

D. S. GILBERT
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June 17th.

Fr. André;
c/o Mystic Brotherhood Univ.
Tampa, Florida.

Beloved Mentor;

I received your most welcome letter of March dating, and have noted well the contents thereof, but there is only one matter contained therein, of which I shall comment at this time;

The matter of the book "Mankind United", which Mrs. Gilbert sent to you in October; She didn't insure it, and the exact date is therefore a matter of conjecture. The only thing I'm sorry about is that you didn't get a chance to read it and make comments on it, and the philosophy it contained. I would have written sooner had I been very much concerned about its loss to us, and I can only reiterate that I'm sorry that you didn't see it and read it.

I believe that I mentioned in my last letter, something about Mrs. Gilbert having become enamored of another movement that is manifesting considerable activity all over the country-- I have reference to the Ballards "I AM" activity. It is about that manifestation that I am most concerned at this time.

I have read the books of Godfre Ray King--Ballard's pen name--"Unveiled Mysteries", and "Magic Presence", and part of the "I AM Discourses". In these books Mr Ballard recounts many experiences, and encounters, with "Ascended Masters", most prominent of which is "Saint Germain"; These experiences are purportedly true, or actual happenings. I also attended several of their meetings, and tried hard to assimilate the magnificent claims made to substantiate the true status allegedly established by "Saint Germain", for them.

Maybe I don't know my A?B,C's, yet; Maybe I'm all haywire, but my reason has balked at the whole program of theirs, and naturally I have been trying to set up an answer to the persistent, Why? That clamors for satisfaction. In the first place, and regarding their claim to be THE accredited Messengers, of this host of "Ascended Masters", even including Jesus, (as I endorse them personally); If they had made claim to being Accredited Messengers, I omitted the definite article establishing them as the only messengers, I would have stepped beyond that objection, but would have bumped into a host of others equally as pertinent, and objectionable. I am satisfied that there is a striking similarity in the themes used by Mr. Ballard, in his books, and some others that I have read; Incidents have been outlined almost verbatim, but intertwined with new fabrics, which are more modern in their manufacture. A suitable illustration might be thusly described; Same skeleton, or framework, but draped with newer clothes and appointments, for convenience. The knowledge of Astronomy displayed by an "Ascended Master", according to Mr. Ballard, is atrocious, and might well fit into some "Arabian Nights" tale. And as for the bulk of their work, there are so many contradictions and inconsistencies, that they are plainly apparent, I shall not burden you with more.

However, what I am interested in; Is there nothing that can be done to stem the tide of apparent popular acclaim that seems to be drawing students into that movement, thereby abandoning the more solid and unerring teachings of Occultism as expounded by The Brotherhood? It seems a pity that the desire for information concerning Occultism should receive such a setback at the hands of imposters, for imposters they surely must be when their propaganda displays such an utter disregard for facts, and relies upon gullibility for its maintenance, as well as dramatics for its appeal.

I bear in mind the admonition "Who am I that I am called upon to pass judgement upon others", yet I cannot help but pour out my misgivings, and seek advice from a source that I can rely upon. And it is the spectacular dramatization of basic tenets of this respected source that seems to me to be crying for proper respect, and recognition.

Then, again one might say; "Don't pay any attention to them; Ignore their presence and activities," "Truth will be sustained in the long run" cannot as there is an exacting problem interposed here in the present. It is not easily created an insurmountable barrier, and established as to prevent any eastru... progress, or... on any

Therefore, my problem of necessity resolves itself into; What shall that tactic follow in order to check the threatening consequences, still retain my self-respect, and freedom of thinking? Has my thinking and reasoning led me astray? It seems that the more I sacrifice the Idealisms constructed from the sum total of thinking and reasoning efforts, in an endeavor to maintain harmony, the more involved are the imposed problems that follow.

It would be unethical, and unfair to burden you with a lengthy narration of instances illustrating the foregoing statements, but I cannot refrain from relating this one.

When Mrs. Gilbert and I entered the lists, as a unit, and became students of The Mystic Brotherhood University, it was with the best intentions to maintain that status; And seemed in perfect alignment with the desire for establishing more complete harmony of interests. It was not long, however, until study periods got out of adjustment, and I fell behind. And when Mrs. Gilbert moved to Santa Cruz to cook for the U.X.A. saw mill crew, and taking the boys with her necessitated my taking over the baking and distributing of our products that put me hopelessly out of the class. I promised myself to resume the study at a favorable time, but which has failed to materialize, owing to arising complications. But again I promised myself to subscribe for ~~myself~~ the lessons on my separate account, only to be thwarted by circumstances, to date. She having followed the lessons diligently, assumes to know all about the subjects pertaining to Occult activities; Which I have no incentive to dispute, or didn't have until this switch to the Ballard's spectacular and ambiguous display of, to me at least, pretentious skull-duggery.

There is yet another angle to consider; It might be suggested that some good is being generated by this dramatic and spectacular outburst of the Ballards. And I must confess that there is some liklihood of stimulating new thought patterns for some initiates, but; Isn't it just as likely to create a boomerang, and direct those thought patterns into non-constructive channels if, or when, the imposition will have been disclosed. And there again arises the question as to the authority upon which the Ballard movement is based. It does seem entirely within the realm of good ethics, to question the Ballards alleged affiliation with The Great White Brotherhood, in view of the fantastic tales revealed in the book "Magic Presence"; True and actual happenings, according to Ballard, and indorsed by "Saint Germain".

Is it not possible that Ballard's dynamic aspirations have become aligned with some ambitious astrals, and together become be-fouled in a vain-glorious attempt to compel recognition? If so, how about the innocent followers, will they have to share the ignominies attendant upon the ultimate denuement?

I have endeavored to illustrate, How, and Why, this problem is a vital one to me; Yet, I really have no right to impose my dilemma onto you, except to hope thereby to receive the key ~~in~~ for it's solution. You have that key; It is your candid statement as to whether or not you co-incide with such manifestations as exhibited by the Ballard I AM activities, or; Is it your opinion that they should be encouraged or an attempt to discourage them without persecuting.

I beg your pardon for inflicting all this tirade upon you, but I just had to have someone to unburden myself to, and I hope you will understand my apparent dilemma enough to show me the way out.

Thanking you with all my heart for all past indulgences, and those anticipated, I Remain

Yours in the Interest of Everlasting Truth

E.S. Gilbert

E.S.Gilbert
2151 47th Ave.
Oakland, Calif.

Fr. Andre,
P.O.Box 439,
Tampa, Fla.

August 16th,

Beloved Sir; Teacher; Brother:

Yours of the 16th of July, to hand. Just picked it up again, for the third or fourth time, and with the determination firmly fixed in my mind to write the really worth while letter that I have been promising myself that I should write telling you how much I have appreciated the message your letter contained.

Within the limits of the very first sentence it contained, your letter of the 16th inst., conveyed a restful reassurance, and harmonious atmosphere of background that never failed to stir my ambition into the necessity of expressing the beautiful thoughts about to be created, stimulated by the frank philosophy and spiritual communion which formed the bulk of the message. That the present resolve shall not get sidetracked through the interruptions which almost invariably followed. My slowness usually permitted of those interruptions in spite of all other good intentions.

I believe that I recall, without having to tax my memory very severely, that it was my request and earnest desire to have you take the place in my correspondence formerly commanded by my father. Let me say here and now, that I have indeed been the fortunate one, and I assure you of the hearty appreciation of that intercourse; However, we are prone to become careless with the things that mean most to us at times. Yet, I feel very reluctant to admit of ~~my~~ complete conformity to that habit even if appearances are against me. I can only reiterate my whole hearted appreciation of that good fortune.

At the outset, I had quite an array of ideas clamoring for expression, but now they seem to have become dissipated so will have to postpone the continuation until a more auspicious moment. (next evening)

(In fact, it is several nights later, and immediately following the receipt of a note from Sr. Vasvana.) I shall make haste to enclose this note, and with a new determination to jot down a few notes of current thoughts each day, with which to assemble something tangible for forwarding at an early date in the near future. Scribe alms enclosed for the four semesters just passed.

Today, (August 22) Robert (our eldest son) with his wife and 6 weeks old son; David; Mother and I, went for a spin to Pleasanton. A two-fold objective was the motive. We are again confronted with the urgent possibility of moving our residence in that the house in which we live has been sold. To look at a possible place of residence was the occasion of the trip today, and incidentally to afford a much needed family conference. Both objectives were satisfactorily accomplished. During the trip, I was afforded an excellent opportunity, or rather, I received an inspiration from which to construct material for our future communion; likewise an explanation as to why I have been so seemingly neglectful in the past; but I shall incorporate it in with future letters.

Again assuring you and the Brotherhood of our continued interest in the lessons, I shall close for this time; We are as ever

Yours for the emancipation of Humanity

Francis E. S. Gilbert
E. S. Gilbert

Box 47th v.
Oakland, Calif.

Feb. 27th, 1938.

Fr. Andre;
c/o M.B.U. Tampa, Florida.

Beloved Meantor;

It has been some time since I have written to you so dont be alarmed, and above all dont permit the shock to have any detrimental effects on your surroundings or deliberations. This is a task that I should have executed long ago, but I had become accustomed to allowing Mrs. Gilbert to discharge those duties for the two of us, so gradually become indifferent and ultimately silent or totally estranged, from the duties.

When Mrs Gilbert stopped the lessons last fall, I viewed the circumstance with some misgivings, as she had become enamored of another and more general expression of the occult activities manifesting in this as well as other areas. This new group I couldn't help but entertain some doubts as to their sincerity, and objectives, and truth to tell I haven't overcome that antipathy yet, but it is not of this that I determined to write you at this time; maybe I shall have an opportunity to write later, if at all.

I had made a trip back East last fall to visit with Father, and two Brothers whom I hadn't seen since 1913, one Brother I hadn't seen since 1909. My Mother had passed on last spring, without having seen me since the summer of 1913, and I didnt want Father to pass without having another visit with him. I enjoyed my trip and visit very much, meeting many people of interest, and encountering many new experiences. It brought me to a more comprehensive understanding of the conditions that were being imposed, and that were making for the rapid changes that were transpiring, or shaping for the issue. Of my reactions I could probably write much, but shall not trouble you with them this time. It might be in order to say that the general outlook isn't very encouraging for the immediate future; dark and ominous clouds circumvent the horizon on every hand, and seemingly obliterate or divert the efforts of Truth and Love.

My purpose in writing is to accomplish two main objectives; first, to have you send invitations to several persons whom I think are ready for "More Light" in their search for Truth and Happiness, and whose names and addressee will be listed in the conclusion of this missive. Secondly; Mrs Gilbert sent you a book to analyze, and which I am anxious to have your reactions to, namely "Mankind United". I may have occasion to write you some time later regarding it, but, ~~maybe~~ I would greatly appreciate reactions to it and any light you may be enabled to furnish, in the meantime. And if you dont want to keep the book I could probably make some use of it, however if it would be of any assistance or use to you, it is all right to me. I only thought it fair to get in touch with you, and keep the avenue of our communion open for the exchange of ideas or helpful service. Thirdly; And which should have been the very first in order of presentation; I wish to thank you so much for the thoughtful remembrance thoughts which prompted the Natal day message from you and the Brotherhood, I was hardly deserving of it.

Now for some little data, regarding those whom I consider ready for additional "Light"; Mrs. Rachel Bender, 120 E. Washington St. Chambersburg, Penna., a cousin of mine whom I think will appreciate and welcome the information. W.S. Roof, 18 Seneca St. Essington, Penna., another cousin. Carlo E. Gilbert, 697 Center Av. River Edge, New Jersey; My Brother. There were several others, but whom I shall await further intimation from before submitting. I left one out after all; Mrs Mary McNaughton, 620 19th Ave. Sunhall, Penna., an old friend of the family.

I shall now close for this time assuring you of my enduring and hearty esteem, and that every word from you is like a ray of sunshine penetrating the threateninglike conditions.

I beg to remain

Yours for Human Emancipation

E. S. Gilbert

E. S. Gilbert
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Oakland, Calif.

July 20th, 1943.

Fr. Andreé
c/o M. B. University
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Beloved Teacher;

I received your most welcome letter, on Tuesday the 5th, and made haste to absorb the contents, as quickly and as eagerly, as my dilemma had prompted me seek its answer, where I had every reason to believe it would be. Thanks, many times for the inspiration generated upon its receipt, and assimilation. The enclosed excerpt from the 24th Chat, was most timely with its admonitions. I have enjoyed it so much; "To him that hath, to him shall be given"; Never has that quotation been so charged with meaning, as it presented in the paragraph in which it appeared, in that excerpt from the 24th Chat. Likewise the significance of "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper"; I think I can see some ray of light gradually penetrating the dense clouds that had been ~~the~~ responsible for my frantic appeal.

