

Aug. 25, '44.

I have been getting very worried at not hearing from you for so long. Your August cable has arrived, but I shall not know until tomorrow its contents. Again I have not heard from Mrs. Oppenheim (sic!T.), to whom I wrote by Air mail enclosing a copy of "The City of God". I thought her generous gesture called for a special acknowledgment.

There is a great deal to report, though it is all at present rather in the air; but the gist of it is that the publication of the Tarot book seems to have put me on the map in the so-called occult world, as I have never been until now. The result is that several groups of students have at last realized that I am the real man, and have accordingly approached me. If only I had some one here with organizing ability, I could establish a united body. I ask only one condition, that they should accept the law

of Thelema. I do not intend to interfere in any way with their special lines of work. I have already mentioned to you two people in the peerage who are very enthusiastic. If I only knew how to handle them, we might have our own printing establishment which is the one dire necessity of the moment. I have been hoping to hear from you that you had found a man to undertake the American edition of the Book of Thoth. I do not know yet whether you have received your copy. I have sent specially inscribed copies to Max, Jane, and Mrs. O. Further copies will be sent to you as soon as the binder deliver them. I think I can spare you three or four of the ten that should come in this week. I do not know how long it may take to bind up the second fifty.

I was knocked sideways by the subscriptions that came in from perfect strangers, and so had not made arrangements for an adequate supply. About these groups: there is a Mrs. Hayes who represents the original G.D. I do not know how many people she can bring on her tail. Then there is Dion Fortune, a quite distinguished novelist, and almost unique in her honesty about acknowledging the sources of her magical information. I think that her group must be quite important numerically, as she has a sort of publishing shrew on the side called the Fraternity of the Inner Light. There is a group of Cardinals, Archbishops or Bishops of the Liberal Catholic Church and the Patriarchate of Antioch. The brains of this outfit is a Dr. W.B. Crown who is most enthusiastic and active. I hope I have already cured him of playing 'Red Indians' with all this nonsense of legitimate succession of the Dark Ages. He is actively trying to put on the Gnostic Mass. This morning he sent me a proof of an appeal for co-operation. There are also some people in position and substance in Warwickshire, and a very efficient lady in Dorset who would make a perfect organising secretary, if we could afford to pay her. There is also a man Deighton Patmore, the grandson of the Victorian poet. He is working on healing people by means of various coloured lights and so on; it seems feeble, but I believe he is having great success. He is established in Torquay, and apparently has quite a following there.

There are also a number of odd people all over the country who could be roped in if only we had a proper plan and the means of executing it. It annoys me very much that I should be such a helpless idiot in all practical matters of this kind. I now remember that I have not mentioned Lady Harris, and Robert Cecil of the Foreign Office. Of course the former is a pestilential curse in practical matters. She is always having impulses, and doing the maddest and most criminal things in the course of spasms.

A.C. would be a first class man if only he had ambition and drive. Best of all we have McMurtry, who is at present somewhere with the U.S. Army. I have seen a good deal of him; he has turned up trumps in every way. I think that he is our best of the younger lot. I enclose a carbon of the letter I wrote to him yesterday.

I find it very difficult to make personal plans. I want both to keep on "93" (P.S. At present sublet, so costs nothing.) and to have a pied a terre out here, where the food is good and the conditions generally agreeable that it has practically made a new man of me. But is very hard to make plans until we know when the war will be over in Europe. The figure for London for the Equinox is rather terrifying. Saturn and Herschel in conjunction the M.C. with Caput in the 11th. Of course, Mercury and Jupiter are rising in conjunction above another conjunction with the Sun and Neptune, and they again are fairly close with another of Mars and Venus. It looks a bit stupid especially with Herschel in Gemini, while Saturn in Cancer, which rules New York. A very difficult figure to read; there is little interplay between the several groups.

I think this is pretty well all I need say at the moment; but I shall keep the letter open until the mail arrives tomorrow morning, on the chance that your cable may be through with a possible message. I am just a little disturbed because McMurtry sent £20 to you on August 1st or 2nd and to me £20 on July 1st or 2nd. No arrangements have been made (so far) for direct

transmission of anything but letters & parcels from where he is in London: and so I do not know what has halled to either of these amounts. Their absence has been a little hard on the Budget. But I am much more worried by your long silence, and also that of every one else. I have heard from no one except Max for well over a month.

Let me thank you and Sascha most warmly for the perfectly divine material and the candied fruit! Nothing could have been more welcome.

Here's a lucky break, too, this afternoon I found a copy of Liber Aleph among papers from 93. I am sending it off to you by sea: it is too heavy to go by air. Should a publisher appear, go to it!

