

[On letterhead paper.]

ALBERT E. S. SMYTHE  
General Secretary

33 Forest Avenue  
HAMILTON, Ontario, Canada

Saturday, 12th August, 1939

Dear Mrs. Hastings,

If I do not reply immediately to your letter it may not get any reply at all. This flat is like an unorganized museum where no one knows where anything is, and nothing remains anywhere for any definite time. If I laid your letter down and turned around it would be somewhere else immediately. No; I have no room and have given away two-thirds of my books, and the landlord is afraid that those I kept will fall through the floor on the tenants beneath, and altogether except that we are a little higher up the "Mountain" and get fresher air, the move which was compulsory on account of the rent exhibiting incompatibility with the income, presents all the attractions of a new initiation into life in a new phase. We always get through somehow, but my idea was to go to a nice village where the country was at hand. My wife would not hear of it having urban proclivities, so we are as we are. I thoroughly sympathize with your packing case views, and would adopt such a menage at once if possible. As an editor I had to accumulate books and now that I am out of editing I have made over the tools of my profession to McMaster University for the benefit of the young men and women of that institution. You have naturally fallen into a prolaya after the splendid outshining of your N[ew].U[niverse]. and the volumes of the Blavatsky Defence. I came across a passage yesterday somewhere speaking of Solovioff and telling how he had asked H.P.B. to initiate him or something, and she refused and he went out like Judas swearing he would ruin her. I think when you read that as no doubt you have or will, you will arise in your might and sweep the dirty traitor into oblivion. What you said about the S.P.R. fearing your dissection of Solovioff more than your attack on their Report is perfectly true. Their alliance with a traitor like that is one of the meanest things in their history and you can rub their noses in it I have no doubt at all. I wish I had money to help you with the publication expenses but I never had any money to spend on real things and I suppose never will. It is funny the way we have to fritter away our money on what are supposed to be necessities when essentials are left begging. I do hope you will send me the article for the C[anadian]. T[heosophist]. and that it will herald your return to these chivalrous labours for H.P.B. I hope you read Pandia's article and got the impression he desires to leave. He is going to give me another. He has been very busy in Canada. Left us to go to Montreal and Ottawa. When at the capital he interviewed the Prime Minister and then flew to Vancouver, with interviews there with Premier Patullo of B. C. and then flying back to Ottawa where he succeeded in getting the deportation order for 45 sikhs who have been here 20 years, honest, industrious citizens—cancelled! It is a triumph for him and will be a gesture of friendship, as he says between two great countries. He is on a mission to the British Government etc. My Board of Directors turned against him and me and it is pretty clear the wish to turn me out. Talk about false charges! Some day I may tell you about it, but you are not alone—nor is anybody that tries to do good. We have an annual meeting in September and I think the members generally will support me. Well, good luck and more power to you.

(Signed)

Cordially,  
Albert E.S. Smythe