The Dragon has not been slain yet; He manifested far too much pep to be vanquished in the preliminary skirmishes; And though my reasoning had not failed me, yet I was beginning to feel myself faltering, for want of a reassuring gesture; A few words of encouragement, from whence I had every reason to think them available. With the reassurance thus obtained, I feel that ultimately the strength generated will prove sufficient to restore the troubled waters to normalcy; But, at any rate right shall prevail.

Ordinarily, one of my favorite by-words, is; "Toleration". It's significance, one of the most potent appurtenances for obtaining the degree of sincerity, and direction of participating factors. Sometimes, however, one is rendered helpless, when unconsciously permitted to get too close to a demonstrating organism, he is dazzled by it's apparent magnitude, and unless motivated by or with plenty of cooperating factors, may become stagnated temporarily. And frequently circumstances are imposed that encourage a false concept, which if not readily detected and disclosed to their true import, may become rather embarrassing, and troublesome before being righted. My dilemma was a combination of these contingencies.

The Ballard demonstration wouldn't have involved me to the extent that it has, if it hadn't been brought too close in to my home conditions, and thereby rendered my long range "methods" of meeting the contingency, powerless for the hand-to-hand nature of the encounter. Then, too, there are other factors entering into the matter which make it even more personal in it's application; Our youngest son David, has capitulated completely to the dramatic appeal of the demonstration; He is the militant factor in most of the unpleasantness that has been precipitated by the unhappy events, in the family. His birth date, April 28th, 1921, at somewhere around 8 o'clock in the morning, I think influences his characteristics rather determinedly. I feel very strongly that his purpose for taking up with the Ballard school was primarily for the advantages he was thus enabled to demonstrate over his brothers, first, then over my direction; I have never been able to offer any guiding influence over him, except it was overridden by his mother. This condition has become very irritating of late, and especially since he has become enrolled within the "I AM" of the Ballards. There, I am burdening you with my problems again; Please pardon me; I really have some very hard work ahead of me, and I had better get busy with it so as not to become enmeshed in a mess of unpleasantnesses again.

I shall want to take up the work again soon, and think I shall be ready about Aug. 1st. to start in with the Chats; I shall write you again in the meantime. I have another party whom I think will be delighted to have the work offered to him--he is Walter L. Johsson, 282 Ridgeway Ave. Oakland, Cal. He has been looking at the "I AM", also at the Mankind United. but wants

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August 7th, 1938.

Fr. Andre,
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Beloved Sir and Teacher:

I received yours of July 29th, and somehow or other the impulse seems irreal-
ible to write to you again, even if I have not yet obtained the material anticipated,
I addressed my last letter to you; stating that I would write again by August 1st, in
conditions now look like September 1st will be more suited for the contemplated move;
will do what I can to keep in touch with you until I can send some "wherewithal" to war-
sufficient interest in the resumption of study.

The unexplainable urge seems to demand that I devote some time to the subject
"Mankind United", and there it leaves me without even a hint in what direction to attack
the subject. Maybe after all, it is merely an idea back-fired and leaves the direction
its application to be determined at random; in that case forewarned is to be fore-armed

My interest in Mankind United has been stimulated from having always been en-
gaged in seeking a means whereby a more favorable opportunity for improving the general
status of humanity throughout the world could be established. That that was the mission
of the Master Jesus has always been a firm belief and conviction of mine; and that the
apparent efforts being expended to accomplish His Ideals were without any punch, or were
being purposely misdirected by those whose integrity and sincerity should not be questi-
ed. This conviction gradually forced me into a status of inharmony to all forms of Orth-
odox teachings; somehow or other it seemed to me that the nauseating compromise being
stituted for the simple terms of the "Golden Rule" was deliberate, and for a specific
pose. This specific purpose I determined to ascertain, as the chasm was becoming wider,
and deeper as my convictions grew, and realization of Idealisms seemed more remote.

The Socialist Party assumed an aspect of interest, and to its tenets I devoted
much time; among the many pieces of literature which I eagerly investigated was a book
Edward Bellamy, "Looking Backward": It was purely fiction, but it interwove an inferred
method of transition from the Social and Economic conditions that prevailed then, to a
new system of conditions in which the "Golden Rule" was a most prominent factor, along
with the romance that it portrayed; it left a lasting impression upon me which has end-
to this day. And for a long period of years my interest lay dormant, while my time and
attention were riveted upon the necessity of providing for our babies, and needed only the
necessary environment to again set in motion the ideals that had become obliterated when
the Socialist Party demonstrated it's about-face tactic at the time of the World War.

Immediately after the War I became engaged in the best job I have ever had
and through it we were enabled to get ourselves a nice little home, and eventually as-
a business in 1927. We were becoming gradually better established in every way, when the
crash of '29 caught us, and before we could quite realize what had happened, our business
had to fold up, with the expiration of the lease, and we put the fixtures into storage
await a more suitable time and place to resume the business; But in the meantime we left
our home, and began a series of moves--we had to abandon our home, on the day before
Christmas in 1932--and consummating 6 moves since. In 1933 we made two contacts that had
proved important ones; First, our names were presented to the Mystic Brotherhood, and
became enrolled as students early in that year. Secondly: We became interested in the
U.X.A. and which was to exact influences that have been largely responsible for shaping
suitable background for the movement Mankind United.

While affiliated with the U.X.A. I had an excellent opportunity to observe the
validity of the claims; That the World at large was being ruled by an invisible Ruler
although the deadly intentions and subtle determination remained somewhat obscured; I
while associated with U.X.A. that I learned the method of determining the types of peo-
organizations, and affiliations that were attracted to, or became a part of the mechanism
through which the Invisible Rulers executed their plans of aggrandizement, and maintained
their invisible control.

Overcoming a first impression, (with some considerable effort) that Mankind
was merely a mechanism for selling books, and using a bait that was sure to appeal to
who were socially minded; left me with a revelation of some tremendously important
being paraded in the manner demonstrated for definite purposes. I can erect hypothetical
reasons in my mind's eye for the justification of those demonstrations, which harmonize
perfect accord with the oft repeated warnings and admonitions contained in the book,
even more potently presented by such speakers as have been used authoritatively to present
the story of Mankind United; but all of which must of necessity be based upon the honest

We assume a lenient attitude and they all become heaped within the "Good" cauldron; Then we get really critical, and soon they are all heaped into the cauldron labeled "Bad"; and always the dilemma of uncertainty prevails, the confusion through which the sinister forces maintain their stranglehold upon the body politic. The only purpose that is served by the illustration is to establish the utter futility of man-made efforts to adequately cope with the situation.

At the preliminary big meeting, of Mankind United, inaugurating their final drive for the required number of registrants to fill the necessary quota to guarantee the release of the thirty day program; it was said, by the speaker, that the book, "Mankind United" in addition to being a text-book, was the embodiment of a code message, that unfolded the course of procedure at the time of the program's release. Enough about that for now.

In your letter, you state; "The Christian ideal has broken down"; Do you really mean that, or, is it merely a concept of Christian ideals that has been wrecked; or yet; That they have apparently broken down: It has been my conviction that the ~~Jesus propounded~~ ideals that Jesus propounded were indestructable, they certainly have never been permitted to demonstrate; Why? Ah! That is the all perplexing problem. And I agree most heartily, when you state "a single cause to explain a syndrome of symptoms", and to "search for the septic focus and eradicate it". I have a concept of that "single cause", but it refuses to confine itself to singleness, when analyzed; especially in view of the factors involved in life's demonstration. That "single cause", for the sake of brevity of identification, might be named "Greed"; It is invisible, only its effects are discernable; it is the Ahriman, of Zoroaster; it is the Evil of today. From its rapacious maw emanates, a preaching of Purity for the purpose of despoiling it; it has deliberately befouled the Teachings of The Master Jesus, coating them with a slime that renders them obnoxious to all but the keener analyst, or should I say; Purer in Heart. All in all it has been allowed to intrench itself in almost impregnable positions, from which vantage point it dominates the welfare of all of the people of the earth. And again, you state: "In the Spiritual life of our age we need to search for the septic focus and eradicate it instead of treating symptoms as if they were diseases". I have no quarrel with that statement, in fact it is wholly in accord with my ambitions; but I still feel impelled to swing a lusty left in defense of a cohesive movement aiming at the unseating of the visible manifestations of subversive power; a movement that shall nullify the grip of the International Bankers Association, and render them incapable of aggrandizing "Greed".

I can only feel an overpowering pity for these individuals who are demonstrating a desire for strife; aiming at world turmoil and confusion; or in any way agitating antagonism; there are interests back of them urging them on to their own destruction, as well as those whom they will destroy in the process; but still leaving the "cause" free to ride into a favored position to again sap the vitality of an incoming regime, or, perhaps set themselves up as absolute Dictators and turn back the erstwhile civilization, for another era of "Dark Ages".

Just about the time I get so occupied with these thoughts of "Dark Ages" possibilities; Bellamy's prophecies begin to exert themselves ^{into view}, and as a result the outlook assumes a much more cheery aspect; with its manifestation of Bellamy Clubs; Honest Money Clubs; and myriads of societies, teaching ethics that unmistakably have altruistic, as well as utopian ideals; besides which there are the Metaphysical, and Philosophical organizations which have been responsible for preserving the ideals throughout the ages; all these quietly at work training a constituency for ideal citizenship in a new order. And again the horizon clouds over, at the thought of it resolving itself into a race for general recognition, with the only visible contender appearing in the ascendancy; the sinister forces assuming that prominence: The effects of the years upon years of altruistic teachings is nowhere visible. It is for most part deeply imbedded within the consciousness of individuals, ready to blossom forth into a beautiful social entity when a signal shall be displayed. And again the question is the time factor sufficient? "The Mills of the Gods grind slow"; permits one an opportune moment to interpose the "time factor" query; in view of the feverish activity, visibly manifesting within the ranks of the "Money Changer".

You tentatively reveal the urgency of the situation in your lines, "recommencing it ('Looking Backward') to others who were evidencing an awakening to the need for special adjustment." This, in a degree, lends justification to serious thought along constructive adjustment ideals in our material world.

Truth, the undisputable "Way of Life" is the object of my efforts, and I shall lend myself diligently to your kind assistance.

Sincerely and Truly

Edwin S. Gilbert
Edwin S. Gilbert.

E.S.Gilbert
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Oakland, Calif.

September 7th, 1938.

Fr. Andre,
Mystic Brotherhood University
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Beloved Mentor:

It would be impossible to describe my emotions upon reading the contents of, yours of the 22nd last; and it arrived at a most opportune time, for I was beginning to realize to some extent, the tremendous loss my Father's passing meant to me in the way of correspondence. Father passed on, the morning of the 13th of August; and after receiving the telegram notifying me of his passing, I received his last letter to me, in which were the unmistakable signs of the impending change. And as I have stated; I was merely beginning to realize that the faithful line of correspondence was broken, forever; when along came your letter, and although you didn't say so anywhere within that letter; a persistent voice kept reminding me, that; here indeed is the answer to your unspoken desire for continuation of that correspondence. That thought thrilled me through and through, and seeking corroboration, I again re-read your letter, seeking, ~~lest~~ lest there might be a hidden implication which would dispell that "hunch" but it wasn't there; that "hunch" simply wouldn't be shaken.

Now, before continuing with the main theme of the letter, I wish to suggest the name of Mrs. Adah Druchs, at 3001 Park Boulevard, Oakland; as being in line for Brotherhood work--she had half a mind to become interested in the conflagration caused by the Ballards. There will be several others developed very shortly, probably in my next endeavor.

Another matter that I might mention at this time is that I have determined to construct a kind of biography of Father, including many of his bits of philosophy; I wouldn't be surprised but what the nucleus of an interesting human-interest story could be constructed that could be made to convey some information to those hungry for it. I shall submit portions from time to time as I progress with it; this for the purpose of soliciting your opinions regarding its advisability.

Now for the meat of your letter: I was very much impressed with your description of the "specialists"; while that is not entirely new to me, yet there is a suggestion of new interpretations that promise intriguing developments, and possibility of reversal of opinions, that may have become tentatively fixed; however, I am going to try to be big enough to assimilate them, and apply them, in the quest of Truth. Truth is the all absorbing objective to be sought out, for didn't Jesus say, that: "The Truth Shall Make Ye Free", and admonish us to "seek it diligently"! Yes! Kind Sir; I am most interested in ascertaining all that I can in an earnest search for Truth; and will welcome any light upon that quest.

