hurst, K.T., Jx 392216
R.N. Tag School C/O Fleet
Mail Officer, Halifax
Nova Scotia,
Canada

My dear Kenny,

You may be amused but grateful to hear that all your six airmail letters, with dates varying from February to May were suddenly received here during the same week. Also your airgraphs of June 29, July 12, & July 26 were received. My last

⁷¹ The rest of the letter has a line around it with an arrow pointing to it.

airgraph to you was 20 July. Sorry I did not write earlier again but there is a mountain of unanswered correspondence around me which I have to cope with single-handed and yet attend to all other duties! My old secretary has left for a great {post} and I have now only a novice.⁷² I am glad to have your photos. Karen has also sent me one, so they are all framed and visible every day. Quite the jolly Jack Tar!

My health is much better now.

I fully understand that you've grown up and can stand morally on your own feet. By all means do so and thus be self reliant. But with regard to such a matter as marriage, or engagement to be married, you have much to gain and nothing to lose if you could wait until we meet again. Everything can be settled then without delay. But until then it will be immeasurably wiser for you in every way to wait and keep unentangled by promises or engagements. This is a matter of the highest importance but I can't explain by correspondence. I will help you to marry at the earliest moment but let it be to someone who is really the right one - whether that be Laura or someone else - for your horoscope shows⁷³ that⁷⁴ great care is needed here. I am very sympathetic to your desire for an early marriage but unless it is also a wise one, all our plans for your future will be shattered. If you will allow that my own experience observation, knowledge and insight are now mature enough to give you sound counsel in this matter, you will not be too independent but humble enough to receive it. The material cannot be separated from the spiritual and your whole inner and outer life will be made or marred by this one deed. I therefore beg you to have patience - and this is not being unfair to Laura but the contrary - and all will come out perfectly in the end. I will neither stand in your way nor delay by one {unnecessary} day; I will do what will be best for us all. You are free. I am not interfering. But if you want me as your guru you will have to place some value on my advice. Myron is happily married only because he followed me implicitly in this matter. I want you to be as happy as he in your own future. There is a right and wrong time for things. If you like to suggest to Laura that she write me, I'll be pleased to hear from her, but you will have some {news} about her. I know you want something to look forward to after the war. You will have it if only you trust me.

It was good and useful that you accepted Myron's invitation and made the trip, for he is very close⁷⁵ to⁷⁶ me in several ways, and also because several reasons, especially health, will force me to spend most of my time in America after the war, with annual visits to Europe if possible. As I like flying and aviation will be a feature of the new age, and cheap, if you learn to be a pilot we may get our own little plane, who knows?

Under separate cover, by airmail, I am sending a recent picture as desired. It

⁷² PB inserted "My old secretary has left for a great {post} and I have now only a novice." by hand.

⁷³ "(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)" handwritten at bottom of page.

⁷⁴ Page 87

"Page 2 (continued)" handwritten at top of page.

⁷⁵ "(CONTINUED) ON PAGE 3)" handwritten at bottom of page.

⁷⁶ Page 89

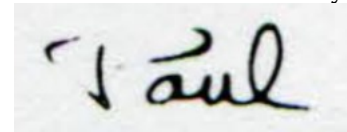
"Page (3) (continued)" handwritten at top of page.

may take a long time to reach you, though.

Any moments that you can snatch for quiet meditation will be valuable nowadays. Try to link up telepathically with me more clearly. The inner world of thought must be deepened to do this. Intense concentrated absorption for five minutes even will help. Yearn repeatedly for the consciousness of your true self, the divine soul in you. Such yearning brings its grace eventually in return. How happy you will be one day when you are established in its strength, light, bliss, serenity and insight! And how much good you will be able to do then! To find this inner soul is the real purpose of your life on earth. So stick to the quest under all conditions, at all times.

My peace be with you.

Affectionately

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paul' with a stylized flourish at the end.

L40.091

91 - 92

Photograph

L40.093

93 - 94

Letter from Paul to Kenny
c/o Thos. Cook & Son Ltd
Postbox 171, Madras, India
14 Sept 43

Dear Kenny:

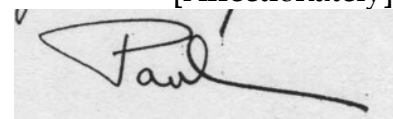
Here are two photographs sent as requested and mentioned in my airgraph of early September 43. Both are recent.

was taken without my knowledge by my secretary whilst I was at work writing on the flat roof of my house

was taken by an official photographer at a Government function as part of a group, from which it is cut out.

The photos Mother and you sent me of yourself still show naval uniform. Haven't you one with an airman's uniform? If so, I'd like to have it. Surely you don't go up in the air with those wide flapping trousers of a jolly jack tar!

[Affectionately]

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paul' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Letter from Paul to K.T. HURST
C/O Thos. Cook & Son,
Postbox 171. Madras, India
14th December, 1944

To Petty Officer K.T. Hurst
Jx 392216. P.O's Mess.
Royal Naval Air Station

Copy of missing letter dated 20th January, 1944

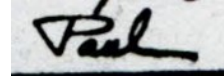
I am glad to hear that you had the initiative to call upon Laura and get the matter cleared up. The other fellow has probably an {illegible} and {illegible} to yours. Do you see their value now? It was {somewhat} {illegible} but {understandable} on {illegible} part not to have told you the truth before. I {illegible} that you need my approval of your engagement and therefore {illegible} to give it. I also {advise} you to make sure that Laura's promise to help you in your {illegible} time {illegible} primarily to please you rather than out of her {illegible}. She is no doubt a {kind} and good girl. But what you will require in your life will be very much more than that as you have an unusual complex character and an exceptional spiritual future. When you were born I cast your horoscope with great accuracy. It shows that, with reference to love and marriage, much caution will be necessary against making mistakes and {illegible} subsequent suffering. It would be far better for you to be patient {illegible} to wait for the right girl than to take any precipitate action. It is possible that I may be in a {illegible} to find her. But nothing can be done until my return to the {illegible}. Meanwhile my sympathies go out to you but study analytically and {illegible} with the practical and philosophic lessons of this bitter-sweet {illegible}.

Now that you are booked for active service, {remember} always the spiritual teaching which I have tried to impart to you as also the {illegible} character of the inner tie between us. Amidst all the dangers and hardships of {illegible} duty strive to keep open the inner channels of inspiration protection and guidance with the divine power. It will be very hard to do so under the outer pressures but even two or three minutes' thought of it each day will be a help in this direction. I cannot {illegible} estimate the importance of simple recurring remembrance of (a) the Overself and (b) the guru, of trying to carry on in the atmosphere of such a {illegible} it is a yoga path of its own and is good in its way as any other. But if you cannot do {illegible} of the mental image of the guru will be a help. As for the {illegible} you will just have to still your {illegible} your {illegible} effort of will power. Console yourself with the knowledge that it is only a temporary affair and will have to come to an end, then you can live the kind of life, you want to. Life to-day is a terrible business {illegible} presence of suffering and the consequent necessity of finding an inner {illegible} it. Whatever happens try to keep your moral outlook {illegible} by the {illegible} good character is the foundation for a {illegible} life, spiritually and {illegible}

[With my cordial greetings for the festive season and peace and blessings for

the coming year.

Affectionately]



L40.097

97 - 98

Duplicate of L40.095

L40.099

99 - 100

Duplicate of L40.095

L40.101

101 - 104

Airgraph from Paul to Kenny
C/O. Thos. Cook & Son Ltd.,
Post Box 171, Madras, India
9th March, 1944

L/A Hurst, K.T. Jx392216
Mess 26,
H.M.S. "Striker"
C/O G.P.O., London. E.C.I.

[My dear Kenny.]

My previous airgraph to you was dated January 20th. Your welcome airgraphs of January 24th and February 4 received. I am glad that the viking strain in you[r] heredity has satisfactorily accommodated itself to life on the ocean waves.

Are you alright for money? Do not forget to let me know if you need any for {illegible} or comforts and I shall be glad to send you some direct to your ship, instead of through Len as formerly. In fact I will always send it to you direct in future as I am sure you will prefer this just as I do. I do not however know the postal rules about it so let me know if it can be done.

Since I last wrote you I took my health in hand and by various methods including a fast for 9 days have considerably improved it.

I⁷⁷ remember vividly the day you were born. There was much prayer and big things were expected of you. That is why you were named Kenneth which signifies "a commander." This letter will arrive somewhere around your twenty first birthday. You have now attained manhood in the conventional sense. It is a suitable time not only to analyse the past for its practical and spiritual lessons but also to

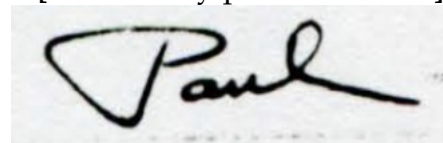
⁷⁷ The rest of the letter is encircled with a handwritten line around it.

formulate ideals ambitions aspirations and plans for your life as whole. Such mental pictures, if constantly renewed and concentrated on, have creative power and help to influence physical conditions, and heartfelt silent prayer to your guardian angel for strength wisdom and guidance will never be wasted.

Although I am unlikely to publish anything for some years I am still doing a lot of writing privately. Great revelations are coming to me and had I known twenty five years ago what I know today much trouble and suffering could have been avoided. However I hope when we meet again I can pass something on to you so that you may profit by my errors and their consequences.

In the great strain and grave dangers of the coming months find your courage and serenity in the talismanic power of the thought of your higher self. It is always there.

[With all my peace and love]

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul', with a stylized, cursive script.

L40.105

105 - 106

Handwritten airgraph from Paul to Kenny
c/o Grindlay & Co. Postbox 49,
Madras, India⁷⁸
June 25/1944

To Ldg. Airman K.T. Hurst,
Jx 392216, Mess 26
H.M.S. "Striker"
C/O G.P.O. London.E.C.I

My dear Kenny,

Your airgraphs of March 9, 27, April 12 and June 4 have arrived. I have not written you for 2 or 3 months, being ill part of the time and overworked the rest of the time. Nothing has been published in the Indian newspapers about your ship's exploits. We rarely get such items. So I hope you will save the cuttings from London newspapers and send them. Thank you for the book "Fleet Air Arm" published by the Admiralty. It is most interesting and explains all about your work quite fully. The pictures are excellent, too.

By a strange turn of fate, I learn that my last secretary in England, Miss Faulkner, worked recently for a time as secretary to a friend of yours, Sir Richard!

If my airgraph of Jan 20 was lost in post, ask me to repeat it as it contained something important and I have kept a copy.

Amid the strain and danger of active service, keep the remembrance of your

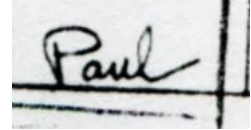
⁷⁸ "PLEASE NOTE CHANGE TO ADDRESS:

c/o Grindlays Co. Postbox Forty-Nine, MADRAS" is handwritten by PB next to address.

Guardian Angel, your divine Overself, ever in the background of your thoughts. Remember too the instruction given to Arjuna by Krishna on the battlefield: "I save them from death, whose minds are ever set on Me." (Chapter XII).

I send you my peace and blessing

Affectionately

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

L40.107

107 - 110

Letter from Paul to Kenny
c/o Grindlay & Co. Ltd
Postbox 49, MADRAS, India.
18 October 1944

[My dear Kenny]

It was such a delight to recognise your handwriting on the airgraphs of June 24, July 19, August 3 & 26. My last one to you was March 9 &⁷⁹ June 25 but on August 26 I instructed my bankers, Messrs Grindlay, in London, to remit you £14 (fourteen pounds) which I hope you have received safely. It will help you with the purchase of your new service uniform and also give you some pocket money. Don't hesitate at any time about asking for more when you need it. I also sent a few pounds to Mother, together with a box of tea and she has acknowledged them.

My airgraph of January 20, which you are not sure of having received, (it was addressed to Arbroath, Scotland) dealt mostly with the Laura affair, but I shall not repeat it unless you particularly ask me to. I have kept a copy. No doubt you have a romantic temperament, as you say, and you are at the suitable age to express it. That is alright. But in view of the nature of your horoscope and of the special work to which I hope your post-war life will be devoted, it is essential that you keep your romantic inclinations under the guidance of reason, caution and reflection upon consequences. You will be well advised to stop short at getting into entanglements, engagements etc. Defer all questions of actual commitments until we can meet and discuss matters—which desirable time is getting nearer. In this region of romance there is often, for those who have a special spiritual destiny, a thorn concealed beneath every rose. However there is no reason why, if you particularly want it, a working team like Myron's and Linda's could not develop in your case also. But it could be arrived at only after patient search; the ability to wait is needed here.

I agree with your comment on America and am pleased with your appreciation of it. It may be that I shall have to settle permanently there, I don't know yet, on account of my ill health. My body is in much better form now but I know that a change of climate and altitude are essential if I am to carry on. So when I recover freedom of movement again I intend to find a place that fulfils the

⁷⁹ The original editor inserted "March 9 &."

conditions it requires. The only place of that kind I have so far been able to discover is Central California, where I could secure the right temperature plus an altitude of a few thousand feet (the minimum I need is 5,000 feet). Otherwise my maladies of dysentery, fever, tropical⁸⁰ liver, etc. can't be kept down. I would like to have been nearer to Europe, however, so as to visit England regularly so I shall leave the decision till the time comes to make it. And that won't be till peace has settled down on the world.

A couple of students whom I knew in the States have visited me during the present year, as they are serving with the American forces out here, and they were the first I have seen, since before the war, from the West. Here is my home address and if ever the fortunes of war bring you into these waters, try and get a leave to visit me. "Jasmine Villa, Hyderali Road, Mysore City, South India"

You may be aware of a new service, the "Airletter" which has been opened from England to India. It costs you sixpence and is delivered here as quickly as an airgraph but has advantages over it. 1) the writing is full size and not reduced⁸¹ in legibility. (2) it is delivered sealed and not open. I suggest you use it instead of airgraphs. We have not yet got a return "airletter" service from India but have been promised one. In addition, the ordinary airmail service costing 1/3d has been greatly speeded up whilst there is no longer any risk of loss through enemy action. That is why I am using it now. Of course, it permits including more pages.

I anticipated your suggestion of drastically cutting down on my work and this has helped to improve my health.

My congratulations on your success in passing the exams and getting promotion. It is good that you have a spark of ambition in you. Always be keen on making something of yourself, lift yourself above the common herd inwardly, it won't matter so much whether fate rewards you by lifting you outwardly too. Incidentally, one mistake you made was not going on with your education. I personally don't think much of the current educational system, it is defective in many ways, but with things as they were in England all the influence power and good jobs go to the well-educated men. If you intend to settle there after your war service is over, you will be up against this every time. But if you intend to switch over to America, it won't matter as much as there a man is judged by what he can do rather than by what school he went to. Incidentally, I had the clear impression that the man who took your place in Laura's affections had the better of you in this respect. Am I right?

Meanwhile the indispensable task is to win the present war. In that task you are having your own personal share and adventures. I am proud of you as being a modern Arjuna. Krishna, as ever, is your own higher self. Keep your inner shrine within the heart reserved for the Ideal. Worship there the Spirit that is birthless and deathless, indestructible and divine. Life in this world is like foam on the sea, it passes all too soon, but the moments given in adoration and obeisance to the Soul count for eternal gain. The most tremendous historic happenings on this earth are after all but pictures that pass through consciousness like a dream. Once you

⁸⁰ The original editor inserted "tropical."

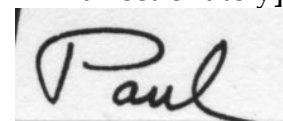
⁸¹ Page 109

"-2-" typed at top of page.

awaken to the Real, you see them for what they are. And then you will learn to live in its serenity, however stormy and agitated the pictures are themselves. It is the greatest good fortune to attain such a serenity, to be lifted above passion and hatred, prejudice and worldly duties. You too can get to this state; you have had momentary glimpses of it already; and to live in it permanently. Only, patience is called for. When we can meet again, I shall help you with the benefit of thirty years' experience in this quest and with the grace of what I have found after having to endure the vicissitudes, ordeals, temptations and tests which mark the way. You can learn painlessly in a few weeks what I had to learn through years of suffering and blundering. However the fact remains that I have found my way to the Overself, that I daily enjoy its blessed presence, that I have passed from mere existence into significant living and that I know there is love at the very heart of the universe. And now I want you (as well as others) to share in the fruits of this discovery. I want to feel even in the heat of war's activity that your Guardian Angel is ever with you, that it is not farther away than your inmost heart. Nurture this unshakeable faith, for it is true. Make it the basis of all your conduct, try to ennoble and purify your character incessantly and turn every fall into the stepping stone for a further rise. The quest winds through ups and downs, so make despair a short-lived thing and hope an unkillable one. Success won't depend on your own personal endeavours alone, although they are indispensable; it is also a matter of grace. And this you can get by unremitting prayer, addressed to whatever higher power you believe in most, and by the compassion of your guru. The readiness to go down on your knees for a minute or two, to abase the ego's pride in such prayer, is extremely valuable. This is what Jesus meant by becoming 'as a little child'; humility, inspired childlikeness not stupid childishness.

I occasionally remember the happy times we had together in London years ago—our picnics down the river at Richmond, your helping me on Saturdays with the sorting out of my office papers, your lunches with me at the flats in Chelsea and Hampstead, the mystical initiation I gave you which was to bear fruit a few years later, and so on. Although the future cannot duplicate the past, I hope we shall eventually be able to enjoy longer periods of association in the future. We have both travelled very far in mind and in experience since those days. The important thing is to be travelling in the right direction, that is, towards the realisation of true ideals.

[With my peace and blessing
affectionately]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Paul', enclosed in a rectangular border.

L40.111

111 - 112

Airgraph from Paul Brunton to Kenny
C/O Grindlay & Co. Ltd.
Post Box Forty-Nine, Madras, India.
14th December, 1944

To Petty Officer K.T. Hurst
Jx 392216, P.O's Mess.
Royal Naval Air Station,

[My Dear Kenny]

This will acknowledge receipt of your airgraph dated October 24th, the letter enclosing three photographs and the double airletter dated {illegible} 27th. Please note that in the {cable} of the last {illegible} you have left an entire half page on the back unused in each sheet. There is no sense in wasting this valuable space. All the other {illegible} which I have received from England have made use of it. So it is quite permissible to do so and this gives fifty per cent more space for writing your letter. After the {illegible} year I too shall be able to write you by the {illegible} airletter method and will {illegible} airgraph entirely, as I dislike it because it is so {illegible}.

At your request I repeat on page two the missing airgraph of January 20 {illegible} unaltered except that I have left out one paragraph mentioning my serious ill-health at that time. I am feeling very much better now and have brought {my maladies} under some control.

I am very glad to know the decision you have made as to where you intend to settle down ultimately after the war. I too {illegible} definitely {illegible} to settle in the same place both for the same reason which you give and for several others. {illegible} I still consider that you would be well advised when you go back to peacetime life to spend the couple of years continuing your education. This will be much easier to do in the place where you want to live than elsewhere, as the {illegible} is {illegible}. In this way you could work part time with me and part time at school or college so that you would get the spiritual training from me and the conventional education from outside everyday. Such a {illegible} you could make up for the years lost through this war, and at the same time have a proper foundation for your future spiritual and material success.

With regards to the Laura affair and your {illegible} to have a marriage like {illegible} I must remind you that this is possible only by giving up the idea of having children so that the time, interest and {illegible} of both of you are not sapped by the {illegible} and anxieties of making a family. It is all a matter of finding {illegible} with the right ideal. I have a number of persons who cherish spiritual ideals very deeply and {illegible} whom you might more easily find a {illegible} mate. If therefore you could wait patiently till 1946 when it may be possible for me to return to the west, I shall take up this matter seriously.

The war may not leave you the inclination time or strength for higher mystical pursuits. Still you have my assurance that this will matter in the {illegible} less than it seems for we are going to stand or fall {illegible}. I depend on a higher {illegible} than my own {illegible} one, which has become {illegible} so gracious to me lately, and its {illegible}. But they may not reach your conscious self until the present {illegible} tensions and pressures pass away. But they are there all the same. I have previously mentioned {illegible} self recollection as a {illegible} substitute for meditation and {illegible}... neglect prayer. Two or three minutes is enough, silently {illegible} sleep or {illegible}. This is most important.

L40.113

113 - 114
Duplicate of L40.111

L40.115

115 - 122
Airgraph from Paul to Kenny
Jasmine Villa, Hyderali Rd.
Mysore City, South India
1st June 1945

[My dear Kenny,]

Your airletters of January 2 & 10, February 5, April 12: I previously wrote you about March, although you haven't yet acknowledged it. Please use my home address for your letters in future (as above).

Although I have recovered quite alright from the malaria which kept me in bed for some weeks I am not so strong as before and have had to cut down work 50%. So my correspondence has to suffer and hence my silences, as I can't stop the mystical researches and writing work.

I am happy about the way the European war has ended, with the Nazis completely thrashed. But whether humanity has learnt enough from its recent ordeal is still questionable. Without a return to a more spiritual outlook, the future will not work out any better than the past. And as the return is fore-ordained I can only hope that it won't have to be forced on us at the price of a third world war.

Your postwar plans will be discussion. You would certainly benefit by a few months in the quiet of a country village, but you could better spend the time reading and thinking than in manual labour, of which I presume you get enough now. As for the Sorbonne scheme, you ought to know that without matriculation you can't get into any college. And you have still to matriculate! Paris itself is no doubt an attractive city but the postwar city will have an utterly different atmosphere from the prewar one; it will be worse in every way. You would do better to postpone the idea, moreover your French wouldn't be good enough to follow the lectures easily. We could visit the place together when it has sufficiently recovered itself after some years. I fancy that there is an overtone of Larry, the character in Somerset Maugham's latest novel, "The Razor's Edge" in your plan and suspect you have been reading it. Anyway, I suggest that you make no decisive plan about after the war life; wait until the time comes and then we can discuss the situation as it then is. My own ideas for you are quite different and you ought to hear them personally from me⁸² before you commit yourself to anything. And that can't be before we meet again. But if you will take my advice then, you will be able to save yourself

⁸² The original editor changed "you" to "me."

from several blunders and some suffering.

As for emotional situation, keep the ideal of a true mate but don't be so absolutely certain that you will meet her on this earth. You were just as certain about Laura. Yet see how she let you down! The spiritual path is a call to renunciation of personal attachments, inwardly at least, and the animal nature. Both have to be overcome if inner peace is to be got. But once overcome, the world can be enjoyed without danger because your happiness no longer depends on it. If you let the natural desire for a mate be included in but transcended by the higher desire for spiritual realisation, you stand a chance to get both. If you feel that the first is wholly indispensable to you, you may miss the chance to get either. I must tell you the truth, Kenny, that the Soul will not give itself to you unless you love It more than anything or anyone else. You have a great capacity for love in your nature. Properly directed by wisdom, it will lead you to spiritual heights and human satisfactions. But directed by impulse, unchecked by reason, it could bring you into situations productive of much misery to yourself and others. Therefore I hope you will make it a part of your spiritual discipline to secure this balance and until you have secured it, to commit yourself to no decision without consulting an old man like me first! Much harm has been done to young aspirants by the pseudo-romantic nonsense and false suggestions put out by cinema, magazines and novels. "O son, though thou art young, be old in understanding. I do not bid thee not to play the youth, but be a youth self-controlled. Be watchful and not deceived by thy youth." I found these lines lately in a book called the Qabus Nama, written 800 years ago by a Persian prince, who was also a sage, for the benefit of his son. They are worth your study. Incidentally, as you are so fond of the "Rubaiyat" I ought to tell you that the key to its meaning is neither solely materialist nor solely mystic, but a combination of both. I have made an extensive study of Persian mysticism and discovered that the Persian character blends and includes the two.

At⁸³ the moment I am arranging to send some tea to Mother. We are restricted to 2 lb. maximum.

How do you stand about money? Let me know if you are short.

I shall not be free to leave this country until some little time after the Jap war has ended. There is a great shortage of transport so even then I may be held up for longer than you may believe. I don't know where I shall settle, as I will have to be moving about for a couple of years after my return to the West. So that question too will be left until its time is ripe. My previous statement was speculative, nothing has yet been decided.

Although my own letters this year will be fewer, don't let this cause you to write me less often. I want to hear from you as regularly as you can manage it.

Don't worry about my health. I know it will readjust favourably when I return to the West.

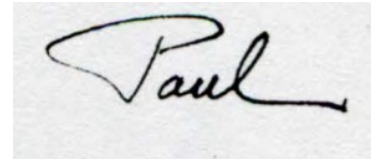
When are you getting another promotion? I expect big⁸⁴ things from you!

[With my peace and love]

⁸³ Page 117

"page 2)" typed at top of page.

⁸⁴ The original editor inserted "big."



L40.123

123 - 126

Letter from Paul to Kenny
Jasmine Villa, Hyderali Road,
Mysore City, South India
6th September 1945

[My dear Kenny]

Having been told that letters for the Forces may be sent now at ordinary rates but will be carried by air, the present is the first one I am sending under this system and I want you to let me know if it reaches you as quickly as the "Airletters" used to reach you.

Your letters of May 23 & July 27, "Airletters" of July 6 and August 21 have been welcomed here. The photographs and the press cuttings have been received safely. I like your latest picture, the P.O.'s cap and coat gives you something to live up to now! It has gone into a Mysore sandalwood frame and adorns my bedroom chest of drawers, neighbouring a 900-year-old stone figure of the Buddha I brought from Angkor. So here too you have something to live up to!

As my birthday is approaching I am celebrating it in reverse and have today remitted you through Grindlays, London, £7/7/0. I am also sending a fiver to Mother and hope she got the box of tea sent this summer. My mail is in such great arrears that I haven't had time to write her but my kindest thoughts go out to her and Len, you may tell [them.]

Yes, I know about the presence of your service in this country, as I have run into your boys on my annual vacation in the hills. Once they gave me a lift in their motor lorry-bus for two miles, as I lived outside the town. They seem to be fond of beards!

Although all the formalities allowing me to leave India will probably be completed in three months' time, the difficulties of passage are tremendous. Thousands of persons have a better claim to priority than I have, so it would not be right for me to do anything but wait for them to go. This means I would be stuck here until the end of next year. If it will be easier to return to California, then I shall do that instead and visit England perhaps a year later. I have no desire to remain here. But there are great difficulties with the authorities about returning to the States, so the whole situation is unsettled at present. Anyway I have put in my application and must now wait for all the red tape to unwind itself over the next few months before I can give you any definite news.

I am so pleased that you have come through all the dangers and hardships of your war service and enter the peace period a fit man. It was a terrific struggle against the forces of evil, satanically inspired, as I always told you, but I never

doubted our final victory. It is a vindication of the moral law governing the universe. Hitler was Anti-Christ.

But the situation created by the release of atomic energy is a challenging one. There is no other way out for humanity except to start life again with higher ideals, or perish. God's hand never fully shows itself, we have to develop our own perception of His plan for us. Spiritual evolution is the basis of that plan. Whatever happens, this will triumph in the end.

There are two things I wish to tell you. First don't give my personal news to any of our mutual friends. I tell them what I want them to know, what I tell you is for your ears alone. If, at times, the two coincide, that is alright. And don't let them know how often I write you. None of them has reached a point where he can rise above personal emotions and therefore all of them are still open to instigation of evil thoughts by the adverse forces.

