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John Allen Chalk

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From/To: D. Elton Trueblood (Chalk's reply filed first)

D. Elton Trueblood

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September 10, 1970

C Dr. D. Elton Trueblood
230 College Avenue
Richmond, Indiana 47374

Dear Dr. Trueblood:

O How pleased I was to receive the September, 1970 "Yokefellows International Newsletter." I was also pleased by such positive testimony regarding Dr. Robert A. Hingson. It was thrilling to read your description of him, even as it also moved me to think of the contributions he has made and is making to the good of mankind.

P Thank you so much for the book from Edward Gallahue. I look forward to receiving and reading it. This is but one more indication of the exciting contributions made to my life, and in the lives of so many, by Yokefellows International.

Your friend,

Y John Allen Chalk

JAC:lc

Yokefellows International

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230 College Avenue
Richmond, Indiana 47374

Dear Colleague:

Nearly all of the rewards of my life have been personal ones. In the course of my labors I have had the privilege of meeting people who raise my sights. Many things lift me, but it is people who lift me most. Years ago I was lifted by a letter written in longhand by Dr. Albert Schweitzer and, much more recently, by the friendship of Dr. Paul Tournier. Now I must add another medical pioneer, Dr. Robert A. Hingson, in the Department of Public Health of the University of Pittsburgh. I met Dr. Hingson during the past summer when both of us were speakers at the National Baptist Assembly of Canada which was held at Winnipeg.

Dr. Hingson is the originator of The Brother's Brother Foundation and the inventor of what some have called the "Peace Gun." The gun is an instrument which sends a stream of vaccine directly into arm tissues, without the necessity of pricking the skin. The penetration is made possible by the extreme speed of propulsion. The effect which this invention can have, and is already having, on public health, particularly in developing countries, staggers the imagination. The speed of operation is so great that one man can vaccinate several thousands of persons in a single day. Dr. Hingson has actually vaccinated one thousand persons per hour in Liberia. Consequently, it is now possible to protect virtually the entire population of a country threatened with an outbreak of smallpox, measles, polio, cholera and several other diseases.

The new approach to world health saves both time and money. The standard immunization costs only four cents per individual. Because of the funds donated to the Brother's Brother Foundation, and also because of the generous contribution of their services on the part of many of the operators of the gun, the health of millions may now be protected as never before in human history. The Foundation receives no official government funds, but it works closely with the World Health Organization and the United States Department of State.

You can imagine how pleased I was to meet Dr. Hingson, on July 4, to see his invention, and to hear his explanation. His primary motivation is the love of the brethren which stems from the love of Christ. As a humble follower of Christ, the doctor feels impelled to employ his skill to avoid all human disaster that is practically avoidable. What I like about this is that it is Christianity in action.

And now, more good news! We hear so much bad news that I want this letter to be different. The second piece of good news is that Dr. Robert Hingson has promised to speak to Yokefellows at our annual Conference March 19 and 20, 1971, on the Earlham College campus. I tell you the good news now, because I want to help you to save the date and not let anything interfere. Our hope is that the originator of the Brother's Brother Foundation will speak at the Conference both Friday evening and Saturday morning. He will be glad to give a demonstration.

It is difficult to exaggerate the pleasure I feel in the separate mailing of a book which goes to you later this month from Doubleday. The first modern Yokefellow was Edward Callahue. In January, 1952, Mr. Callahue suggested that the ideas which a few of us had already shared could be made more effective by the building of a conscious fellowship. Suiting the action to the word, Mr. Callahue made the first contribution so that the expenses involved in correspondence and travel could be met. Now, after nearly nineteen years, much of the dream has materialized. The fellowship has become international; there are eight local renewal centers; and the work in prisons has grown beyond any one's highest expectations.

Soon after his retirement as President of the American States Insurance Company, Edward Gallahue decided that it would be helpful to others if he could tell, in book form, the story of his spiritual and intellectual journey. Fortunately, he has had the strength to complete this difficult task and the book is now being published by Doubleday. Furthermore, a generous gift enables us to provide a copy of *Edward's Odyessey* to each of the 3000 persons on the national Yokefellow mailing list. I am glad you are one of these.

At the age of 22, Edward F. Gallahue, with his brother Dudley, founded the American States Insurance Company with foresight, determination and not much else, for they had practically no money. Though the bold effort succeeded, Edward Gallahue's life story is much more than that of business success. The essence of the story is the way in which the author has struggled for intellectual integrity in his Christian faith and effectiveness in his public service. His work for hospitals and for the improvement of mental health, has, indeed, been remarkable, his gifts totalling more than two million dollars. There have been, of course, many tangible rewards, including election to membership in the Methodist Hall of Fame and the granting of Honorary degrees from Boston University, DePauw University and Earlham College. His work in establishing symposiums on theology and psychiatry, especially at Princeton, has been much admired. The fact that Edward's colleagues in the Yokefellow Movement can now own and read his book is a crowning event in his life.

Edward Gallahue's life is fascinating for many reasons. Nearly all men of outstanding achievement enjoy multiple interests, but the intensity with which Edward Gallahue has followed his widely different interests is unusual. Though each of his many achievements is self-validating, he has never been satisfied with monotony. He has put the same energy into the search for meaning that he has put into the building of a new business from a standing start. Whatever he has done, he has done with his whole being. When he saw that he could not live, or at least could not live well, without a rational faith, he let others carry on the insurance business for a time, while he engaged in reading, thinking and writing. When his intellectual inquiry drove him to the decision to join the Church, he enlisted at once in one of the practical services of the Church which he had joined. When he realized how tragic his mother's mental illness had been, he undertook to do something to aid the practice of psychiatry.

The reader of these pages is surprised by many things, but what is most surprising is Mr. Gallahue's intellectual frankness. He mentions his failures as openly as he mentions his successes. He does not, in the least degree, hide the wretchedness of the family life in which he grew up. In like manner, he does not disguise the confusion of his early intellectual efforts. At no point is the story beautified to save anybody's face. In our years of personal contact I have never ceased to be amazed at a man who wears no mask.

One consequence of Edward Gallahue's frankness is that he does not hesitate to use the first person. To achieve his purpose this is necessary, since his book really belongs to the literature of witness. The story of any real man cannot be told impersonally. Mr. Gallahue does not speculate in detachment; he is always personally involved. The time came when his effort to know the truth was literally a matter of life and death.

The possible richness of human life is beyond our power to set limits. We do not know how rich life can be, but we do know that some lives are far richer than others. Edward Gallahue's life is one such. I hope that his efforts to tell of the road which he has traveled may help his readers to sense new possibilities in their own lives. If this occurs the effort is justified.

Expectantly,

D. Elton Trueblood