I read about a movement that promised more "economic dynamite" than the combined endeavors of Marx and Henry George; it was referred to as the "Ritschlian" movement. The reference was made prior to the World War of 1914-18; and to the best of my knowledge, has not been referred to since, at least not as "Ritschlianism"; and there comes a hypothetical justification for the activity known as "Mankind United"; or to be a little more far-reaching in the application--hypothetical justification for that movement, of which "Mankind United" is an important unit--. I have searched high and low for some indication that would seem to verify that hypothesis, but instead; what I do find is that the construction of the book "Mankind United", and "Science and Health, with Key to the Scriptures", is strikingly similar in tone, texture, stock, and authority; and in the book "Mankind United" reference is made to definitely identify only five individuals, several others are mentioned, however; one of those individuals, is quoted at some length, the substance of the quotation parallels the general theme of the book--Edward A. Kimball--and upon establishing him a little more definitely; I found his signature indorsing the description of Christian Science used in Encyclopedia Britannica with the initials C.S.D. following his name (a director of the Mother Church). So that I have come to assume a rather definite alignment between the C.S.Church, and Mankind United; but as for Ritschlianism--if it is manifesting at all--it has assumed some other identity.

And now for the sake of illustration, let us construct two huge cauldrons; we will label the one "Good"; and the other "Bad"; Then we gather each and every one of the isms, anities, and every other group or movement having a name, and distribute them according to our concepts (them, after analyzing with the tendencies presented (they all have to be attributed to one or other of the cauldrons); Then we sort of check up to make sure that no mistake has been made, and change those which might have been misjudged. Now we send them back and forward, and for some reason or other we please

ages into being. Babylon seeks yet another period of representation; another era in which to glorify the God Baal; and if indications mean anything, the present outlook is fraught with omenous consequences. I have a clipping that quotes from "The Banker's Magazine", of March 1892: "History repeats itself in regular cycles; this truth is well known among our principle men now engaged in forming an imperialism of capital to govern the world." "While they are doing this the PEOPLE MUST BE KEPT IN A STATE OF POLITICAL ANTAGONISM." (I think I shall enclose a copy of this enlightening article for you, that you may consider it's entire portent.) It has afforded me much concern, when I visualize how nearly accurate recent developements have conformed to the material disclosed in that brief article.

Again refering to your illustration of the clock, or rather the setting of the clock: "In the regulation of our relations with our self-respect and our fellowmen;" I see the inference, and I agree most cordially. Probably I have been "kidding" myself by allowng myself to become involved with the problem of economic interests; that I concern myself with the, participation in ways and means of, establishing conditions for mankind whereby greater opportunity will be available for all; and very possibly stimulating a keen desire upon the part of some of those thereby affected, to acquire unfoldment in the maturer ethics; and of which they are for most part, either wholly unaware, or mistakenly regard as "out of their class", "Over their heads", etc, etc. I choose rather to regard the status of "Creatures of habit", as an imposed result, of conditions calculated for that purpose. I want rather that the beneficence and bounties of creation, be equally available to all. That not only brings up the problem of ways and means of obtaining; but also brings up the problem of preparation for utilizing, I'll admit.

We are "creatures of habit" largely because of artificial conditions imposed. Evidence of which can be discerned by the preponderance of misrepresenting advertisements that mar or obstruct the beneficial possibilities of the radio; it has been the means of predjudicing some against the radio entirely. Yet, that there is valuable possibilities for general good in the radio, is acknowledged by all; with the proviso that the radio be divested of the superfluous dross and devoted more to disseminating information of unquestioned merit.

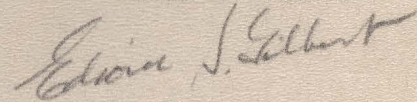
It is getting late, and I shall have to abandon some of the material which I had intended using at this time, probably I shall have an opportunity to indulge at some time soon; if so I shall be pleased to pass it along.

Before I close I want to reccommend Mrs. Jeanette Travis for an invitation to partake of Brotherhood activities; her address is 1404 Henry St. Berkeley, California.

Am enclosing an envelope with an offering; if you can arraing to send me the Chats from the very beginning, please do so; otherwise I shall await future opportunity to ~~start~~ resume the lectures.

With earnest felicitations
I remain Sincerely Yours
For Universal Emancipation

Edwin S. Gilbert.



E.S. Gilbert
2151 47th Ave.
Oakland., Calif.

Fr. Andre,
c/o M.B.U.
Tampa, Fla.

October 9th.

Beloved Mentor;

It seems like I have been interrupted in my original purposes somewhat, so I shall have to enumerate the reasons for my delayed resumption of so interesting a course of correspondence; first; my work has been changed for me and I have found my new work very exacting as to detail. I have been appointed to write some twenty-six radio continuities, and have struggled through with three of them to date; they being something entirely new for me it took me considerable time to get on to the methods required for dramatizing. The comments upon the three turned in have been very satisfactory, so it looks as though I shall be called upon to complete the entire series. The subject for them is "The American Labor Family", and calls for a dramatized narrative picturing the labor activities in the United States. Secondly: Mrs Gilbert and David were gone for two weeks, to attend the Ballard meetings in Seattle, and I as usual had to take care of the details of keeping house; they left unexpectedly which was another disconcerting event to help get me muddled up; I should have said "to muddle things up for me", because I refuse to get muddled myself.

My original purpose still holds good and if I drag a bit, it is because I have had some other duties added to those already binding me to certain detailed tempo. Your kind letter was most welcome and appreciated; especially the inspiring references to father's passing. However, I had not made myself very plain in writing for those lessons; what I desired to have was the very first four lessons; lectures No. one, two, three, and four. It seems that they had been loaned to some one (Chas. Lewis) and when he returned them they become mislaid and lost; I was desiring to complete our set of them and needed those four to do so. It has been my intention to review all the way through them before taking the lectures again; calculating upon carrying on with the Chats in the meantime. Then, too, there are many of the Chats missing, so that in order to retain a complete set of them I will have to have them replaced; but more of that later. I believe I have stated that my application to the Lectures and Chats was very unsatisfactory, and I shall have to do a lot of study in order to get myself firmly anchored in the right direction.

Your reference to these epochs--The Iron Age, and Ironie Age--was timely, and heartily in accord with my concepts and understanding of them. Likewise, your description of the clock; and again I most heartily agree, and if my guess is worth anything at all, what we are most concerned with is the study of the proper sciences required to correct, not only the dismantled clock, but the faint heart and sick head. I confess that I can probably do as good a job of taking things apart as anybody; I can possibly do just as good a job at reassembling the dismembered articles; but what I have been unable to very definitely ascertain is; whether it will not be necessary to know something about other sciences besides trigonometry and astronomy, and several other important ones omitted in the illustration so far. We are no doubt agreed that the ultimate ideal State will be attained only, when the individuals that comprise that State, are spiritually developed and capable of maintaining the status when once obtained. But as to the tactics which will be necessary to inaugurate, in order to stimulate progress in that direction; that is the all absorbing problem today. We must of course keep on training thought toward the ideals in question, by indefatigable efforts; but we must also keep a finger on the pulse of the political conditions for the purpose of interposing re-aligning maneuvers toward awakening that spiritual concept necessary for the establishment of the Ideal State.

This problem has occupied the minds of innumerable philosophically inclined individuals since the dawn of intelligence; many have contributed to the accumulating data so that each day brings new awakenings somewhere in the material evidence of things demonstrating the progress being made toward the ultimate. On the other hand, there is an awareness of impending opposition to the long established course of domination by subtle and unscrupulous interests; and which apparently goads them to renewed efforts toward establishing themselves permanently. This we know will merely prolong the accomplishment of the ultimate to a more distant day; and especially if the present purpose of the subversively actuated individuals gain their ~~purpose~~ strategy and induce another era of dark

action some altruistic impulse with rough and unfinished edges marking it's ~~unfinished~~ ^{incomplete} state. Your illustration is readily distinguished in it's colorful detail, yet it is the same objective goal we are seeking. You render inspirational assistance to those who are like myself, contacting the needy, and endeavoring to stimulate them with the desire to want to progress to a better condition of society as a whole. Now the question arises, as it will no doubt persist in intervening until satisfactorily appeased; am I following, aiding, or abetting a wrong code of ideals under the banners of "Mankind United"? Was I ambiguous in my attack upon the Ballard I AM groups' teachings, and the principles with which they are innoculating vast crowds of earnest seekers for the truth? True, I apparently had a personal ax to grind; but I do not wish to be inconsistent under any circumstances, yet there is the undeniable totalitarian aspects of that group constantly staring mockingly at me and assuring me that they have succeeded in driving a wedge through the solidity of the family group. I am assured by some well meaning individuals that my interpretation of "right" and "left" hand tactics is all haywire, but I shall continue with my present concepts until advised by you to the contrary.

Your words: "Might not observation, as well as charity, advantageously begin at home." They seem to insinuate that I am being spanked a bit, yet, in the light of the paragraph that follows, I cannot see that I have been ~~following~~ deliberately following any "specialists in human woe" blindly. I can go out into the broad expanse of nature and gaze upon the handiworks manifesting in every direction, admire the beautiful little flowers, plants, trees, yes! and the very contour of the hills and vales in their efforts to reflect Infinity; my only regret is that everybody cannot see what I see. If they do see it, then I am certainly at a loss to understand why they make no efforts to remedy that which certainly is out of alignment with the Infinite. You refer to the difference between "wealth and money" in your last paragraph of "food material". And I ask: How could money have held so dominating a control over the welfare of world citizenry, if not abetted by those assuming to be spiritual leaders; of whom Ballard is rather a modern edition of that class.

I am beginning to ramble so had better bring this to a close and get it started on it's way. Thanksgiving is near at hand, and it is my earnest wish that the world citizenry will have more and more blessings to be thankful for; that they may be awakened to full realization of the bounties that merely await their roused determination to acquire.

The addresses I spoke of at the beginning of this letter are: Mr. Arthur Teegarden, 1711 Grand St. Alameda, California; and Mr. Cyril C. Wood, 2543 $\frac{1}{2}$ Piedmont Ave., Berkeley, California.

And now, may all the blessings of the season shower upon you and the M.B. until I can again greet you through this medium.

As ever and always,

In the Interest of Eternal Truth

E. S. Gilbert
E.S. Gilbert.

E.S.GILBERT
2151 47th Ave.
Oakland, Calif.

Nov. 20, 1938.

Fr. Andre,
c/o Mystic Brotherhood
P.O.Box 439, Tampa Fla.

Beloved Mentor;

I had thought to have completed a work to forward for your perusal long ere this, but for some unaccountable reason that work has been blocked, or crowded back by other matters that have assumed the immediate attention. So will have to get off with a regular communication only for this time, and save the special material for a later posting.

I have two names to forward to you this time, and will append both names and addresses at the conclusion of this letter. And while on that subject, I might add, that Mrs. Travis is having a little difficulty at present, but will emerge triumphant before long and if you have not already heard from her, you will at that time.

Since perusing your most welcome letter of Oct. 18th, for the third or fourth time; and reviewing that which has passed between us in former communications I am prompted to ask another question. The subject of "Mankind United" has apparently been lost in the shuffle; to me it is an interesting subject so long as it's ideals remain untarnished. And that the ideals are untarnished as yet is very evident, the only question that can possibly intervene, is that of personnel. In view of that fact I would again like to re-iterate ~~my~~ query as to the sincerity of same. I have been told by enthusiasts in other departments of thought, that "according to their 'guides', Mankind United is dominated by six unidentified individuals etc". In view of the fact, or I should say, in spite of the fact that you have spanked me as it were, in your letters for giving any consideration to hearsay evidence, yet I am impelled to voice that question even if it lays me wide open to another spanking. So here goes: Have you any information regarding the "Mankind United" movement itself, or have you any information regarding any of it's alleged affiliates; either foreign or domestic? Our correspondence prior to the last few letters invariably referred to the subject in one way or other, but has never been satisfactorily acquitted, at least it hasn't been for me. I believe I stated that I had assumed more the attitude of "watchful waiting" toward it, while openly espousing the ideals for which it allegedly contends. In-so-far-as I have assumed the attitude of open opposition to the Ballard I AM activities, I want at least to be fair in my consideration of all activities.

My work is becoming more interesting every day, and needless to say it is exacting more and more of my attention; for which I am not resentful except in so far as it interferes with some of the associations established before it came into my surroundings. In addition to the series of scripts for the Radio Station in Santa Rosa (KSRO), I have an assignment for a series of thirteen scripts to be used in educational activities, viz; transcriptions for broadcasting or release over public address systems in the class rooms of the public schools. My subject is Industry; and it will be my duty to prepare scripts that will enable the teachers to give graphic pictures of the industries in operation. I have prepared one script illustrating the Railroad Industry. But, what I had been working to have ready to enclose with my next letter to you, is a copy of a paper I have been asked to prepare for the benefit of a group contemplating forming a co-operative of Artists in Berkeley. When it is ready I shall have a copy for your consideration and approval or criticism.

Now to get down to the meat of your letter; the analogy of the clock. Strange how interesting a subject can be formulated out of the clock, and the discussion to which it in turn can be subjected implicating so many diverging factors that are related to it. Oddly enough the whole picture of the clock presented assumes the function of a magnificent symbol; and even more, it seems to voice an appeal for recognition of basic truths. Does not that analogy suggest of the possibility that it antedates Christendom's birth by ages? And still the same struggle is manifesting throughout society, or can it justly be called a struggle?