Now⁸⁵ that the tension of war has relaxed I beg of you to begin to prepare yourself inwardly for postwar responsibilities. For you will be able to work with me only if you are fit for it. There are various directions in which you have to work on yourself: the moral, the intellectual and the social. 1 Improve your character by constant self-examination and self-analysis. Regard your lower nature as an enemy to be overcome. 2 You know something of the qualifications needed by a personal assistant. (I don't think you can handle my secretarial work so that will be somebody else's preserve.) But as a Personal Assistant, a Confidential Secretary, A Right-Hand Man, you {will} be admirable when further experienced and developed. The training you would get from me during a few years' service would suffice to put you in any good executive post, if you wished thereafter to leave me. All my secretaries have done very well in their careers after such a training. Moreover I have found them that kind of post through influence. But of course I hope you will want to remain with me, although that will be your decision. 3 I sympathise fully with your detestation of snobbishness. But this does not exempt you from the necessity of polishing up your manners, your breeding, and being able to hold your own with anyone of any class. Good Manners are after all based on consideration for others, unselfishness. If some people are only hypocritically well-mannered, that is their business. The philosophic ideal is to be able to move in any class, from the slums to the palace, and remain at ease. Get two or three books on etiquette and read them constantly, but they must be uptodate. They are only helps, and need not be followed slavishly. Above all, observe and watch how decent people behave. You have to improve your speech too. If you get the chance later on to attend evening classes in elocution, please do so.

Regarding the spiritual development, it will be easy for me to give you a further initiation when we meet, and thereafter you will make a quick advance in the consciousness of your higher self.

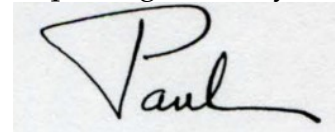
The goal, of course, is to become aware of it always but you have to become aware of it at odd moments first. With its presence made a living reality, you will understand why men like Jesus blessed humanity by pointing out the path.

⁸⁵ Page 125

"{p}age two" typed at top of page.

Everything else in life is uncertain and transitory, this is the only way to eternal Good and true Happiness. The lower self can be conquered but you will need grace for that. There is no peace until that conquest is made, you know that.

My love and peace go out to you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul". The signature is stylized, with a large, looped 'P' and a cursive 'aul'.

P.S. You have had too many illnesses recently. I agree with you that a dietary change, when you can get it, will be helpful in purifying the body, 36-hour fasts taken fortnightly are also excellent for this purpose.⁸⁶ (b) I am keeping quite good health now, speaking comparatively. (c) When are you likely to be demobilised?

L40.127

127 - 130

Airgraph from Paul to Kenny
c/o Grindlay & Co,
Postbox 49, Madras, India
November 25/1945

[My dear Kenny]

Your letters of November 1st and 14th came in together, as the former was written on a "Forces" letter form and evidently came by sea. Be sure to get an "AIR letter" form, if you have anything urgent to say, otherwise, seamail at 2 ½d is coming through to here in about three weeks. Your May, July, and August letters were safely received. I did write you about two months ago but if you have not received it by the time you write me again, I'll turn up your back letters and answer them too, again.

Now, I am writing only a hurried note as you wish to be informed of my plans in view of your impending demobilisation. The situation is that even if I did return to England next year, I cannot get a ship (according to my priority) before the autumn. But as it is important to me to go to America first if possible, for reasons which I can't put into writing, I will try to do that instead. I have been told by the authorities that I may be able to get an American ship about April. There are however some visa difficulties to be overcome even in that case. So my situation is unsettled. All I can say is that I may leave India about April for the States or, failing that, I may go to some other country in the autumn and reach England in Spring 47 as I must not spend a winter in England owing to my delicate health.

In the circumstance you may accept the Ellam's job as a useful stopgap.

If I do go to the States next April, I will have to remain there the statutory time to maintain my immigrant quota, which may be about 9 months. After that I would proceed to visit England (again in Spring 1947) and other countries in Europe.

⁸⁶ The original editor inserted "36-hour fasts taken fortnightly are also excellent for this purpose."

It would be better for you not to try to go to California now, as Myron suggests, because (a) you can't expect shipping priority before the end of 46, and (b) because of the immigration law difficulties to be overcome, which could be much easier with my help. But that help can be given only after my return to the West.

Won't it be very cold to make the Scandinavian trip in winter? If you can do so, why not postpone it for a year and make it with me when I visit Europe? I have to visit and help a number of readers there, and of course I would do it in the warmer months. However, if you feel you must go this winter, then let me know which towns or countries you intend to visit.

My previous letter was sent to your North Ireland station.

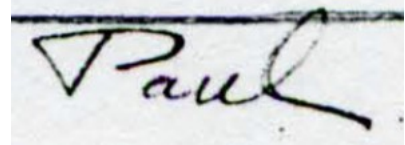
I am keeping in good health. Please note my change of address, as above, as I may shift out of Mysore States to British India in a few weeks' time.

Please treat the news about my future plans as confidential.

If you haven't heard often from me recently it is because I am vainly trying to cope singlehanded with a six-man job. But your photograph is on my table and so you are not out of sight. I am glad you feel so strongly the urge to be with me again, after this trying separation, as it is not only derived from the ordinary human relationship between us but, what is more important in my eyes, the spiritual tie brought over from past births. I want you to spend a few years with me to receive training in spiritual advancement and worldly happiness. After that you can get on your own again, if you wish, but it will then be⁸⁷ with material security provided for you and spiritual consciousness partially realised. And I want to do this partly because you are my chela and partly to fulfil my duty as a father, which I have hitherto never had the chance to do, owing to evil karma. Moreover there is my own practical need of a personal assistant to handle the practical side of living for me and also the confidential matters which can only be entrusted to someone of 100% loyalty. My order is to have a fully qualified secretary for the correspondence, as that is a fulltime job in itself, but you could also help out on typing notes and manuscripts.

That you have emerged from this terrible war safe and sound is itself a good augury for your future.

[With all my peace and love]

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul", with a horizontal line above it.

L40.131

131 - 134

Airmail From Paul To Kenny
The Cottage, Lovedale,
Nilgiris, South India.
December 22, 1945

⁸⁷ The original editor changed "will" to "be."

Petty Officer (Airman) K. T. Hurst
C\O Y.M.C.A.
Invergordon
Rosshire, Scotland

[Kenny, my dear]

Yes I received the photographs mailed on May 23 and the reviews on July 26. Since I wrote you previously I have also to acknowledge your postcard of August 7th, your Christmas Cards and your airletter of Dec 7th.

Don't be so pessimistic as to think it may be 1 1/2 years before we meet. That would be the outside limit but we are likely to see each other before then. My arrangements for the journey to U.S.A. are going satisfactorily so far and I may be able to get a ship in April or May latest. I want to take advantage of my pre-war quota number and not lose it; that is one important reason why I must go there first and fulfil my obligations under the quota. If I lose it, there may be difficulties in the way of getting another quota. If I lose it, there may be difficulties in the way of getting another, about which I can't tell you. But there are other and more important reasons why I can't go to England first, much as I should like to do so.

Although I raised no objection to you working for Ellam's after being demobilised, I think you would gain much more in the end if you continued education and passed the Matric. If you are willing to do this, I will cover all your living expenses and educational fees for the period between now and when we meet. You will have to decide this for yourself but I should be most happy to provide the money. It will not only be for your benefit but indirectly for mine, because if you are better educated you will be a little more useful to me. Of course, I share your views about the futility and snobbishness of much modern education. However, it is not all useless; there are some good points to be got from it. And, the world being what it is, the educated man gets all the plums more easily than the half-educated one.

An alternative plan would be to work for Ellam's and attend classes in the evening at a place like Birkbeck College, off Chancery Lane, which specialises in educating working people up to university standards. But this means working on a tired brain. If you could get Ellam's to agree to working half-day for them the other half might be spent at the Birkbeck which also has day classes.

Furthermore I have no objection to your taking advantage of Myron's offer to guarantee you for immigration to U.S.A. You could then continue education in that country until my arrival, or on a part-time basis, after my arrival. But my impression is that the system of a sponsor in America guaranteeing an immigrant was dropped recently, so you would have to enquire whether Myron really can help you in this. The best source is the American Consul in London, whilst Myron could simultaneously enquire in Washington. If you waited until I arrived in the U.S.A. you would be considered more favorably if I applied in addition to have you, on account of our relationship. Moreover I have a friend in America with much more influence than Myron so that your application would have the chance to be⁸⁸ more successful.

⁸⁸ The original editor inserted "have the chance to be."

However decide for yourself according to your inclinations. For whatever your decision the shipping shortage between England and America may hold you up until the end of 1946 in any case, according to a letter recently received here. If you want to go to the Norselands immediately, after demobilisation and holiday there, again I have no objection. Apart from the rest and change which I know you need, what is the attraction? Are your romantic inclinations contributing to it?

I say please yourself only because you know my ideas for you and because I want you to be happy after the rough time you had during the war because I don't think it matters very much really what you do during the intervening period between now and our reunion.

Here are a few addresses which you may like to contact should you hurry off to Scandinavia. I have not met these people but they will be delighted⁸⁹ to meet you if you say that you know me personally and are also on the Quest. Of course, keep our relationship dark. It will be enough introduction to say that I asked you to visit them. DENMARK ; Miss Anna Schjøtt, Løng pr. Sorø. She has translated "The Secret Path" into Danish and is trying to find a publisher. My "Search in Secret India" was published in Copenhagen by Gyldendal but it did not go well they say. Her friends Dr and Mrs Vodder are equally interested and are members of a small group studying my books in Copenhagen. You could meet them thru her. I do not know where "Løng pr. Sorø" is but you could drop her a note for a meeting. Remember I consider you as my 'ambassador' in such meetings; it is a chance for you to help these people and perhaps make friends for yourself. One or two might probably ask you to stay as their guest. (2) E. Møller, Frimodtsvej 5, Hellerup, Copenhagen. He has got "Wisdom of the Overself" and is having remarkable results from the meditation exercises. In meditation he has reached an advanced state. SWEDEN :Miss Elin Hage, Storgaten 4, Goteborg. She wrote me last year but my reply was returned by the post office marked "no service available." She asked me to give her personal help in study and expressed gratitude for my books.

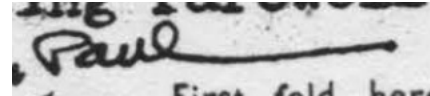
There was a number of pre-war contacts but the addresses may be quite out of date now, so I will give you only a few. J.A. Berg, Rontgen-Ray Laboratory, Ostra Storgatan 18, Jonkoping, Sweden, more interested in the occult side rather than the higher but is seeking : Clara Madsen, Aalborgg 11, Copenhagen. Wants to attain highest soul-consciousness. Dr med Preben B. Plum, Department of Paediatrics, Rigshospital, Copenhagen. A scientist and medical man but asked me for interview as he seeks to bring spirituality into his work. Mr Carl Carleson, Director, Aktiebolaget Asmega Agenturer, S.T. Erikagatan 84, Stockholm. His firm published the Swedish translation of "Secret India" and he is personally interested in Spiritualism and yoga. He promised me "a right royal welcome" should I visit Sweden.

Well, Kenny, I have given you the address of my new place to which I move on January 1st, as I am bidding farewell to Mysore. It will be healthier for me.

[Tell mother I have received her two letters and send my love]⁹⁰
[affectionately with my peace and blessing]

⁸⁹ Page 133

⁹⁰ This sentence is handwritten in the left margin of page 131.



L40.135

135 - 138

Letter from Paul to Kenny
The cottage, LOVEDALE,
Nilgiris, South India
February 5.46

[My dear Kenny]

Thank you very much for your new year greetings telegram. I have also your airletter of January 12. However I have not yet received from you the formal acknowledgment of safe receipt of the remittance for seven guineas which I sent your Maydown address through Grindlays, who wrote the cheque to you on 18th September. Incidentally, the letter which I sent by seamount to you about that time and which you never received was also sent to that address.

I sympathise with your feelings about continuing schooling. But knowing the world as I do, I can't quite approve of your giving in to them altogether. However, I have no objection to your negating the idea nor to your continuing for another year in the Navy, if you prefer it to Ellam's.

You will receive your true education, both in a practical and spiritual sense, when we can get together for a couple of years. Hence I don't mind much what you do until then.

I am glad to hear you have learnt to drive a car. It might be useful to us one day; if ever I settle down somewhere I shall certainly get a car of our own.

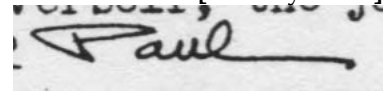
It is almost certain that I shall be able to arrive in America in time to save my immigrant quota number, which expires June 9. But whether I shall go by steamer, or by plane is not quite settled. I had inside information about a new American service which may start in a couple of months with trans-Pacific planes. I have registered with them for the first flights. I prefer to travel by plane. I would prefer to go to England first but certain reasons render it undesirable.

My⁹¹ health is quite good since I moved here. I eat a lot. My chief companion is a large Dalmatian hound, named Fido, whom I've had since he was a puppy 18 months ago. I shall have to give him away when I leave India, as my life in the West will be too nomadic for a couple of years after arrival. This is the tea-planting part of the country. A tiger killed four cows on the hill opposite my cottage last week.... I have no secretary here and plenty of work to do in the office or on the verandah, I have started packing boxes to send off in advance in case I travel by plane.... Professor Ernest Wood, who was for a quarter century National Secretary of the Theosophical Society Headquarters at Adyar, lived in the little town a few miles away and is my good friend. He is retiring to live in England next July. He is

⁹¹ Page 137

disillusioned with the T.S. I consider it a dead movement, although it was very much alive in H.P.B.'s time. I have little faith in organisations; they always degenerate... I was glad to hear from my Czechoslovak students who all emerged safe and unharmed from the war. My only enemy there was tortured by the Gestapo and died. The Gestapo confiscated all my books but the students hid most of them. They also took away all copies of my photograph! My enemy had joined up with the Maharishee's ashram people to vilify me. I warned him of the bad karma he was making, and so it came to him. My students there are very devoted and the movement is spreading markedly in their country....The world is being excited over one thing and another; we must find the inner calm of the Overself, the joy of co-operating with the divine evolutionary plan.

[All my love]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Paul', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

L40.139

139 - 142

Letter from Paul to Kenneth

Box 34, Station D

New York 3, U.S.A.

September 14, 1946

Dear Kenneth:

Your letters of April 29, June 13, and July 18 were very welcome. Will you treat the matter of getting on to the British quota for immigration to the United States as an urgent one? Like so many other official routines, it will take such a long time of itself that you ought not to add your own delays to the period. In any case, please find out, as I asked you before, whether it is at all possible to get on to the quota during the next few years or whether it is full up.

I am still in New York and still extremely busy, and have wasted a lot of my time attending to small material matters which could have been taken care of by a personal assistant, had I had one, and thus released me for more creative work. I am ready to start you in my service as soon as you are able to join me.

I will try to visit England next spring, but am not quite sure whether that will be possible, as there are certain difficulties blocking the way. I like New York only in homeopathic doses, and could not bear to live here the year round. I was in Washington last week and found it very attractive from the residential point of view. However, I shall be travelling slowly across the states later on to spend the winter in California and only after my return to the East coast will I be in a position to make a final decision as to where I can best settle down. My heart is really in the Mediterranean area but there are too many obstacles in the way of living there – while it is after all those years in India, much pleasanter to live amongst people who speak one's own native language.

The above will now be my permanent mail address wherever I may go in this

country. I did sail on the "Marine Arrow" and we spent three days in Marseilles, but I did not look for you because I felt you would not be able to make it. Whatever you do, don't sign on for the continuance of your naval service at the end of the year, but regain your freedom of movement by returning to civilian life. You may not only nominate me as your guarantor for U.S. Immigration, but no doubt Ted Spicer would also be willing – whilst I could get another friend who used to be a Senator but is now retired, to guarantee you, too.

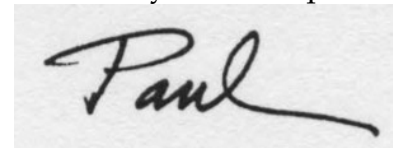
I presume you are getting a sufficiency of food, but if you desire it, I could easily send you an assorted food parcel from this country every few weeks. Let me know if you need anything else and I shall be glad to send it.

I hope you are holding on to your spiritual ideals as strongly as ever and working hard on the improvement of character and the general preparation of your mind for the second spiritual initiation which I have to impart to you after we meet again.

Mother has some German and Czech translations of my books which I left with you when I was last in England, and I would like to have them sent to me here if they still exist.

The⁹² world prospects are not very pleasant so it makes it all the more necessary for individuals to create their own inner future within themselves. It is vitally important for you to join me as early as possible and enable me to carry out my duty towards you – both materially and spiritually.

With my love and peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul", written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

L40.143

143 - 144

Letter from Paul to Kenneth
Box 34 Station D
New York 3, U.S.A.
October 12, 1946

My dear Kenneth:

Your welcome letter of September 20th reached me today and I am replying by return so as to give you the additional address of a guarantor for your immigration application. As both Spicer and myself are still technically aliens in this country, although entitled to permanent residence, it is desirable that you should have the further backing of an American citizen with an established standing in the business world, and so the following has expressed willingness to guarantee you:

⁹² Page 141

"-2-" typed at top of page.

[Mrs Joan]⁹³ Dorion
Buying Department
Best & Company
Fifth Avenue
New York City

[Mrs Dorion is a high-ranking executive officer of this well known store.]

In my own case, however, you ought to know in case the information will be useful, that I have just applied for American citizenship, but this is a process which will take five years to complete. Please keep this strictly confidential, as my British friends will be horrified at the news.

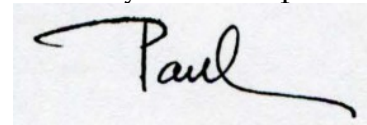
Keep me informed as the situation develops with regard to your application.

My stay in New York will have to be prolonged into the middle of November at least, and possibly until the end of November. I am flying to Boston this week to give a number of interviews there and will fly to Chicago to spend a week there on interviews when I leave New York. After that, it will be the sunny West Coast for me!

Please note that the above will be my permanent mail address wherever I go.

Congratulations on the honor done you by your Captain, but your destiny does not permit you to accept it. Nothing is so important at this stage in your life as securing a sound spiritual foundation for your personality and destiny. This you, or anyone else, cannot get so quickly and so easily alone as you can with your Guru. Without him you could spend ten years in floundering self-effort to gain what you could gain in a single year with him.

With my love and peace,



L40.145

145 - 150

Letter from PB to Kenneth
247 Racquet Club Road,
Palm Springs, California⁹⁴
January 15th 1947

⁹³ PB changed "J." to "Mrs Joan" by hand.

⁹⁴ There are 3 addresses typed at the top of this page. The full text reads:

"Correspondents and Enquirers Mailing Addresses:

207 Lewis Building, Riverside, California

or:

Box 34, Station D, New York 3, N.Y.

Private address:

247 Racquet Club Road,

Palm Springs, California"

My dear Kenneth,

This will acknowledge your letters of October 2nd, December 1st and January 5th, also your Christmas card whose greetings I gladly reciprocate. Please note that you should always send important letters by airmail in the future, charging me with the cost. For instance, your letter of December 1st was sent by sea and took an entire month to reach my hands. Yet it contained the American embassy leaflet (which I have copied and return herewith.) Consequently that much time was lost in getting action on it. Moreover Mrs Dorion went on vacation to Florida a day before its arrival and can do nothing until her return to New York, a further loss of three weeks, which would also have been avoided had you written airmail. On the other hand your letter of January 5th was in my hands within seven days because you sent it by air. Please understand that the extra expense of airmailing is a very trivial item when considered against the importance of such documents.

Here I ought to mention that her real name is Mrs Surbrug, the other being formerly her maiden and now only a business name. She has decided to refer to herself for the purpose of your matter as Mrs Joan Dorion Surbrug. I am also a sponsor as you will be living with me as my son and I will make myself responsible for your board and lodging, clothing, etc. You will also be working for me as an employed secretary for which I will only be able to pay you a small nominal salary. Owing to British currency restrictions I am unable to draw upon any of the money held in the Sterling area whilst I live in this Dollar area of America. The consul will no doubt be aware of this and if he judges only my American income alone he will be justified in saying that I do not earn enough to support you. However I have a modest capital here of about \$2,500 on which I am living in addition to the royalty income and this capital will be spent as income, although it may not be regarded by the consul as likely to last more than a year or two. However I am in a position to obtain if necessary loans from friends to replace it when it is gone, and to keep on replacing it for another twenty years by further long-term interest-free loans from other friends. Thus even from the standpoint of my own sponsorship you would not be liable to become a public charge or a burden on charity if admitted to the United States. But with the double sponsorship of myself and Mrs Surbrug, there should be sufficient assurance upon this point. However, to make this assurance complete, another friend, Mr Bernard Masson of Los Angeles, California has also expressed his willingness to help you enter the country and his affidavit is being prepared.

I am told that the trans-atlantic transport situation will still be somewhat difficult to secure from your end during the present year so it will be advisable for you to get action immediately you are granted your visa and try to secure the earliest possible reservation on any ship.

Your photograph was received. I was glad to have it. But I have not received any letter dated November 6th as you mention. I hope it⁹⁵ was not important. I have also safely received from Len the foreign language editions of my books which were left in London before the war. Incidentally, next time you are in London, please write out and send me a short list of what remains of the things left with you

⁹⁵ Page 147

“(2)” handwritten at top of page.

for safekeeping. I would also like to know if the steel-engraved block for printing photographic frontispiece for my book "Hermit in the Himalayas" was among the things left in store with you. This is not a request for you to send it here as that would be a great mistake because it will be needed later in England for printing there; it is only a request for information.

When the happy time for collecting a travel outfit for your journey here arrives do not buy more than the absolute minimum as I can get several items here for you from among those I already possess in duplicate, the following amongst others: traveller's clock, non-refillable fountain pen, propelling pencil and portable typewriter. Woollen suits and woollen underwear are however probably cheaper and better in England than here but let me know your exact height as I may be able to save some useful clothing for you.

The political atmosphere in America is rapidly changing. When filling out forms for the American embassy and again when doing the same upon your arrival here I must warn you very strongly to be careful how you answer questions concerning political views. There is a Republican Party majority now in Congress and they are trying to keep out all aliens with socialistic views and have even launched a movement to deport those with many years residence here who hold the same views. It will be absolutely necessary for you to keep away from all political activity in this country during your association with me and to concentrate on your spiritual work. I enclose two newspaper cuttings showing you some of the reasons for this warning. One of the questions in the immigration forms will probably be with reference to past active membership of any political party. You should answer this very definitely in the negative and try, for official purposes, to forget that you were ever connected with the Commonwealth⁹⁶ party. Even the mere admission of such a connection, harmless though it was and is, might be enough to prevent your obtaining a visa in the present hostile atmosphere. I enclosed two newspaper cuttings about this matter. Please destroy this paragraph of my letter as soon as you have noted it and thoroughly digested its contents and do not refer to it in any reply sent to me.

I am glad to hear that you feel that there is much work for you and your guru to do together in the future. Remember that the basis of service is the personal equipment which one brings to it, and not only devotion, loyalty, etc. You will understand this by reference to Myron's case below. Regarding the matter about which I wrote you in my previous letter, I will have to postpone it in view of the necessity of making as good a financial impression as I can on the American consul until your visa is granted after which I will probably take it up at once. Therefore I will do nothing at present about it. Thank you however for your offer to cooperate. In any case sufficient funds for purchasing your passage ticket would be cabled you immediately I hear that your visa has been secured, whatever else I do about this matter.

You⁹⁷ speak about your admiration for Myron Frantz and you also seem to

⁹⁶ The Common Wealth Party (CW) was a socialist political party in the United Kingdom in the Second World War. Thereafter, it continued in being, essentially as a pressure group, until 1993. — TJS '19

⁹⁷ Page 149

think that he could act as a sponsor for you, so the time has now come for me to open your eyes about him. First of all he has no capital whatsoever, whilst on the contrary he has very large debts which will take years to clear up and his expenses entirely absorb his income. He is no use as a sponsor. This is a situation entirely brought about by his own weaknesses which brought him bad karma. He has done things of so serious a nature that I had to tell him one year ago he had failed, both as a spiritual seeker and as a man of the world. Consequently I no longer trust him and he does not enjoy my confidence. However, I have given him one more chance to pull himself together and try to retrieve his past but it will take him some years to remold his character sufficiently as well as to undo the harm that he has done to several people. I have refused to accept his offers of service. Even Ted Spicer about whom as you may remember, you yourself experienced a certain disappointment when you were associated with him in England, has not come up to earlier promise and I have not accepted his service. Please treat all this in the strictest confidence and destroy this paragraph. I do not want you to get mixed up with Myron until he has shed the evil in character. You may of course keep outwardly friendly with him but only to a very limited extent. You will learn of the details when we meet.

Mrs Surbrug will obtain the necessary affidavits and supporting documents for her sponsorship of you and will treat it as a matter of the greatest urgency on returning to New York so that she will have them delivered in my hands by February 1st. I have cabled to my banks in London and Madras for letters stating my cash balance there, to use as supporting documents for my own affidavit and asked them to reply at once by air. So you may expect me to post to you on that date her, my and Mr Masson's affidavits and supporting documents in registered airmail package. I hope you will instantly get action with the Embassy as soon as the papers arrive.

The question whether it will be possible for me to go to Europe this summer is still undecided, being entirely out of my hands. Even if I did go I might be unable to visit England but would have to restrict my visit to the Continent which hardly makes it worthwhile for me to go this year. However I must wait for the final decision in a month or two. Treat this confidentially meanwhile.

I am making side trips to explore different parts of the Californian desert each week, from my⁹⁸ Palm Springs headquarters, still searching for a permanent place for next winter. I shall later extend my investigations to Arizona, as I am trying to find a combination of desert dryness, green landscape, solitude, peacefulness, and modern conveniences. I enjoy living here near Palm Springs, with its peacefulness, landscape and sunshine. But it is still not my ideal place. The nights are cold here and the days are warm, which is good contrast. But I need to get farther away from a city. There are many possibilities in this California-Arizona desert for me and it seems that I will most probably finally locate here. You would like it too. There are still some Red Indians living here.

[affectionately, with my peace and blessing]

"(3)" handwritten at top of page.

⁹⁸ The original editor inserted "my."

P. B.

L40.151

151 - 156
Duplicate of L40.145

L40.157

157 - 158
Letter from PB to Kenneth
247 Racquet Club Road, Palm Springs
California, U.S.A.
February 14. 1947

[My dear Kenneth]

Your letters of January 21 & 22: A duplicate copy of the last letter was enclosed in your envelope!

At last I have assembled all the documents for your application to get an immigrant visa. You have no less than three sponsors! I hoped that one or the other or all combined might guarantee success in your endeavour. Mr Masson, Mrs Surbrug and PB himself will all take care of you, so that should satisfy the Consul.

I hope you will take immediate action in this matter, for as I warned you there are still difficulties of securing transport to be overcome.

The financial matter about which I wrote you has been dropped. I propose however to send you a cheque covering your fare to New York, and other travelling expenses. But before I do this please enquire from the steamship agents like Thos Cook & Sons what the cost will be approximately, and let me know. The cheque will be sent immediately visa is got... Yes I am on friendly terms with the Hutchinsons... There is no inconvenience to me in the matter of your affidavit, on the contrary, it has been a delight to see this thru. You will love the sunshine of the southwestern states and it will wipe out memories of sinus trouble. I hope and believe it will be the start of an absolutely new and better⁹⁹ life for you in every way – spiritually & materially where you will be happier than ever¹⁰⁰ I am keeping well and busy here. I shall shortly spend a week exploring Arizona and New Mexico for possible residence next winter, and for comparison with California, as the same desert stretches right through to there. I have grown fond of the desert life and if I could find a spot in the foothills where there would be a cooler summer and greener landscape, it would be ideal for settling down permanently; The latter thought is at

⁹⁹ The original editor inserted "and better."

