

January 1961

PLANS FOR MEETINGS

You will be starting meetings and all our other activities while I am away in Africa. After having many talks with people from different Groups I feel it would be good to use the time until Easter as an experimental period, during which people will be encouraged to decide how they want to spend the evening a week usually devoted to meetings and to put them in touch with kindred spirits who feel as they do.

As a practical means of achieving this I would like Groups to continue as they are until my return, giving them a choice of various activities which have been suggested so that each Group or each person can decide. With that information available there will be a reorganisation of Groups as soon after my return on 10th February as possible.

While these decisions are being made I would like read at the meetings some notes about fundamental things which everybody has to remember – the right conduct of a School, the relation of individuals to the Leader, and the relation of this organisation to other groups and other teachers. Don't forget that at the present time what is most important is our unity and cohesion as a group carrying on Mr. Ouspensky's work, at the same time giving the maximum freedom for the individual to follow his heart's desire.

1. The two new Groups and, I believe, the Allans' Group want to continue the material about the Ray of Creation, about Laws and Influences governing Organic Life and man in particular; this material will be furnished each week. Does anyone else want to hear this?
2. People who have been more than three years with us could very profitably try to remember all they know of the System and find their own formulations in answer to the chief questions being asked today. One of the first questions can be: 'What is the relation between the inner world of my own psychology with the big outer world in which I live?' From the System the answer could be given in a number of different ways. What steps would you choose? You would have a week to prepare what you will say for the Group's questions and criticism, and perhaps two or three people in the same Group could have a try each week.
3. It is believed that many people would like to continue the study of Schools from the point of view of the relation between the Inner Circle and the Outer Circle of Humanity, to try to formulate questions and answers on this subject.
4. Some would like to devote their evening each week to the meditation. I am against, as is the Maharishi, meditating in the company of other people as a group. For those who agree with me, the most profitable way to go about this is to listen to recordings of the Maharishi's talks to those doing meditation and his very moving description of his own 'Holy Tradition', and then to go home and do the meditation privately, perhaps in two periods of half an hour separated by a short interval. The recordings can be heard in the Art Room at Colet Gardens every evening except Mondays from 6 p.m. onwards.

5. Some will want to combine two of these studies, but it must be remembered that the Art Room will hold only about 25 to 30 people. They can see Mr. Snell who has a plan.
6. Working Parties are very necessary for the maintenance of the house and also for some more painting which has to be done. We would be very glad if those who have been working could continue and if they could be deciding which of the above alternatives they would choose as an accompaniment.

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