Your illustration makes a more distinctive picture of an etching of mine undertaken long ago. Yours is embellished with the pigments of a more calm and painstaking consideration, mine are the result of contacting elements that shocked, or jarred into

time I want to digress from the foregoing train of thought and tell you about a trip over the week-end of November 26th-27th, Norman and I went to Oroville; Norman is our second oldest boy.

We left Oakland at 2 am, arriving in Oroville at 6.30, after breakfast we began the winding trip into the mountains to the old lumber camp of the U.X.A. Arriving at what was Mooretown we found a large saw-mill in course of construction, fruition of plans laboriously outlined by and for the benefit of the U.X.A. organization; but now framing under private hands through the assistance of the R.F.C. of the Gov't. I found one of the former co-workers of the U.X.A. with whom we visited. We left there about 2 Pm for the trip to Feather Falls some fifteen miles distant and over a very rough road to within about a mile and a half of the falls. I think without exaggerating a bit, that mile and a half was the longest I'd ever negotiated afoot; it was almost straight down, and with very uncertain shrubbery to cling to for steadying oneself; but we finally arrived on the banks of the river, and followed it a short way to the top of the falls. The Fall River wends its perilous journey through some of the roughest country I've ever seen, a small meadow of perhaps two or two and a half acres was all the level country in all that expanse of rocky formation. An Indian Family occupied the meadow, the only humans within many miles. But to the falls; it seemed like the channel of the river had been hewn out of solid rock all the way back to the Indian cabin ultimately emerging at the top of the solid stone battress only to pitch ~~straight~~ straight down for 654 ft into the wildest confusion of boulders I believe I've ever seen. The sun low down on the horizon still reflected a rainbow through the spray from the falls. I stood in awe gazing at the grandeur represented, and I couldn't help but feel a reverence for the Creative Hand that had shaped such magnificent, yet awe-inspiring handiwork. I gazed back up stream a ways noting the turbulent waters rushing along frantically only to pitch headlong into that fearinspiring abyss with its equally turbulent course wending onward to meet the rough waters of the Feather River and continue an equally rough journey to the lowlands of the valley there to lazily follow the route to the Sacramento and ultimately find its way into the Bay. I couldn't tarry long in those surroundings, for it was most necessary to get out before dark, and that long tortuous climb nearly took the heart out of me when I looked upward and beheld its forbidding appearance. While we came down straight, it took many zigzag turns and angles to negotiate the upward journey; crest after crest of the steep pitches and still more ahead, already the shadows were lengthening themselves over the side of the mountain, and still more crests to top. At last we gained the ridge where the car awaited us and was I glad; my legs couldn't have held out much longer under the strain, it wouldn't have been so bad had it not been for the necessity of getting out before dark, as it was we nearly lost our way in the car, the trails being exceedingly hard to determine in the dark that enveloped the route. The memories roused by that tortuous trip were well worth the efforts expended. It is too bad there isn't any other way to get in to see those falls, they're worth seeing. We came back to Mooretown, and visited until 11 o'clock then sped on down the hill to Oroville for the much needed rest. Sunday was spent visiting among old friends; leaving Oroville at seven we arrived home before twelve, tired but refreshed by the trip.

Before I bring this to a close I want to say something about the enclosed; it is the article I was preparing when I fell behind my schedule last time, and I think I mentioned that I'd send a copy of it so here it is.

Now I must close for this time; with kindest regards to the faculty, and a Greeting for all mankind. AMerry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All,

Peace be with you Kind and Beloved Mentor

I am as ever, In the Quest for Eternal Truth


Edwin S. Gilbert

E.S.Gilbert
2151 47th Ave.
Oakland, Calif.

Dec. 12th 1938.

Beloved Teacher,
Fr. Andre
c/o MBU, Tampa, Fla.

Again it becomes my agreeable duty to dedicate these lines to you, trusting that some of the time may be made up, and assume more nearly the self inflicted schedule announced in the earlier editions.

I received your most welcome letter of Nov. 29th, and needless to say I immediately became engrossed in the contents which stimulated my thought activities into some new directions; yet, after following the new course earnestly for a while found that it led me right back into the old familiar route, the indicated destination that for which it seems I've always striven to attain.

Methinks I can recall some of the ideals that were conjured up within my consciousness with the first recitals of the Socialist Philosophy in the early 1900's to which I was exposed; they have lost none of their glamour nor inspiring appeal. The Socialist Party has long since abused the idea of its being the means of attaining that status, and for a long while there was a suspicion that the ideals had become obliterated and forgotten in the mad scenes that transpired; did I say forgotten, well I should have said neglected; for they never were forgotten. With the stirring times that were wafted into being with the crash of '29, it was surprising how rapidly those ideals, dormant for so long, leaped forth with new vigor--Yes! Seeking new sponsorship, or new avenues by which to renew the old vitality, and stimulate the new into expression. Co-operatives; Self-Help; Barter; Unemployed groups; Many there were that manifested the likelihood of substantially sponsoring the regenerated ideals. But only to fall down most miserably when put to the test.

It will be unnecessary to rehearse the details of the processes which ultimately proved ineffectual, but from the analytical activity stimulated by the incidents much enlightenment was gleaned. For instance, through the information revealed by history has been ascertained the fact that there has always been a manifestation of contending forces. Tons of paper has been used in the endeavor to tell why with probable methods of eradicating them, or at least moderating them to more equable proportions; from which they will be less virulent and destructive; yet, from the results obtained it would seem that instead of their being an honest endeavor to relieve the strain, they were merely a means of enabling the objectionable forces to get new footholds, or open altogether new avenues of exploitation for those forces of destruction to sustain their virility.

It has but recently dawned upon me that that influence which permitted the sustenance of the evils contending in our midst; the source of subsidy by which both contending antagonisms were maintained was through the subtle control of that same gold-inspired money by a thoroughly organized group of International Bankers, (logical successors to an age-old line of usurers, who had maintained that control by reason of compulsory obeisance to their established "Golden Calf"). Though I had read Bellamy's "Looking Backward" many years ago, it has not until recently been born home to me how attractive, and workable are the methods he sets forth therein--his system deploys the use of gold encrusted money--advocating the use of an exchange medium backed by the commodities produced.

Your words, "when we seek remedies for our universal ills we may find that we have to look for cause and cure in the subjective realm of feeling and opinion and that objective conditions wait upon these far more than is realized.", I can't find anything to quarrel about no matter how I try; yet, I cannot but feel that I should put up some squawk in defense of reason, knowing that it will ultimately resolve itself to a quibble over terms, and I shall find myself defending far too liberal a definition of the word. Outside of that defamation of a pet of mine I am thoroughly in harmony with your statements. As to ascertaining the methods for directing "feeling", I think that is the reason why there are so many apparently different organizations congealing in the many fields of human endeavor, yet aiming toward a common objective, attainment of which will still leave us with the program of spiritual education to be developed, however, with promises of better environment in which to proceed.

I am going to ponder some more over your words until my next edition, in the mean-

E.S.Gilbert
2151 47th Ave.
Oakland, Calif.

February 3rd 1939.

My Beloved Mentor,
Fr. Andre
Tampa, Florida.

It is indeed long past my time to answer your most welcome letter of Jan. 4th, and in the meantime I am in receipt of the Mystic Messenger for February in which there was an unusually interesting array of good wholesome reading; at least it seemed so to me, probably it was because I was in a particularly receptive frame of mind when I sat down to enjoy it. And incidentally that brings up another matter, insofar as I mentioned some of the material I had gleaned from the Messenger to a new student of occultism, and whom I have been closely cultivating for the purpose of helping him get in touch with the proper avenues of information I think the time is now ripe for him to become acquainted with the Brotherhood; his name is Irving W. Bowers, and his address is 2051 Telegraph Ave. Oakland, Calif. He is living at the Y.M.C.A. (above address), and his room is well stocked with reading material. There are several others whom I shall mention later for introduction to the Brotherhood.

But now, I want to mention a few items that particularly caught my fancy from the Messenger; "Is Occultism Worth While?"; "Driftwood"; "Pisces, the Fishes"; and the question box contained a most interesting question that has proposed itself to many times, viz: The validity of the claims of some that "Matter is Unreal, and merely a false concept of the physical senses"; I was very much impressed with the simple, but concise answer given to the problem. Then, "Goethe's nine requisites for contented living"; but why I am trying to pick out the most prominent gems is a mystery, for it was all intensely interesting, and equally valuable in thought provoking reverie.

As I come now to the letter of January 4th to make comment, I am faced with a dilemma; The profound thought stimulated by the philosophy contained therein defies any, and all my feeble attempts to make suitable entree for discussion. In the first place; there, summed up in words, is illustrated a thought that has been assuming assertive proportions somewhere within the realms of my consciousness for many years, but which has seemed so unapproachable for verbal expression. The thought was first stimulated into recognition through my study of Astronomy; the boundlessness of space seemed to suggest synchronization with other dimensions commonly used with more or less erratic effects, and Einstein's theories only added confusion to the established concepts of these dimensions. Yet, out of the chaos of these conflicting reactions, an idealism of re-assurance ^{kept} was persistently asserting itself; the still small voice timidly though audibly suggested, "Be still, and know the Truth which thou seekest". Somewhat terrifying to human sense is that dynamic thought which even suggests complete annihilation of the concepts humanly imposed for our material guidance; yet, not hard to perceive their false claim for recognition when viewed in the light of eternity; for, they are indeed, "Phantasms of fevered dreams."

However, it is difficult to partake of the material existence of which we are compelled to share, and not take part in the endeavors being made to alleviate the baseness and inequality that plays so dominant a part. Is it not possible to lend a helping hand toward correcting these inconsistencies, and establishing more ideal economic conditions that will be more conducive to producing better results from mankind in general; in other words, establish conditions that will help mankind to more readily see the true status of being they actually enjoy, and recognize their duties to it? This can be done, and still not manifest any malice toward anyone; or lose sight of the true status oneself. Your statement that; "We have to do with time until we resolve it into eternity," seems to bear witness of that contention.

My work is gradually assuming more exacting application every day; before completing one task another is imposed with the result that there are no less than five unfinished jobs awaiting completion now. Therein suggests another paradox as it were; when the task is imposed there is apparently an urgent demand for its completion until another new idea is framed to supplant its predecessor in urgency, and before one knows it several jobs have been started and none allowed time to complete. I am writing a manual for a series of recordings of California History that are calculated for broadcasting either over Public Address systems of the various California Schools or institutions, or through the local radio stations; the manual to be used by the teachers in the schools, and require much time and research to com-

cue that seems fraught with possibilities of extended (mis)interpretation. Religion: Truly one of the most persistently misunderstood of all human institutions. It is either; the manifestation of profound thought, or it is the evidence of a hide-bound dogma; it is the first thing man uses to justify an overt act, or the last thing by which he permits justification to others; it is either an "open sesame", or a closed book; a symbol of freedom, or the badge of slavery; a ray of hope, or a cloud of despair; the bonds of Love, or the shackles of hate; it is good, or it is bad; all in accordance with the intelligence with which it is associated. It is the hand-maiden of "Rugged Individualism's" sovereignty. It is mankind's oldest legacy from the pages of antiquity.

And again from your words I quote; "The religious spirit, ""is essentially the urge to establish satisfactory relationships." These words fill me with inspiration, and I am compelled to consider the existence of an essential difference between religion, and religious spirit. Then I read a little further along in your letter; that, "religion"" might be said to be the characteristic reaction of self-consciousness", and once more I'm ~~in a confusion of terms~~ enveloped in a confusion of terms.

I am inclined to think that there is very little difference between our concepts of the spirit of progress, we may become at variance over the application of some words with their implied meanings. I might as briefly as possible relate my concept here, then we can both take an analytical size-up of them and see where the difference, if any, comes in.

As the dawn of intellect began to assert itself among some of the human beings emerging to that estate from eons of time required to condition them for the transition; it is entirely likely that their first thoughts were concerned with an understanding of the phenomena manifesting all about them. They noticed the orderly progression of day and night; the phenomena of growing plant life; and hundreds of similar mysterious happenings all about them. How many generations of them had made such observations, and imparted the findings of their observations from one to the other, before the suggestion was vouchsafed giving as a cause some supernatural being endowed with all power; it will forever be impossible to say. However, it must have required many generations considering, and re-considering the phenomena, before the idea of an identity for that cause was mentioned; and then how many generations quibbled and quarrelled among themselves regarding that possible identity before it was ultimately accepted will probably account for much more lapse of time; yet it was a demonstration of progress. Gradually through the lapse of time those ideas became fixed, and a ritual or ceremony evolved for their glorification. Countless other generations lapsed into oblivion before man had evolved to the point where those impressions could be recorded by etching scrolls or hieroglyphics on stone, and subsequently upon hides etc, etc. Now, the question arises; which process could be catalogued as "religion"; the ritual or ceremony evolved for the glorification of the fixed ideals, or the process by which those ideals became recognized in the first place?