¹⁰⁰ The original editor inserted "I hope and believe it will be the start of an absolutely new and better life for you in every way – spiritually & materially where you will be happier than ever."

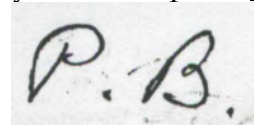
the back of my mind.

You say that you would travel here with the minimum of requirements. That is alright. But you also say that you would leave the remainder of your belongings in England. That might not be wise; it depends on what they are. So you should send me a list of the things you propose to leave behind, whenever you can make it, and let me advise whether or not they should be brought here.... There is one requirement for the affidavit, which requires me to prove my legal admission into the United States. I have filled the necessary forms for this and sent them, as is the practice, to the Commissioner of Immigration in Philadelphia, and it is my understanding that he will notify the Consulate in London on this point. You might mention this when you go up for an interview. The form I filled is No. 1/475 and it was sent on February 12th.

The possibility of my going to England this year is remote, but I shall certainly go next year, in late spring or early summer. There is a big demand from Czechoslovakia for my visit there too... I may ask you to bring some of my things with you here, after I've seen the list of them. How are you off for pocket money? I will gladly send some if needed. Don't forget to charge airmail costs to me.

Give my love to Mother and Len. I'll write them some day

[With my love and peace]



L40.159

159 - 162

Letter from PB to Kenneth
Box 34, Station D, New York, N.Y. USA
Palm Springs, Calif.
March 25th, 1947

My dear Kenneth,

I was happy to receive your interesting letter of March 6th. Congratulations on your dramatic performance. It is a useful talent you possess. Enclosed you will find a note I received from the Government here, stating they have forwarded to the consul in London, the verification of my last entry in the U.S. You can take this with you when you go to the consul or else send it to him.

I am leaving Palm Springs on April 11th and will be travelling about the country for several weeks giving interviews, finally settling in mid-May in a cottage about thirty miles up the Hudson River from New York City. Secondly, I will resume my permanent mail address henceforth, which is as you know Box 34, Station D, New York 3. So all your further letters should henceforth be sent to that address. Will you also notify the consul of this change of address.

May I draw your attention to the fact that the printed form air letters which you used to send to me to India at reduced postage rate are now available for

sending to U.S.A. They cost only sixpence and will save you on your postage.

Your spiritual confession and aspirations for self-improvement give me much pleasure. You may be sure that you will receive all the help of which I am capable in this matter.

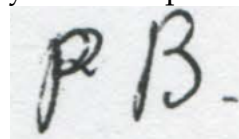
I¹⁰¹ have no doubt that if you can stay with me for three or four years, you will be able to leave, should you want it, with a solid foundation of understanding and strength which will benefit you for the rest of your lifetime.

In answer to your question, yes it would be gracious of you to write to Mrs Surbrug and to Mr Masson and to thank them for their help.

With reference to bringing your belongings over here, don't forget that those which are brought over with you at the same time are able to get in free of custom duty. If there is any that you might forward later, you would probably have to pay custom duty. Bear this in mind and do not leave behind in England more than you think is necessary. After all, it would not be much encumbrance to have one extra trunk, but of course do not trouble to bring over into this country anything that is not really worth while or anything which is too cheap and too bulky and could be easily replaced here.

The difficulties in the way of my visiting Europe this year still exist and it does not seem that they will be cleared up until too late in the autumn to make it worthwhile my going, as I don't want to expose my chest to the English winter. So if nothing is settled during the next few months, I shall have to visit Europe in the spring of next year instead.

Accept my love and peace



Please note the latest addresses for you to write to are now as follows, owing to removals next month:

Mrs Joan Surbrug Box 202, Ossining on Hudson, N.Y.

Mr P. Bernard Masson, c/o Charms Co. 449 South Broadway, Los Angeles, California (marked private)

L40.163

163 - 166

Air Mail from PB to Kenneth
Box 34, Station D,
New York, 3, N.Y.
April 22, 1947

JX392216,
Mess 34,
R.N. Air Station,
Lee-on-Solent, Hants,

ENGLAND.

My dear Kenneth:

Your letter of May 16, and your Air Letter of April 11 came in safely. The last named, took only five or six days, so it made very good time.

I hope you have fully recovered from your illness, which I attribute to the abnormal cold weather you recently experienced in England. This is another argument for the necessity of your moving to a warmer and sunnier climate, like the South-west of America.

I am delighted to hear that the vice-consul will approve your visa application. However, you must endeavour to secure transportation quickly. I do not know whether the same rule still holds good, but before the War, immigrant visas were valid only for four months, and if the applicant had not arrived in America during that period, he had to go through all the trouble of a new application.

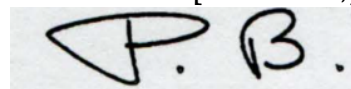
In view of the circumstances, I suggest that you should not limit yourself either to third class or to tourist class on a Steamer, but take either second or first class, should that be available. Of course, the idea of working your passage across is a good one, but I presume trade union difficulties might cancel that out. If you cannot even get a first class passage, then I suggest you try to get an Airplane passage. Do not worry about the extra expense – the money, which has been left for your expenses is there in England already, and there is enough to cover any of these different forms of travel.

Regarding my own movements, I am just now visiting the North-west States, and will be proceeding next week to Salt Lake City, and other places, ending up with a week in Chicago. I have to give several interviews at each stop. During the summer, I shall be staying in a little cottage up the Hudson River, but will leave there in the middle of September, and from October 1st, will take up residence on a ranch in Southern Arizona, which I have rented until the Spring of next year. Although only ten miles from the nearest City, it is¹⁰² in the heart of the desert, and very quiet and solitary. I am sure you will enjoy the quietude and peacefulness after the hectic War Service.

Regarding clothes and suits, these are now quite easy to obtain in the States, so it will not be worth your will getting any in England. However, you may get yourself a single suit of middle to heavy weight, if it is not too costly, to wear during the cool nights. The price here for a ready made suit would be about \$50.00.

Keep me informed of developments, re transportation.

[With love,]

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'P. B.' with a stylized flourish at the end.

L40.167

167 - 168

¹⁰² Page 165

“-2-” typed at top of page.

Letter to PB from Unknown
#1 Observatory Drive,
Croton on Hudson, N.Y.
Saturday night, 16th. Aug {1947 - 1952}¹⁰³

Dear PB:

Further to my letter of yesterday, please disregard all I stated about forwarding your mail. I was a little presumptuous really, but I thought that at least that was what I would do if Jim did not show up to time. However, Jim came up to the house Friday, and so following your instructions, he has taken charge of the mail and I have left it all to his competent hands.

I am moving over to Ossining tonight. My room at Mrs Keenan's is now ready for me to occupy. Actually I would have preferred to remain here to await your return, but the way I see it I had a decision to make – and I have chosen what I think to be the right way. The fact that the room is ready ahead of time seems to be an indicator to me.

Last night was very bad in the house for me and I am fearful to stay here on my own. Anything could happen and I am not strong enough to deal with this fearful concentration of malign force which has suddenly taken over the house. After Myron had left last night the pressure became intense, almost unbearable. I hung on by blind faith in that small core of my consciousness which was repelling the invasion, by thinking on you and saying your name out aloud. But the pressure still hangs heavily over the house – I felt that I could cut it with a knife – and I think Jim was affected by it as well.

I am afraid that something will materialise, something so horrible that in my state of tension I should lose my mind in the shock. It sounds rather melodramatic but unfortunately it is only too real to me. I remember your words on how such an event would reflect upon yourself – and I do NOT wish anything like that to embarrass you, dear PB

Please wire or write if there is anything I can do for you. Jim says he has complete instructions from you regarding the cleaning of the house etc. etc. and I feel it wise not to interfere with him. I do not comprehend all the factors involved so I can only adopt a passive attitude, refuse to jump to any conclusions and simply to co-operate with Jim regarding your instructions.

I hope that I do not incur your disapproval by moving but in the absence of any definite sign from you, I have had to rely on my own judgement. Anything you say will be done by me without question.

My very respectful good wishes and affection,

¹⁰³ The year of this letter is in doubt, as is its sender; see RN's note at the bottom and PB's letter of August 17th 19xx later in the document.

¹⁰⁴ The scanned version shows no legible signature but the letter may be from Kenneth, based on PB's later letter to Kenneth (Aug 17 (1947?)), below, which seems to be a direct reply to this letter. We know from the letter dated 10/31/47 that KTH was by then in NYC, and that PB was planning to be in Ossining in the summer of 47, so this falls into that range.

L40.169

169 - 170
Duplicate of L40.167

L40.171

171 - 174
Letter from PB to Kenneth
Route 2, Box 559,
Rancho Las Palmillas,
Tucson, Arizona
October 31st, 1947

My dear Kenneth,

Your letters of October 19th and 25th. You say you want to best serve the Cause. Agreeably to your desire, I have sent you the following telegram; "UNTIL APRIL ACCEPT YOUR OFFER TO SERVE CAUSE GIVE WEEK'S NOTICE TO EMPLOYER AND LANDLORD. LETTER AND FARE FOLLOWS."

Your duties will be mostly that of a general office assistant. There will be daily transcription to type from the dictaphone, typing work of various kinds, and the tending to small office details. Some of the typing may have to be done at your lodging [in the town],¹⁰⁵ so that the work may be divided into one half day's work here at the ranch and half a day's work at your place.

Presumably you will have to give a week's notice to your present employer, as well as your landlord. The telegram was sent you in order that no delay would be incurred in giving these notices. I want you to come as soon as possible, as the work is urgent.

As regards Mr Hutzler, arrange your trip to go through Dayton so as to have the interview with him. This is in case Mr Hutzler does not visit New York the next seven days. The interview will be valuable to you and also you can inform him that you [will]¹⁰⁶ be free on May 1st of next year, and will be able at that time to resume your career again. You may tell him that I have sent for you as a temporary office assistant [because of pressure of having to finish a book by April.]

Inform me of the date and time of your arrival in Tucson, [so that you can be met.]¹⁰⁷ For your confidential information, my phone number is: Tucson 0115-J1.

I am enclosing check for your fare. Get your reservation in advance so that you will not waste any time leaving New York.

Peace be with you.

The job will terminate when I leave here, sometime next April.

You will be expected to have learnt some of the chief lessons of Harmony if it is to last until then. We require complete harmony here and should you again find you are unable to give it, it will be needful to resign.

You will be paid a salary, out of which you will meet your own living

¹⁰⁵ PB inserted "in the town" by hand.

¹⁰⁶ PB changed "may" to "will" by hand.

¹⁰⁷ PB inserted "so that you can be me." by hand.

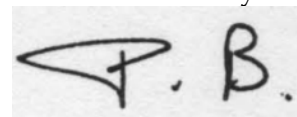
expenses.

Everything¹⁰⁸ is alright here, although I am working at top pressure, despite the peaceful surroundings.

You¹⁰⁹ are mistaken in thinking that the guru places any obstacles or temptations in anyone's way. He does not have to do that. It is done by life itself, or rather by the peculiar karma arising out of the individual character¹¹⁰ and its special needs.¹¹¹ The guru might note them and their existence and act accordingly, but he does not create them. In the end you yourself create your own obstacles and your own temptations by your thinking, by your character, and by your karma.

As soon as you are ready for me, I shall be ready for you.

Peace be with you.



L40.175

175 - 178

Letter from PB to Kenneth
until December 25th: c/o Allen's Service
545 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, U.S.A.¹¹²
Thereafter: Box 34 Cooper Station,
New York 3. (new permanent address)
from Cuernavaca, Mexico,
November 11th 1947¹¹³

Dear Kenneth,

I was happy to get your letters (four) and learn that everything is 'fine' and that you feel some self-improvement is going on. If anything is important at your stage and in your life-situation now, it is this constant working away at yourself, your character and capacities. For there lies the foundation of your worldly career and spiritual experience. Make it solid, believe that you can and must rise from the worst to the best, or at least from the worse to the better, and you will succeed modestly in both lines of endeavour.

The¹¹⁴ trouble of the minor irritations which you mention is the old trouble of

¹⁰⁸ Page 173

¹⁰⁹ A box was drawn around the next two paragraphs.

¹¹⁰ Underlined by hand.

¹¹¹ Underlined by hand.

¹¹² " Paul Brunton

c/o Allen's Service

545 Fifth Avenue

New York 17, U.S.A." is printed on letterhead.

¹¹³ Year is handwritten and underlined in the top right corner of the page.

emotionality. Hard indeed to discipline feelings but, little by little, it can be done. Anyway it has to be done in the end, so why not now – please sign on the dotted line!

I am indeed sorry to learn of Herman's bad health. But it stands as a lesson and warning of the need to make good health a positive goal that must take its place in aspiration along with worldly success and spiritual attainment. We cannot afford to neglect it as modern business pressure inclines us to. The price to be paid around middle age is too heavy. I therefore have given much consideration to this subject during the past few months and have devised a system of bodily exercises and a regime of diet and hygienic rules for living which I am applying myself and which will be useful and necessary to you. When we meet I shall be glad to discuss them. My own health and strength have much improved through this regime.

Congratulations on the "Time" advert. Its direct and effective. The September "LAU" is vigorously written and should appeal to the class its intended for. The Cadillac advert was magnificent and I am glad to have had the pleasure of reading – and keeping – it.

How is your liver? I found a local herb in Mexico which is quite good for sluggish livers. It is very unpleasant to taste, but after drinking the infusion, you could suck something sweet. Anyway let me know if you would like to try it and I will send you some.

Can you get me one or two sample copies of a small newspaper "THE MUSKEGON CHRONICLE" published in the little town of Muskegon, Western Michigan? Thanks. It's an ordinary country local.

My Mexican retreat has largely attained its objective spiritually and physically; I am very well satisfied with that. But progress with the book is so slow that I am in arrears on the date line. This delay is due to so much time going on these other activities, especially research.

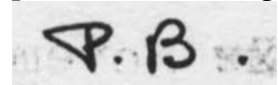
I have got a reservation on the Queen Mary to sail for England from New York March 29th. I expect to leave Cuernavaca on the 19th November (one week's time) and to stay with Ted Spicer for some weeks, at least over Xmas. I will be able to come to Dayton about the first or second week of February and look forward to seeing you then. I hope to have a week in Ohio, to include a day or two in Columbus.

What¹¹⁵ of your plans to visit Europe next year? Is there any likelihood of their materializing?

The climate here is wonderful: the best suited to my fragile bronchial tubes I have yet found. I leave regretfully.

You can write me direct c/o of Ted's home in Altadena (1050 East Foothill Boulevard).

Accept my love and peace and blessing



¹¹⁴ A line has been drawn in the right margin as a bracket around this paragraph.

¹¹⁵ Page 177

L40.179

179 - 180

Handwritten fragment by {PB}¹¹⁶

(1) In that higher¹¹⁷ world of being, no evil can penetrate, nor passion agitate. We descend from its absolute goodness to the darkness and turmoil, the sinfulness and violence of this earth, as from paradise to purgatory. The¹¹⁸ tremendous contrast between such moral sublimity and such moral degradation would doom us to perpetual sadness if there were

cont. no link between the two. But the link truly exists. Each man may find and follow the quest, may practice its self-sculpture until the Ideal becomes the Actual.

L40.181

181 - 184

Letter from PB to Kenneth
5 Westmoreland Street,
Marylebone,
London, W.I.
22nd June, 1948

My dear Kenneth,

The¹¹⁹ news in your interesting letter is very encouraging. It will be a great satisfaction to me if my original intuition born last year about your linking up with Dayton verifies itself in the course of time.

I have now got my work organised and my life fairly comfortably settled. The Biddolph apartment was not suitable and I was lucky enough to find the perfect residence in an apartment just vacated by a B.B.C. writer. It is ideal for my purpose, so I moved in a few weeks ago. You may write direct to this address in future, instead of c/o Grindlays, because even if I go abroad, letters will still be forwarded to me.

Although there certainly seems much [more]¹²⁰ interest in mystical things in England than when I was last here, most of it seems to be of a merely intellectual character.

I find life here much more restful than in America and I enjoy being here again very much. I shall probably have to postpone my return from October to November as there is so much work both here and abroad. You may remember Miss Barbara Faulkner, who worked as my secretary when I was last in England and whom I believe you met once. She is now married, but is able to work for me four

¹¹⁶ Author determined from handwriting.

¹¹⁷ PB changed "deeper" to "higher" by hand.

¹¹⁸ PB deleted "We who" before "The" by hand.

¹¹⁹ A line has been drawn in the left margin as a bracket around this paragraph.

¹²⁰ PB changed "of" to "more" by hand.

half days a week and that has solved the secretarial problem very nicely.

I have changed my diet again, partly to suit conditions here and am managing very well with local rations.¹²¹ I am eating a fair amount of bread, some potatoes and solid vegetables. In other words, I have gone back [partially]¹²² to the old diet, but I take a fruit lunch instead of a salad one. I believe the Multipurpose Food which we used as a basis of the Christmas Turkey would be very useful to you as it is so quickly prepared, so nourishing, and can be turned into soup, stew, rissoles or any other form of cooked food. If you want to get supplies you could no doubt get the address of the manufacturer in Los Angeles from Daniel. I haven't it here at the moment.

The Czechoslovakia visit is still not decided, but if I decide to go, it will be at the beginning of next month.

My lawyer suggests Cyprus as an alternative to California. Have you ever been there, and what do you think of the suggestion?

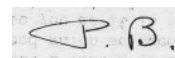
I visited Mother and Dad at the shop a number of times. They are looking very fit and happy.

Give my remembrances to the Hutzlers. I look forward to seeing them when I return.

Please¹²³ be careful against uttering in quarters to which I have introduced you, criticisms, open or implied, of PB. It would be harmful to yourself as well as to me. Secondly, try to be more of a man and less of a child. Read Emerson on self reliance. Finish the growing-up process. Thirdly, whatever you do or say, my inner help will always continue, even though it may take some time for you to discover or appreciate it. But the outer help is a different matter and requires to be earned because there everything is governed by different circumstances over which I have no control.

I will get down eventually to writing that letter to Norma. She is a grand soul and you are very fortunate to have the contact with her and with her husband.

With affectionate regards and my peace.



L40.185

185 - 188

Handwritten letter from PB to Kenneth
THE VENDOME
Commonwealth Ave. & Dartmouth Street
BOSTON
EMILE F. COULON & SONS¹²⁴
Monday Aug 17¹²⁵ {1948}¹²⁶

¹²¹ The UK was still on war-time rations at this point. —TJS '19

¹²² PB changed "completely" to "partially" by hand.

¹²³ Page 183

¹²⁴ PB wrote "New address" by hand above the address which is printed on the letterhead.

¹²⁵ No year is shown. It seems to be a direct reply to Kenneth's letter of Sat., Aug. 16 1947,

Dear Kenneth,

Your letters of 16 & 15;

What you have done regarding removal is all right and prudent. Henceforth dismiss these fears, now that you are in your own environment, and cultivate a cheerful outlook. My good wishes are with you.


Instruct Jim to send no further mail as I expect to return home Thursday evening. I shall advise him of the exact time and he can tell you.

I did not leave any instructions about cleaning the house etc. with Jim¹²⁷¹²⁸ and Tony¹²⁹ will take care of that when he comes, which will be the day after my arrival.

It is good that your business career has started so well and you ought¹³⁰ to be able to learn quickly and go ahead to success eventually, if you can keep your course steadily.

Everything is in order with me and I formed favorable contacts. Canada is very prosperous now, there are several openings in Montreal for business careers. Boston is nice to live in, being architecturally half European, Montreal is half French and even more European. Both are preferable to New York, so perhaps one day it may be I'll stay there in preference to N.Y.

Peace be with you!



P.S. I have today sent a heavy¹³¹ parcel of books by railway express to 1 Observatory Dr on a "collect payment" basis. Please inform Jim that if he is notified by Thursday of their arrival, and if he has enough money, he may collect them by phoning Rocket Delivery Service or else pay Agency & then instruct Rocket. Otherwise Tony will collect on Friday.

L40.189

189 - 190

Letter to Kenneth
Fifth Avenue Hotel
Twenty-Four Fifth Avenue
(At Ninth Street)

but in 1947 Aug 17 was a Sunday, not a Monday.

In any case this letter is out of chronological order; if it is from Aug. 1947 it should precede the previous one (from Oct. 1947). If it is from Aug. 1948 it should follow the following one (June 1948).

¹²⁶ "May 1948" handwritten at top of page by Kenneth.

¹²⁷ Probably referring to Jim Covell. — TJS '19

¹²⁸ PB deleted "but" by hand after "Jim."

¹²⁹ Tony is most certainly Anthony Damiani. — TJS '19

¹³⁰ Page 187

¹³¹ PB inserted "heavy" by hand.

New York 11, N.Y.¹³²

November 15, 1948

Dear Kenneth:

I arrived a week ago and will stay for five or six weeks at this Fifth Avenue Hotel. After that period, I propose to come to Dayton and stay for three days to see you and the Hutzlers – thereafter California.

A few days ago, I sent you by parcel post the things which you had left in store in England and which you requested me to bring for you. These include the Buddhist shrine and also a pair of socks knitted for you.

There are several of your letters to acknowledge but I prefer to go over points with you personally when we meet in Dayton, unless there is anything urgent which you wish me to deal with now. If so, please tell me.

The various specimens of your copywriting and layout work are promising and I do not doubt that with more experience you will become an expert in the craft. The Hutz-Letter No. 41 which you sent me is also promising. The only constructive criticism I find it necessary to make is that you seem to slip up occasionally on the grammatical construction of sentences. I don't think the average reader in Dayton would notice this fault but in view of your ultimate ambition of writing literature or at least good journalism, it may be useful to remember this point.

I met Mary Macaulay, who seemed to know all about you. It may interest you to know that she told me that as soon as she met Laura, she intuitively felt that L. was not for you, that L. was a "nonentity," although pleasant and nicely mannered, whereas you had something in you which would be kept down by marriage to her. She thinks you are quite wrong in believing that you have a natural affinity with her, and that you had a fortunate escape.

L40.191

191 - 192

Letter from PB to Kenneth

December 6, 1948

Dear Kenneth:

It is with deep appreciation that I read your long letter of November 27th.

I quite understand the course that your inner life has taken during the past eighteen months and am indeed happy that you have come through so triumphantly after what must have been some of the severest struggles a human being can endure. If you have now learnt the lessons of the past events, let us forget it and turn our faces to the future.

You have a chance now to make both a worthwhile livelihood and a worthwhile life. Do this, keep the proper balance between them, and you will indeed be blessed.

Will you please make reservation for me at a hotel for the two nights of my

¹³² Address as printed in letterhead.

visit¹³³ i.e. December 18 & 19? Select a hotel which will be near enough to the districts in which you and the Hutzlers live, to reduce the time of travel and also modern enough to satisfy my needs of comfort and aesthetic taste.

I do not want the ordinary bedroom type of room but rather what is called a studio room where the bed is made up during the day to resemble a couch. This will enable me to give interviews in the proper surroundings. If a studio room is not available then engage a suite of two rooms.

When you have made the reservation at the hotel, please give me its name and address as I have to send it to some people in California who are coming for interviews. Incidentally, it will probably be very useful for you to meet these people so I will try to arrange it.

I have today sent you by parcel post a package containing your electric wet shaver and also an electric dry shaver. The last item has been sent to me by Bernard who thinks you would like to have it.

Accept my love and peace,

P.B.

P.S. The attached brush is for cleaning the dry shaver.

P.S.¹³⁴ The train by which I arrive enters Dayton at 11.02 a.m. Saturday morning. It is on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

L40.193

193 - 196

Letter from Lois to Ken
January 27, 1949 Thursday

Ken dear,

You, of course, are right.

I'm sorry I wasn't able to tell you that last night ... but, as I've said before, I never seem to be able to react immediately to anything that requires thought. This "delayed reaction" of mine is a definite handicap ... but one I tolerate, because I know that my first reaction is the result of small and selfish thoughts...whereas, if I allow myself a little bit of time, eventually, I'm able to put my thoughts on a large-scale basis.

You thought once that you wanted to marry me ... and you told me so ... now you know that it's not the right thing for you ... and you told me that, too, when you realized it. That certainly calls for no apologies or long explanations ... The fact that your thinking is way ahead of mine ... that I was still stubbornly trying to turn a dream into a reality, while you were seeing things clearly and attaching their true values to them, is something neither of us could change. Or, maybe the dreaming was all on my part all along ... 'tho that doesn't make much difference.

¹³³ The original editor inserted "i.e. December 18 & 19." following "my visit."

¹³⁴ This post script is typed at the top of the page.

Now I'm going to toss out that troublesome necessity we call convention, assume that we're friends, and be boldly frank. For as long as we're both in Dayton, I want to see you and be with you whenever your schedule will allow it. This is perfectly sincere ... I know it's I who will benefit from knowing you¹³⁵ ... so this is¹³⁶ a selfish request ... but one I hope you'll understand. I know, without a doubt, that my meeting you, and, subsequently, PB was not a mistake ... nor a mere "happen" ... I know this now ... not because I've heard you say it ... but because I feel it ... myself ... I believe it ... perhaps I'm not sure how I arrived at this belief ... perhaps it's enough for now that I do accept it as a truth.

I know that, now it's taken hold of me, I cannot ignore this urge to seek after and find truth ... to find my true self. I know, too, that it will have to be done by me¹³⁷ ... in my own way¹³⁸ ... even tho mine is a stumbling way, full of obstacles that are results of my own ignorance ... and, at times, plain stupidity. But, if you do have time ... and won't¹³⁹ find it too annoying ... will you talk with me about PB and the quest ... and maybe answer some of my trivial questions?

Whenever you want the companionship of a blundering but sincere admirer ... whether for five minutes or five hours ... with or without talk ... you may be sure she wants yours.

[Love,]

L40.197

197 - 200

Letter from PB to Kenneth

Star Route

Fallbrook, California

February 6, 1949

Kenneth T. Hurst
726 North Broadway,
Dayton 7, Ohio

Dear Kenneth:

Congratulations on your move of residence the change is unquestionably for the better in every way. I take it as a symbol of your worldly progress. There is much influence in environment upon sensitive persons like yourself.

I did not send you the horoscope of Lois because I thought it better not to influence your decisions in that way. However, I did note down the planetary

¹³⁵ Underlined by hand.

¹³⁶ Underlined by hand.

¹³⁷ Underlined by hand.

¹³⁸ Underlined by hand.

¹³⁹ Page 195

aspects prevailing¹⁴⁰ on the day of her birth and compared them with yours. She has a somewhat unusual chart especially because the sun is in conjunction with the moon. The numerous relationships between her planets and yourself indicate the powerful impact that was made upon each other. Some of these are quite harmonious but others are antagonistic; but as her sun is in harmony with [your]¹⁴¹ moon this would indicate that the attraction would prevail over the repulsion ... but whether this eventuate in marriage or remain a platonic mental friendship would require further investigation. Certainly it is more prudent for you not to engage in marriage unless you have the feeling that it is absolutely right. The continuance of the feeling of uneasiness is often a warning to withdraw from a wrong situation. However, it might also be constructed by your own sub-conscious fears of interference with spiritual advancement.

