

ALFRED R. PULYAN
R. F. D.
SOUTH KENT, CONN.

Aug 20, 1960

Dear Richard,

Mac is very kind, and your letter is very straightforward. As Mac may have told you I am not a believer in polite phrases but feel that to save time we should tell the truth as best as we can.

You are ^{no longer} young, and in a position that I found intolerable. Like you I was a "seeker" but it is obvious no words will satisfy you. Otherwise let us publish them in the newspapers! From this the vanity of using mind (intellect) in the search is obvious.

However as you say IT IS ALL WE HAVE, so at the same time as you recognize the vanity of the instrument you have to use it to consider what Alfred R. Pulyan ~~is~~ is all about (for example).

It is all vague and tantalizing and not even to know what you are & what is to become of you.

Consider this from A.R.P.'s standpoint (if you can!). He tries to "work" only with likely cases. Even then success is not 100%. He gets months (even years) of misunderstanding & trouble from each one of these, and more gray hairs.

They are not to "blame", they are using a mind which is amazingly picknickety & easily slips into mere debating society argument (on every minutest point) so that the wood is lost in the trees... Not knowing the result aimed at they are not deeply dedicated (usually) and things go in one ear & out the other.

He cannot tell them that as far as he knows he is their only hope - and that an uncertain one - unless they wish to go somewhere for personal "work" (say to a Zen instructor or to Subud).

He knows something people call "God" & which governs his life - but not theirs. They can be flippant about it, he can not. One day they may say "This is obvious" but until then they cannot "believe" & every inch of the way is a hard fight.