I think you will see in the foregoing, the reason why I was inspired with your words "the religious spirit is essentially the urge to establish satisfactory relationships", and why the confusion resulting from your later quotation.

I like your descriptions following in the letter of June 12th, they seem to bear out my contention; that as soon as a fact becomes established to the extent that it satisfies the individual into relaxing his endeavors for more enlightenment; it then recedes from the status of "religion", as in the illustration of the "rituals and ceremonies" for "glorification".

There is another aspect of the problem, but I shall not endeavor to write about it at this time. This is a most interesting problem to me, and I shall be pleased to follow through with it in my next.

Before I close I must mention that I am enclosing a copy of "Bulletin #90" of the Pacific Registration Bureau for your consideration. I do not care whether it comes back or not; but you know of my desire to have the copy of the miner's poem returned.

I must close for this time

With the kindest of regards
and in the interest of Eternal Truth

E. S. Gilbert
Mr. & Mrs. E.S. Gilbert

to be in a starving condition, and was removed to the Shasta County Poor House, just South of town, but the authorities had also ascertained that he had been a resident of Siskiyou County longer than he had been resident in Shasta County, so had shipped him to the poor farm at Yreka. (I had just come from there) But, that he had only been there a couple months when he took sick and passed on. I tried on my next trip to Yreka to find out about his manuscripts, many of which were rich with historic material concerning early California's Gold Rush Days; my purpose being to restore the data to the Native Sons Organization for preservation, but I was never able to find any trace of them, although that duty was uppermost in my mind to fulfill.

There is one thing that has given me no end of satisfaction; and that is, that I was enabled to bring some sunshine into the life of one hungry for just that--a little real love--a little communion with the Masters. The acquaintanceship was merely for the duration of one afternoon, but the memory of it transcends almost every other association that I have ever contacted.

On my second visit to Redding to inquire about my friend, I discovered a number of those pamphlets of poetry which had been laying upon a shelf in the back room of the Drug Store gathering dust, and which the druggist assured me he would be glad to be rid of, so I took the bunch of them, and passed them out to my friends whom I thought might be interested. Every time I related the story some one would express a desire to have one so that I only have the one left--the others have been depleted long since--this one I shall enclose for your perusal, and to help you enjoy the fullest measure of data concerning it, but I do want to retain that copy among my most treasured belongings as the associations connected with it border upon the sacred.

And now, in case I don't get a chance to write again before the close of the lunar period I shall enclose the usual scribe alms, but will promise to burden you with another communication at the earliest convenience.

Thanking you for the interest expressed, and hoping it is not an imposition upon your time and duties, but it did afford me a chance to put it into written words. I remain as ever

Yours in the anticipation of more universal awakening of the ideals of Human Brotherhood

Edwin S. Gilbert.

E. S. Gilbert

E.S.Gilbert
2151 47th Ave.
Oakland, Calif.

February 3rd 1939.

My Beloved Mentor,
Fr. Andre
Tampa, Florida.

It is indeed long past my time to answer your most welcome letter of Jan. 4th, and in the meantime I am in receipt of the Mystic Messenger for February in which there was an unusually interesting array of good wholesome reading; at least it seemed so to me, probably it was because I was in a particularly receptive frame of mind when I sat down to enjoy it. And incidentally that brings up another matter, insofar as I mentioned some of the material I had gleaned from the Messenger to a new student of occultism, and whom I have been closely cultivating for the purpose of helping him get in touch with the proper avenues of information I think the time is now ripe for him to become acquainted with the Brotherhood; his name is Irving W. Bowers, and his address is 2051 Telegraph Ave. Oakland, Calif. He is living at the Y.M.C.A. (above address), and his room is well stocked with reading material. There are several others whom I shall mention later for introduction to the Brotherhood.

But now, I want to mention a few items that particularly caught my fancy from the Messenger; "Is Occultism Worth While?"; "Driftwood"; "Pisces, the Fishes"; and the Question box contained a most interesting question that has proposed itself to ^{me} many times, viz: The validity of the claims of some that "Matter is Unreal, and merely a false concept of the physical senses"; I was very much impressed with the simple, but concise answer given to the problem. Then, "Goethe's nine requisites for contented living"; but why I am trying to pick out the most prominent gems is a mystery, for it was all intensely interesting, and equally valuable in thought provoking reverie.

As I come now to the letter of January 4th to make comment, I am faced with a dilemma; The profound thought stimulated by the philosophy contained therein defies any, and all my feeble attempts to make suitable entree for discussion. In the first place; there, summed up in words, is illustrated a thought that has been assuming assertive proportions somewhere within the realms of my consciousness for many years, but which has seemed so unapproachable for verbal expression. The thought was first stimulated into recognition through my study of Astronomy; the boundlessness of space seemed to suggest synchronization with other dimensions commonly used with more or less erratic effects, and Einatein's theories only added confusion to the established concepts of those dimensions. Yet, out of the chaos of those conflicting reactions, an idealism of re-assurance ^{kept} ~~was~~ persistently asserting itself; the still small voice timidly though audibly suggested, "Be still, and know the Truth which thou seekest" Somewhat terrifying to human sense is that dynamic thought which even suggests complete annihilation of the concepts humanly imposed for our material guidance; yet, not hard to perceive their false claim for recognition when viewed in the light of eternity; for, they are indeed, "Phantasms of fevered dreams."

However, it is difficult to partake of the material existence of which we are compelled to share, and not take part in the endeavors being made to alleviate the baseness and inequality that plays so dominant a part. Is it not possible to lend a helping hand toward correcting these inconsistencies, and establishing more ideal economic conditions that will be more conducive to producing better results from mankind in general; in other words, establish conditions that will help mankind to more readily see the true status of being they actually enjoy, and recognize their duties to it? This can be done, and still not manifest any malice toward anyone; or lose sight of the true status oneself. Your statement that; "We have to do with time until we resolve it into eternity," seems to bear witness of that contention.

My work is gradually assuming more exacting application every day; before completing one task another is imposed with the result that there are no less than five unfinished jobs awaiting completion now. Therein suggests another paradox as it were; when the task is imposed there is apparently an urgent demand for its completion until another new idea is framed to supplant its predecessor in urgency, and before one knows it several jobs have been started and none allowed time to complete. I am writing a manual for a series of recordings of California History that are calculated for broadcasting either over Public Address systems of the various California Schools or institutions, or through the local radio stations; the manual to be used by the teachers in the schools, and require much time and research to com-

E.S. Gilbert
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March 2nd, 1939.

Fr. Andre,
c/o M.B.U.
Tampa, Florida:

Beloved Sir and Mentor:

I shall try to answer yours of the 14th, especially as there are many things that weigh upon my mind at this time to mention to you. First; however, I want to assure you that I enjoyed your letter to the utmost. Fact is that I always read them over several times lest something escape my notice the first time it is read.

One of the first things that I shall comment upon is that I loaned the last Messenger to Mr Bowers to read, and had him come back at me with a statement contained therein, that is the subject of the query now. I cannot quote the statement verbatim as I have loaned the copy of the Messenger out again, and so will have to recall in my own words. In Sri Veritas article there was mention made of "Bank notes, in order to have any value must be backed up with gold"; that statement raised a controversy. Bowers claiming, and with reasonable logic that "raw material plus labor power applied is the source of all wealth, and therefore must of necessity be that which establishes the value of exchange", "Gold is not wealth", though it has ~~been~~ erroneously been so considered, with the result that we have experienced some very devastating depressions for our mistake. I endeavored to explain that the statement was merely a metaphor used for illustration. How well I succeeded in making the explanation stick I cannot state at present, but I promised myself to write you about it in my next edition; so here it is.

Another episode that I want to mention is, that; I attended one of the Ballard's meetings held here in Oakland Auditorium. I had determined upon that course some time ago, and had resolved that I would try to review their work with as unbiased an attitude as I possibly could assume. Upon stepping into the foyer of the Auditorium, I was attracted to a string of people lined up and extending half way down the corridor and back; following the line to both ends with my eyes I beheld a man seated at a table, and very busily engaged at autographing new purchases of one or other of the books being sold from an improvised counter across the front of the foyer. This man was Mr. Ballard; dressed in white suit, socks, and shoes with a liberal supply of shiny jewels glittering from every point of vantage. His figure was that of a well proportioned man, tall but not stout, though big; his nose had a little hump on it, his eyes rather closely set toward his distinctively combatant nose. His forehead sloping backward into high tophead sparsely covered with hair that, too, was well mixed with the color scheme of white. Each book was autographed and a smile bestowed upon the happy recipient, as each eagerly awaited his or her turn to receive. But, the meeting itself was gorgeous; the auditorium was profusely decorated in all the rich color schemes conceivable. A Mr. Rogers occupied the rostrum for the opening exercises, and read a considerable list of newspaper clippings magazine articles, and other data denouncing Communism; Russia received a generous assortment of condemnatory attention, but not once was there any mention of the Hitler-Mussolini partnership of similar subversive activities. Mr. Ballard, and Mrs. Ballard alternated at the microphone for two hours or more, this was interspersed liberally with powerful decrees aimed at the subversive forces at work undermining America, these were always led by Mrs. Ballard. The subject theme of Mr. Ballard's principle address was a lengthy description of the regions of the astral activities, and their detrimental reactions on our physical plane. But the burden of each speaker's remarks was to buy a decree book, and go forth and save America. This was the special message from St. Germain, who is by information received from some of the "chosen elect" circle of followers, especially charged with the protection of America--not with the welfare of God's children at large, but--merely the protection of America. On looking up St. Germain's record as set forth in the Encyclopaedia Britannica, I found that he was most active throughout Europe; after participating in the rebellion that dethroned Peter II of Russia in favor of Catherine II he retreated to the fastnesses of William of Hesse, and was with that worthy during the time that England was negotiating with William for the rental of his Hessian soldiers in the rebellion in America. All of which merely sums up to (?) what? There was and for most part a very intelligent looking assemblage present; Mr

room before the conclusion of the meeting. Nearly every one of the meetings were broadcasted over KFRG the local Mutual Network; besides they maintain two other stations with fifteen minute programs transcribed by Mrs. Ballard every day, with an occasional extra.

Since my last writing, I have been assigned the task of finishing the remaining six programs of scripts for the California History series, before I can proceed to the completion of the manual I spoke of in my last. I have been able to complete four of the six programs in the meantime, leaving two yet to do. One of them is a dramatic sketch of Judge Barry of Sonora, and his quaint gold field brand of justice meted out.

And now, referring to your letter; in the fifth paragraph you mention a truism that, while I have been more or less acquainted with it, yet it is gradually assuming new significance with more mature contemplation. The truism is: "The Kingdom of Heaven is within us"; "it is wisdom, pure, and undefiled". And I can't help but reflect, that the presence of that large audience that attended upon the Ballard's meeting was only an evidence of the fact that there are people everywhere who are earnestly seeking that "Kingdom of Heaven". That that fact gives me much pleasure I can only re-affirm, and shall lose no opportunity to do what I can to stimulate that desire as much as I possibly can, with as many as I can. With a majority of our compatriots earnestly seeking for the truth there is no doubt as to the ultimate outcome of their efforts.

Now may I retrace my steps again, and comment some more upon the subject of California History. Needless to say, that with such an assignment to fulfill, I have been most diligent in research pertaining to California History, and from what is possible to discern from between the lines of said history, along with what the lines actually contain then construct them into something of a tangible illustration of what actually prevailed; the result is somewhat shocking until one views with gratification the marvelous manifestation that is being demonstrated at present--indicating a remarkable improvement in the average of humanitarianism attained. Measuring the degree of development attained in the preceding seventy-five years, and modifying it by the increase of tempo developing, then applying the revised ratio to the possibilities of the next decade; well it's gratifying to say the least.

I was more impressed with my re-reading of Chat #19. It seems like a very good idea to go back over them and re-read them from time to time; much of new interest, and inspiration generally results. I haven't started upon #20 yet, but will do so soon. It seems like the days do not have hours enough to do all the things one would like to do. For that reason such a regime as illustrated by the Book "Mankind United" seems most desirable, if it will only afford a little more time in which to do those things that one likes to do.

And that brings me again to the thought that you have never yet said what you think of "Mankind United"? Or, if you had any other information concerning it from other sources?

And that, too recalls to mind, that I have promised to recount several of the very interesting episodes which it has been my good fortune to have participated, but, I shall have to forego that for the present, though I'll try to keep them uppermost in my mind and comply in my next contribution.

I had thought I would have someone else to propose as prospective students but that, too, will have to wait for more development.