My counsel to you is by all means to give her the friendship which she is seeking of you and to help her with her spiritual seeking within her own range. She states in her letter that her Quest will have to be done by herself and in her own way. Do you know what she means by this? In any case, you know enough to let others find their own way and not to impose yourself upon them.

I am returning her letter to you as you requested. I consider it a remarkable reply because of the inner strength shown in it. She could have been wildly hysterical at the breakdown of her hopes, but she wasn't. I am forced into admiration of the way she has taken this breakdown of her dreams. Mrs H. wishes you to make a complete break from her. This advice is quite sound psychology from Mrs H's point of view because she wishes to free your emotions and¹⁴² also to marry¹⁴³ you off to one of the local girls. However, if Lois is still so eager to have your friendship it would be cruel for you to break away from her so completely. Why not try to continue it but on a different level? She has awakened to the quest of truth, and the experience with her is no reason for deserting her but only for learning how to handle persons of the opposite sex who are led across your orbit for spiritual help [and companionship]

If, however, you wish to make the break only because you think that marriage would stand in the way of spiritual advancement, and not because you find you do not love her enough or have not sufficient harmony with her, than that is not in accord with philosophic teaching. Although it agrees with your statement of the advancement of a bachelorhood, [it]¹⁴⁴ is not inexorably opposed to marriage.

On¹⁴⁵ the contrary, it says that the marriage state is necessary for most people. It also says that the [smaller]¹⁴⁶ love of two persons mating can coincide with, and remain within the larger love of the individual for the Higher Self. Of course, this is

¹⁴⁰ PB changed "prevail" to "prevailing" by hand.

¹⁴¹ PB changed "the" to "your" by hand.

¹⁴² "and also to" was written by hand at the end of a line in the right margin. A small word just after it was crossed out by hand.

¹⁴³ PB changed "in marrying" to "marry" by hand.

¹⁴⁴ PB inserted "it" by hand.

¹⁴⁵ Page 199

"-2-" handwritten at top of page.

¹⁴⁶ PB inserted "smaller" by hand.

only possible if the relationship is [a]¹⁴⁷ successful and harmonious blending of the two personalities. In any case, it is too early to contract to support two persons whilst you are still struggling to support yourself.

I am happy that you felt in harmony with me for the first time and I hope you will realize that it is only the little Ego which caused all the disharmony so unnecessarily. This is indeed a triumph for you and a happiness for me.

There is a letter in German enclosed for you to hand to Joseph for him to translate onto the attached sheet. There is also a letter enclosed for you to mail to Mr Lowe as I want it to bare the [Dayton]¹⁴⁸ post-mark.

Thank you for the diary which is attractively got up and comfortably pocket sized.

When I was in Los Angeles, I saw the filter cigarette holder about which I told you¹⁴⁹ If you are still continuing the unnecessary and filthy but nerve soothing habit of smoking, please let me know so that I may send you one of these holders when I visit Los Angeles very shortly.

With my peace

P.B.

P.S. When unpacking the large Noiseless typewriter we found its inside cluttered up with a large mass of eraser rubbings. This shows careless use of the machine. You were the last user. For your information may I suggest that you use your Royal in the correct way and thus save repair bills. And that way is to run out the platen and carriage to the extreme right and or left end, as needed, using the margin release, and then making your erasure. The rubbings will fall outside the machine.

You remember the black square-headed electric razor which I gave you--the one which is a wet shaver? How do you like it? I have a new one which I can send you, otherwise I shall use it myself but I have the other and cheaper style which I prefer. It is useful to keep even if you prefer the other too, because the other one breaks down every few months and whilst it is away at the manufacturers for repair you could be using this one. I'll send it if you ask for it.

L40.201

201 - 202

Letter from PB to Kenneth

Star Route

Fallbrook, California

March 27, 1949

Dear Kenneth:

¹⁴⁷ PB inserted "a" by hand.

¹⁴⁸ PB changed "date and" to "Dayton" by hand.

¹⁴⁹ The original editor inserted "I saw the filter cigarette holder about which I told you."

The razor was sent to you on January 26, and now I enclose instructions for use. The cigarette filter was sent to you the following week so I hope you have received both safely.

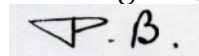
Please do me the favor of mailing the enclosed letter to Los Angeles as I wish it to bear a provincial post-mark.

On April 9th I moved from Fallbrook to Los Angeles where my address will be, c/o 4026 Woking Way, Los Angeles 27. I expect to fly by plane to Chicago during the Easter holidays. It is probably that week or two after my arrival I shall come to Dayton for a week-end. After that, I shall visit Columbus also. My stay in Chicago will extend for about two months or more. [But keep these movements confidential, except for the Hutzlers.]

I am pleased that you find your association with Herman so profitable and that you get some fun out of the business world. I am also pleased that Lois has maintained the admirable fortitude with which she met the emotional crisis. By now you should both be able to maintain a high quality of friendship which should be mutually advantageous to both of you.

I congratulate you on the spiritual growth which you have evidenced during the past few months and I look forward to the pleasure of the week-end with you, Herman and Norma towards the end of April.

With affectionate regards,



P.S. The two press cuttings which you sent me were extremely interesting, one of them quite useful. Thank you for them.

I am in excellent health and each week have made an exploratory trip to different localities in the region about [10] miles distant from the coast with interesting results for future residential possibilities.

L40.203

203 - 212

Handwritten letter from PB to Kenneth

181 E. Lake Shore Drive

Suite 1605

April 22, '49

Dear Kenneth:

It brought me much happiness to notice the progress you have made, due in part to your own effort and to the excellent training you are receiving from Herman and Norma.

It is also gratifying to notice that about the time I pay my next visit to Columbus in about four to six weeks' time, you will be ready to sit in meditation with me once again for a further transference¹⁵⁰ on this inner levels. (Please do not

mention the last named subject to anyone.)

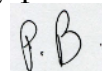
The memo from Norma concerning Dan and Larry is distressing {because} it is so true in its {estimate} of both these individuals. However, it is unlikely that I shall see Larry before two or three weeks when I shall certainly pass these corrected idea to him. As for Dan, I would like very much to turn him over for a period with Norma but this would doubtless be asking too much of her (in view of her limited time), be asking him to submit to something which he would dislike greatly and, thirdly be something which Norma herself would probably dislike to undertake.

Yet,¹⁵¹ it would benefit him enormously and represent thing he unquestionably not my own efforts in this direction in the past seemed to be largely fruitless, and I'm not inclined to, nor have I the time to spend further efforts which could be used with better results elsewhere.

Will you please post the enclosed addressed letter to Dr Martin immediately?

My visit to Columbus was extremely important and resultful. There will be great future developments from it, but please keep this as confidential. Among the¹⁵² hundred and fifty people I contacted, working until 4 A.M. each day there was a most interesting group of young {college} and high school students, mostly {illegible}.¹⁵³ There was, however, one {illegible} to your own age, probably twenty-three, who belongs to {illegible} and often goes there. I gave your address and she intends to get acquainted with you. She has a brilliant intellect and in her you will see exemplified the benefits of university education intellectually. She is very {illegible} on The {illegible} in a general sense, meaning not particularly PB's exposition of it. She has plenty of clever and attractive boy-friends so you will have plenty of competition. Anyway, starting with her and going on later to some of the teen-agers. it is clear that you are not going¹⁵⁴ to lack for girl friends a spiritually minded the future, for you can visit Columbus. Incidents Mr and Mrs Stacy asked after and will always be delighted to you whenever you come {tho}

With affectionate regards and my peace.



L40.213

213 - 214

Letter from PB to Kenneth

Room 736

EDGEWATER BEACH HOTEL

"-2-" handwritten at top of page.

¹⁵¹ Page 207

"-3-" handwritten at top of page.

¹⁵² Page 209

"-4-" written at top of page.

¹⁵³ A water stain has obscured the words on the left margin of this page.

¹⁵⁴ Page 211

"-5-" handwritten at top of page.

5300 Sheridan Road
CHICAGO 40, Illinois
April 30 {1949}¹⁵⁵

My dear Kenneth,

I have had a talk with the British Consul about your case. The position is that they have had instructions from the British Government NOT to call up men from this country. However the fact that you have taken out first papers has made you liable to the U.S. draft. But because of your service in the Navy you will be treated in just the same way as the American veterans are being treated -- i.e. the draft is deferred.

Perhaps the enclosed "Notice to Employees" may bring a smile to your face. Keep it for passing on when and if necessary!

The packet and letter you forwarded were recd.

Yes, it is quite OK for Norma to know my hideout address; in fact I am going to write her and let her know my news in a few days

The present situation is that I shall remain in Chicago until into July, when the trip to California should be in order.

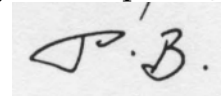
I sent a blistering letter to both Dan and his ex-wife, telling them to stop annoying me! I also expect to hitch up with a Jewish lawyer here in Chicago, so that I can have my tax returns handled by him in future and thus be quite free of Dan. However I'm sorry for him and advised him to face up to what his ego looks like, to get out of trouble.

I hope to start on my new book this week and divide my time with it, meditation - which is very important just now - and correspondence that can't be avoided.

How is Herman's health now? I am so glad he got the new account in Columbus because it's a worth while client.

I have a room overlooking a sandy beach and the huge Lake Michigan, quiet peaceful; yet I can get into downtown by bus or railroad in 40 minutes.

[My love & peace,]

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J.B.' with a stylized flourish above the 'J'.

L40.215

215 - 218

Handwritten letter from Paul to Kenneth

Room 736¹⁵⁶

Edgewater Beach Hotel

¹⁵⁵ Handwritten "1949" in KTH handwriting on page, but since he was in the same room on June 2nd, and we think that letter was from 1952 -- and since the Korean Draft started in 1950 and ended in 53, this seems a fair bet to be the same year and that the letter is out of order. -- TJS '19

¹⁵⁶ PB wrote "Room 736" by hand; the rest of the address is printed on the letterhead.

On The Lake
5300 Block Sheridan Road
Chicago 40, Illinois
2 June {1949}

My Dear Kenneth,

Reports from the Dayton front indicate that your appraisal of the situation is correct. The 'crisis' is over and reaction to you is favorable and appreciative. So keep trying, along the lines we discussed.

The Weir article is a good evidence of his highly ethical attitude. I'm glad. Also it's sound business, as he says. I return it, with the other cuttings, inside a book mailed separately, "Spunk" by David Bush. I heard the author lecture here last month on diet, in which his ideas correspond to mine. The book reminds me of Nash Young's but it is much poorer, has no literary style. I send it because the writer speaks from experience. At 20, he was poor friendless half starved; at 35 he was a millionaire - ethically! From then to 44 he was a clergyman: then he left the church & became a New Thought lecturer. Now at 70 he is a dietician & a good advertisement for the cause. I do not want the book back, as one reading is enough & if you don't want to keep it, pass it on to a youngster.

Send me a specimen house organ when you put it out this month.

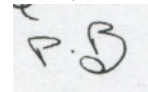
Am living quietly, taking life easily, feeling very fit. Chicago is hot but here at least it's not India and the nights are cooler.

There is a variant of the cold shower for winter, which is much less drastic. Wring out a face¹⁵⁷ cloth in cold water, squeeze drops out, then rub down the body.¹⁵⁸ And/OR: Bathe the genital organs and base of spine only, in a washbasin of the enamel-iron type, or in the bath-tub if you sit sideways & hold on to the end.

If you can't find an assistant locally what about an application to the Ad Association's Employment Bureau -- I forget their name but you met them in NYC? There must be several young men outside Dayton, suitable, if you can't find one in Dayton. Or in Columbus?

My Jewish lawyer friend here wants to get married but can't find a suitable girl. So it's a problem that exists outside Dayton! He says all the girls he'd like to marry are already married.

Peace, love



P.S. Kindly send me some leaflets on Nutrition and Diet I ordered from "Life Research Foundation (Challenge Magazine) Oregon" & paid for, using your name, as I don't want to be pestered to write an article for their journal. They will reach you in about 10 days.

¹⁵⁷ Page 217

¹⁵⁸ A line is drawn around the second half of this sentence, from "face."

my dear PB

Thank you! My visit with you yesterday was like a welcome cool breeze on a sultry sweltering day. It was like stepping into an air-conditioned room wherein clear reason and thought prevails, from the oppressing and murky emotional atmosphere outside.

I lunched with Lois today. She was upset at the thought of having missed seeing you. She said that she would certainly have liked to have gone to Columbus yesterday. Lois appears to be keen on the Quest – she says she is – but I don't know. This reluctance on her part to volunteer any of her thoughts annoys me.

Although Lois irritates me with her mysterious secrecy, I am still fond of her...and wish her well. I feel that I do not need her friendship any more. If she wishes to see me at any time, she will have to make the first move and ask me. If she is really making spiritual endeavors... and feels the need of companionship to discuss like ideals...I will always be happy to see her. Otherwise I shall make no effort to ever see her again.

Your advice to learn well the lessons of this closing cycle is much appreciated. I don't wish to undergo a similar experience. It seems to me that the important factors to be learned are:

1. Not to rush anything. Take things easily and gradually. Get to know a person thoroughly before committing oneself. Allow all the various {plans}¹⁶⁰ to have their effect...and observe the final impression.

2. Before considering marriage...or the preliminary steps...make sure that the partner is the right type one wants.

3. Not to build the other person into an illusion of what one wants...and then be disappointed when they cannot live up to that ideal.

4. Not to trust any woman. They are too changeable, even tho they just cannot help themselves.

When I was with you yesterday, everything seemed clear. But after leaving you I found that I still had many questions unanswered in my mind.

I do so want to learn the lessons of this unhappy affair...to avoid recurrences. For instance, I felt quite detached from Lois in February...but how did the emotional upheaval present itself later? What guarantee have I that another one won't come along in a little while?

I know that of myself I am too emotionally unstable and immature to grasp these lessons thoroughly. So I have to throw myself on your guidance.

I¹⁶¹ apologize for my selfish self-centered attitude. You were perfectly right.

¹⁵⁹ "O" in the original.

¹⁶⁰ "planes" in the original.

¹⁶¹ Page 221

Just another sign of my immaturity.

Honestly I feel so helplessly weak and ashamed of myself.

But I will continue my efforts to show forth my true self. To live the standards of the Quest in everyday life. That in itself is all that matters to me now. That, and only that, can deliver me from the frustrations and sufferings of human transient experience. I long for that inner peace that illumines one with the bliss of the Overself.

Altho' I don't know how to do it – except to try by brute force of mind – I will endeavor to discipline my emotions. And sublimate them into nobler channels.

Lois may visit you tomorrow. I'll try to get her to convey this letter.

I thank God for the privilege of being able to be with you.

I wish I really knew the practical way to master my emotions and dismiss the confusion. Is prayer the answer?

Once again, my sincere gratitude for last night. I did so enjoy it.

Your unworthy but ever loving¹⁶²

L40.223

223 - 228

Letter from PB to Kenneth

(Los Angeles)

July 22. {1949}¹⁶³

[Dear Kenneth,

Now that your Chicago trip can be seen in perspective I hope we both can see the good and bad, the wisdom and warning to be derived from its result.

I too was very disappointed to have missed you. I wonder if you got the message left by phone with one of the desk clerks, as I expected you to phone to my hotel in Denver in case or in the hope of working out a compromise by a plane trip?

However you see that with me, traveler as I am and also subject to abrupt changes of movement since I have no office and no residence, it will always be needful to check my whereabouts before trying to meet me. You now talk of a meeting in New York later this year. How did you draw the conclusion that I will be there? If from the hotel address register which I had to leave for the forwarding of mail, that was only because I have to have a fixed address for letters and New York merely happens to be it. It is most¹⁶⁴ unlikely that I shall go there this year.

If a matter of urgency arises, as in this Chicago visit, the efficient & prudent course is to wire; if no reply to wire, then check by long distance phone, "person to person collect," this costs you nothing and you would know at once. But never assume that I am anywhere; confirm it. This is to exercise prudence and caution,

¹⁶² This is KTH to PB. – TJS '19

¹⁶³ This could be any year, but if the collection is chronological, the next letter is from 1952; since PB said he would be in Europe in the summer of 1950, this would have to be the following summer. Thus date is corroborated by a letter to Pat Craig on 2/13/51. – TJS '19

¹⁶⁴ PB changed "not" to "MOST" by hand.

qualities which you need to develop more. Also it is to restrain impulse, however well motivated, by reason and practicality.

On my side, I should not have assumed that when you wrote you could not leave before October, it was final. But I did and that was one of the factors which decided me to leave altho' there were more pressing ones. I also should have completed the letter which I started to write you the last week in Chicago to tell you of the departure impending. But I had so many things to do, and it got pushed aside for completion at Denver. Also I must find a way of putting my correspondence on a less unsatisfactory basis; it is too dilatory and the problem must be solved soon. It has caused inconvenience to several others persons and definite¹⁶⁵ loss to myself. In short, we both have lessons to learn!

I notice how illegible my handwriting has become so I'll switch to the typewriter. It's the old office machine you used at Tucson and is in bad order & hard to use.]

You are too young for eyeglasses so the cause of your trouble must be as you say. The remedy to get as much of this close-type reading and writing done by daylight as possible; that does not strain the eyes whereas artificial light does. If possible rise earlier! And then get a shaded desk lamp, whose shade prevents the light reflecting back to your eyes and whose bulb is strong enough in wattage. Some people think fluorescent lamps are nearer to daylight than ordinary ones but others think they are harmful; this is a matter for experts still. But although glasses will help you they gradually damage the eyes and every few years have to be changed for more and more powerful glasses. Do not use them more than absolutely essential.

There are exercises which help the eyes. Get Aldous Huxley's book on eyesight from the library about them, or here is a resume in the clipping which I send you enclosed.

The black razors are useless; one had to be thrown away, the other I had a special handle and cover made from plastic but it cracked in hot water and gave electric shocks so I put it into storage and will throw it away later unless you want it. I have got the red razor in good order now.

I send you another cutting for your house organ or other use.

Len is very lucky to have had his lease renewed on the shop, as he thought it would not happen. I am glad he is pleased with the results of his first catalogue, which was my suggestion. But it is a dully affair and needs a more imaginative printer and —shall we say— compiler. I was concerned over Mother's situation if the shop stopped and it's a good result.

If you had phoned Denver I would have given you the address of a friend with whom you might have had a most profitable spiritual meeting. I hope you did not mention my having been there to Mrs Clausen, since I did not tell her. The same here in California nobody knows I have arrived, not even Ted Spicer, I have a lot to do and very little time to do it in.

I got two of your letters from Chicago. Am most grateful for the feelings

¹⁶⁵ Page 225

“-2-” handwritten at top of page.

expressed in the latest one and most satisfied also for your sake that we have arrived at a better understanding of each other.

Since I contributed to the Chicago incident I would like to make a contribution to your expenses therefor. So I enclose a check; acknowledge receipt.

Tuesday the 24th I shall leave Jack's house for Mexico where I hope to work continuously on my book in undisturbed surroundings. I expect to stay there at least two months, possibly three or four, depending on conditions. My address, which is to be given to no one, will be:

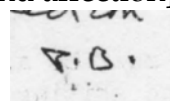
Senor¹⁶⁶ P. Brunton

Calle E. Zapata 45,

Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico.

Postage costs are the same as to the inside USA; 3c and 6 cents.

[With my peace and affection]



L40.229

229 - 230

Letter from PB to Kenneth
Box 34, Cooper Station, New York 3
c/o Ed. H. Spicer,
1050 East Foothill Blvd.
ALTADENA, California
{Fall 1951}¹⁶⁷

Dear Kenneth,

It's good to be back in California! I sometimes wish you had visited it; you might have liked it enough to want to settle here. But then you would have missed the Hutzlers so you are far better off in Dayton.

The Mexican retreat was very successful inwardly but left me in sad arrears with the book. I just can't make the deadline. Now I have to concentrate again on it here. The letters pour in!

I am spending Christmas and New Year with Ted, after that I shall move over to Jacques Masson's 2534 Park Oak drive, Los Angeles 28.

You will find the cold showers impossible of course during Ohio winters but when you start them again, remember that you can endure them earlier and longer in the season¹⁶⁸ by taking them after a hot shower and only gradually turning on the cold water.

The arrears on my book has put out my program somewhat. I shall not be

¹⁶⁶ Page 227

“.3.” typed at top of page.

¹⁶⁷ Date determined to be this because it refers to PB's Mexican retreat which started on 7/24/51, and this letter refers to Christmas plans. — TJS '19

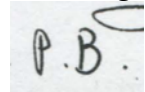
¹⁶⁸ The original editor inserted “in the season” after here.

able to arrive in Dayton until about March 1st, coming direct from California.

There are a few things but important ones, to discuss with you. It will be an important visit. I look forward to it.

Bernard does not speak to me; he is so annoyed because I told him what I've told everyone (and he too for some years although he forgets) that I am not a master but only a disciple, and that whatever help I give is only as a fellow student, and that I want to get students to stand squarely on their own feet, which is best for them and me. For this reason I do not write Dan.

[With love and blessing]



L40.231

231 - 234

Letter from PB to Kenneth
c/o Thomas G. Hawkes, R.F.D. 3
Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania
August 22, 1949

Dear Kenneth,

Your letter of July 16th summing up your reactions to the Lois affair was very sensible "hurt vanity" was undoubtedly one of the foremost emotions. Now you begin to see what a great distance must separate the life of a disciple from the life of the unaspiring insofar as his emotions are involved. To renounce such personal feelings is really to crucify the ego. Only by such crucifixion, whether voluntary or forced, can the serene contentment of the true self be found. Be patient however and don't get pessimistic because of the slowness of development. The important thing is right direction, not swift running.

I am living in a cottage in Pennsylvania one hundred miles from New York but will be moving into the latter city in September [between the 6th and the 14th.]

In order to complete my note books it has become necessary to get the work left with Lois. Would you be so kind as to get it from her and mail it to me or else have her mail it to me. Please check or have her check the accuracy of the transcribing, then burn my original manuscript and send the copy to my cottage address which is: [c/o]¹⁶⁹ Thomas G. Hawkes R.F.D. 3, Stroudsburg, [Pennsylvania]¹⁷⁰

If you write not later than September 5th or 6th use [that]¹⁷¹ address, after that date it would be safer to address me at Box 34 as I might move any day then into New York City.

The carbons should be retained until I have acknowledged safe arrival.

I find some confusion in the address book about your business telephone

¹⁶⁹ PB inserted "c/o" by hand.

¹⁷⁰ PB changed "P" to "Pennsylvania" by hand.

¹⁷¹ PB changed "the above" to "that" by hand.

number. Which of the following is correct? Fulton 4803 or Hemlock 2302.

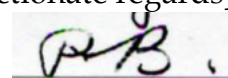
Would you be able to get away for a week end to visit me here at the cottage before I leave it? I have some¹⁷² matters to discuss with you. The nearest rail road station is Stroudsburg. I enclose a map to give you an idea of the location, but the Greyhound line also passes through Stroudsburg. If you could not get away before then, would you be able to come to New York during the last two or three weeks of September [Your fare would be refunded.]¹⁷³

I do not know where I shall [stay, when I move to New York]¹⁷⁴ and the box 34 mail would take two or three days more to reach me, so I give you Dan's address and phone number in case later you should find it necessary to reach me in New York. [It is Apartment 21, 450 Riverside Drive, New York. phone Monument 2-48919. He will know my residential address.]¹⁷⁵

[Until then]¹⁷⁶ you can also reach me by telephone "person to person" at Stroudsburg 3781 R One.¹⁷⁷ This is a many-party line so be careful what you say.

In¹⁷⁸ the evening¹⁷⁹ of Sunday next (28) of August I have to go into New York, but until then I would be here to see you. [If that is not convenient, then]¹⁸⁰ Friday the 2nd of September I am spending in N.Y. and will probably sleep there returning early Saturday morning to the cottage when I would be free to have you as my guest for the week end of the 2nd and 3rd of September. In any case Bill is living at the cottage with me. [I also send]¹⁸¹ a map for the taxi driver's use, should you let me know that you are able to come out here. [A taxi from Stroudsburg would be needed, as I am 6 miles away.]

[Affectionate regards]



L40.235

235 - 240

Letter to PB

2600 Salem Avenue

Dayton 6, Ohio¹⁸²

November 3, 1949

¹⁷² "important" was blacked out by hand after "some."

¹⁷³ PB inserted "Your fare would be refunded." by hand.

¹⁷⁴ PB changed "be then" to "stay, when I move to New York" by hand.

¹⁷⁵ PB inserted "It is Apartment 21, 450 Riverside Drive, New York. phone Monument 2-48919. He will know my residential address." by hand.

¹⁷⁶ PB changed "Meanwhile" to "Until then" by hand.

¹⁷⁷ "3781 R-1" handwritten in the margin.

¹⁷⁸ PB changed "On" to "In" by hand.

¹⁷⁹ "eve" was changed to "evening" by hand.

¹⁸⁰ PB inserted "If that is not convenient, then" by hand.

¹⁸¹ PB changed "It would be necessary to send you" to "I also send" by hand.

¹⁸² The letterhead includes the following company and address:

Kassel Export Co., Export-Import, 2 Stone Street, New York 4, N.Y.

My dear PB

I have wanted to write you a dozen times. But the wish never reached reality. There is no excuse. For a while I seemed to wander from my central pivot ... to become immersed in materialia. But now – Deus volunt¹⁸³ – I seem to be returning to¹⁸⁴ the semblance of orderly living that is essential to my inner well being. Early to bed, early to rise, reading, relaxing, meditating, positive thinking ... all necessary factors if I am to strive to express my true self.

The business merry-go-round reaches alarming proportions. Hectic days at the office culminate in nervous exhaustion. My evenings find me gasping for mental revigoration.

I have been forcibly made to realize the need for oases of relaxation throughout the day. You pointed this out to me during your last visit to Dayton. And now I am forced to practise it out of sheer self-preservation. Otherwise my supply of nervous energy becomes depleted ... and I am left flat.

On all sides I see instances of victims of nervous tension. Stettinus dies at 49. Herman is a compulsory vegetarian – his doctor forbids meat more than twice a week – and nurses himself on pills. Quel bon vie! I look forward to the time a few years hence when I can quit this cavalcade, retire and write ... and live the good life.

I have not heard from Mr Macrae's friends yet. But I will be happy to meet them.

The Hutzlers told me of seeing you in New York. My relations with them seem first rate. I had a cordial New Year card from Norma. Incidentally, I fasted for 24 hours over Yom Kippur. It seemed an appropriate time.

Our friend, M.V. Narayana Rao, sent me a fine assorted packet of incense from Mysore. It arrived last week. There are several different kinds – good quality (Rose Bathi) and ordinary quality. Of course, had I waited til the pound was devalued, my purchase would have bought more!

Sometimes¹⁸⁵ I am conscious inwardly of your presence. And it always warms me to direct my thoughts to you.

In meditation I sometimes experience a queer sensation. My fulcrum appears to be upward to the left of my body. It is as if my central point were suspended there ... and not in my chest. This occasions a feeling of strain or 'pull.'

I paid a couple of visits to Columbus last month. Thank you for introducing me to Carole Lanier. She is a sweet and lovely girl ... who arouses a protective and affectionate instinct in me. It is refreshing to meet such an unassuming, natural girl.

She discussed some of her personal problems with me. Eventually we discovered she wants to be a personal secretary to someone like an author. (She probably has you in mind.) So I recommend that she attend business school, study English, secretarial styles and letter composition and grammar. Thus she will equip herself for better positions in the business world.

