

To the President of the Theosophical Society,
Adyar, Madras, S.
India.

and beloved

Dear Mrs. Annie Besant,

Many months have elapsed since I had the pleasure to receive your kind letter of ~~May~~^{15th} and now I at last am sending you my heartfelt thanks for its wise and brotherly message.

It arrived on June 14th, but in time to be read at our annual congress (June 24th). It filled us all — myself and my friends — with great joy, for you had understood us so well and so kindly, and we trusted that our brothers of the Finnish T.S. would gladly consent to your proposal of dividing the Finnish T.S. into two sections, autonomous, but headed by a common general secretary. Wasn't that a sure way to peace and brotherly understanding! Wasn't that the way to secure an effective Theosophical work on both sides!

Alas, we were grossly disappointed. Our brothers ~~of the~~ did not see the wisdom of such a step. They declined ^{even} to discuss the matter at the annual meeting, saying that the members had not been notified in time according to the rules, which of course was formally right. However, we constituted our "Occult Section", as we provisionally called it, and held our own meetings. On the 2nd of July I attended a ^{executive committee} ~~executive~~ meeting of the T.S. and asked ^{the} whether the ^{committee} ~~executive~~ had

a correct view of the situation, ^{seeing} ~~so that it understood~~
the necessity of dividing the society into two sections,
and 2:0 whether The ~~Council~~ ^{Committee} was willing to take
the ~~the~~ votes of the members as to which section
they wished to join. The ~~Council~~ ^{Committee} said no, and
we agreed that I was personally to take these
votes. Some days later I ~~sent~~ ^{distributed} a circular
signed by some sixty members of the T.S. and
calling for votes. During the months of July
and August I visited most of the lodges
in Finland and spoke to the members. On ~~the~~
~~just 3/8th~~ ^{given} September 1st the votes ^{were}
counted and amounted to 270 or not quite
the half of ^{our} membership. The voting was interfered
with by a ^{rather surprising} circular issued by the general secre-
tary and some ^{other} members of the ^{executive} council, telling
the members to be in no hurry to vote: "we
don't want to form any section; let Mr.
P.E. and his followers ~~can~~ organize themselves
as a section, if ~~they~~ it pleases them, we shall
remain the Theosophical Society in Finland
as hitherto, and nothing else." Of course this
circular caused a great many members at
large to hesitate, members living here and
there in the country and not thoroughly ac-
quainted with the development of things. And ^{that's}
I think ~~that's~~ ^{why} partly at least, by ~~this~~ we were

and remained)

(in the minority.

Now, of course, there was very little chance for the formation of two sections. Addressing the ~~society~~ executive committee we were met with blank refusal. It was evident they didn't want us to represent the T.S. officially, they wanted the Society wholly for themselves. And thus it came to pass that I, G. myself, who ~~was~~ ^{was} a member of the T.S. for 25 years (having joined the Scandinavian Section in October 1895); was no more able to stand representatively and officially for the Theosophical Society, although I have worked all my life solely for the cause of Theosophy. A rather comical situation both for myself and for the many old Theosophists ^{ical} workers who stand on my side.

There was only one solution. We wanted to continue our work and to be no more hampered in ~~our~~ ^{the same} work by useless and trivial ^{conflicts with the} discrepancies. So we decided to carry on the work on a new platform and form a new society.

And thus it happened, that on the fourteenth of November 1920 in the city of

(The Rosy Cross,)

Helsingfors, Finland, The Society for occult re-
search in Finland (Ruusu-Kristi, Suomen Salati-
teellinen Tutkimusseura) was ^{founded} ~~constituted~~ I am
its leader and am to nominate the ¹² members of
its council (one chair always ^{being} empty for the
unseen Master). Later I shall send you
a copy of its rules. I only wish to point
out, ~~that~~ a no member entering the Rosy
Cross is asked to leave the T.S. He may
belong to both Societies. The Rosy Cross
~~is~~ wishes to remain ^F on the best and
friendliest terms with the T.S., and
the constitutional meeting sent its bro-
therly greetings to the T.S. in F.

Also it was proposed and unani-
mously resolved that Mrs Annie
Besant, P.T.S., ~~honorary~~ be asked
to be the first Honorary Member of the
Finnish Rosy Cross.

Thus I ^{have the pleasant duty to} offer you this Honorary
Membership, my dear and beloved Mrs.

Desant, and if you ^{will} kindly notify me that
you accept the offer, ~~we~~ shall send you the
diploma.

Do you understand the situation? I feel
that I am the same old Theosophist, the same
humble worker for the cause of the Blessed
Masters, although it has been my duty
to resign my ^{regular} membership in the Finnish T.
S. (Of course, I am an honorary ~~not~~ member,
"general secretary = founder," and remain such,
if the T.S. in F. wishes it) ~~It was my duty~~
to resign, because all ^{persons in Finland} poor people cannot
~~be~~ members of both Societies. Entering the
Rosy Cross they are economically forced
to leave the T.S.

Intentionally and really we are just
that occult "part of the T.S. in F., which
we wanted to organize. And that ^{is} why
I come to you now with a rather daring
question. Do you think there is any possi-
bility for ^{its} E. S. members to ~~just~~ belong
only to the Rosy Cross? For some at least
it is economically impossible to belong to
both Societies. They don't wish to leave the

all
E.S., but their sympathies are on ~~the~~ ^{our} side, i.e.
it seems to them that the work of the Masters
is carried on just in the Rosy Cross. This is a
tragic conflict. #

— — The Countess Bille Brahe Selby from
Denmark visited ~~Finland~~ Helsinki in October
last. ~~Two~~ Two regular Co-masonic Lodges
were constituted and two triangles formed.
I am Master of the Lodge in Helsinki, and
Mrs. Kyllikki Ignatius is provincial Master
for Finland. I hope that ~~much~~ ^{grand and glorious} good
will come out of this ~~work~~.

— — Hoping to hear from you soon, I am,
my dear and beloved Mrs. Besant, yours
very affectionately and loyally,

Pekka Ervast.

I do not intend to organise any esoteric
school of my own, at least not before the
explicit wish of the Masters, for I cannot per-
sonally take any such responsibility, and ~~maybe~~
I hope then to be allowed to ~~discuss~~ ^{talk} the matter
over with you before starting. But ~~this is~~ the
whole thing seems to me to be very far away indeed