And now, kind sir, I shall have to bring this to a close, as other duties are clamoring for attention. God Bless you is the earnest wish of

Your dutiful student

Edwin S. Gilbert.

E.S.Gilbert
2151 47th Ave.
Oakland, Calif.

March 19th, 1939.

Fr. Andre,
Tampa, Fla.
Beloved Teacher, and Advisor:
I shall try to give you that story of the Old Miner at this time.

In the spring of 1917, I had occasion to make several trips into the city of Redding, Shasta County, California, where I established an agency for the chocolates I was selling at that time; Everybody's Drug Store, on the corner of Yuba, and Market Sts. Which was what one might describe as the "four corners", as it was the busiest intersection in the city; and the Drug Store had a corner entrance, also another entrance down the street some distance on Yuba St.

Late in the month of April, I made what was destined to be my last trip into Redding until January of 1920, when I was assigned to that territory with another line of Candy Merchandise. The custom was to abandon the hot valley territory during the summer months, and open it up again in September preparatory for a large Holiday business with the usual good chocolate business that follows as a matter of course through the winter months. Having finished my business with the customer by noon, I decided to spend a little time with him before starting back into the valley to Chico, my next stop. The condition of the roads would make it impossible for me to get there in any kind of time to do anything that day so I might just as well spend that little time with the Redding customer, then leisurely wend my way to Chico that evening and be ready for an early start in the morning.

I was conversing with the manager of the store over the counter on which he had his cash register, and wrapping equipment when all of a sudden he started, reached over selecting a pamphlet from a small stack piled on the counter, and handed it to me saying; "Here, pretend you are interested in this thing". Needless to say, I was surprised at this move on his part, and automatically took the pamphlet; but instead of being interested in its contents although I held it as though leafing it over critically, then out of the corner of my eye I sought the cause of this unusual procedure. I beheld an elderly man had entered the corner entrance, and was slowly wending his way along the cases on the opposite side of the store. He merely shuffled along, evidently a cripple, or age was manifesting its infirmity upon him. Directly his eyes discovered me apparently intently scanning the pamphlet, and out of the corner of my eye I saw a smile spread over his countenance and he immediately turned in my direction. I could feel rather than see that he kept his gaze steadily upon me, but I experienced no discomfort at that although my curiosity was keyed up to the top notch.

Arriving close by my side, he stood for a long time studying me; and I was beginning to feel a bit uncomfortable at the long silence when suddenly he said; "Young man! Are you interested in poetry?" Then I looked up for the first time, and gazed into his feverishly intense gaze, remarking as I did so; "Yes, I am very much interested in any thing that is artistic". But he seemed not to hear me, although his gaze never left off it's searching inquiry. After another interval of intensive study he said; "Young man! You like music, don't you?" To which I replied as before, that "I was interested in everything that was artistic". He continued his study of me for some time yet, then said; "Young man, I have some music that I want to play for you." Needless to say, my curiosity was now keyed to such a point that I would have forgotten all about Candy Business in order to gratify it. So I invited him to accompany me in my "Ford", which stood just outside the store, and after helping him into the seat I crawled in and asked, "Where to?" We drove west on Yuba St. crossing the S.P.R.R. for about three blocks, then turned south for about two more, then stopped in front of a small cottage sitting well to the back of the lot, I helped him to get out, and he led the way to the door of the cottage. The door opened into the center room of a three room cottage; and there stood an old reed organ against one side of the room, and opposite the organ there was one of those old fashioned lounges that had a drawer the full length of it just under the seat; this he pulled open and commenced shuffling amongst heaps upon heaps of manuscripts finally he held up the object of his search, then placed it on the rack of the organ, and sat down to play. This was the first time I had noticed that his hands were crippled--he could use the thumb and first finger of the left hand, and the thumb first, and little finger of the right hand; but this didn't seem to make much difference to him; it was truly marvelous the way he got over the keys of that organ, and the composition

E.S. Gilbert,
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Oakland, Calif.

March 23rd, 1939.

Fr. Andre,
Tampa, Florida.

Supplement:

Beloved Mentor:

Since writing the enclosed, story of the Old Miner, I have discovered that the pamphlet I was so concerned about losing, has in some mysterious manner become mislaid and hunt as I would, I have been unable to discover the whereabouts, so will have to try and supplement the data from it that would be necessary to make the story completely readable, and understood more fully.

Richard Herschel, (the miner) was born in Germany, and removed to the mining regions of Northern California at the tender age of seven. He was forced to compete in the struggle for existence at an age when he should have been educating himself for a more suitable occupation in his mature years, but fortune smiled upon him, then frowned; and repeated the process two succeeding times. One mining claim that developed rich returns was wrested from him by unscrupulous partners, the next he "fiddled" away as so many miners are wont to do; the third rise to affluence was disrupted by an over ambitious family, who took the claim from him, then cast him adrift; but which was dissipated to no advantage in the ultimate, and they being unable to get out and hustle for themselves were soon reduced to the status of public charges of Butte County. Mr. Herschel again sought the smile of Dame Fortune in the Gold Fields, but after six years of fruitless struggle emerged with the determination to apply his talents in the direction he had always desired. He was then 68 or 69 years of age when he procured his loved books and buried himself in the mountains of Shasta County to complete that education that had been neglected in his youth.

The poetry contained within the pamphlet--he called "His Maiden Oration", and was descriptive of the fearful havoc wrought by the fumes and gases from the smelter at Keswick. Throughout the lines was displayed a keen Love of Nature with a scoriating denunciation of the wanton causes of its destruction. The poem concludes with an appeal for all persons to unite and end the power of those elements that placed destruction of God's handiwork in the scramble for ~~gain~~ gold above everything else in importance. There was a parallel responsibility placed upon the War Lords, and Kaiser Wilhelm for encouraging the condition of thinking that stimulated those fearful results.

I can only reiterate, that my ability to describe the poem and its intent is but a feeble attempt, and in no way does justice to the original. I do hope I shall be able to find where it is. His manuscripts as I recall them were for most part devoted to the same purpose; of denouncing the sham manifesting throughout the social structure, with an eloquent appeal for recognition of the realities of Nature, and Her bounteous provision for Her subjects.

There, maybe that will aid you some in getting the picture more clearly, and help you feel the appreciation I experienced at being able to contribute a ray of happiness into a life that probably experienced very little others like it, also to help you understand my regrets at being unable to prevent the loss of those manuscripts, and the early passing of their creator.

Again I assure you of my appreciation of the beneficial correspondance, with the many enjoyable hours of reflection they stimulate, And wishing that my letters might be of a fraction of interest in return, I remain

Yours for Human Emancipation

Edwin S. Gilbert
Edwin S. Gilbert.

E.S.Gilbert,
2151 47th Ave.
Oakland, Calif.

March 29th, 1939.

Fr. Andre,
Tampa, Florida.

Beloved Mentor:

Since receiving yours of the 20th, I have been intending to answer immediately in that there are so many new developments to write about; then too, it will afford me an excellent opportunity to catch up with my correspondence with you.

The story that you related was very interesting, and affords much food for real constructive thought. I showed it to the Sherko's, and their reactions were in similar thought to mine--that it was a wonderful lesson in establishing the fact of our equal participation in the bounties of a most beneficent Creator--and we who would reflect the works of the Creator must indeed keep busy polishing the reflector. And, oddly enough, it seems like I'm receiving another tap on the wrist, with the admonition that my particular reflector must needs keep me busy if I would keep it clear of blemishes.

Now I must mention something about Mankind United. Last evening, (March 26th) at midnight, all registrations were formally closed; and all registrants can merely mark time now until they receive the formal notification of the beginning of activities. For several evenings (March 15th, and 17th respectively) there was a phenomenon recorded in these arias. On the 15th there was a light shown that illuminated the skies and made the countryside light as day--observed more particularly in Sonoma, Napa, and Solano Counties. The newspapers came out next day with the news that a meteor had been the cause of the disturbance, and that it was traveling from south to north. On the 17th the performance was repeated at the same hour (11.30 Pm) only this time the light changed color--from red to yellow, then green similar to the transition of lights at the intersection of the busy street corners that control the traffic. This occasioned considerable comment in the papers, but still it was the meteor, though no other attempted explanation, except from those who were loud in their declaration that the "demonstrations" had begun. To me there was only this oddity that seemed worthy of comment; that meteors are seldom if ever mentioned as traveling from south to north, for the simple reason that when they contact the outer layers of earth's atmosphere their course is determined largely by the motion of the earth itself, which spinning upon it's axis almost invariably swings any such object into an east or west direction or some modification of same. It has been more of an opportunity to indulge some powerful inquiries into the actual causes of the phenomenon, but which are capable of being explained perfectly natural like. Back to Mankind United now, we have been told that March 28th is the deadline, and a definite decision will be forthcoming as of that date; all quotas are complete now, and just as soon as the H.Q. have a chance to tally the results and get out the instructions to those selected for leadership in the activities, the actual work will commence. First the advertising program to attract the few necessary registrants into the centers, and then the actual "30-day Program" will be broadcast to the world and 200 millions registered to receive and vote upon the measures presented. After the broadcast, and voting (if 80% favorable) the Universal Service Corporation will be brought into existence, and started to functioning at once. The objectives of said corporation being to create a social condition universally similar to that described in the books of Bellamy, "Looking Backward", and "Equality". Yes! We are with those registered to receive the program, and if it is to be of benefit to mankind generally, well! Let it come.

I have been unable to find that pamphlet yet; strange what has become of it? And, it looks bad for the order in which my papers are kept, but as it wasn't very big it could easily have been overlooked in some unlooked for niche.

Will have to close, and make this one brief; but will do better in my next attempt. Enclosing the scribe-almas as usual, and with our very best regards

Ever Seeking Eternal Light

Edwin S. Gilbert, and
Mrs. E.S. Gilbert.

E.S. Gilbert
2151 47th Ave.
Oakland, Calif.

Fr. Andre,
Tampa, Fla.

May 4th, 1939.

Beloved Mentor:

I have to hand your letter of April 10th, Chat #29, and the Messenger; the latter two I have not had time to look at yet. I have been very much interested in the Chats for some time back--they are food for good constructive meditation--the subject of "Prayer" is always such. And how readily the subject of prayer blends into that of "Selflessness", which you used in your last letter to me. I have shown it to several of my friends, all of whom agree with me that it is beautiful.

Coincidentally, I picked up a book the other day, and began to leaf over the pages when suddenly my eyes were arrested by these words; "The moral duty of man consists in imitating the moral goodness and beneficence of God, manifested in the Creation toward all His creatures. That seeing, as we daily do, the goodness of God to all men, it is an example calling upon all men to practise the same toward each other; and, consequently, that everything of persecution and revenge between man and man, and of cruelty to animals, is a violation of moral duty." Adjoining that quotation, I found; "The ~~the~~ Creation we behold is the real and ever-existing word of God, in which we cannot be deceived. It proclaims His power, it demonstrates His wisdom, it manifests His goodness and beneficence." "I content myself with believing, even to positive conviction, that the Power that gave me existence is able to continue it, in any form and manner He pleases, either with or without this body; and it appears more probable to me that I shall continue to exist hereafter, than that I should have had existence, as I now have, before that existence began."

I thought I recognized an earnest and sincere declaration, and upon looking to see who was the writer I was surprised to note that it was none other than Thomas Paine; and the book was his "Age of Reason". I promised myself to look further into that book at some time when I have more time to devote to it, as it struck me rather odd that those words should flow from the lips of one whom I remember Theodore Roosevelt calling "a filthy little atheist" in one of his speeches, 1904 I think. The declarations quoted do not sound like atheism to me. Instantly my thoughts began to wander back and forth, as I pondered upon how many others of God's sincere children had been purposely or otherwise misquoted and maligned. And needless to say my thoughts reverted to the substance contained in the last few Chats, referring to prayer as I reflected the general need for a more complete, or even fundamental, understanding of prayer to aid us in attaining a more generous and appreciable concept of our fellow man. I had allowed the insinuating slur to influence my concept of one of the men whom I now know to have had more than a casual hand in helping to bring about the Declaration of Independence of our Nation; how many others who have been influenced in the same manner is difficult to determine. By giving credence to such statements, one aids or abets the cause of the subversive Hidden Rulers almost as much as the party making such statement even though unintentionally. Hence, the more general need for more harmonious alignment with God's Principles, that we may deal more equitably with His children.