Carole does not seem to possess the driving aggressiveness that is

¹⁸³ This may be a typo of "Deus vult".

¹⁸⁴ "to" typed in the left margin.

¹⁸⁵ Page 237

"-two-" typed on top of page.

characteristic of most American females. This makes her a pleasanter person ... but probably handicaps her in business relationships.

Her friend, Pat, has had a dominant influence over her. But this appears to be ending. I could find no common harmony with Pat. She talks too much, encourages psychic phenomena and is now a devotee of Krishnamurti.

The Stacys, of course, are always enjoyable companions. I like them both, for their genuineness and sincerity. Unfortunately too many of their friends go around inspecting people's auras ... as if they were inspectors from the electric light company. But the Stacys themselves seem detached from such psychic ballyrot.

We attended one of Dr Burkhart's services. He has a strong personality and is a good orator. I suppose you know that Will Harper is going to train to become his first lieutenant?

Could¹⁸⁶ you please – at your convenience – tell me the up-to-date address of these people. I need them for my Christmas card list.

Bill Lohr

Bernard Masson

Jacques Masson

Dan Franz

Larry Franz

Joan Surbrug

Jim Covell

I enclose an article clipped from a recent "Printers Ink." Walter Weir is one of the leading outstanding advertects of today. He is most original in his thinking and activities. He owns a comparatively small agency – thirty people – but it ranks among the top ... and he is respected by all people in advertising.

The Hutzlers told me you were looking extremely well and fit. This makes me happy.

Did I ever thank you for that most enjoyable week end at your Shangri La in Stroudsburg? Such a delightful haven of tranquility. Most of all, I enjoyed being with you. There is something – I cannot define it – about being with you that affects me in odd ways. And sometimes I am aware of something dimly stirring within – some half-awakened memories of a previous pattern.

It will always be a privilege to travel anywhere to be with you. I cannot thank you enough, dear PB for all your kindness to me. Somehow I feel the full strength of it afterwards always.

L40.241

241 - 242

Letter from PB to Kenneth
Box 34, Cooper Station, New York 3
5th November '49

¹⁸⁶ Page 239

"-three-" typed at top of page.

My dear Kenneth:

Your belated letter was very welcome.

It is most important in view of business activities to steal a few minutes – even 3 or 4 – for complete relaxation and thus draw closer to the original life force within yourself for repletion. [Yes {Steltinius} is a warning. Balance is the goal.]¹⁸⁷

I am living at the Metropolitan Club and expect to stay here in New York for quite a time.

My relations with Dr Burkhart are better than ever.

The addresses you require are enclosed.

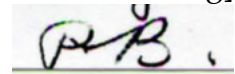
The article by Walter Weir which appeared in Printer's Ink reveals a mind within our own orbit. I suggest that you write to him as a fellow ad man and establish and maintain friendship with him if possible.

Please hand the enclosed to Joseph Vondruska for urgent translation into German.

[I am glad you like the Stacys, while understanding and avoiding¹⁸⁸ the limitations of their "psychic" friends.

Bill is working as a hat check attendant in a night club!

With love and blessing]



L40.243

243 - 248

Letter from PB to Kenneth

Box 34, Cooper Station

New York 3, U.S.A.

March 26, 1950

Dear Kenneth:

It was good to see you earlier this month and to note your continued development in both phases of living: the inner and outer.

The data on The Quest Journal has not been located so far among my goods stored in New York but another search will be made in a day or two by Gilbert Norcutt who has come up to assist me. Should it not be found we will have to proceed without it. In this connection I have been asked to give you the address of another cooperator with The Journal staff who has undertaken to mimeograph whatever circulars may be necessary. You will recall that a circular to prospective subscribers will have to be drawn up and sent out so perhaps you will prepare the copy for it. The address of the mimeographer is:

A. DAVIS

#Apartment 3 N

24 West 45th Street

¹⁸⁷ PB inserted "Yes {illegible} is a warning. Balance is the goal." by hand.

¹⁸⁸ PB inserted "and avoiding."

New York 19, N.Y.

I have received a telegram from India in connection with the Maharishee¹⁸⁹ which has made it necessary to adopt the following arrangement. On March 31st I sail for Southampton, arriving April 7th. A few days will be spent in London to make necessary preparations and then I shall fly direct by plane to Madras, India. I contemplate using the Air-India Line which is Indian owned and operated as it is cheaper. From Madras I shall proceed immediately to the Maharshee who is still in a very weak condition and holding on to life by sheer will-power. I do not know how long I shall remain in India but from there I shall return to Europe by plane and eventually to New York by the date I told you, September the 18th.

I doubt whether it will be possible for me to attend to mail for the next few months but I shall always be glad to hear from you. The safest address to use is:

c/o Mr L.G. Parrott
68 Clitherow Avenue
Hanwell W.7
London, ENGLAND

He will re-direct mail to India when that will be practicable.

Of course, the Ashram management have now with-drawn their barrier against my meeting with the Maharishee.

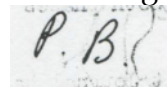
This journey is very important and very necessary. It may come as a surprise to Norma and she may not understand why it is so important.

But¹⁹⁰ she need have no fear that I'm going astray from the balanced path which is our ideal. The necessity for the journey is a personal one and only the Maharishee and myself could really understand what is involved.

I have not the time to write to Harold Stacy and Art Gerhart but whatever you three can do in preparing The Journal during my absence should be done. The first necessity is enquiry from the copyright office in Washington whether the title, "THE QUEST" can be used without objections.

With affectionate regards,

Peace and blessing.



L40.249

249 - 252

Letter from PB to Kenneth

c/o L.G. Parrott, 68 Clitherow Avenue, Hanwell, London, W.7.¹⁹¹

April 20. {1950}¹⁹²

¹⁸⁹ Likely referring to Ramana Maharshi.

¹⁹⁰ Page 245

¹⁹¹ A handwritten note by PB with an arrow pointing at address reads: "mail address until September 18th return to nyc:"

¹⁹² KTH inserted "1952" in the top right corner by hand. However, Ramana died on April 14th, 1950. — TJS '19

Dear Kenneth.

Your letters of March 28, April 2, 11, 16:

The journey to India was cancelled at the last moment. The Maharishee died after my arrival here and before I could depart. Perhaps it is as well, as I hear the asram planned treachery against me, that I stay. I remain in London until May 8th, when I am due to go to the Continent for a couple of months, and then return to London again for another couple of months.

The Madras Government will take over the asram as a property, remove the present management, and put trustees in charge. Alas, it is now too late.

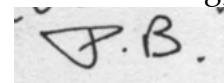
I understand Norma's objections to the magazine title. It will be changed to a different one. I also agree with her objections to your contributing. She is right, as usual. So don't contribute but give us advice on technical matters of production only. Anyway the original plan is completely changed. I find that the paper control and rationing has disappeared in England, and enough paper can be got now. As Europeans can't send dollars to subscribe, it would be unfair to them to be left out. Moreover I have found someone here who is eager and competent to assume editorship, and who can do the Questions and Answers feature. So I propose to publish from London, not USA. We shall still need all the contributions of essays you collect from others. I shall write Stacey later about the change. This person is very much more spiritually advanced than he, yet experienced in magazine work. However you know that the final decision will not be made until September and it may be that the magazine won't be issued after all! Send me your copy for sales letters etc, when you later send the material.

I am very sorry that I gave Mother the information, not realizing her attitude would be what it is. I tried to mend matters a little when I sensed what had happened. However I have seen her and Len several times and will make a definite effort to correct her as tactfully as possible. But she told me she was an anthroposophist and she ought to try to live up to its requirements. I shall soothe her.

I am living at the Berners Hotel, in Berns Street, opposite the Middlesex Hospital, near Oxford Street.

I regret the news about Herman's ill health. It is the hard grind of your profession that exacts such a price. Hence the special value of learning to relax. I am sure you will try to be as helpful as you can to him, make a special effort, to enable him to reduce his own toil.

With love to the Hutzlers [and yourself. Peace and blessing]



L40.253

253 - 256
Letter from PB to Dan
Berners Hotel,

Berners Street,
London, W.1.¹⁹³
April 26 1950

Dear Dan,

Just before my plane was to leave London for India, the Maharishee¹⁹⁴ died. Although it was cancer of the left arm, he passed away peacefully and cheerfully. In view of the fact that I have since learnt that the ashram management were plotting treachery against me after my arrival there, perhaps it was as well that I cancelled the journey. But still we are human and I felt his passing. At the time I was in deep meditation and quite out of the body. However he says to have no regrets, so I've adjusted.

Then I got your letter about the cessation of your work. As I found that Gifford really was in contact with powerful organizations here, I asked him to get active and do everything possible to get you in employment again, in view of the help you gave him in the past and of certain mutual interests. To his credit, he readily cooperated and out of the possibilities discussed or turned up, this one with Jones, of Gulf Oil, has proved most favourable.

Giff reports that Jones likes you but dislikes Stan, and that he is considering what can be done to bring you into Gulf Co employment. There will be another meeting in a couple of days. But Giff strongly feels that during his own absence in Germany, it would be better to let him cultivate the ground on your behalf in preparation for your meeting with Jones after Giff returns.

Hence¹⁹⁵ my cable to you. Giff expects to be back in London about the 19th to 23rd May. So if you come here then, the situation should have progressed sufficiently to make it more useful to you.

The other reasons for this date need not be gone into here but he considers them sufficient.

I myself remain until May 8th; thereafter I may go direct to Italy but nothing has been arranged so far. Later I shall be in Switzerland France and back in London about the first or second week of July at the latest. I do not know where I shall live then but will try to get an apartment.

Giff expects to get married in two days' time. He hopes you will follow his example soon!

Give my affectionate regards to Cathy [and accept them for yourself too.]

P.B.

L40.257

257 - 258

¹⁹³ This address is printed on the letterhead. A note at the top of the page also reads: "After May 8th: Mail to c/o Parrot, 68 Clitherow Avenue Hanwell, London, W.7."

¹⁹⁴ Referring to Ramana Maharshi.

¹⁹⁵ Page 255

Letter from PB to Kenneth
Suite 180
Hotel Gramatan
Bronxville 8
New York
20 Nov 50

My dear Kenneth,

I¹⁹⁶ was happy to see you again.

The physician's report shows the need of still further shifting your inner emotions to something deeper. Not reason alone but abidance in Principle and the deeper calmer feeling that comes with it.

Your topcoat was very carefully repaired by Romaine's¹⁹⁷ mother, at Romaine's request, not mine. So perhaps a little note of thanks to her mother (Mrs Stevens, 40 West 55th St) would be appreciated.

Macy's exchanged the memopad for something I've really been wanting—a Cross lightweight gold-cased pencil.

I send you herewith the leather case for the comb I gave you, as I have solved¹⁹⁸ the problem in a different way now. So you perhaps could send me back the case for the magnifying glass which I gave you instead.

I was happy to see the Hutzlers again here in New York. The time was all-too-short, though.

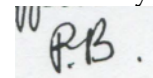
Norma seems to think that you have a point of etiquette—unnecessary¹⁹⁹ conventionality seemed to me but quite important apparently in her eyes—that whenever you return to Dayton from a visit outside you should bring some little gift, however small, for the family, as Will does. This is what she always does for Joan and vice versa. When in Dayton, do as Dayton does!

I do not yet feel any guidance toward moving from New York, so perhaps I may remain here for a couple of months more before leaving for the midwest, and possibly²⁰⁰ California.

Larry has an excellent job in the art department of one of New York's largest printers.

May Heaven's grace enlighten you!

[affectionately]



L40.259

259 - 262

Letter from PB to Kenneth

¹⁹⁶ The first two paragraphs are circled.

¹⁹⁷ Romaine Stevens – a long time student of PB, stayed with Mataji in Cohasset. —TJS '19

¹⁹⁸ The original editor changed "sold" to "solved" here.

¹⁹⁹ "unnecessarily" in the original.

²⁰⁰ "possible" in the original.

c/o Allen's Service
545 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, U.S.A.
11 Feb 51

Dear Kenneth,

Thank you for the tab inserts sent with your letter of November they were so well packed that they arrived in perfect condition. Also for leather case for the glass.

I would have been happy to have seen Basil Tottrup and his wife in England; if they had written me it would have been arranged. But did I not hear from Karen that they are going to emigrate to New Zealand? I met his young son and was impressed by his possibilities.

I saw Kim on its premiere and was delighted with the film.

Yes, your emotions are your biggest problem. Feeling can't be stifled; the awareness of the soul is a kind of feeling; but the lower feeling the excited negative once, the fears and resentments, the jealousies and sulkiness, the irritations and depressions, the passions and angers, have to be brought under a firm discipline for they are our real enemies who create trouble and misfortune for us, as well as ill health. Indeed I have the belief that when you can cultivate only the finer feelings, and nip all others in the bud the instant they manifest, you are going to become a much happier man in every way. And give happiness to others, too.

It is good to hear that business keeps well, for you and Herman surely deserve success in this direction since you are both obeying the laws which insure it, eventually.

I left the Gramatan owing to wintry conditions and a fall on the ice which sprained my ribs and tore a cartilage. So I had to practise self-healing and think I am practically cured now. I moved into a hotel inside New York City. It is the Esplanade (Apartment 8k,) and the address is 305 West End Avenue, New York 23. (phone Trafalgar 4-5000) You may be interested -- or amused -- to learn that it is a Jewish owned and Jewish populated hotel on a street apparently inhabited by Jews alone. I am very comfortable here as I have a little kitchen and so prepare my own lunch and quite often my own dinner. ...Please note the insertion of "c/o Allens Service" in my permanent mail address.

I am a bit sceptical about the reports that B.M. is nearing self realization. He is out now and gone away for a month's holiday with wife. But I do think he has made considerable advance and is a pleasanter man now.

You asked my opinion about the organization known as "Fellowship of Reconciliation" but did not say for whom you asked. Well, I remember its origin during the first world war as a pacific association which worked for conscientious objectors to the war. It was composed of sincere idealists and had the backing of people like George Lansbury. I know nothing about this American association but in view of the Communists' known procedure of inserting themselves into such organizations and making use of them for Russia's imperialistic ends, I would be suspicious of it.

I have not been to the Farmfood for a long time but I will make a point of going there soon and getting a copy of the Diet Chart for you to give Herman. I

myself do not follow this system of combinations, however.

Do you remember the black electric razor which I gave you before the red one? It broke down and you were unable to use it. If you did not throw it away could you send it to me and I will try to find someone to²⁰¹ repair it, if that is possible. This is because my own electric razor, and also one I had kept in reserve broke down and I threw them away for the mechanism had got rusty also. When I tried to buy a new one, no store in town had. I wrote to the makers and learnt that they had gone out of business. So it will not be possible to get that razor any more. I replaced it by a {Stagly}, which has a clockwork spring, but which has cut me a few times. I still think no razor equals those electric ones.

If you threw away the black one, perhaps you remember and send me²⁰² the name of it and have the address of the maker. This too has disappeared from the shops but the maker might still carry on, only I don't remember the name. It is the red one which I know definitely is no longer made.

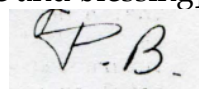
It has not been possible for me to leave for the midwest visit yet and as far as I can see I shall remain in New until the last week of March.

The blockage in my writing career has at last vanished and I have promised my publisher to turn in a manuscript before the year's end. I hope to start work on it in April when I expect to arrive in California and to write the book there through the summer. They want a simple book for the man in the street, which suits me. I have abandoned the thought of novel writing.

I got a nice letter from Norma and shall write her before long but meanwhile please give her my news. I am keenly looking forward to seeing her again. Please also give her and Herman my affectionate regards.

I greatly enjoyed your visit to me and wish it had been longer and that you had more time for me. However I think you can understand now the reality of inner contact, the spiritual tie which is independent of the body's time and space movements. And the Maharishee said, when a friend at the ashram asked him for a message for PB before he died: "When heart speaks to heart, what is there to say?"

[With my peace and blessing]



P.S.²⁰³ Hesper and Bob Hutchinson arrived here and are buying a house in Connecticut to reside permanently. They asked after you. Until March 15th their address is 4, Appletreet Trail, Compo Beach, Westport, Conn.

L40.263

263 - 266

Letter from PB to Kenneth
At: c/o J.V. Masson, 2534 Park Oak

²⁰¹ Page 261

²⁰² The original editor inserted "and send me" here.

²⁰³ The postscript is typed on page 259.

Drive, Hollywood 28, California
21 January 52

Box 34, Cooper Station
New York 3

Dear Kenneth,

Yes I agree you are getting a good training under Herman, since he seems to be trying to fit you for agency management and to do that has to lift you above your present capacities and temperament. So you should pay the closest attention to his words, criticisms and counsels, trying to expand them in your own mind to their fullest meaning. Also receive them unemotionally, never let the ego resent anything, but try to let them come into the reason appreciatively.

You might as well accept the thought or ambition of agency manager, for it could co-exist by the side of your more literary aspiration. The two could work together with careful arrangement and good balance. It is more practical than depending on a literary career alone,²⁰⁴ which is very risky uncertain and difficult.

Norma's critique of mysticism stems from her character and experience, which have certain limitations. She has been captured by the current American self-worship, as if American civilization is the highest. However I had better discuss it with you when we meet, it needs time and talk. Your most prudent course is to agree very largely with her, as we do, but to leave some small²⁰⁵ amount of reserved belief 'for further investigation with an open mind' for the sake of honesty. However she will try to eradicate this reservation, for it will worry her as being an indication of weakness. Naturally, knowing almost nothing of Oriental mysticism, which has thousands of years' experience and tradition behind it, she is trying to be satisfied with current scientific psychologic²⁰⁶ knowledge reinforced by her innate religious feeling. But in the past few years she has 'grown' to accept reincarnation; she may yet grow to accept other things but you are not the person to attempt to lead her into them; she would violently resist, and it would hurt your business prospects. Leave it to me! And I am {in}²⁰⁷ no hurry at all to persuade anyone.

How is your liver? I brought some herbs from Mexico for cleaning it. They are very bitter but very effective. Would you like me to send some to you?

I am now in full correspondence with Pat, as she has started to type some of my book for me. I have promised to see her here when the book is finished. Your letter to her of Jan 13 was very sensible but should have made just a little concession to her mystical beliefs; don't drop it out of sight altogether for the rational is simply not enough.

If you are at all interested in trying real tobacco cigarettes that are denicotinised, while preserving full flavor write Lincoln and Ulmer about their "onico" cigarettes,²⁰⁸ #19 West 44th Street, New York.

²⁰⁴ The original editor inserted "alone," here.

²⁰⁵ The original editor inserted "small" here.

²⁰⁶ This word appears as it did in the original letter.

²⁰⁷ We have inserted "in" for readability.

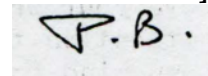
²⁰⁸ "cigrets" in the original

In confidence, I am taking no steps to get citizenship here. Unless something new develops within 18 months, I expect to move to Mexico by²⁰⁹ then. My plans this year will be settled towards the end of March. I may or may not go to Europe. Anyway I see now that I can't arrive in Dayton before the 3rd week of March as I must finish the book first.

I am staying with Jacques only because I am on special diet (it has changed greatly since we met) and I can't be bothered cooking or buying while finishing the book. In future I hope to be independent and stay in my own place apartment or hotel. I have dropped condiments like curry and pepper now (salt I abandoned 3 years ago) oil from my salad dressing and many other changes. This suits my liver much better. I have ground a seasoning powder of vegetable-herb origin which effectively replaces condiments.

Don't forget the moments of relaxation in between work; don't become like the average American businessman, worn out at 50, enslaved by routine, nervous restless and sick. Relax whenever you can.

[Peace & affection]



PS Dan tried to come out here a month ago to start his career anew, having met with total failure in NYC. I wrote him strongly and succeeded in keeping him away, as I well know he will parasitically try to disturb me just when I need to be left alone to finish the book. In the future my visits to NYC will be of very brief duration

PPS In the December "LAUBRLOWERS" you published an article "Christmas in America" by John Gilbert. He ends with the message "Be still and know that I am God" which I believe ended "A Hermit in the Himalayas." This man has a good religio-mystic feeling.

L40.267

267 - 270

Letter to PB

wednesday april nine nineteen fifty two

I was surprised last night, PB...

to see the lights on in the Hutzler home. So I went over and found they had returned two days earlier -- mainly, I imagine, because Herman was feeling the strain.

Norma immediately enquired after you and your health. After these polite preliminaries were over, I remarked that you had brought a surprise with you to Dayton - that you had taken Norma's advice so oft repeated and married. Took pains to point out, as you suggested, that you were tired of being inundated with the details of daily living and desperately needed someone to help you. It was a surprise for both of them, all right!

Norma, very feminine, was intensely curious. Asked what sort of person was she, etc. Did I see her? I explained that Evangeline flew in Monday and you both left Tuesday morning. I gave Evangeline an excellent build-up and spoke highly of her. Norma then asked how long you had known her... and how old she was! I told the truth that you had known her but a short time before getting married last week, as otherwise she might have expected you to write and tell her the news. I said Evangeline was in the twenties – and this did set Norma back on her heels! But she would find out anyway sooner or later. I explained that age was not important in this case and that Evangeline was extremely mature and an outstanding person.

Herman took all in his stride – even gave me a glass of wine to toast your health! (He should have been a Bohemian!) But I could see Norma's conventionalities were shocked, even though she didn't say so outright. Nevertheless, she did say the reason she had been concerned over your going abroad was because she thought you would be travelling alone, and that it was all right now you had someone to look after you and safeguard your health. The news of the trip to India was an anticlimax after the previous announcement. I said you had to go there on business – and she wasn't worried about it.

Told Norma you thanked her for her note and would write as soon as you could, but preparations for the voyage were filling your time. She said she realized you must be busy and not to worry about it.

This²¹⁰ all happened last night. Saw little of them today although they were in the office. Neither of them mentioned it. Might be a good idea for you to drop them a line before sailing – especially as I have to be here for another year! I'm waiting for an opportunity to talk to Herman about scheduling my European trip in July. Will keep you informed.

Summing up, the reception to the news bombshell wasn't too bad. Herman took it very well. Norma was somewhat shocked, but she couldn't go back on her support of marriage. Just feel, that like so many women, there is a touch of possessiveness in her. Anyway, what does it really matter?

Will write you again before you sail. Let me know if there is anything I can do for you! Because always at your service is...

...

P.S. Under separate first class mail am sending you a pen like the one we used Sunday.

Your visit was a very joyous occasion -- I enjoyed it thoroughly. Thank you for everything.

L40.271

271 - 274

Letter to PB

april twelve nineteen fifty two

²¹⁰ Page 269

“-page two-” typed at top of page

just a farewell note, PB....

...to wish you au revoir and bon voyage! Enclosed is copy of letter to Harry Brown mailed yesterday; also have written Rae Batty and Mrs Green for appointments in Chicago weekend of May 31. Due to Memorial Day falling on Friday the 30th, this is a non-working day and makes a three day holiday. Very convenient for driving up there and back.

Things have sure happened fast since you were here! Thursday I asked Herman for vacation time -- he gave me August 1 to 20; almost three weeks. Which isn't bad, after all. Same day I made reservations on BOAC and am awaiting confirmation; still same day I filled out petition for final naturalization papers -- and request form for reentry permit as I could not get the former until November. Thus, I will cross as a British subject. Today, I had my vaccination, sent my British passport to the consul for renewal and had my official photos for the documents taken.

Understand they notify me when reentry permit is ready; I go down to Cincinnati and pick it up in person; then in the same building take it to the tax bureau together with withholding income tax receipts and get my tax clearance. Then I'm all set!

Believe I am wise in also setting naturalization papers in effect, in case British should try to prevent my returning to U.S.

See how fast things have moved? It's amazing how your visits stir up and hasten events! My plan is falling neatly into place: first the trip home, then naturalization in November, then January 1 next year, I'll give Herman three months' notice and be free to leave Dayton April 1, 1953. Doesn't seem so far off now.

Neither of them have said another word about your marriage!

Frances²¹¹ Stacy wrote me today, asking me to send flowers to Norma for her. Which I did. And they invited me down for a weekend; have accepted for first weekend in May. Shall I say anything about the marriage or keep quiet?

The Hutzlers today were rather fearful that the British might keep me on some technicality; I sense this comes from Norma. I reassured them this was most unlikely. But it shows they feel I am needed!

I can feel this darned vaccination in my blood stream; most unpleasant. Perhaps I was more earthly during the Navy; now as a vegetarian am more sensitive to these things.

Am cashing in my bonds to finance the trip; it will work out all right; and I will still be able to save for seven months after my return from Europe for the California trip.

Well, that seems to be all the news. Thanks to your visit I feel much closer to my Overself --- you really gave me something this time. Will endeavor to hang on to this consciousness and develop it. It is most inspiring.

Please give my warm regards to Evangeline. And to you both my hopes for a successful journey and a safe return.

²¹¹ Page 273

"-page two-" typed at top of page

May God bless you... is the devout wish of...

L40.275

275 - 276
Letter to PB
2600 salem avenue
dayton six
ohio
april 22, 1952

You will have landed in England, PB...

and I can imagine you're very busy. This letter needs no reply, just to bring you up to date with news.

Have made my reservations BOAC for England trip in August. All the red tape going thru smoothly. Herman gave me two weeks plus three days -- which is only 3 days over regular vacation periods. Not too much; I assume he doesn't want to shoulder any of the work while I'm away. So I'm not complaining, especially as I plan to leave him next year.

Today, for the first time, Norma asked after you -- had I heard from you? I supposed you were much too busy for writing. She agreed -- said you probably had to take your wife around on a lot of sightseeing! I pointed out that you were over there to work -- not on a vacation... and left it at that. Incidentally, the Hutzlers have just bought a beautiful new home.

A letter from Frances Stacy says that Dr B²¹² told her you were in Dayton, and had he not mislaid a letter from you they would have had a chance to see you. I replied, telling her you were only here for two days and were under terrific pressure to finish the book. I'll be seeing them next week and am sure they will understand.

Clarice Meares wrote she's coming straight to San Francisco early in May and will travel from Oregon to New York in September. So she can stop off in Dayton then if she wishes. I'll write and tell her.

Marianna Green wrote a nice letter and will be glad to see me on May 31. We'll have lunch and the afternoon together. Have not heard from Rae Batty; will not pursue it unless she replies.

My loving wishes to Evangeline and yourself. May your journey be a smooth and successful one!

L40.277

277 - 278
Letter to Francis
2600²¹³ salem avenue

²¹² Based on the subsequent letter, file ID L40.277, this is Dr Burkhardt.

— TJS '19

²¹³ The letterhead on this stationery includes: Kassel Export Co., Export-Import, 2 Stone

dayton 6
ohio
April 22, 1952

You are quite right, Francis...

that Dr Burkhardt did not fully understand the whole picture. PB passed thru Dayton for a couple of days recently on his way east. He had previously written Dr B that he would give him a brief interview if the latter wished to see him; he did this because Dr B influenced a large number of people and thus felt he ought to.

But he received no reply; we phoned Dr B from Dayton. Apparently he had not received the letter and because of prior commitments was unable to come over. Actually, PB was rather relieved; he was under tremendous pressure to complete the manuscript for his new book and get it into the publisher's hands in New York. We worked together on the final chapter while he was here.