At last I have found some one to push La Gauloise who is in a position to do something about it. So all round things seem to be looking up. Don't relax your own efforts, though! Hasn't Sascha got a pupil would sing La G. in public? Things like this often catch fire suddenly.

August 24.

My faith was justified; your letter of Aug. 18th came this morning. I am sorry to hear about your carbuncle, I had a rather bad one three years ago, so I know what they are like. But yours seems to be a very complicated affair. You can always protect yourself by assuming the Godform of Harpocrates.

I am glad you have received the unbound copies as that will facilitate the production of the American edition. As to the bound copies. At the Post Office here they asked once for a form to be filled up; but the other 3 copies they accepted without argument. I do not remember whether it was yours, or Lucy's, for which I had to fill up a form, in any case your copy No. 3 is very lavishly inscribed; so I do not see how they can hold it up. The letter from Lucy has not yet arrived.

How well I know those hot summers in New York, I remember once 8 days when I never put my clothes on. I got in and out of a cold bath 20 times a day, and even so broke out in a violent sweating every time I lifted my pen. The summer here has been a joke, even for England; one has not been able to rely on it being steady for an hour at a time. To-day it is hot, cold, draughty and oppressive. Always when people get crazy en masse the elements break loose and make holiday.

I am delighted to hear that you appreciate the Book. In the first part of this letter I have told you how wonderful the reception has been. A list of misprints would be very helpful. It is disgraceful; I went through it again and again, but I could not beat the printer. They have the infernal trick of putting things wrong after passing the sheet as right. I shall send you copies regularly, so that you will have some for sale. I will also send some to Lucy. The reason is that I have no export license, and so I cannot send them en bloc.

The Bank sent their draft to-day for 197 dollars 16 cents. This looks as if you have not received the contributions from McMurtry as above mentioned. Thanks very much for the stamps. Please keep up the good work. Not a word from Jack; I hope he has not pinched McMurtry's contribution!

I cannot understand your having not received the cable about Smith, the censor never questioned me about it. They have no right to burke communications without warning one.

I am rather glad Roy has taken the course indicated; tending goats was no job for him.

P.S. Would it bother you too much to put varied values of stamps on your letters to me up to 30 ¢ or whatever it is, 1¢ 2¢ 3¢ (?) 5¢ & so on. Ask others to do ditto; I have a young collector after me.

Simon & Schuster - Alfred Knopf - Doubleday, Doran  $\frac{1}{2}$  Boni & Liveright (new name now, but Horace Liveright was the man) - are Louis Wilkinson's suggestions.

Enclosure with the preceding letter.

Dear Louis ( sic! should be 'Grady'), Do what etc.

I have been abxious at not hearing from you. I hope all is well and that you have received your copy of the Book of Thoth, unless it was impounded to drop on a couple of retreating German Divisions, if so I have several more that I could send you for this purpose.

I have heard nothing from Jack and Carl' cable has not come through to me as the Bank Staff is on holiday and nobody knows what to do with the money, so I do not know whether your July and August remittances are included. This delay more or less has upset my Budget very seriously, and I hope that by September 1, some means have been found by which you can transmit direct. If, however, you can use the money to put over La Gauloise, that is a first priority.

Things here are moving very quickly and favourably. Several groups in various parts of the country have been approaching me and if I had a sedong in command with some organizing ability I should within the next month or two be at the head of quite a considerable number of people. There are groups in Yorkshire, Lancashire, Warwickshire and the West Country who could all be roped in, but not knowing how to do it, I am as helpless as a cowboy who does not know the use of a lasso or a broncho (sic!T.)

I hope that if you get leave you will make a point of dashing here, and if the surrender comes make a point of visiting England for a indefinite period.

I was going to rite you an official letter about your position in the Order but it would have to be drafted carefully and I will try to give you the hist of it in a few simple and well chosen words.

You are the only man from the U.S.A. of the younger generation who has been properly blooded and you know me personally with a remarkable degree of intimacy considering the shortness of our association.

You are also, quite ~~xxxxx~~ the most serious and intelligent of the younger lot. This singles you out as the proper man to take charge of affairs when the time is ripe. It is supremely important that you should understand fully the 8th degree if only because you are at an age and have the ability to make full use of the powers which it confers.

It is therefore most important to regularize your position. You must be able to say that you have fulfilled punctually all the obligations which are undertaken in the course of your passage to the Sovereign Sanctuary. The details of this pertain to the official letter which I think I shall be able to send you in the course of the week.

I think that is all for the moment so I will close with ~~xxx~~ sincere affection and every good wish.