In your letter you state; or I should have said, you quote; "Selfishness is bondage"! I cannot help but enlarge upon that simple statement and readjust it to read; "Selfishness is one of the Hidden Rulers". Because it ~~is~~ is the human manifestations of selfishness who assume to that status; just as soon as the individual overcomes that selfishness he is no longer ambitious of that status of power that designates him of the Hidden Ruler element. There is one of the basic fundamentals of Mankind United that is illustrated in their ritual of submerging personalities. Their speakers are always introduced as "The Voice of a Right Idea", and never by name. If you are acquainted with him, or her, by name you are requested to refrain from mentioning it. It is Ideals that are being built, not persons. Also that there is room within the ranks of Mankind United for all persons when they are willing to adopt the Ideal of "Golden Rule" conduct. Hence by that same token, there are no personalities within the Hidden Rulers' group, but who would be welcomed into the ranks of Mankind United, providing they agree to abide by the "Golden Rule".

Now that we are once more encroaching upon that vital subject, Mankind United, all that I can say yet, is that we are still awaiting the announcement of the

secure new petty officials to be known as Center Managers; I know many of the Bureau Managers who borrowed money to invest in "Mankind United" textbooks by the hundreds, in order to insure the possibility of having books to distribute when the transportation facilities became interrupted and blocked against all shipping. In order to have the stage all set for the release of the program the Bureau Managers placed the books out with persons who were willing to act in the capacity of Center Managers but who didn't have the necessary \$62.50 required for the twenty-five books they would need; and they in turn had to force persons to buy books who couldn't possibly dig up the cash. Summing it all up, lots of twenty-five books were sold to individuals who in turn scraped up all of the cash they could possibly get together by borrowing, or sacrificing personal belongings to get the amounts needed--Bureau Managers placed lots of twenty-five books out with individuals with the understanding that when they were sold they would remit the price back to them; and all predicated upon the assurance that something would be happening very shortly after March 26th.

What has happened after March 26th? First; there have been two meetings for Bureau Managers, who were permitted to bring one other selected worker from his Bureau for instructions--the first meeting was held on April 4th; when they were promised that the date for the release of the program would be revealed for sure at the meeting to be held on April 29th. At the first meeting it was hinted that there might be some disappointment in so far as the results of the drive were far from gratifying; at the meeting of the 29th, the Bureau Managers were promised that the date would be revealed by instructions in the mail by the 10th of May, when they were to call a series of meetings of their respective clubs for the purpose, all of which would be consummated by the 20th. These meetings never materialized as instructions came out requesting another great mass meeting to be held at the Municipal Auditorium in San Francisco on Saturday evening May 20th, and the date of the program release would be revealed from the platform.

At the meeting of the 20th, there were between 8,000 and 10,000 persons present, all bona fide Registrants seeking the information long promised; and what did they get? Well, after a long speech in which it was alleged that during the past year over one million of the European and Asiatic Registrants had met their death while performing the duty imposed of "throwing monkey wrenches into the wheels of the war machine", and as a result of which the burden of the task would fall entirely upon the Registrants of the United States; and that the Pacific Coast Registration Bureau had been invited to assume the task of drilling some new Registrants to be gleaned from the ranks of the more "qualified to act as Supervisors and Directors to select the 600,000 persons that would be needed to man the Universal Service Corporation as trained 'key' workers". This would necessitate some 20,000 Bureau Managers, Center Managers, and Registrants pledging themselves to subscribe for a "Pioneer Edition of the Revised Textbook" to cost each \$100--payable 10 dollars by the 10th of June, and seventeen cents per day or \$5.00 per month until December 25th 1940 when the book would be ready and delivered. The date was then revealed as December 25th 1951, unless notified in writing direct from headquarters before that time.

The Pacific Coast Superintendent; "The Voice of a Right Idea"; "The Speaker"; has been revealed now as Arthur Bell; at one time quite a Real Estate Operator and Promoter--alleged to have been implicated in a number of questionable operations--. It was whispered about many times previously that he had been a lecturer on the board of Lecturers for the Mother Church of the Christian Science Church--this information has sifted down to his having been very active in the Fourth Church of San Francisco at one time, and had served as one of the Readers, but it seemed that he used the prestige thus acquired for the purpose of reaching and influencing members of the church to invest in his madcap schemes; and on more than one occasion left them high and dry and holding the bag, as it were. This information I have not checked on, although it was told me by one whose integrity is above reproach. I understand that an effort is being made to have him apprehended, although he has been very clever in covering every possibility of slip up. The ruse of covering up his identity has been explained as avoiding contact with some who might have known of him and his escapades prior to this of "Mankind United".

Now, where do I stand? Well, I can't say that my opinions have undergone any drastic change; I have been very disappointed in the trend things have taken; I had hoped so earnestly that there might be something constructive to base a future program upon.

out of the idealisms presented from within the book. But, in truth to myself, I must admit that there have been many things that have caused me to stumble over those concepts. When I became introduced to Mankind United, I sought in every conceivable direction to ascertain its every angle. I learned that it had been introduced for the first time in the area at the Hotel Leanington, Oakland, by a man who was introduced as "The Voice". He had conducted a number of meetings for a clientele of invited guests. These guests were supplied with a limited number of invitations which they were in turn urged to pass on to friends who might be interested in the information thus imparted. It is my concept, after gleaming all of the information available, that all of the activity now manifesting emanated from those meetings. This was early in 1935, or late in 1934; the book "Mankind United" didn't come out until about September of 1936--I didn't become interested until the spring of 1937, and the second edition was going like hotcakes at that time. The few meetings I attended seemed very sincere, and in time I became impressed to the extent of locating it along. Along about that time I heard of the Ballards and their program, listening to one of Mrs. Ballard's radio talks--the similarity of its purport to that of Mankind United impressed me very much, and I was amazed when I learned that their official monthly periodical was called "The Voice of the I Am". Then I sought to affiliate them, but this was unsuccessful, for at the big "M.U." meeting in December 1937, the lines were drawn taut, and open hostility between the two resulted, although I had gone sour on the "I Am" before I made the trip back East in September '37. It was about that time I noticed a decided similarity in the wording construction, and general phrasing of the M.U. book with that of "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" which I have been trying ever since to find justification for. I thought my surmise substantiated somewhat when I discovered some rather unwarranted attacks upon Christian Science in the "Voice of the I AM" magazine, and immediately concluded that "I AM" had some previous information which warranted them to go direct to possible sponsors of M.U. Many other incidents happening, seemed to bear out that hypothesis, and lulling myself somewhat with the assurance that was insinuated by that hypothesis impelled me to neglect somewhat the investigation of such personalities as appeared in prominent places.

After summing up the latest evidences presented I am rather inclined to the belief that both "I AM", and M.U. have been sponsored from the same source, and that the petty jealousy displayed on both sides was merely part of the schedule for manufacturing confusion, the element so necessary for cultivating and maintaining an organized minority control. However my informant has assured me that the magnitude of the M.U. enterprise has been the capable work of one man with the assistance of a questionable publisher. This I have seen fit to discount, knowing from past experiences that such tactics as have been displayed bear the earmarks of others that have been classified as similar in purpose. For instance; some of those organisms that have run their course, and disappeared had for their motto--liquidate the Middle Class, force them into the Proletariat Class who have already been liquidated--precipitate confusion; destroy the institutions which have grown opulent in the Capitalist System. However, I'm still from Missouri, and am willing to be shown anything that will throw LIGHT upon this all absorbing problem.

Please pardon me for devoting so much time to the above topic, however, if I have been able to give you anything of a concise picture of this aspect of activity manifesting in this part of the country, I shall feel glad for so doing. I did not get to write about your most appreciable letter of May 12th, but I shall keep it on file for what it might inspire by the next time I write.

Thanking you for being a most patient listener, I shall close for this time hoping to hear from you very soon; (Scribe alms enclosed)

For the early realization of a better Humanity,

The Ideals for which Jesus aspired;

When man against man becomes brother for brother,

And God's Kingdom on Earth is acquired.

Mr. & Mrs. E.S. Gilbert.

E.S. Gilbert
2151 47th Ave.
Oakland, Calif.

May 28th, 1939.

Fr. Andre,
Tampa, Florida.

Beloved Pastor:

It is high time that I took up my duty of writing and answered some of your queries; it is always a pleasure to receive one of your enlightening letters, and always looked forward to with keen anticipation. Only sometimes it so happens that, when I think it is about time for one of them to arrive, I'm confronted with a realization of the fact that I have neglected to answer the last one. So it is in the present instance.

I have held off for two definite reasons this time, however, one of which was; that, I have been expecting to be placed in a position whereby I could give out some constructive information regarding the much talked of "Mankind United" movement. And as I have at this time all the information that it seems is going to be handed out for quite some time to come, I'd better pass it on so it can do what good it may in the meantime. I must confess that I have been grievously disappointed with the information such as it is, as it does seem like a deliberate let-down, or side-stepping of the issue.

First; however, I must state that; the Anglo-Saxon Israel Association is the same identity as the British Israel Association; the meeting places, or at least those I've seen in the vicinity are labeled "Anglo-Saxon", while the periodicals identify them as "the British" Israel Association. They have a generous following around here, but for most part they are almost predominantly elderly people, and apparently saturated with the orthodox ritual and ceremonies--even though they are releasing some very startling information regarding Bible interpretations, at least those dealing with the prophecies and their fulfillments.

The other reason that I have been silent for so long is; that, I've been feverishly anxious to get finished with the Teacher's Manual that I've been working on since the first of the year by spasmodic spurts, and though I have not finished it I am getting it in such shape that I can devote some time otherwise without fear of losing my prospective.

Presiding at all of the big meetings held in this area for the purpose of disseminating important information or instructions to the Registrants; also at all of the Bureau Managers, and Counsellors meetings of the vicinity, was a man whose carefully measured speech and eloquent philosophy proclaimed him a very able man, and apparently one who was well schooled in, and whose activities were unreservedly dedicated to the service of humanity. This man's name was never permitted to be spoken, he was always represented as the "Voice of a Right Idea"; and his invariable request upon assuming the stage was; "Those of you who know me by name will please refrain from mentioning it to others", "we are not dealing in personalities, we are striving for the recognition of right ideas only, and as the ideals represented here require complete subversion of personalities, it is desirable to forget names and individualities." "The personnel of the International Institute for Universal Research and Administration, and of the vast corps of Vigilantes who have carried on the years of research and other activities that have built the movement to its present proportions have remained unnamed, and entirely unknown to even each other." This explanation of apparent reasons for remaining unnamed on the platform seemed entirely plausible, and have been readily accepted by all.

Each meeting, with its attendant demands for additional effort, and more financial sacrifice was met with brave compliance on the part of the ranks; for hadn't they been promised a sure reward at a date not later than March 28th, 1939. First, it was insinuated that the program release might be made early in 1939, but efforts must be doubled--more Bureau Managers must be solicited, and above all the registrants must be quadrupled. The meetings of August, September, and October (4th) stimulated a tremendous enthusiasm, but the result was doubtful as to whether the program could be released at the coming Christmas time owing to the apathy of the people, but March 28th, was the deadline if there wasn't enough registrations, at least part of the program would have to be released even if its ultimate provision would have to be delayed until a later date, at any rate sufficient pressure would be brought to bear to prevent war hostilities from breaking out. The early part of this year found every Bureau Manager swamped in efforts to

date for the release of the program. We have been assured of this, however, that the Pacific Coast Registration Bureau have received the date, but owing to certain conditions imposed, and to failure of some to comply with some of the important provisions outlined the date cannot be released to the Registrants before May 16th, and that there will be some disappointment for those who have been calculating to be ushered precipitately into a life pension by an over night transition. We have been warned of the need for a period of intensive hard work covering at least a year and a half of constant application to the organizing process necessary. At the meeting in San Francisco last week, fully two-thirds of the meeting was devoted to minute instructions for maintaining the utmost harmony and co-operation between the Bureaus, and the need for greater display of toleration or rather to expend added efforts toward curbing impatience. Attention was called to the fact that some of the Bureau Managers had made themselves conspicuous in their zeal to make creditable showings, and that the Pacific Coast Headquarters could request the resignation of any who failed to maintain the required decorum. I might add in passing that my respect for the altruistic intent of the movement has increased 100% in the past two months, and now I catch myself wishing that I had thrown myself into the work with more weight than I did, only I can't really figure out where I could have done so without infringing upon someone else's rights to do the same thing in other directions. However I've been accused of doing that very thing, so that if I had really done so I'd merely be getting some of the game along with the name, so it is better thusly.

I have been unable to locate that pamphlet yet--strange, where it could have been hidden. I haven't scoured the place over completely, but I have kept a keen lookout for it ever since it became lost. Will keep it constantly in mind, however, it will show up sooner or later.

By the way, do you know anything about the Anglo-Saxon Israel Association I have attended several of their meetings, and have enjoyed their translations of the Biblical history as pertains to the progression of the various tribes of Israel; their migrations, and trans-migrations through the European countries, and their alleged relationship to the peoples of Europe today. I found it quite interesting. The last time I was down to their meeting their speaker launched into a merciless tirade against Mankind United, although the burden of his discomfiture seemed to crystalize around the impossibility of any organization of mankind's election doing the things that God was expected to do for them. There were seven of us from the Mankind United group in attendance and he waited until after the collection plate had been passed before he treated us to the verbal flogging, and; too, I have no positive assurance that he really was aware of our identity even if we did remain in our group formation throughout the meeting.