PB and I discussed phoning you and Harold to meet him at the Columbus airport for his plane stopped there for ten minutes en route. But although he would have enjoyed seeing both of you personally, there was no actual need for the meeting. And a set of peculiar circumstances, involving frequent changes in his travel schedule from Dayton, complicated matters. However, I will give you his news when we meet... which will be the weekend after next -- am arranging for sunny weather and fair skies on May 4!

Affectionately...

L40.279

279 - 280
Letter from PB to Kenneth
c/o Grindlays
54 Parliament Street, London S. W. I.
May 8th {1952}

[Dear] Kenneth,

[This is just to tell you we have been in London till now but are leaving in 3 days for the Continent, as first stage of the Indian journey. However we had to postpone departure by a month, leaving June 30th from Europe. So continue to use the above London mail address.

I saw Mother, she seems much better in health and spirits than on my last visit. She is gratified at your professional progress. I explained about your pending changes and got her to see everything reasonably.

Thanks for the pen.

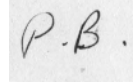
Please do not fail to complete your naturalization process. It is most important that you do become an American citizen, I have to tell you, on basis of a talk I had with the American Consul here.

I have been under terrific pressure, so could not write Norma so far, however

Street, New York 4, N.Y.

please give her and Herman my affectionate remembrances. Write soon.

Always]



L40.281

281 - 282

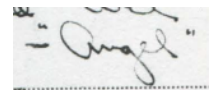
Handwritten letter from Angel²¹⁴ to Kenneth
South Hampton S.W.1
10 May 1952²¹⁵

Mr Kenneth Hurst
2600 Salem Ave.
Dayton 6 Ohio, U.S.A.

Dearest Kenneth

How often I've wanted to write reply to all your letters, but as you realize my life with PB is a constant rush. We've been under such pressure, but I love every minute with him.

I hope you are well and happy. I have thought about you so much. My sister in Cleveland is going to write about a meeting with you. I do hope you can arrange it. She and her husband are good people. Love and my Best wishes



L40. 283

283 - 284

Duplicate of L40.279

L40.285

285 - 286

Duplicate of L40.281

L40.287

287 - 290

Letter from Angel and PB to Kenneth
MARIENDALSVEJ 94-96
Copenhagen F. Denmark

²¹⁴ Referring to Evangeline Glass.

²¹⁵ Date from Postmark.

June 18, 1952

Dear Kenneth,

Your letter came today filled with news of your coming opportunities in California. I am so happy that you are planning the move, and PB would like to talk to you about it, if we are able to see you here in Europe.

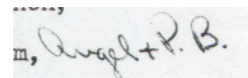
As you can see from the address we are still in Denmark and will be here until August 11th. The India trip has become a little indefinite, but we will be in Europe most assuredly until the middle of October. From Copenhagen we will spend one or two days in Holland and then to Paris²¹⁶ for a [few days].²¹⁷ If you could let us know your exact dates for arriving and leaving Europe, we will try to arrange a meeting, if only a very short one, somewhere.

Duttons have post-poned PB's book until spring and also asked²¹⁸ him for another title, as the original one is not suitable. [Any suggestions?]²¹⁹ However, Riders are satisfied with it and will put the book out in October.

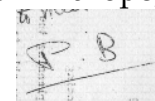
I'm sorry that you weren't able to visit Chicago. I'm sure that you will be pleased to meet Rae when it is possible to do so. She is a most interesting and delightful person.

Our days seem to be busy from morning until night. PB works like no one I have encountered before. I'm sorry that he won't have the vacation that I am planning to have next week. I am going to West Germany for a week or 10 days to visit a friend of mine who lived with my sister and I in California for several months. It will seem good to see someone from home again. I'm certainly hoping that it can be arranged so that we will meet you here soon. Until then,

Love and best wishes from,



[My²²⁰ peace and love to you Kenneth. Try to meet me in Europe]



L40.291

291 - 294

Aerogram from Evangeline and PB to Kenneth
Mariendalsvej 94-96
Copenhagen F. Denmark
June 21, 1952

²¹⁶ "and other countries" was handwritten and then crossed off by hand after the word "Paris."

²¹⁷ The original editor changed "indefinite time" to "few days" by hand.

²¹⁸ The original editor changed "asking" to "asked" by hand.

²¹⁹ The original editor inserted {Any suggestions?" by hand.

²²⁰ Page 289

Dear Kenneth,

At last we have some definite plans worked out concerning our future travels. We will stay here in Copenhagen until August 30th as PB is engaged in some important research here and won't be able to leave until that date. From here we will proceed to Holland for two or three days and then Paris for a week. After Paris we visit Switzerland and Italy. We hope to be able to take a ship from Italy for India sometime in mid-October.

PB wants me to tell you that he would like very much to see you if only for a week-end. While visiting in Paris he may be able to take a brief trip to England, but he is unable to make any definite plans yet. So the position is this; Since we will be staying in Denmark until Sept. it would make it a bit difficult and expensive for you to come here. PB has suggested that if it is at all possible could you change your dates for your trip to Europe so that it will terminate the first week in September? That way either you could come to Paris to see us or we may be able to come to London. It would certainly be much easier that way for you. If however, it is impossible for you to change your dates there is train plus ship plus train arrangement from London to Copenhagen. The train leaves London at three P.M. and arrives in Copenhagen at eight P.M. the following day. You could come here in that way and perhaps return by plane.

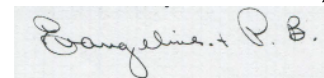
If for any reason it is impossible for us to meet here in Europe, we shall return to New York by the 15th of March [1953]. We will stay there for [some]²²¹ months and then most probably go on to California from there.

PB hopes that you are holding fast to the principles of the quest, especially those of reason, balance, and stability, because only after this preparation of the right inner conditions is it possible for your next illumination of a more lasting character to be safely received.

I have been having a hard struggle, as you can imagine, working with these principles. I certainly have a marvelous opportunity to grow and make progress with PB. It has been extremely difficult to change some of my old habits, but now I feel that I have come over the greatest period of adjustment.

Dear Kenneth, I hope that we will be able to meet soon. There will be so much to say. PB is anxious for our meeting, too.

Love and Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Evangeline + P.B.", written in dark ink on a light-colored rectangular piece of paper.

[P.S. This letter of course cancels our movements that I wrote to you about a few days ago.]²²²

L40.295

295 - 296

²²¹ The original editor inserted "some" by hand.

²²² The P.S. is handwritten by Evangeline.

Letter from PB to Kenneth
Mariendalsvej 94 – 96.
Copenhagen F. Denmark
4th July 1952.

Dear Kenneth,

Your letter of the 29th of June and its suggested visit to Denmark is acceptable, although it seems to me rather rushing your mother to give her only two days in Denmark when she has not seen it -- her native land -- since thirty years. If you are going to the extent of bringing her here would she not approve of an extra day, making a total of three days? However, that is a matter for you to decide.

From²²³ my observations of your mother it would seem that she would rather have the cash equivalent of the cost of the trip to Denmark than the trip itself, but it is quite possible that I am wrong in this point.

Meanwhile in accordance with your proposal, although hotel accommodation is virtually impossible to secure in Copenhagen during August, we have been able to reserve two single rooms at the Baltic Hotel, Borups Plads, Borups Alle, Copenhagen [for August 12 & 13].²²⁴ I am somewhat amused at your ordering a bathroom -- this is not the U.S.A. There are two shower cubicles in the hotel for the convenience of guests and you are lucky to get those. It is a very nice clean place, mostly with English and American guests, and it has the added advantage of being the nearest to my own address. Incidentally I am not staying at an hotel but in an apartment where I prepare my own meals.

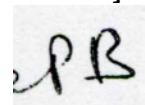
[Another idea is to bring Mother here 3 days before the end of your European visit. You stay here 2/3 days & return to London to pick up your New York plane. She remains here (with her cousins perhaps) for a few more days, since she is unlikely to come again. However I believe Len's selfishness would negate her staying here so long. She could then return by sea instead of plane, saving £10.²²⁵

I had not yet written to Norma, I'm so busy. Books to Denmark from London are so heavy in August that you need to reserve plane & ship²²⁶ accommodation before you get there. America Xpress can do that for you in U.S.A.]

[Confidential I had a lot of trouble with Evangeline the past 2 1/2 months but she has {now had} 3 mystic experiences which have greatly improved the situation.

The biggest blow is her inability to help my office work

Love]²²⁷



²²³ The original editor inserted this paragraph.

²²⁴ The original editor inserted "for August 12 & 13" by hand.

²²⁵ That's £214.00 using the retail price index, or £637.00 using average earnings. – TJS '19

²²⁶ PB inserted "plane & ship" by hand.

²²⁷ This sentence and signature were handwritten by PB at the top of page.

For some reason, PB....

I was tired mentally and physically during my stay in Denmark; and therefore did not take full opportunity of my visit with you. But it was none the less good to see you again.

My journey back to Dayton was smooth; upon my return I found the enclosed letter from Mrs Hutchinson, which I forward together with carbon of my reply.

I have written Dan, pointing out that he has to obtain Mrs Hutzler's permission before doing anything else, and that everything hinges on this.

The Hutzlers gave me a royal welcome home; they were delighted for the ship and it now occupies a position in their new home. There is something nice about returning to Dayton, where everyone knows you and greets you; compared with England I feel much more secure and constructive here. The trip gave me perspective -- I can see that I belong here in the U.S. that here I have the opportunity to outgrow certain negative tendencies associated with home life. The folks are rather emotional and neurotic at home; here the Hutzlers have a calming positive effect on me. So for the time being I'll rest in Dayton whilst still being receptive to the California idea. If it is right, it will undoubtedly raise itself again.

After our return to England Mother told me two things of which I was unaware (1) that you plan a divorce in the States next year ... and (2) that you have been having trouble with your chest affecting your health.

Regarding (1) I was happy for the marriage if it made your work easier and took a load off your shoulders, but I was rather disconcerted at the atmosphere in Copenhagen. It seems to have turned out reversely and added to your burdens instead of relieving them. I hate to see you having to put up with the vagaries of feminine temperament -- it seems too similar to the 1935 days. Frankly, it makes me less inclined than ever to consider marriage myself! Naturally, I'll keep this news strictly to myself; I just told NH you were both well, and working extremely hard to catch up with arrears of work, and let it go at that.

I am very concerned over (2) especially when you start putting your affairs in order. Would it not be better to give up travelling, personal contact and time-consuming correspondence, and retire to some quiet country spot in a dry sunny clime and devote yourself to writing entirely?

I fully realize the responsibilities that accrue from being your literary executor, but it will be a privilege to fulfil them. Perhaps when you return next Spring, I could take a week's vacation and come to New York. Then we could go over matters more completely, and I could make notes on the right procedure to follow.

Letter from PB to Kenneth
c/o Grindlays Ltd.
54 Parliament London
Undated

Dear Kenneth,

Yes I am sorry your time was so occupied and you were so tired in Copenhagen, that more could not be done.

I think your decision to wait and work at Dayton for the present is a good one.

I am going to type out the will before I fly for India, September 21 from Rome, and to send you a copy by seamaile from there. In it I am appointing²²⁸ Jacques Masson as General Executor. Thank you for accepting the job.

We left Copenhagen the day after I finished work on revising the new book, thus closing the task for which I was able to stay in such quietude there. The newspapers published treble column interviews with me on the day after I left!

After a week in Paris, a few days in Amsterdam, we came to the Riviera. Bernard is here and I am trying to²²⁹ give him some useful counsel and guidance to make amends for what he deems my former bad treatment. So he is receptive now.

I am going up the coast in a couple of days to a village and then entrain for Italy.

Evangeline will remain behind, to enable me to economize, so I go to India lone. She may stay in Europe and put in some work under a singing teacher, and also study intensively from books to improve her efficiency and qualifications as a secretary. I flew over to London for a day from Paris on important business {and}²³⁰ managed to buy her some books, including a course on Speedwords or Speedwriting (abbreviated longhand) but did not have enough time to get further books needed for improving her English and letter writing. If she returns to the States it will be towards the end of October. We shall decide in a week or two. Otherwise she remains in Italy or France and joins me on my return there from India. I have a book on²³¹ a ship to New York arriving there mid March. I also have my return from Bombay set for the end of February in the Comet jetliner you told me about.

The information given you by Mother was not quite correct. The trouble I had with my chest was superficial, and lasted a few days. The old deep seated trouble has gone. (2) I have no intention to divorce E next year but only a loose arrangement that if she cannot make herself sufficiently serviceable to my work and mission we may have to discuss the subject of divorce next year, by mutual and the most friendly agreement. She has undergone such astonishing mystical experiences and made such character²³² development, since you were in Europe, and she is so²³³

²²⁸ "appointment" in the original.

²²⁹ "you" in the original.

²³⁰ "and" added for readability

²³¹ "in" in the original.

²³² The original editor inserted "character" here.

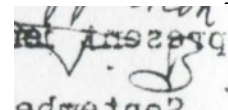
determined to work so hard at developing her secretarial qualification during winter, that I doubt whether the discussion will be needed. We are very happy together now, anyway. But she had to suffer tremendously before this development could be possible -- our old friend, the ego had to be crushed, as usual.

I may probably take a cottage in the²³⁴ Pennsylvania mountains after my return to USA and after a month or so in New York and spend the summer writing my next book there. It would be close to the Ohio border, so perhaps you could come over a number of times. We are writing now to make a loose non-committal arrangement.

Please ask Norma to excuse my not having written yet, and tell her we shall have all the more to talk about when we meet next spring! Give her my warmest regards and unbroken friendship.

Tell Herman that if his spinal trouble is in the fifth lumbar region, he would probably be interested in the exercises which brought about a remarkable relief from pain in Bernard's case. These exercises were originally taught by a surgeon in the Orthopedic hospital²³⁵ at New York. But the woman who taught Bernard lives part of the year in Long Island, and a personal demonstration by her is really needed, as they are difficult to describe by mail. Bernard says it is best to write her and explain what Herman's trouble is first, for if it is not the same as B's then the exercises do not apply. Her name is Mrs Lucia Wilcox. The village she lives in on Long Island is not Narragansett but the other one whose name also ends in "gansett" -- he thinks it is "Amagansett" but a railroad guide would reveal the name.

[With my peace and affection]



PS Thank you for writing to Hesper Hutchinson as you did. The child story is ridiculously untrue and originated in Eva's plump figure plus people's uncontrolled uncharitable imaginations.

PPS Bernard says it is {essential} to mention his name should Herman write to Mrs Wilcox.

Also, please keep confidential the news about my return to USA, dates place etc except to treat it so also

L40.303

303 - 306

Handwritten letter from PB to Kenneth
19 October 1952

Dear Kenneth,

²³³ The original editor inserted "so" here.

²³⁴ After the word "the," a word was crossed out by a repetition of the typed letter "x."

²³⁵ Page 301

I have spent one month in India. The conditions in the South, where I am spending most of my time, are very bad – drought, semi-famine. I have been to the tomb of Maharshee to pay my respects and found the asram in a deplorable condition. Three lawsuits are raging, nearly all the devotees have fled away, and the man who was mostly responsible for barring my access to the Maharshee spent a month in jail, is now out on bail! Well, so karma works its remorseless will.

I plan to go next to Puddukotah²³⁶ State, farther on South, and into the jungles there. Then to Travancore State, meet, a job to do, and if all goes well my original program of leaving here in February may be cut down to departure in December. In that case I'll spend the winter in Europe and still take the ship on which I have a berth to NYC for March.

Evangeline is in Switzerland, but leaves there the end of this month. I do not know where she goes from there but she will join my ship to USA. She seems to be progressing well and fast.

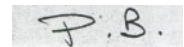
Tomorrow, by steamer mail, registered, I send you a "Last Will and Testament" legalized before a Sub-magistrate here. I typed it out as an interim one, so that a final one can be written out, revised if necessary, by an American lawyer after my return to USA. Read it, let me have your comments, and stow it away in a safe place. Jacques Masson, executor, is in Europe somewhere, so I shall send the duplicate to him later.

It is safe to write me until Christmas to here; after that c/o Grindlay London. My address here c/o American Express, Oriental Bldg. 364 Hornby Rd. Bombay (I).

There are difficulties with food here, which affect my health. The heat too is appalling²³⁷ I'll be glad to get away.

My kindest remembrances to Norma and Herman

Love



P.S.²³⁸ Please do not tell Myron about my dates of return, or place.

(2)²³⁹ Tell Hesper Hutchinson that the magazine has been dropped so she can go ahead and publish her contributions elsewhere. Explain also that the silly "child" story was undoubtedly due to Eva's corpulence and to the flowing clothes (since discarded) she used to wear. There never was a child. Hesper is foolish to pick up and pass on such gossip. These elderly ladies are all jealous of Eva! The young are more tolerant. I shall associate with the latter henceforth, in preference, and where possible.

My mission in India is so far 'successful' in that it is being fulfilled. I'm glad I came but I will be glad when it's done and I am free to leave!

How are you? And please write Karen²⁴⁰ about the 'divorce' being only a possible contingency, which seems unlikely to be realised.

²³⁶ Now called Pudukkottai State. – TJS '19

²³⁷ PB inserted "The heat too is appalling" here.

²³⁸ Postscript written in left margin

²³⁹ Page 305

²⁴⁰ Probably a reference to KTH's mother, PB's first wife. – TJS '19

Letter from PB to Kenneth
c/o THOS. COOK & SON,
via Vittoria Veneto 9, Rome, Italy
Trivandrum, Southwest India
4 January 53

My dear Kenneth,

Your letter November 9, another of September²⁴¹ undated, and your Xmas card: It amuses me to note from them that the revised opening which we worked out at Tucson²⁴² is consistently used by you (and Jim) but almost forgotten by me, although it is so much better. I must make a note of it!

Yes, Ida is with Bernard but he is very difficult. Jacques says he was most abusive about me, although nice to my face when we met. You did not get a reply on your naturalisation from Jacques because he was away in Europe, nor from Diana because she was with him. However they returned about the end of November.

I am particularly glad you have this studio as well as the chance to cook when you want to. I always thought studios are better suited to our type.

About the Last Will I meant to tell you it is an 'interim' one. Intended to protect the near future. One day after my return to the USA I shall get a professional to draw up a better one, but meanwhile this is quite legal although prepared by myself on the basis of the former one. It is necessary for you to know who the general executor is, so read it and see. Also I did not mention Karen for any legacy because I know you will help her and your legacy is intended to include her, but I did not want to say so in writing. I have also told her last year that I shall help her privately, as I have done occasionally, so long as I am here.

What is the 'gestation' you are going thru?

Your Xmas wishes have been realised. The two missions which brought me to India have been finished -- both successfully. I am satisfied. But I was down with fever and also twice with food poisoning. Now I have recovered and am quite well, although it was very serious at one time.

The news from Eva who has been staying in Holland was good. She kept well, and has gained apparently a surrender of the ego which I felt was needed. It is more important than mystic illuminations, although she had these too. She says she is mastering the Speedwriting well too.

I am sure that when you say you need some form of physical exercise, you do! It is absolutely necessary for a sedentary worker. Learn some simple movements but do them regularly. Avoid the violent straining ones.

Hesper has written others retailing the silly gossip she picks up from her voluminous correspondence. Some of it is about my marriage and about me, deleteriously. Just as she wrote you enquiring about the alleged baby (??) she doesn't understand this thing does harm and bespeaks a kind of disloyalty on her

²⁴¹ The original editor inserted "of September" here.

²⁴² "Tucon" in the original.

part, if not doubt. Anyway I have heard enough and decided to drop her from my correspondents and not to see her in NYC. Please give her less and less news about me; she will find out anyway from others but let it not be you. And it might be well to drop a hint to her about the displeasure her gossip to other persons has incurred; I don't know, but leave that to you.

The new book is not selling well in England. The title there and in USA was THE SPIRITUAL CRISIS OF MAN. Don't buy one. I will send the [book on my return]

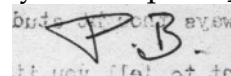
Eva seems to have undergone more understanding about the marriage and wants to make it what it ought to be, what we intended it to be. She feels very happy about it, although guilty about the past treatment of me.

I am leaving India January 16. The change of date lost me the²⁴³ Comet jetliner. But it will be good to go, as my work is done and the risks to health always remain.

I expect to remain in Rome 10 days and move to the country thereafter, spending all February in Italy, and sailing March 1st for New York. The ship arrives mid March. "The Independence." Eva will join me on arrival in Rome. [Do not tell D.F. my nyc arrival date, please.

I hope you will be able to get a week off during my two-month New York City stay, or perhaps later during my summer cottage stay in the Pennsylvania hills, nearer Ohio.

Accept my love & peace]



L40.311

311 - 312

Handwritten letter from PB to Kenneth
On The Sunny Side Of Washington Square Park²⁴⁴
14 Jan {1954²⁴⁵}²⁴⁶

Here is the application filled in, Kenneth--

---except for "Local Place of Business." I don't know how to answer that so perhaps you could, when²⁴⁷ handing in the form, enquire and fill it in with what they want or leave it blank if they permit.

Thanks
Affectionately

²⁴³ Page 309

²⁴⁴ Location printed on letterhead at the bottom of the page.

²⁴⁵ "1953" handwritten and circled in the top right corner of page.

²⁴⁶ If these letters are in sequence, this would have to be 1954. The next letter is from February 1954, so that strengthens the supposition. — TJS '19

²⁴⁷ PB inserted "when" by hand.

PB

- a) Retain the middle portion of blank, as it has instructions on back on opening the box.
- b) Payment to be made quarterly, not annually.
- c) Fill in title of Postmaster, or whatever is required, on this cheque

L40.313

313 - 314
Incomplete letter from PB
Undated

The²⁴⁸ electric razor which you so kindly lent me petered out in England, so I will send it to the makers for repair as soon as I can trace their full address. Or if you have it, please send it to me. As soon as it is repaired, I will post it to you.

Another²⁴⁹ thought which it might be advisable to give you at once is that your body is so sensitive that it registers psychological disturbances and emotional strain very quickly. This is the cause of most of your maladies, I believe. So it is absolutely necessary for you to be on your guard against negative emotions if you are to maintain good health.

About four months ago I sent a letter to Mrs Hutzler from England and I hope she received it, as I did not hear from her since I left the States.

The work in Europe went extremely well and I had a comfortable apartment in the Harley Street area of London. My visit to Czechoslovakia was in some ways the high-light of the whole European visit, for nowhere else did I find such keen, earnest desire to apply the teachings of the Quest to life. However, the political conditions there made me realize that Communism is too evil to be appeased and will eventually have to be fought out.

Please give my kindest regards to Norma and Herman Hutzler.

With my peace and blessing,

P. B.

L40.315

315 - 320
Letter to PB
707 Grafton Avenue
Dayton 6, Ohio

²⁴⁸ "-2-" typed at the top of page.

²⁴⁹ This para is circled, probably by KTH. — TJS '19

1 March 1953

This letter has long been delayed, PB

... because the momentum of events has been carrying me out of the period of gestation to a new peak and on to a new cycle. Now the situation has resolved itself and I can bring you up to date.

Your letter of January 4 was most welcome. I was sorry to learn of your illnesses, but am glad now that you are in good health. One must be careful especially when travelling to and from different climes.

Separately am sending you via sea mail Hesper's letter and my reply. She is in England now and has visited Mother. She also wrote back agreeing briefly with me and then going on to more mundane topics.

I'm just reading the end of your letter where you say you are sailing March 1 for New York. So I'll send this letter to Box 34. You should be there around the 10th, I imagine. No, I won't tell D.F. of your movements. He is working in Washington, D.C. Norma says he is learning his lessons thru his correspondence with her and is coming along well. I am anxious to go over many things with you in person, besides wanting to see you for yourself, so will schedule a week's vacation in April and then take another week later in the year. How would April 11 thru 18 inclusive fit in with your plans? Let me know and I'll make it definite. Where will you be staying? Can you arrange for low cost room accommodation nearby for me? When you move later to Pennsylvania, I could drive up for weekends perhaps.

On my return from a convention in Kansas City, I phoned Marianne Green from Chicago airport. She is quite intuitive and quickly guessed our relationship over the telephone. I was surprised you hadn't told her, as you had suggested meeting her. She also gave me an accurate description of myself by her clairvoyant "inner eye"! Anyway, I enjoyed talking with her and since we have exchanged a couple of letters. I too got a definite "impression" of her and feel that she is quite an advanced person. I'm glad you put us in contact with each other and perhaps one day I shall meet personally.

Now to the crux of my story here: The question of course was, whether or not to leave Dayton, and if so, how to break away from the Hutzlers? My checking on the West Coast showed the agency field to be extremely competitive, and I would undoubtedly lead a hard business life. As you know, I have been working on this for a year without being able to reach a clear cut, final decision.

Then²⁵⁰ a month ago, a business error for which I was responsible gave me the excuse to tender my resignation. It started quite a chain of sequences! First, Herman accepted it, partly because he was furious, and partly because he always calls someone's "bluff." Then Norma asked, if that were my only reason for leaving. I brought up the point about the bourgeois²⁵¹ (?) existence in Dayton, and to my surprise, she was completely objective about the matter. Instead of looking at it from a business angle, she treated it from my viewpoint, and discussed the pros and cons of starting again in a fresh environment. Then she came out into the open and said

²⁵⁰ Page 317

"-page two-" typed at top of page

²⁵¹ "bourgeois" in the original.

her intuition told her I was not yet ready to leave her orbit, that I was placed with her for a definite reason, in fact, that I was top on her list of trainees, and that she had a job to do for me and she took it very seriously. She said, for example, that she had finished her work with Will Harper and knew when to let him go, but she felt it would be wrong to let me go before I was ready.

This led to another discussion with Herman. Again, I was amazed to find him looking at it objectively. He seemed to understand my restlessness here, and talked to me from his own life's experiences. He said he had no objection to my leaving if I felt it to be the right thing and that we would certainly remain friends. The chief point is, that they both seemed to be more concerned with my problems as an individual than with the business. Herman pointed out that the business would go on, that he took these things philosophically.

So, as a result mainly of Norma's statement about my spiritual bondage to her, I told them I would stay on for the time being.

Next developed (seemingly accidental) discussion with Norma. She told me she was proud of the way I had matured in the five years here, that although I might not be able to see the progress myself, that they could. Then she said I was ripe for a further "initiation" with her -- that I had to develop my latent qualities of love. She suggested I love Herman and her and adopt them as a family and feel free to visit their home often and make myself a member of the family. She told me she loved me and that I could benefit from receiving her love just as Herman had done. She compared me to Herman when they were married and pointed out that we were similar in temperament, and that I could overcome my problems through her just as Herman had done. She went on to talk about her life's work of teaching people and without using the words pointed out that I had been given to her as a "chela" and that she could do the job. So, really for the first time, I have come close to her. She admitted she had been working on me thru Herman previously, but now it's all out in the open and we discuss these things freely.

Norma²⁵² feels I should get married, not only for the experience, but for the love it will give me and help to avoid the perils of loneliness. She confesses she once thought of Joannie and I pairing, and says she and Herman would have been delighted, as well as it solving their business problems, but now she realizes that we would not be too well suited, that we would not learn too much from each other.

Then yesterday over at Herman's home, he announced the agency is taking out a \$25,000 insurance policy for me. They pay the premiums (about \$850 a year), and then when I'm 50 I receive \$12000. The policy is mine even though I leave the agency. Should I die the agency receives \$25000, but if I marry then my wife becomes the beneficiary! So it's like a raise, but rather intangible!

So that's the situation. I've learned a lot this past month and am glad these things rose to the surface.

For the time being, then I'm staying here and devoting myself to learning my lessons and mastering my deficiencies and maturing myself. But we can discuss this more easily in person.

