



All communications to be
addressed to the Director
of Education.

In reply refer to
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BOX 406c., G.P.O.,

ADELAIDE, 14th May, 1947.

Prof. K. G. Saiyidain,
Educational Advisor,
Rampur State (U.P.),
I N D I A.

Dear Professor,

Our newspapers in South Australia contain frequent references to the difficult times in India and my thoughts have frequently turned to you and your colleagues. These are difficult days for you and the end of strife is probably a long way off. We in Australia live in a little paradise, in spite of the somewhat exaggerated industrial turmoil. We have plenty of food, a country that is kind to us, and many good friends, not only in England and the U.S.A., but in other lands as well. Your stay in Australia was all too short, but you did much good while you were here. The people who met you and heard you have on many occasions spoken to me of the impression you made upon them, and my personal reaction was one of gratitude that I had met you. I hope some day, Professor, that our paths cross again.

We are very much on the edge of things down here, and it is not often that we can get outside our own little circle. There are many men and women here who read and think, but many of us lack one essential quality: we are somewhat inarticulate. We try to puzzle out a scheme of things for ourselves, but lack much of the opportunity for discussion and the clarifying of ideas that discussion brings in the older countries. We have been brought up too much with a background of the Christian tradition which colours our thinking and so a visit from one like yourself is particularly stimulating.

I have been reading again some of the historical and philosophical background of Christianity, Bhuddism and Islam, and I have wondered if you could give me a clue to any work that you thought good (in English) dealing with your own

philosophy. Books off the beaten track are not easily procured in Australia, but we can now get them a little more readily than during the war years by writing to England and America. If you can find the time to make a few suggestions I should be very grateful.

You will be interested to know that this year we are hoping to follow up the work of the Conference in a number of ways. Prof. Portus, Miss Dawe, Best and I appointed ourselves a small committee of the U.N.A. and the N.E.F., and invited interested and possible speakers on some aspect of U.N.O., particularly U.N.E.S.C.O., to a meeting in the Prof.'s rooms. About twenty turned up, and volunteers to speak on selected topics were chosen. These folk will prepare talks on their own subject, and be available as speakers at men's clubs, progress associations, school committees, etc., as required. We launched the scheme on April 30 by a public meeting in the Institute Hall on North Terrace. The Prof. spoke on "Barriers to Understanding", and I on "A Way over the Barriers, UNESCO".

My draftsman made a big chart about 6' x 3' to show the relationship of the various bodies of the U.N.O., and some smaller ones outlining the functions, committees, etc., of UNESCO. Although preliminary work has merely begun Miss Dawe has already nearly forty requests for speakers. I am optimistic therefore, that we shall spread information through the community quite a bit.

I hope you and your colleagues are well. I believe Mr. Raggatt saw you in Paris. He is doing good work here spreading information about UNESCO since his return. I should like some day if my opportunity should occur, to see your University at Delhi and to learn more at first hand of the problems of education that you are tackling in India, and to meet some of the men and women who are doing the work. Perhaps some day I shall, who knows.

For the present I shall be content with the very pleasant memory of your visit to South Australia and look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards from Mrs. McDonald and myself,

Yours very sincerely,