Once more, I have about "boxed the compass" as it were, and have arrived at the time to say good night for another interval, during which I assure you, I shall wait with patience for the welcome reply from you. It is always anticipated with keen interest, though my replies have been anything but punctual, always speed-up or lag behind, but mostly lagging. With keenest appreciation of your indulgence of my idiosyncrasies I will close.

Scribe Alms enclosed for currant lunar period.

I remain Your Pupil and Brother

In the Interest of Perpetual Illumination

Mr. & Mrs. Edwin S. Gilbert

Edwin S. Gilbert

of the distribution of the races, for much the same reason.

Speaking of the distribution of the races, I read a book some time ago, "Thou Israel", by Chas. F. Stocking, in which (fourth book) there was considerable space devoted to tracing the lost tribes of Israel. They are, according to the narrative, the people who inhabit Europe, or I should say, they are the races who have manifested progress throughout the development of European civilization. I received many references to that story, and found them, so far as I was able to proceed with them, very interesting and instructive. One of the lecturers for Mankind United used that work of Chas. Stocking very much in his lectures. Continuing the gossip about Stocking and his books, I liked his "Carmen Ariza" very much--thought it was a much better application of the ideal of purity of religious action. Only, somewhat like Marie Corella's "Thelma", the heroine seemed a little overdrawn, though I cannot tell just why I think so. However, they were both beautiful stories.

I guess I shall find little time to read now for awhile, I have been transferred to San Francisco, to assume the duties of librarian for the Board of Education's Northern California branch in charge of Adult education. One look at the library today showed me that there will be considerable work to straightening them up and re-cataloguing them. They have quite a library pertaining to educational works.

Will enclose scribe alms and forward this letter as soon as I can get to a branch post office.

Anticipating a very interesting revelation when you unfold more about that intriguing letter of Pontious Pilate's wife, I am as ever

Yours in the pursuit of Spiritual Unfoldment

Edwin S. Gilbert
Mr. and Mrs. E.S. Gilbert

P.S. Thanks for the birthday remembrance.
E.S.G.

find more light, for the purpose of real spiritual unfoldment. And when I do start again? I shall start with #1 Chat.

I noted in your letter that the book "Mankind United" has been located; And furthermore that you will get a chance to read what it contains, and make some comments upon it. That is good, and entirely within my wishes to receive your reactions to it.

I have viewed it for quite some time now, and ever with a kind of suspended opinion. The Ideals represented therein come nearest to being the desired conditions sought by mankind in general. Their description of the crisis pending the outcome of the age-old struggle between Ahriman and Ormuzd is most interesting, indeed. And careful perusal of the pages of American History reveals a sufficiently well organized chain of circumstances to warrent the nature of the organization sponsoring that movement. I have made quite a study of American History, and in fact History of the Human Race has always been an interesting field for careful research, on my part.

I might venture an opinion as to who might be included within the ranks of the International Institute for Universal Research and Administration, (Sponsors of the movement called Mankind United) as, the measurements of the various data presented, both, between the lines of American History, as well as what the lines themselves contain, to indicate logical reactions. Much information is to be gleaned by a careful analysis of the rhetorical construction of the book Mankind United; And between the two separate sums total of logical deductions, there is revealed much information that the average layman is unable to see. I am sympathetic to their Ideals and Claims, and have decided to help boost them by every means within my power and scope to perform, yet ever on the alert for the least signal that would signify that it had been, or was being diverted from the purposes indicated.

I seem to have inherited my Father's aptitude for research and analytical investigation--ever searching for an answer to the all inclusive, Why? Etc, etc. From Mother I received an inheritance of spiritual treasures, that have been of inestimable value in enabling me to seek the Divine Image reflected in my fellow man; Then Father's endowment seeks enlightenment, in ascertaining; "What makes the Wild Cat, Wild"; "while still reflecting the spark of Life, Divinely endowed?" This is perhaps a crude, though concise, illustration, boiled down to brevity, for quick consideration, of the cycle in which I find myself continually revolving.

After a little over one year of unemployment, I have at last been placed in one of the WPA projects; And from what I've been able to absorb of the new activity in which I find myself, I believe I'm going to like it much better than anything I've ever been engaged in before; Seems to fit my temperament better at least. I am librarian for Continuity production for Educational Radio Programs; My inquisitive propensities have a broad field in which to exercise, and expend their activities.

I think I've burdened you enough for this time, while unburdening myself of that surplus of varying emotions. Thanking you again for your kind and beneficial admonitions, I shall close this message with an expression of best of good wishes,

Sincerely and Earnestly

Yours in Everlasting Truth,

Edwin S. Elliott

and integrity of an unknown sponsor: The International Institute for Universal Research and Administration; an elaborate title, but meaning exactly nothing, as world's organizations go, or are known. Yet, the reason for submerging a perfectly potent sponsoring organism under such a *Nom de Plume* is reasonably excused, following the logical deductions presented in the book, if the honesty and integrity of such organism is beyond question of doubt. We who have been fooled by experts in the past find ourselves unconsciously questioning everything that presents a mysterious phase, or element of legerdemain within its folds. The blanching hulks of wrecked enterprises scattered along the pathway of time bear mute evidence of the necessity of careful consideration of each minute detail of the vehicle alleged to be capable of making the journey to, "The Brotherhood of Man".

However, on the other hand, the presentation of such ideals as were first given expression by the Master Jesus, along with exact causes for their never having been consummated; presentation of which facts have never been wholly undertaken by any others. By which I mean that; never has the fact been presented, that a manipulated monetary system has been the invisible cause of all human discomforts, and which invisible control has been subtly maintained throughout the centuries. When one stops to consider, it was just four days from the time that, Jesus overturned the tables of the Money Changers and whipped them from the Temple, until these same Money Changers, acting then as now, under the sanction of vested authority, had Him betrayed and crucified. The pages of History redound with similar instances of assassination of individuals, or even groups of individuals, when they interfered with the "racket" of the Money Changers. Usury has been an illegal institution, or practise, throughout time, or at least until quite early in the last century; when that monster assumed two identities; One of which was legalized and became known as, Interest, Dividends, Discount, Bonus or Commission, while the other identity remained Usury, the illegitimate, and immediately lost caste and following; resolving into an ethereal, dislocated entity. The Bible presents many condemnations of Usury, while containing no indorsement of it whatsoever; so in order that the Bible, which was becoming more generally read by the average layman, at the beginning of the last century, be not in conflict with the contemplated plans of the Money Changer, who was becoming more powerful; man made laws were constructed to define just what the Bible was not at variance with, hence Interest and its kin came into existence.

In-so-far as Mankind United proposes to create conditions in our Social and Economic Structure, whereby the Anti-Christ Monetary System will be scrapped in favor of conditions through which the "Golden Rule" will become operative for the first time in history, the consummation of such a plan is worthy of every thinking individual's support, and to that extent I pledge myself to support Mankind United in establishing that result, if it become befouled in the clutches of subversive activities, then I'm through with it.

Another factor that has appealed to me very much is that the contemplated plan transition to be proposed by Mankind United, is allegedly parallel to the plan described in Bellamy's book, "Looking Backward". It has been claimed many times by authorized speakers that; the Institute furnished Bellamy with the material to incorporate into a romance the presentation to our citizenry of such plan for early consideration of its possibilities, and to become used to the ideals it proposed. At any rate of the seven books that Mankind United recommends for exclusive study in their 4-4-8-3-4- Study Clubs, Bellamy's "Looking Backward", and "Equality" are two of them; the others are the "King James Bible;" "Key Creators" by Gertrude M-Coogan; "Arms and the Men;" by editors of Fortune Magazine, unpublished in the March 1934 issue of that publication; A good "Dictionary" and "The Constitution of the United States", with the "Declaration of Independence".

I had indeed ascertained the "specific" reason, why the "Golden Rule" was being replaced by a nauseating substitute; the Orthodox Churches had developed, either through choice, or habit into strongholds for the agents of the Money Changer; his lavish subscriptions influenced favor in his direction, and through it he dictated the policies to be followed by the Church toward it's constituency. The same method was used by the Hidden Rulers penetrating the citadels of learning--the Colleges and Universities--in fact the whole Public School System policies are dictated by that group's emissaries. Knowing the truth about these matters only stimulated a more kindly consideration of logical measures proposed for remedying, what has been readily identified as the Anti-Christ influences responsible for all of mankind's ills, and which have been adequately provided for in the book "Mankind United", as Champion of Human Emancipation; And that hinges upon, What?

And now I must bring this message to a close, I have hastily and roughly skimmed of the subject, and demonstrated that I know very little about the thing at best, hence anxiously await any development that may suggest a definite direction to follow. Believe me as the sincere searcher for more light, and

Thy Humble Scholar

itself had some real merit. Finally he stopped; and I complimented him both for his exhibition and composition. We conversed for a short while, he telling me about how he came to dedicate the composition to President Wilson, calling it "The President Wilson March"; then he showed me a number of other compositions that he was working upon but hadn't finished, also a number of poems that he had ready to get them copyrighted and printed. It was one of his poems that he had scraped together money enough to have printed into pamphlet form that had been the means of our introduction--eight pages of poetry eight four-line verses to the page, describing the havoc wrought by the smelter at Keswick, just eight miles out of Redding; it being responsible for the death of all vegetation for many miles around that country--then there were several pages devoted to a story of his life--coming to this country at the age of seven, he had spent all of the intervening time in the mining districts of California, attaining three fortunes during that time, but unable to hold onto them in one way or other he was always a victim of others designing against him. At the age of sixty-nine he decided to indulge the ideals that had always clamored for expression, and bought dictionary, books, and supplies, then removed himself into the mountains where he educated himself in the next four years, and except for occasional visits for food, he kept away from town. He had just been back to town less than a year when I met him.

During the conversation which had followed his playing the "President Wilson March", he stopped talking for an interval, and resumed that attitude of studying me very intently, then in short jerky words he said; "Young man! You can play! I want you to play for me!" This staggered me for a minute, but I was beginning to get used to eccentricities, and a feeling of calm determination gradually assumed the ascendancy. So, after some reflection I stated that, "I'd be glad to play for him, but my instrument was the clarinet and but slightly acquainted with the piano, I knew almost nothing about the organ, but I'd try. And as luck would have it I had with me a roll of piano music, so I went out to the car got my music, and returned to the organ. First I played the "Adagio Cantabile" from Beethoven's Pathetique Sonata--then a melodious little "Andante" from Mozart's works. I was conscious of my new friend standing behind me, but leaning over my shoulder--and his hot tears falling on my shoulder seemed to lend added inspiration to the task in hand--the short keyboard range of the organ rendered no handicap whatsoever, as I surprised myself by the interpretations that seemed to flow so easily from my fingers. Time was forgotten, I sat there and played as I had never played before--Chopin's Preludes; Tchaikowsky's "In the Church"; Bach's Pfingst Cantata; all classic or secular music, and my friend stood as if glued to the spot, his warm tears having made considerable of a dampness on my shoulder, but I was oblivious of it until afterwards. The evening shadows were beginning to lengthen themselves on the wall of the cabin when I made ready to go, after first getting his promise to make my home in Oakland his headquarters when he came to San Francisco for the purpose of having his works copyrighted, and I promised to call upon him when I came back to Redding in the fall.

The war conditions imposed that summer caused the firm I was working for to change their plans somewhat so when fall came around I was not scheduled to go north of Sacramento. Having the old gentleman almost constantly on my mind, and anxious to have at least another visit with him this was a keen disappointment, and there was nobody whom I could entrust with so delicate a mission among the few acquaintances on the road in that territory. In the summer of 1918 the firm cut down their territory activities and I was out of a job entirely--at that time I went into the Ship Yard, working there until February 1919 when I went to work for B.J.Baum Co. on the best job I ever had. 1919 I worked the Coast territories entirely, but at Christmas time when some changes were contemplated I traded my South Coast territory for the Sacramento Valley, and could hardly wait until my schedule would take me into Redding. I arrived there however about the 24th of January, and after finishing my work(which comprised a new clientele entirely) I went to the Drug Store, where a new manager greeted me, and who knew nothing about the object of my mission. He directed me to several persons whom he thought might be able to give me some information from one of them I learned that there was a man who could tell me what I wanted to know, but he wouldn't be in town until Saturday morning--and this was on a Tuesday evening--so I figured my schedule, and found out that if I left that night I could finish my business in the north and get back into Redding early Saturday morning. This I did, hurrying through my work as rapidly as possible. On Saturday morning the man came into the Drug Store about 10 o'clock, and sure enough he had been an acquaintance of our friend, and from him I learned that in June 1917, my old friend had been investigated by the authorities and was discovered