²⁵² Page 319

"-page three-" typed at top of page.

It's good to know, however, that should I decide to leave anytime I can do so freely without recriminations from the Hutzlers.

I'm certainly looking forward to seeing you again. Present lessons throw much perspective on past errors.

Many people are awaiting the publishing of the new book here in the spring -- including myself.

For now -- my deepest love to you -- and the hope of an early meeting.

L40.321

321 - 324

Letter from PB to Kenneth
HOTEL Volney
23 EAST 74th STREET
New York 21. N.Y.²⁵³
(phone Butterfield 8-7500)
March 14/53

We landed safely in New York this week Kenneth.

...After nearly a year's absence from your country. I use the word "your" country. I presume but do not know that your Naturalization was complete. Please give me the news upon this point as I am applying for Naturalization and want to complete it this year.

Your letter of March 1st was here and your further letter inclosing Mrs Hutchinson's was found very interesting. I would like to keep it for some time if you do not mind. Your reply to her was a model of practical wisdom and discretion. Thank you.

Reservation has been made for you at:

WINSLOW HOTEL
Madison & 55th Street
New York City
(Plaza 3-6800)

for the week of April 11th through April 18th @ \$3.15 per day. The room will have running water and a wash basin but no bath, so you can take your bath in my apartment. If, however, you prefer a costlier room with a shower it is available and I will change to it for you upon request. [You will be my guest here.]

The problems which you mention are very important and I shall leave them until you arrive for personal discussion.

The new book was published two weeks ago. It appears under the title of THE SPIRITUAL CRISIS OF MAN. My publishers do not yet know that I am here but I intend to see them next week.

Eva asked me to tell you that Ray (Loyola) from Chicago with whom you corresponded some time ago has now got a job in N.Y. and if you wish, and have time, you can meet her. She has also gotten engaged. Eva, herself, is leaving this

²⁵³ This address is printed as the letterhead.

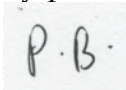
Tuesday for Ashtabula and will return here the 1st of April. Her sister²⁵⁴ has had a nervous breakdown and her mother is somewhat sick. Moreover, she has not seen her family for a year so she is going to try to help them.

I shall have to move from this hotel to another one April 12th, so that should you change your arrival date to later than the 11th, it would be necessary for you to write to Box #34 instead of the Volney.

[It will be a pleasure to pay your fare here, one way for sure, both ways possibly after I learn the cost.

Eva sends her love.

With my peace



P.S. I am writing to Norma very very soon, not having written for a year, for which I am sorry.]

L40.325

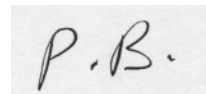
325 - 326

Handwritten note from PB

New York

Sunday

In the letter I sent you yesterday I omitted to mention that a copy of my new book will be sent you, as soon as I get one next week.



L40.327

327 - 328

Handwritten letter from Evangeline to Kenneth

HOTEL Volney

23 EAST 74th STREET

New York 21. N.Y.²⁵⁵

April 1st 1953

Dear Kenneth,

PB tells me that you are planning to come to New York on the 11th of this month. I was very happy to hear this. My friend from Chicago, Rae Batty, is also looking forward to meeting you. PB made a mistake in telling you that she is

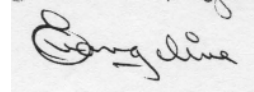
²⁵⁴ Page 323

²⁵⁵ Address is the printed letterhead.

engaged. The only thing she is “engaged” to is her harp which she practices on religiously.

Just how are you coming to New York? We would like to meet you if we knew where and what time you are arriving.

With my kindest regards,



L40.329

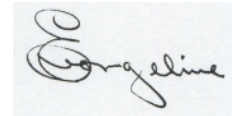
329 - 330

Handwritten letter from Evangeline to Kenneth
HOTEL Volney
23 EAST 74th STREET
New York 21. N.Y.²⁵⁶
Undated

Dear Kenneth-

We were forced to go out apartment hunting this morning as the agents will be closed after mid-day. I'm sorry that we were not able to meet you at the station. You will probably enjoy having a bath & rest now. Would you please come over to the Volney for lunch with us at 1:30? Our apartment is 15B.

Love,



L40.331

331 - 334

Handwritten letter from PB to Kenneth
A Knott Hotel
Hotel Holley
Washington Square West²⁵⁷
New York 11, N.Y.²⁵⁸
Friday {4/10, 17, or 24/1953}²⁵⁹

Kenneth,

if you can help me open up cartons & unpack Saturday and/or Sunday, part

²⁵⁶ Address is the printed letterhead.

²⁵⁷ “Phone 10am” and “8th st. subway {illegibly}” added at top of page likely by KTH.

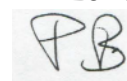
²⁵⁸ This is the address printed on the letterhead.

²⁵⁹ Based on the other letters, I'd guess the 17th. — TJS '19

or fulltime, please phone me Room 709.²⁶⁰

Saturday morning. Will not be home tonight before midnite. If not at 709, I shall have moved into the apartment²⁶¹ which is 16 G.

Love



PS²⁶² I plan to spend much of²⁶³ the weekend getting straight²⁶⁴

L40.335

335 - 338

Letter from PB to Kenneth

Apt 1411²⁶⁵

HOTEL CAMERON

41 WEST 86th STREET

NEW YORK 24, N.Y.²⁶⁶

6 May {1953}

The Allen service was found not satisfactory. They were not cooperative. I cannot recommend them, [Kenneth.]

The cost was \$5 monthly.

If you want another agency I will have enquiries made until a suitable one is located and send you the address. If however you can make use of a c/o P. Brunton, Box 34 address, I could instruct my clearing agent there to mail or hand the letters to you. That would cost you nothing. The disadvantage is that the Box is cleared only twice weekly, whereas an agency forwards letters the same date as received. So let me know which method suits you. I have taken Norma to the publisher, also breakfasted with her and Herman and she had lunch with me.

We have naturally discussed your situation. She considers you have made a mistake in leaving off her training but agrees that you have writing capacity and so could eventually make a living in any field involving it, and so not necessarily in Dayton. However her statements are contradictory, as I could explain when we meet, but she did say that if you admitted to Herman that you had made a mistake in resigning he might reinstate you. She did not know as it would be left to him, that is from the business point of view. For training she is willing to have you back. Herman however does not seem so eager to have you back, is my opinion, but he no

²⁶⁰ After "709," the words "as early as possible" were crossed out by hand.

²⁶¹ Page 333

²⁶² After "PS," the words "Or if you are free come straight here Saturday morning as" were crossed out by hand

²⁶³ PB inserted "much of" by hand.

²⁶⁴ After "straight" the words "should you feel" were crossed out by hand.

²⁶⁵ This apartment number was typed above the letterhead.

²⁶⁶ This address is the printed letterhead.

doubt would if he advised him on his applying to her.

So if you want to change your mind you still have time. I told her and must tell you that it is your decision. She did say they had planned to turn the business over to you in about ten years' time. She thinks you need the business discipline for your character, that the romantic bohemian tendencies of the TV and theater world would strengthen your weaknesses.

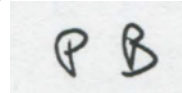
On the point you asked me about, I did ask her whether she would warn a future employer and she said she would still do so. However it would be more a statement of your "psychologic unbalance" which she claims was shown by an aptitude analysis you had made some time ago. But she said it would all be done in great love to you, without vindictiveness, and only if they were asked to give a reference, which she has to give truthfully. But of course with²⁶⁷ all her motherly love to you the end result would be a bad reference and so harmful to you.

It is true that the TV world is neurotic and that is bad for you. But it is possible to take some steps to protect yourself against these weaknesses²⁶⁸ and persons.

In the end you must decide on the twofold basis of (1) what you want most to do congenially (2) what is best for your development. Thus it evens²⁶⁹ out on balance, what you gain or lose by leaving on Dayton.

I advertised for a cottage and had many replies. During the next couple of weeks they will be investigated. So the chances of leaving New York in early or mid June seem good.

[With my peace & love]



PS There was no discussion on mysticism between us and everything was cordial

L40.339

339 - 342

Letter from PB to Kenneth

Apt 1411,²⁷⁰

Hotel Cameron

41 West 86th Street

New York 24, N.Y.²⁷¹

15. May {1953}

The point of the discussion about the possibility of your remaining with the

²⁶⁷ Page 337

²⁶⁸ "weakness" in the original.

²⁶⁹ The original editor inserted "evens" here.

²⁷⁰ "Apt 1411" is handwritten above the letterhead.

²⁷¹ This address is the printed letterhead.

Hutzlers is that they are evidently sufficiently satisfied with you to want you to remain and eventually become a partner, and that they query the wisdom of your decision to leave {and}²⁷² abandon the training you are getting psychologically.

However I must say, Kenneth, that the discussion was more pressed by me than by them, as I wanted to get clear their point of view.

Confidentially I have [by request]²⁷³ now seen the Aptitude test made by the Personnel Laboratory. There is no indication in it of the psychopathic or unstable characteristics complained of. Hence it would appear that this is the personal opinion of Norma, speaking as a psychologist herself. The chart shows some weaknesses of course as all do, but they seem quite ordinary and common. There is no need for you to ask to see it, I can tell you about it when we meet. The favorable indications are more marked.

However I agree with Norma that the discipline got from the business world would be beneficial to you, by comparison with the looseness of the theatrical world. So there is a danger there, in view of your emotionalism etc. But whether that danger is enough to make it necessary for you to alter your decision is something I can't decide easily, it is hard to predict.

My arrangements are now made to depart from NYC on 30th this month. I have rented a cottage for the summer in Connecticut, which looks just like the Harmon one, except that it is smaller, has only one bedroom. But it is more solitary, and not surrounded by neighbours. Moreover it is really in the country and not in a town. We are borrowing a 1939 car to use there and Eva is going to revive her knowledge of driving.

I²⁷⁴ got someone to visit the various Mail Answering Bureaux here and the result is that they recommend the following: CONSOLIDATED BUSINESS SERVICE 542 Fifth Avenue -fee \$5 per month, which includes the reception of phone messages on your behalf, which you can pick up by phoning to their office daily. This is cheap as Allens wanted an extra \$2 1/2 for the phone service²⁷⁵

In both cases you have to pay extra for the postage incurred where you want your letters re-enclosed in another envelope

I must repeat that the Hutzlers were very sweet to me and very nice about you. We did not discuss mysticism.

If you finally decide to leave Dayton, when the time comes I suggest you ask for a written reference "To Whom It May Concern"--not because you need it now but in case you ever needed it in the future. Also because it will test exactly what Norma means when she says she will have to warn future employers. So even if it is unsuitable to show an employer we will have the precise wording for consideration and judgment, for acceptance or rejection.

I do not know the postal address of my cottage yet, so after the 30th if you

²⁷² "and" inserted for readability.

²⁷³ PB inserted "by request" by hand.

²⁷⁴ Page 341

²⁷⁵ After the word "service" the words "ABBOTT BUSINESS SERVICE, 1472 Broadway -fee \$6 per month. I have no information whether this includes phone call reception, but will enquire and let you know in a day or two (unless they close this Saturday)" were crossed out by hand.

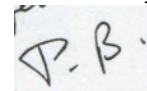
have not received it by then, use my Box 34 address.

I attach a clipping which may be of interest or value to you. I suggest you write them for further details & brochure, anyway.²⁷⁶

Tony Damiani returned from California and came to see me. He is getting his old job back again here, and appears glad to get back. Curiously though, after his return he was offered a good job in Los Angeles!

Eva has been ill but is recovering again.

[With my peace & affection]



L40.343

343 - 346

Handwritten letter from PB to Kenn

Apt 1411²⁷⁷

Hotel Cameron

41 West 86th Street

New York 24, N.Y.²⁷⁸

25 May {1953}

Here is an interest ad, Kenn.

Perhaps, in view of your final decision not to remain in Dayton, this may offer a useful “bridge” to the ultimate T.V. playwriting work you seek. For otherwise you not only take a gambler’s risk in launching unprepared into a wholly new field, but lose out financially during the apprentice period. Whereas, by taking such a post as enclosed you would get a good salary, get experience of the T.V. producing work & make contacts with persons on both²⁷⁹ the business and artistic side of T.V.

Think it over, as a temporary, perhaps 6-18 months, bridge. Meanwhile you would of course still²⁸⁰ continue your studies in play-writing and your actual attempts to write plays, but you would have to do that week-ends & evenings. But your daytime job would also be a gain – of experience actually on the same lines.

I move out of nyc on 30 May. You can write me c/o Box 34, or direct to the cottage:]

c/o W.W. Stirling
WHISCONIER HILL
Brookfield Center,
CONNECTICUT

[-but do not give this address to others. Box 34 is good for them.

With my peace

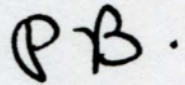
²⁷⁶ There is a check mark next to this paragraph in the left margin.

²⁷⁷ “Apt 1411” handwritten above letterhead.

²⁷⁸ This address is the printed letterhead.

²⁷⁹ PB inserted “both” by hand.

²⁸⁰ Page 345



L40.347

347 - 350
Letter to PB
707 Grafton Avenue
Dayton 6, Ohio
Thursday, 28 May 1953

This letter, PB --

...should reach you just before you move as I'll mail it tomorrow morning special delivery.

I appreciate greatly your letter of May 25 with the information about the TV copywriters job. After careful consideration I have decided against it for the following reasons:

1. I have been doing radio-tv copy work, with my other duties for the past 4 years. I doubt if I could learn very much more about the subject and the practical experience would be worthwhile only if I were to remain on the commercial side of the fence. It's true that I might make some good contacts in the field, but already I have enough contacts to get me started provided I can turn out the right material.

2. I am so firmly committed to the freelance writing plan within myself that to back out now would probably destroy the momentum of my thinking, and perhaps frustrate me in any other undertaking. I do believe I can be successful at writing plays for television, just as I mastered advertising without any previous experience or schoolwork, and I am holding this thought in my mind, a la Peale.²⁸¹ But the longer I wait to try, the more self-doubts will creep in. I know that I have to get to it fast... and do it. If I do have the capacity it will soon show itself, and if I don't, better to find it out sooner than later.

3. You said we usually "find" ourselves around age 30. Well, I am through with working in offices and the business world. Life is too short to compromise; now I am going to do what I want to do, the kind of work and life most compatible to me. One way or the other it will work out.

So, while your idea is no doubt the most practical, I am going to have to be impractical. I am not the type of person who has patience to train for years for what he really wants; I have to go right out after it now.

If the worst comes to pass, I can always get such a copy job in New York after I have failed at the freelance work. I intend to keep up my contact at B.B.D. & O. and see them again in July.

I²⁸² wrote to Consolidated Business Service; and they sent me details of their

²⁸¹ Referring to Norman Vincent Peale of "The Power of Positive Thinking" a life-long influence for KTH. —TJS '19

²⁸² Page 349

letter forwarding service. It costs \$7 a month, not \$5. In addition one has to supply stamped addressed envelopes for the forwarding, to comply with Post Office regulations. Thus, if it would not inconvenience you, I should like to accept your kind offer to use the Box 34 address. I shall give this to the agency and my landlord for forwarding first class mail, but there will be few letters, as I can inform the people with whom I wish to keep in close contact of my current addresses. I presume the Post Office people will not object to another name using your box? Please let me know if this is all right with you.

Thank you for the book on play writing. It is both interesting and useful.

I will take your advice and ask for a reference just before I leave the agency. This will prevent them having much time to think about it.

I have written for details of the T.V. School; although I believe I have enough technical knowledge to suffice. It is the originality and freshness that counts; without these the technique is valueless and with them it is secondary.

I received a wire from Phyllis Kirk on May 14 stating she was sending me scripts and would write from the West Coast that following weekend. I received my synopsis back, together with scripts of 2 tv plays she was in, a few days later. But I have heard nothing further from her. No doubt she is very busy, but I would like to get her professional opinion on my work.

I will write again soon.

All my love and best wishes,

L40.351

351 - 354

Letter from PB to Kenneth
c/o W. Stirling

Whisconier Hill,
Brookfield Center, Connecticut
9 June 53

The move to the country was smoothly made and has proved very beneficial to retreat and work, Kenneth.....

Romaine investigated the Mail Forwarding services and says you could have the full service plus telephone answering for \$5 from the Day Company, thus saving you \$2 a month...Your belief that the firm's name may be omitted is only theoretically correct. I found, with Allens, that so many letters were returned to senders marked, "Not Known" that I had to reinstate their name. The constant change of postmen on the route or their inefficiency may be the cause, but complaints made to the P.O. did not stop the evil. So do not take chances by omitting the Service name. Also, all Services will do the addressing if you supply envelopes; the Consolidated are not giving any special privilege. Their offer to type scripts must surely be a business one, that is, you pay for such work. You would be foolish to believe otherwise. Romaine has offered to type scripts for you

free...However this is a matter for your personal investigation and decision; you may use my Box 34 until you decide if you want to. But of course you would have to put "c/o Paul Brunton" in the address. If you have gone ahead paid fees and printed stationery then of course you can treat the matter as a 3-month experiment.

I have had to postpone until next year my application for US citizenship as I cannot put in 6 months continuous residence in 1 state this year...But it is an auspicious omen,²⁸³ as you say, that you have the promise of yours now.

Eva does not know Batty's present address. She resigned her job and left the city. Eva also considers that B. has changed so considerably recently that her association would be undesirable for you until she changes back! Anyway she has a man interested in her very closely and it's reciprocated.

Ted Spicer is coming to NYC at the end of the month in connection with his cancer cure.--I heard indirectly.

Your attempt to rid yourself of smoking will be much aided by the 24-36hour²⁸⁴ fast. If you practice fasting²⁸⁵ periodically, you will conquer smoking.

If you still wish to follow the request you made to me in NY, to come out to the country for the summer and live in the village near me. I would be glad to have you do so. Please let me know at least 2 weeks in advance of the date you are likely to be ready to move here; I would then advertise in the local weekly newspaper for a bedroom for you. We are however 2 or 3 miles from the nearest village. We have borrowed a station wagon and we hope Eva will qualify for a²⁸⁶ driving licence by the time you come. Still if you can hold on to your car for a few weeks after arrival it might be essential to you. There are no buses here. There is no urgent need to sell your car immediately, I presume.

I particularly want to ask whether you could work for me--say three halfdays weekly--preferably at your home, composing and typing replies to some of my letters. In addition, you would need to put in a couple of hours weekly taking notes of my suggestions concerning these replies. The latter could be combined with your visits to share a meal with us say thrice weekly. I know you need time to work at your plays but I have no one else here competent to write the letters on their own initiative, and if you could do this for two or three months (we have paid the rent here until October 30) I would greatly appreciate your help. The arrears of correspondence is frightening. I need help. Please let me know what you are able to do about this work, so that I may plan accordingly. If you feel that it will interfere with your own plans, kindly feel free to say so. Do not mention anything about it to H or N.²⁸⁷

We have a little cottage here, unfortunately there is no guest room. But the surroundings are very quiet and secluded.

I intend to keep in touch with Phyllis²⁸⁸ Kirk's sister when I visit NY

²⁸³ "oment" in the original.

²⁸⁴ Page 353

²⁸⁵ The original editor inserted "fasting" here.

²⁸⁶ The words "hope to" are typed in a large white space between "a" and "driving."

²⁸⁷ "H or N" refers to Herman or Nora Hutzler. —TJS '19

²⁸⁸ Phyllis Kirk, a television actress of the 50's played Nora in the TV version of the Thin Man; a minor but successful actress in her time; later an activist and publicist. —TJS '19

principally for your benefit!

[With my peace & affection]

P. B.

L40.355

355 - 362

Letter to PB

707 Grafton Avenue

Dayton 6 Ohio

Thursday 11 June 1953

It's good to see, PB²⁸⁹ --

...that you have adopted this style of opening letters. It is both fresh and direct...and avoids the stilted formality of "Dear---"

Your letter of June 9 was most welcome. It will be a real honor to assist you in tackling your correspondence and I gladly accept your invitation. I know I shall benefit from just doing the work and it also provides the opportunity in a small way to repay you for the many things you have done for me and also permits me to share in some constructive work on behalf of my fellow human beings. Although I am only too conscious of my abysmal limitations at least I have gained a greater understanding since the Harmon and Tucson experiences and I shall be joyously willing to be of service to you.

There is no need to go to all the trouble of finding me a room; you have enough to do as it is. Why don't I drive up for a day during my stay in Brooklyn and locate one myself? I would prefer a studio type one-room apartment where I can prepare my own meals as I doubt whether the Brookfield chefs' cuisine is either healthy or appetizing for a vegetarian! I'm sure I shall find a suitable residence, even if it means renting a small cottage myself. Are rents very high in that part of the world?

You are quite right about the car. As my insurance is paid up until December I intend to keep it until I move into New York City in the Fall. Thus it will be useful for transporting baggage to and from Connecticut as well as local commuting. Needless to say, my car is at yours and Eva's disposal anytime. I carry third party insurance so either of you can drive it alone; although my chauffeuring services are always available if required. I shall sell the car later when I settle down in New York City as it won't be needed then. On the contrary I shall probably need the money then!

As²⁹⁰ you state you will remain in Brookfield Center until October 30, I shall plan to remain there also until you leave. Consequently I can also offer you my services in assisting your moving from there; the car carries quite a bit of baggage.

²⁸⁹ This letter contains no periods ending sentences and is typed to match the original.

²⁹⁰ Page 357

"-page two-" typed at top of page.

I leave Dayton on July 2 and drive to Brooklyn arriving there the evening of July 3. I shall be staying with
Mr Sol Glass
301 Oriental Boulevard
Brooklyn 24 New York
Telephone Nightingale 6-2630

An appropriate address, nu? My friend tells me his home faces the Atlantic Ocean so it should be a pleasant location I'll leave there July 13; this gives me a week to take care of my affairs in New York, visiting BBD&O etc. Supposing I drive up to Brookfield Center on July 9 and engage my living quarters?

I wish Romaine had told me about the Day mail forwarding service earlier; but there we are, I shall just have to work harder and make the extra \$2 a month! I have sent my first 3 months check to Consolidated. It is important that I have a firm forwarding address as many people in Dayton want to contact me when they come to New York Also in ordering stationery it is more economical to print up a fair sized quantity; so I may carry Consolidated for a year I can see how it works out at least Incidentally I have invested much thought care and effort into designing and producing my stationery It should be ready next week and when you see it I think you'll agree it is distinctively different and attractive -- as befits an idea man!

After N's tearing down and belittling of my abilities I have been agreeably surprised at the reaction of my clients and business acquaintances to my leaving Dayton Two or three clients are threatening to quit the agency! The owner of a large radio station has stated publicly that Dayton is losing valuable asset The Dayton Advertising Club is organizing a farewell party for me on July 1 One prospect whom I have²⁹¹ been cultivating assiduously declares that he wants no one else to handle his advertising and has asked me to handle it from New York in my spare time! You'll pardon the touch of ego expression here but you can appreciate how these reactions uplifted my browbeaten self confidence!

In addition I have discovered some interesting outside objective opinions of H and this agency which I'll tell you when we meet

So I intend to keep up my contacts in this city; they may prove useful in the entertainment field and may also provide a source of income from part time commercial work

I shall be glad to do anything I can to assist you with your citizenship I'll keep all my papers and notes as they may be useful to you

I am not romantically interested in Batty Probably I am not interested in her at all but NH has dinned into me the necessity for forcing an interest in people and as B was down and out I thought it would be nice to send a note of good cheer Frankly she was much too brilliant a girl for my comfort!

I have been successful in getting the smoking down to a minimum but the week's events have not been conducive to concentrated self control At last I have found out the real trouble with my ears They started bothering me again this week so today I visited a different ear doctor He says it is a fungus like athletes foot; the

²⁹¹ Page 359

“-page three-” typed at top of page.

fungus digs into the pores of the ear and becomes active when brought into contact with water. Thus I shall have to learn to keep water out of my ears -- and after all the effort put into training a boy to wash them! He cleaned them out today and is treating them but the upset to my nervous system by the pain has left me somewhat debilitated. However, I plan another 36 hour fast from Friday night to Sunday morning and will make another effort to rid myself of the smoking habit once and for all. It's about time I conquered this habit and I feel it is important as a demonstration of my renewed inner vows.

I²⁹² certainly appreciate your keeping in touch with Phyllis Kirk's sister. I have heard nothing from PK since the wire she sent me a month ago promising to write in a few days' time! Doubtless this is the Hollywood manner and she is probably busy but I would still like to get her reaction to the synopsis. Perhaps a nudge through her sister would serve as a reminder.

Received a letter from Hesper Hutchinson this week; they returned from Europe a few weeks ago. She asked where you are. I replied you had left New York City some weeks ago and were travelling somewhere and that I did not know your future movements. Bearing in mind that her sister is Eva Le Gallienne, an important figure in the American theater, I was very nice to her and told her about my plans so she may come back with an offer to be of help. One cannot afford to pass up any contacts; they seem to be important in this world.

I quite forgot last time to discuss the literary executorship business with you. I have some questions to discuss when we meet.

Did I tell you that Mother is quite in favor of my change? Naturally she is a little concerned but apparently she believes I have the ability to succeed and has wished me luck. This is fortunate as I had feared some possible negative reactions from her.

Naturally I shall say nothing to anyone about the correspondence work with you.

You notice that I am experimenting with a new punctuation system in this letter, omitting periods between sentences. However I am not too sure about it. It perhaps is too radical a departure from the accepted norm. What do you think?

Well, I hope you and Eva are comfortably situated and are able to catch up on some work. Isn't it amazing how the mundane chores of everyday living cause constant digressions from one's work?

L40.363

363 - 366

Handwritten letter from {PB}²⁹³ to Kenneth
Box 265, Brookfield Center, Connecticut
June 22 {1953}

²⁹² Page 361

"-page four-" typed at top of page.

²⁹³ Author determined from handwriting.

Your acceptance of my proposal concerning the correspondence work is gratifying, Kenneth.

Rooms are scarce in this region. It will be necessary to do a little more than just drive around; as for cottage rents they are very high here. If you will draft an advertisement covering your needs²⁹⁴ and send it to me I will insert it for occupancy from whatever date you {fix}.

We visit New York every two weeks, staying Thursday and Friday nights there. Your proposed visit of July 9 would be a Thursday when we would be there. It would be necessary to come here before then or on Saturday when we return late in the morning or any other day thereafter²⁹⁵ We go by train, finishing and starting by car to the nearest station – Danbury.

You can get a box in the local post office like mine above for 14 cents a month. Letters posted in NY City late at night are available for pickup next morning here. This is quicker service than using the Consolidated, which means a 2 day minimum for transmission

Congratulations for the effort against smoking; fasting is a great help.

Dan wrote from California (I had asked him to speak about it) that Phyllis Kirk had your name first for writing to; she has been very busy with new offers.

Yes contacts are very important—not only in the business²⁹⁶ but also in the spiritual worlds.

The new punctuation you are trying is a mistaken experiment. It will rouse resentment and opposition—why endure negative criticism unnecessarily?

Ted Spicer was on the Coast: I saw him for an hour. Romaine would type your scripts while she is freelancing. I see no reason why it need not be done. Her fee would be less than the agency's.

Eva was shocked at the bad condition of your feet. It contributes to the trouble you have had with them. Care of them is very important—as the rest of the body is affected. Keep them clean, wear loose shoes, but I'll tell you more when we meet.

