EDITORIAL: OUR FUTURE

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With the passing last year of our precious Mother Sherifa we feel we have come to the end of a cycle and a new one is now beginning. The direction it will take should be the same as before, in so far as we are able to see, but the means may of necessity undergo some change. What may develop is not yet clear, for so much depends on growth and development of other factors, circumstances, trends and capacities. We want to keep the goal that was set up rather than merely imitate past activities. The keynote of the new cycle may unfold gradually.

By now our students should know something of our plans for revitalizing camp. If all goes well we shall move Headquarters in September of this year to the Assembly Ranch at the foot of Lone Pine Mountain, which is at about 5500 feet altitude, and eventually build ourselves a permanent residence, keeping the present house as a guest house.

We hope to reinstate annual conventions, building a school and eventually establishing a colony. The Ashram will be restored to become the center of summer activities. We hope to have a good start on the house by the summer of 1961, when we are planning our first Convention in over ten years. As far as possible, there can be accommodations of sorts for all who can come, perhaps not deluxe hotel rooms exactly, but adequate, and we hope to see most of you. Concerning supplies and costs, it is too early for details but the old-timers may be able to give some estimates. Neither can we say at this time just what the program will be, but activities may follow mainly the pattern of past years, with devotions, classes, lectures, hikes, and fun for all, and we hope also for a helping hand. There will be great need of manpower to reopen the trail to the Ashram and repair all the damage that has been done by vandals. The ranch is quite rundown, and there may be need of groundwork for our future colony. And for these hungry workers we shall need womanpower in the kitchen. All who have been to this glorious country and attended former conventions will sing the camp' s praises and tell you it is well worth your greatest efforts. The panoramic view alone is well worth the trip, and the air at 8000 feet, at the Ashram, induces an ecstatic feeling. Mountain climbers will be in their glory. There will be a renewal of old friendships and making of new ones. So these are our immediate plans. On the surface it may sound like a nice, big party, and I hope it is every bit as enjoyable, but let us hope it holds a greater meaning, a lasting one.