There is no phone here. Telegrams will take as long as a letter posted in nyc as they are posted by mail from Danbury, unless you prepay taxi and messenger cost in advance!

Of course I could meet you in New York July 9 or 10, if you wished but it would be better if you came here on 6th, 7th, or 8th. I shall be staying at the Wesselman apartment, 965 Fifth Avenue, phone Regent 4-7174, from 11am Thursday July 9 until 8 am Saturday July 11th—but of course I shall be out much of the time.

L40.367

367 - 368

Form letter from Paul Brunton

P. O. Box 34

²⁹⁴ PB inserted "covering your needs" by hand.

²⁹⁵ PB inserted "or any other day thereafter" by hand.

²⁹⁶ Page 365

Cooper Station
New York 3, N. Y., U.S. A.

For²⁹⁷ some time past Dr Brunton regrets that he has found it impossible to enter into the physical labor of sending early written replies to letters. Moreover he has no home, and is constantly travelling in different parts of the world, which prevents the proper handling of correspondence. Most of his time is required by mystical and philosophic research as well as literary writing.

He read your letter attentively and, in thought, answered it immediately.

He hopes you will pardon his apparent delay in answering you. He assures you of his good wishes for your inner welfare.

L40.369

369 - 370
Form letter
Box 339
Times Square Station
New York 36, N. Y. U.S.A.

Dear Friend:

Dr Paul Brunton has gone abroad. He will be travelling extensively in distant areas for an indefinite period. It is difficult to reach him with mail but an endeavour will be made from time to time. He will not ordinarily be in a position to send written replies as he has withdrawn into semi-retirement, but eventually he will read your letter and attend to it mentally anyway.

With all good thoughts,
MAIL SECRETARY to Dr Brunton

L40.371

371 - 374
Letter to PB

This is in way of a business letter, PB --

... and to ask your advice in a general way. Saturday I received a letter from an advertising agency in Dayton. It was formed a year ago, by two account executives from other agencies. They offered me a job as account executive. This, I believe was suggested by one of my old accounts, Jack Davis, whom they now handle. I wrote back promptly, thanking them, but turning it down.

Tonight I had a phone call from Dayton, from an old friend, vice-president of a radio station there. On behalf of this Jack Davis, he made me an offer to set up my own agency in Dayton. Jack would supply $\frac{1}{2}$ of the capital, he would supply $\frac{1}{2}$,

²⁹⁷ This entire letter is crossed out by a big handwritten X.

both as silent partners. I would run the agency, draw a salary as President, and the net profits would be divided three ways.

This Jack Davis is a genuinely nice fellow, a churchgoer, and a millionaire. We handled four of his companies when I was with Herman. He owns a large coal company, a heating company, an oil company, and is half-owner of an auto dealership, a large modern furniture store, and half-a-dozen other companies. He is a leading civic figure. I know he always thought highly of me, and was really sorry when I left Dayton. Apparently he has not been satisfied with his way his advertising has been handled since I left. He spends \$250,000 a year on advertising for his various companies. (This compares with \$150,000 for Herman's largest account. It means an income of \$37,000 to the agency handling them.)

He would put other accounts to my agency, and the radio man would also steer accounts in. There is no doubt that a nice profitable income could be made.

They know about my contract with Herman, and asked me to send it to them for his lawyers to examine. He questions its legality. This I did tonight, having expressed my interest in their proposal. [Dan thought it would be difficult to break the legality of your contract]²⁹⁸

Of course, many things would have to be ironed out. I would want legal contracts, absolving me from legal liability in the event of any trouble with Herman, and definite sphere of partnership activities. But, as I would not have to invest any money, and would draw a salary, plus profit-sharing, it seems an attractive offer.

More²⁹⁹ important, perhaps, it would give the chance to realize an ambition to run my own business, [not worth the game in this country. Make money, get ulcers, die at 50. Hawaii much better!]³⁰⁰ and utilize my abilities to the utmost. Even though it would last only five years (until the blow-up), it might be worth while developing my administrative and executive qualities during that time.

My personal problem, of course, is the reaction of the Hutzlers. I don't think Herman would mind [He would],³⁰¹ as he would recall his own ambitions and the way he started. But Mrs H. would think it presumptuous, etc. [Yes, she would ask me to stop you.]³⁰² Even that would not seriously interfere with me, as I would not have to have any contact with her. But, would it reflect on you, in view of your relationship with her?[Yes it would]³⁰³ If you are breaking with her, it would not matter possibly. But I would not wish to be instrumental in bringing down her viperfish calumny upon your reputation.

[You have a moral obligation not to compete with Herman for a few years]³⁰⁴
Although this negotiation is in the earliest stages, and many things would

²⁹⁸ PB inserted "Dan thought it would be difficult to break the legality of your contract" by hand in response.

²⁹⁹ Page 373

"-page two-" typed at top of page.

³⁰⁰ PB inserted " not worth the game in this country. Make money, get ulcers, die at 50. Hawaii much better!" by hand in response.

³⁰¹ PB inserted "He would" by hand in response.

³⁰² PB inserted "Yes, she would ask me to stop you." by hand in response.

³⁰³ PB inserted "Yes it would" by hand in response.

³⁰⁴ PB inserted "You have a moral obligation not to compete with Herman for a few years."

have to be settled before a final agreement, there's no point in carrying it too far if there is any danger of her reacting adversely upon you. Maybe there are under-surface movements here that I am unaware of.

If³⁰⁵ you see no objection that I'd carry along with the negotiations, as I would certainly welcome the opportunity to be a leader and have my own show and put my ideas into practice.

If you have time to scribble your reaction, I'd appreciate it. I don't expect a definite decision to be made for me; I realize I have to stand on my own feet. But, in view of the peculiar situation involved, I would not wish to do anything that might reflect upon your work.

L40.375

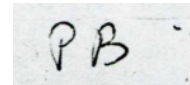
375 - 376

Handwritten letter from PB to Kenneth

Kenneth!

Please mail enclosed to bear local postmark.

Thanks

A small rectangular photograph showing the handwritten initials "PB" in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

L40.377

377 - 378

Letter from Kenneth T. Hurst³⁰⁶ to Dan
542 avenue new york 36, n.y. vanderbilt 6-3889³⁰⁷
Connecticut, September 28, 1953

Your letters are always enjoyed, Dan...

and that of August 30 no exception. Since then I understand PB has received a letter from you.

It may be that you are now undergoing the throes of a crisis of some kind, although you do not go into detail.

It seems to me that crisis, together with their accompanying complications, are no strangers to us who journey on the precarious road. Life without friction provides little advancement! And once recall a certain dear friend telling me he some years ago that he welcomed all the pain he could bear if it would speed up his Karmic fulfilment and advance his spiritual development!

Further reflection on this subject, brother Dan, compels me to the conclusion,

³⁰⁵ PB changed "If you" to "That's why I," crossed out "no" and added a period, making the sentence read "That's why I see objection."

³⁰⁶ Author determined from letterhead.

³⁰⁷ This address is the printed letterhead.

regrettable though it may seem on the surface, than any smooth sailing in our lives can be only the calm before the storm. But I suppose it must be such if we are to condense centuries of experience into a few lifetimes. Well, we can't dispute the fact that this is still the best path for us: is it not better to undergo a brief period of pain at the dentist's than to suffer the lingering, drawn out agony of a bad tooth?

However black and threatening the clouds of life seem to gather around us, we have the solid consolation of knowing it is all for our spiritual benefit, that by bearing bravely on the one hand and learning our lessons on the other, we can both modify future bed Karma and hasten our inner development.

L40.379

379 - 380

Letter from Daniel to Kenny
M. DANIEL FRANTZ³⁰⁸
10346 Wilkins St. L.A. 24
November 28, 1953

It's great to be writing you again, [Kenny]

and pleasant to be in the lull that succeeds another upheaval. The office has been through another of those scarifying crescendos of happenings which I should be unfitted to endure were it not for the earlier and fortifying periods of like nature. As it was, the end of the present series and the last of my endurance emerged together. Now, however, after some fasting, some rest and some time something of the Phoenix quality asserts itself and the road goes on, another plateau until the next hills. Yet there seem to be some quite solid benefits in a professional sense. But of these more in some later composition.

Now there is the mood of a glorious sunset, through which I drove to my present lodgings and the less evanescent response to the magnificently written preface of PB to *The Quest of the Overself*. It is more stirring today than when I first read it as the start on the cycle that first drew me to Hollywood in 1938. Today I have bought the book to give to Mike that he may in turn absorb something of its wonder, and its splendour, to free something of the understanding he seeks to convey to another. Another generation, on an ageless road now winding through the agonizing birthpains of the "nobler epoch" that holds hope in a dreadful present. True, only the surface is so forbidding but it is on the surface that we exist, as a race, unable to rise above it and unable to sink below it. Yet even this aspect of our situation is but a factor in the divine equation so why writhe in sorrow over what needs no such emotional posturing.

L40.381

381 - 382

³⁰⁸ Name printed on letterhead.

Letter from Daniel³⁰⁹ to Kenny
10346 Wilkins St. LA 24
December 13, 1953

I am just beginning a short fast, Kenny...

which gives me a happy opportunity to respond to your last letter. Moreover, I am leading a somewhat arduous existence so first things first and this missive gets underway before the crush of tomorrows distractions.

Thank you for the generous remarks about style. Maybe someday it will be enough improved to be useful for something more creative than has yet been achieved. Until then it is a privilege to write whatever I can wherever I may. And in this connection maybe it will as well to just confine our attention to making money in some immediately available way. Before this cycle ends I should think we could make good use of any funds so acquired. And afterwards, if not the leisure we shall at least have the freedom to express what may very well be much more useful then.. Sometimes I wonder if most of any inspirational writing today is not lost amid the increasing hysteria and the widening frenzy.

Meanwhile, there must be something deeply satisfying about going on to the next stage of a career in which one has been schooled at Life's benches. And it could easily be that what you sought to express before may find a readier and a more significant outlet. After all it is advertising that today reaches the mass state of mind. What yesterday trickled down slowly from the small literate layer of book readers and play goers today spills forth from every radio and television set. The dilutions that befell inspiration in the past, as it seeped from above, translated by the personal attitude of the cultivated few, were probably considerably more than any swaddling that goes on today in commercial media.

L40.383

383 - 384
Letter from PB to Kenneth
4 Powder Horn Hill
Wilton, Conn.
February 10th. 1954

We will be arriving at the Gramercy Park Hotel [(phone: GR 5-4320)]³¹⁰ at 10:45 a.m. Friday, Feb. 12th., Kenneth, but will stay in³¹¹ only for a half hour. Will please leave a phone message there for me or better still telephone me there between 10:45 [a.m.]³¹² and 11:15 [a.m. Friday]³¹³

³⁰⁹ "M Daniel Frantz" printed on letterhead.

³¹⁰ PB inserted "(phone: GR 5-4320)" by hand.

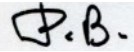
³¹¹ PB changed "there" to "IN" by hand.

³¹² PB inserted "a.m." by hand.

³¹³ PB inserted "a.m. Friday" by hand.

Could you³¹⁴ let me know at that time if you will be free to have lunch with me on the following day [(Saturday)?]³¹⁵ If you don't reach me on Friday I [may]³¹⁶ be in the hotel only until 9:30 a.m. [on the two following mornings, so]³¹⁷ if you cannot meet me on Saturday [or phone me Friday perhaps you can]³¹⁸ get in touch with [me then to]³¹⁹ set another time.

[With my peace & affection



P.S. I plan to move into New York City between February 24 to 26:]

L40.385

385 - 386

Letter from Kenneth to PB

June 24, 1954

Your postcard from the White House, PB –

Was warmly received. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. Did you get the letter I sent c/o Professor Wood?

Enclosed is a letter from Truman ...³²⁰ and³²¹ enlighten me. I recognize the truth of 80% of what you write, and am irresistibly drawn toward it. The remainder is above my immediate periphery of understanding, and so I pass over it. And, during the day, the thought of the World Mind and the Mind beyond it, and their deputy on earth, my Overself, is a dignifying and consoling one.

I do not concern myself with attempting an intellectual comprehension of those mysteries which are not essential to my present development. And I'm smart enough now to realise the dangers of the intellect, and to steer clear of the shoals of ego-mindedness. What I am trying to do is awaken and further that sense of inner awareness of That, and to nurture it as a part of daily living until it becomes an anchor to steady oneself among the seas of emotion. And with the awakening comes the reverence and gratitude.

L40.387

387 - 390

Letter from PB to Kenneth

³¹⁴ PB changed "You could" to "Could you."

³¹⁵ PB inserted "(Saturday)?" by hand.

³¹⁶ PB changed "shall" to "may" by hand.

³¹⁷ PB changed "everyday" to "on the following mornings, so" by hand.

³¹⁸ PB changed "then we can" to "or phone me Friday perhaps you can" by hand.

³¹⁹ PB changed "one another we can" to "me then to" by hand.

³²⁰ The rest of the page is cut off below this line.

³²¹ Page 386

Dr Paul Brunton C/O J.V. Masson,
2534 Park Oak Dr, Hollywood 28 Calif.
July 16th. 1954

Your letters of June 7th, 24th, 25, and July 3rd. --Kenneth...

were duly received which includes the one you sent c/o Prof. Wood.

I am sending you with this, your posture talk and printed instruction for the use of the Ampro recorder, and a key to the black trunk.

On June 28th, I sent you a package containing two spools of tape for this recorder.

Please note that one of the suitcases in which you took some of my personal effects was of the expanding type which leaves some open space from the hinged side and possibly other sides. One such case which I had left behind in Calif. proved on opening to have had several moth visitors who completely ruined the clothing which it contained. Therefore, will you please rearrange the cases so that suits of clothes also flannel and woolen shirts, drawers, and socks are put into suitcases with tightly fitting lids. The other cases can be used for cotton wear since moths do not eat cotton and if there is any further space left use it for other articles.

Will you also please procure some extra moth nuggets or balls to put into the cases containing woolen garments so as to give any possible intruders a particularly warm reception, as this is the egg hatching season.

Will you please send me by parcel post one cotton seersucker jacket and trousers, light-grey colour for use in hottest weather and one light weight woolen jacket and trousers for use in cooler weather. I do not want the heavy woolen suit as it does not get so cold here.

Please also send one pair of cotton, thin and light-weight, pajamas. The lightest you can find.

The morning we left New York for Washington, we handed some packages over to Tony some for storage and one for mailing. One for storage contained books and magazines and the one for mailing on to California contained some soiled laundry to be sent to the laundry on arrival here, together with a number of odd, small, non-clothing items of miscellaneous variety. We asked Tony to mail the carton to us, as we had not the time to finish packing it. Apparently, from what you write he delivered these packages to you and since the carton containing the soiled laundry etc. has not been delivered³²² here, he probably forgot to tell you that it was to be dispatched to California. Would you please pack this one carton only and send it here as soon as possible. Please address it to Eva's sister:

MRS MERCEDES DALRYMPLE

1808 Oceanpark Blvd. (Apt. D)

SANTA MONICA, CALIF.

The Masson address is good only until August 10th. for letters. If after that date you have not received my new address you should use Box 34.

I am beginning to recognize at sight your style of ad writing and layout. The Cherner was so recognized by me. It is certainly good mail order copy and

attractively designed.

I want to send Mrs Liebeskind the desired photo, but have not in my possession her address. Will you please send it to me?

Yes, go³²³ ahead and contact if you can the publishers called Jaico. I have been wanting to do this for a year now, but lack their address.

I have seen Dan a couple of times already and he seems improved in character and more subdued in ego. He has an attractive office in Los Angeles, and a nice apartment in Hollywood.

The St. George material is new to me. It was remarkably like some material I received in German some years ago. Almost a word for word translation.

Your offer to send the booklets later is accepted.

The shaving creme from Curtis is to be stored as I shall not need it until my return to New York.

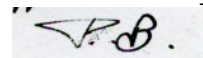
All the printed material which will be mostly magazines and some books that you will receive from Romaine during my absence should be stored in a carton separately from that which I had left with you before departure, as I shall want it handed over to me on my return for examination.

I saw Bernard and Ida and made them promise to return to vegetarianism, and which promise they have kept so far.

This Connecticut-New York phase of our contact has been more fruitful for you than you seem to acknowledge. Anyway, I personally am satisfied with the result. I am very pleased that you have gone so far. Of course there is always a lot of climbing left to be done.

I found Louisiana depressing, New Orleans morally backward and the possibility of establishing a school of philosophy on Prof. Wood's estate quite unacceptable in such a torrid climate.

[With peace and affection]



3 Enclosures:

L40.391

391 - 392

Letter from PB to Kenneth

P.O. Box 38,524, Vine Station, Hollywood 38, Cal.

SEP 10 1954³²⁴

Please send the India book to Jaico, Kenneth.....

by air mail, not by air freight. Ask them to return the book, if rejected, by the cheapest route, that is book post, steamer.

If after inspection of the book they wish to discuss terms, inform me as I will have to consult both Riders and Duttons. Ask them what territories their sales

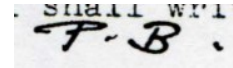
³²³ "to" in the original.

³²⁴ Postmarked date.

would be in, that is, if in India, America and England, as [a]³²⁵ separate contract would have to be negotiated for America.³²⁶

Yes, try Secret Egypt with other³²⁷ Pocket Book publishers also if you have a copy.

Please do not enter into any close friendship with Cosmo. Wait until you hear from me with reference to this and several other matters I shall write you about very soon.



L40.393

393 - 400

Letter from PB to Kenneth

Apt. C, 2103 Third Street, Santa Monica, Calif.

October 6, 1954

Concerning the book which you sent to Jaico, Bombay, Kenneth....

I ought to have told you that I do not know the policy of Riders and Duttons toward these cheap editions. At one time Riders were hostile to them but they may have changed now. Anyway, if interest is shown by a pocket edition publisher, you will have to refer them to me and I will have to consult them.

This will confirm that my mail address at Vine Station has been cancelled and is now the same as the new residential address above. The cause of the change was excessive smog in Hollywood. I am now living on the coast with a lovely view of the ocean itself, which I know would have made you happy [to see].³²⁸

I wrote to Norma a week ago about her manuscript and after a delay of three months since receiving her enquiry. She sent her best regards to you at that time. She pressed me about the matter of getting a revision and I suggested Stacy as the most suitable person, or a local college professor as an alternative. And said that although you were capable, you were too busy so back me up should she inquire.

Romaine has returned to New York and has some printed matter to turn over to you at your convenience. I told her the material should accumulate with her and be delivered to you about once every two months thinking that you may not want to be troubled by having to see her oftener as she is rather difficult but loyal.

I have seen Dan several times and he is very sorry to have missed you.

Delighted that you have at last received enlightenment [on "Christ Within"].³²⁹ Your interpretation of the Trinity is equally correct. Glory Hallelujah!...Thank you for noting the errors in the "Spiritual Crisis."³³⁰

³²⁵ PB inserted "a" by hand.

³²⁶ The original editor crossed out "alone" by hand after "America" here.

³²⁷ The original editor inserted "other" here.

³²⁸ PB inserted "to see" by hand.

³²⁹ PB inserted "on "Christ Within"" by hand.

³³⁰ "(Over)" typed at the bottom of page.

I³³¹ am sorry to have to mention this but I learned from Romaine when she was here that she has tried to arrange a friendship between you and Cosmo -- by which I do not mean the Archbishop of Canterbury³³² -- I know him and like him but at the same time consider that an association would be unhealthy for you and might in plain English bring you bad luck. He is surrounded by failure vibrations entirely of his own making since he has spent his life trying to avoid jobs and succeeding in doing so at the expense of the U.S. government. You yourself had a long stretch of unemployment last year through no fault of your own, and now that you have started a career with one of the finest publishing firms in this country, you should do nothing to imperil it. Certainly nothing so unnecessary as a friendship with C. It can do you no good and may entangle your karma with his which you cannot afford at your age.

May I also suggest that you do not repeat the experiment of giving blood to the Red Cross, as you have not the type of body for such a loss.

Thank you for the parcel containing my clothes which was safely received.

The photograph for Mrs Liebeskind is going out in the same mail as this but by train.

I am somewhat amused by the old gentleman who considered Brunton's books the best introduction to reading Steiner. I always thought that it was the other way around.

Under separate cover I return the three booklets which you sent me, entitled "The Hours of Meditation," "As a Man Thinketh" and "The Seven Sacraments." They are not publications of Faith House. I know them well so they must belong to a lending library operated by F.H. It was only the actual messages issued by F.H. that I wanted to see. This teaching seems to be not very literate; it seems to be religio-mystico and will no doubt do good among those on that level but it has little for those on a higher level.

When³³³ next you are in touch with Hesper, please correct an error into which she has fallen and may spread by correspondence among my British friends. I had to write her about some matter and mentioned that after my travels in the South I had settled in California. The word "settle" was used in a purely relative sense meaning that I was resting for a few months after being constantly on the move. She seems to have jumped to the conclusion that I have settled down for the rest of my life permanently in California which is a gross error. I am still a gypsy.

If you, Tony, and any other of your friends want to meet an Indian guru, one has just arrived in N.Y. City and will be staying there for just two or three days more. He is Swami Ramdas. If interested, you could ascertain where he is residing by telephoning his local representative, Mr and Mrs John Hayward, corner of East 86th and 5th Avenue. See phone book. He teaches the paths of Bhakti and Mantram Yoga. He is a good man and radiates love.

I must acknowledge receipt of the post office money orders which you sent in

³³¹ Page 395

"2." typed at top of page.

³³² William Cosmo Gordon Lang -- TJS '19

³³³ Page 397

"3." typed at top of page.

August repaying half the loan I made you when you were out of work last year. I note that you are going to pay off the balance next month. When you do so, please send me a brief note on separate paper stating that it is in repayment of the loan made to you in 1953 and stating the amount [(400)].³³⁴ I may possibly need this for my tax records. Thank you for your promptness in making this repayment and I was very glad to have had the opportunity of helping you materially in return for all the material help you have done for me.

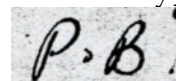
My phone number here is EXbrook 9-8763 for your records.

You may be amused to hear that the old matter of starting a Quest Magazine has suddenly reincarnated again. No action will be taken in the near future, but Bernard has become enthusiastic and pressed me on the matter so I am allowing him to collect information and make³³⁵ contacts.³³⁶ So if you have any suggestions during the next twelve months, you might send them to him or to me.

Isn't it cheaper to send a Cashier's Check in November from a bank than a post office money order? For such a sum?

[You say \$255 is still owing me. Please deduct \$55 & send straight \$200.³³⁷ I am happy to make a little gift. I can wait longer if needed.

With all my peace & blessing
Affectionately]



L40.401

401 - 402

Letter from PB to Kenneth

2103 Third Street

Santa Monica, California³³⁸

November 26, 1954

Dec. 1st I have the above address, Kenneth...

And my new address and residence will be c/o Masson, 838 Mokulua Drive, Lanikai, Hawaii.

I have to write you about a number of things and some important news but may not have the time to do so until after my arrival in Hawaii.

So I will just deal with the urgent query you sent in today: I discussed the Dayton offer with Dan at our Thanksgiving dinner together last night.

We both agree that you would be better advised not to accept but to stay out if it altogether.

With my peace and love

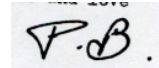
³³⁴ PB inserted "(400)" by hand.

³³⁵ "(over)" typed at bottom of page.

³³⁶ Page 399

³³⁷ \$855 in 1954 = approximately \$9,000 in 2009. — TJS '19

³³⁸ Address is printed on the letterhead.

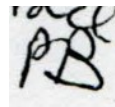


L40.403

403 - 404

Incomplete letter from PB

I spent Thanksgiving with the Hutchinsons in Conn. Had very nice time; they make me quite at home. They both send warmest remembrances to you [tell them warmly {illegible}]. She told me that Clifton, the Buddhist, is staying in Japan; he prefers it to the crass materialism of the West! [I'm very interested in any details he sent as more Japs here than any other race]³³⁹



L40.405

405 - 408

Letter from PB to Kenneth
838 Mokulua Drive
Lanikai [Oahu]³⁴⁰ Hawaii
Dec 12.54

I have your reports, Kenneth...

on your meeting with Ramdas, the Ramanashram excerpts from S.I. (which were made with my permission many years ago!) the Magazine circular etc.

The "Parents Book for Expectant Mothers" circular is excellent. But since constructive criticism is more useful than praise, here are 2 points: "a million questions+" --exaggerated! "pretty baffling" --too slangy: pretty is meaningless here. These are trivial comments but I give them to illustrate a defect which I found in all your work. Perhaps my semantic training makes me over-purist.

The Marshall circular is even better, perhaps because you warmed up more to the subject!

Yes I received all the money orders in full. But I wish you had accepted the \$55. So it is going out to you as a Christmas present --enclosed.

I have been in correspondence with Gensoh; it was not important, however, and she moved on the same week to Denver, where she is. I saw Ramdas in Los Angeles... I have asked Romaine to store all material in her new apartment, where she has space, as I dislike the thought of her using the transfers as an excuse for

³³⁹ PB inserted "I'm very interested in any details he sent as more Japs here than any other race" by hand and connected it to the word "Japan" in the previous sentence.

³⁴⁰ PB noted "there is now no need to use "c/o J.V. MASSON" in address, and also noted to add "OAHU" to address as seen here.

bothering you with meetings.

Thanks for the Faith House and Cultist circulars, but please do not trouble to send me more of this kind of 'literature.' A little goes a long way. I must hold on to my brains and reading these things deteriorates them.

Love-Wisdom³⁴¹ has not sent anything because I failed to renew subscription. You might send him a dollar [added to money order sent herewith] and backdate to the September issue which we have not received. He won his case with U.S. Govt so is still free. He is always amusing enough to read.

If Faith Farm offers cheap vegetarian week ends you³⁴² could try it once and see for yourself. The estate is spacious and you might get away but if you have to waste time and energy talking to them, it would spoil the week end.

No news from Jaico, Bombay, I suppose. Why not send a reminder? The copy we sent I also do not remember whose it was but believe it was mine. The record is in Los Angeles.

No, please, I don't want to try Duttons or Riders with promotion schemes, re Egypt or any other book, not even the next book. They have their own publicity depts., too.

Bernard has been unable to do anything with the magazine owing to Xmas trade, so we have to await my return to the mainland. There is no hurry, anyway. But I gathered a lot of data myself before leaving L.A. and it tends to a 24 page 9 x7, set up on a typewriter with Executive (printfaced) type, justified margin, and reproduced by the Multilithing process at a printery. Anyway your ideas meanwhile will be considered.

Is your room no at the office, #20?

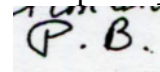
I enclosing a copy of the paragraphs in a letter I sent this week to Romaine, to save limited time. It's about my marriage to Evangeline. Whatever your reactions, there won't be any more marriages! I haven't told Hesper as I haven't the time to write to everyone. But if you see her again before she leaves for Europe, please explain carefully. Also tell Tony.

Here in Hawaii I find the ideal climate. California's has deteriorated greatly. Also the atmosphere is more suited to my personal meditation and writing work than any place in the States. I live 25 miles from Honolulu, in a quiet place. Am building up the body by long morning walks, barefoot in the sands.

I expect to see you in New York in April, not March, as I am benefiting so much here. It would be a wonderful place in normal times but of course will be a bomb target in war, with huge naval bases here.

[May the coming year place your feet more firmly than ever on the Path!

With affection and peace]



³⁴¹ "Lovewisdom" in the original.

³⁴² Page 407