

BRIJBASI SPIRIT

ISSUE 2



AWAITING AUSPICIOUSNESS

His Holiness Kirtanananda Swami's auspicious arrival is expected to be on Monday evening this week. He has been gone now almost 10 days and everyone is more than eager to see him appear at the abode of Sri Sri Radha Vrndavana Chandra. On his pilgrimage to the west, so far he has collected enough money for at least 3 cows and the latest word is that we can sell every ounce of lock-jaw chawin' chaw that we can possibly make to the L.A. devotees. They welcome all the chaw we can send and they have made another 100 lb. request for the immediate future. His Holiness has been combing through all the western U.S. temples, thus benedicting them with his much sought after and relishable association and the opportunity to serve Radha Vrndavana Chandra. Such a benedicting journey by Kirtanananda Swami is like the full moon which comes in the night time and glides across the sky illuminating, in a very soothing way, every part of the sky. Don't worry, the moon is soon to appear again in New Vrndavana and all of us can be purified by the cooling rays.

ON THE BRJBASI SPIRIT...

We hope that all of the residents of New Vrndavana will take this newspaper seriously. We have written for only one reason—to help everyone execute their devotional service in a happy mood with great enthusiasm. This is our hope. If you could make any suggestions as to how we could do it better, please let us know. We hope that you will make it your regular activity to read this publication every week. We will be including some extremely wonderful nectarine things that we want everyone to take advantage of, and we truly don't want anyone to miss out on it. We are printing enough copies so that there will be plenty floating around, but in case you don't see one or someone doesn't give you one, we request you to ask around and you should be able to locate a copy very easily. Also, if you have one, talk about it to the other prabhus and make it your job to see that everyone gets a chance to read it thoroughly. We hope that we will be able to serve you nicely in this small attempt.

DEAR SWAMI

Dear Swami,

What is the best way to control sex desire?
—anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

We may have sex desire due to a feeling of incompleteness as a result of having a loving relationship with Krishna. We must love. That is the nature of the living being. So we must try to use our loving propensity for Krishna and this endeavor will burn away all sex desire eventually. At first, though, sex desire will haunt us as we are trying to execute our service to Krishna. So we have to try and tolerate it, learning to control the mind with our intelligence. Just remind yourself, "actually, I cannot relish squeezing a bag of flesh and blood." Don't sleep too much or eat too much and this will also help. If you are not engaged full-time in Krishna's

service, then you will become idle. This idleness is also in the mind. "An idle mind is a devil's workshop." Don't become idle. Always remain fully engaged and Maya cannot attack. The highest pleasure in this material world is the enjoyment of the opposite sex's body, but what is that body? Just underneath the skin there are all kinds of sickening elements that the body is made up of. So don't be fooled by Maya. She'll fool you every time unless you are willing to fight against her suggestions with the proper intelligence that comes to us in the form of the Guru's words & the sound of the Shastras. Don't think that you can get rid of the itch by scratching it. No! This will only increase the trouble. You tolerate the itch knowing that if you scratch it you will be sorry. Control sex desire like

(Cont. next p.)

NEW VRINDAVANA PERSPECTIVE

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS
--SRIDHARA DAS

Quote from Srila Prabhupada: "Now we can work with great enthusiasm for constructing New Vrindavana in the United States of America. People who came here from Europe to this part of the world named so many new provinces, just like New England, New Amsterdam, and New York. So I also came to this part of the world to preach Krishna consciousness, and by His grace and by your endeavor, New Vrindavana is being constructed. That is my great happiness. Our sincere endeavor in the service of the Lord, and of the Lord's assistants, to make our progressive march successful—these are two important things to be followed in the spiritual advancement of life."

"I think it was Krishna's desire that this New Vrindavana scheme should be taken up by us, and now He has given us a great opportunity to serve Him in this scheme. So let us do it sincerely and all other help will come automatically. I am very glad to notice in Kirtanananda's letter that he has realized more and more that the function of New Vrindavana is nothing physical or bodily, but purely spiritual and for the glorification of the Lord, Sri Hari. If we actually keep this view before us, certainly we shall be successful in our progressive march."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter 8/23/68)

DEAR SWAMI (Continued from page 2)---

this and soon it will vanish. Of course, house-holders may have limited sex life, but only for conceiving a child and raising the child to be a pure devotee. Ultimately one must pray to Krishna to help him out of this perverted conception of life and to establish him in pure devotional service of the Lord.

There is one nice prayer in this connection. "My Lord, I know that young girls have natural affection for young boys and that young boys have a natural affection for young girls. I am praying at Your Lotus Feet that my mind may become attracted unto You in the same spontaneous way." We should recite this prayer sincerely and our problems will not exist. Hari Bol.

Your servant,
"Swami"

Anyone engaged in some quest for a higher platform of realization must seek guidance from one who has already reached the sought after end. Whether it be in sewing, cooking, hard labor or medicine, in any branch of activity, results are the surest, quickest and most certain when the advice of the expert is received. Advice from the expert is there in our devotion to God and that advice comes to us as a sound spiritual, readily available for one and all, in printed form in such great works as Bhagavad-gita and Srimad Bhagavatam. The expert who I refer to is, of course, our beloved Spiritual Master Srila Prabhupada and in his vast ocean of gita purports he gives five open secrets for advancement in purification. For your benefit the Brijbasi Spirit lists them as follows:

1. A sincere devotee of the Lord shuns all material sense enjoyments due to his higher taste for spiritual enjoyment in the association of the Lord. That is the secret of success. --ch. 2
2. Everything depends on one's practical performance of duties in an effort to control the senses and conquer the influence of desire and anger. --ch. 3
3. Directly understanding the constitutional position of the soul is the solution to the whole problem. --ch. 3
4. Satisfaction of the self-realized spiritual master is the secret of advancement in spiritual life. --ch. 4
5. This is the secret of Krishna consciousness--realization that there is no existence besides Krishna is the platform of peace and fearlessness.

You may consult an older Godbrother for further elaboration and we recommend that everyone takes to heart a thorough study of Srila Prabhupada's writings.

DEVOTEE INTERVIEW WITH DEVANANDA DAS

Question: What do you think of the Brahmachari asrama? Do you like it?

Answer: Yes.

Q.: What is your favorite thing about the asrama?

A.: My favorite thing, well, let me think, there is a lot of nice things. That there is no woman up here.

Q.: Will you stay here forever?

A.: Well, I went out once to preach to my uncle once, but I came back. I'll always come back.

My uncle's a devotee and he chants & reads and he lives with my grandmother. I preached to both of them. They are good devotees.

Q.: When you graduate from school what kind of work do you want to do?

A.: I'll do the cows. How come they can't go in the pasture here in Vrindaban?

Q.: It's too early now but we'll let them out in the summer.

A.: Oh good, then I'll be out of school and I can take them out to the pasture.

Q.: What is your favorite past time?

A.: I like the one about herding cows. Hey, maybe we can have plays every day when gurukula comes, we can dress up like cowherd boys and all herd the cows.

Q.: You are famous for catching people right when they are about to bloop.

A.: Yes, I really want them to stay here, so it's easy. I'll do anything to help them stay. This is my favorite preaching. This summer, I'll have a lot of boys to do it with because they come and go and I'll say, "Hey, where are you going?" and I'll talk them out of it.

Q.: You like school?

A.: Yes, it's good.

Q.: What do you learn?

A.: Oh, addition, subtraction, writing letters, a little bit of writing but not enough to write my name because it's too long. I can read some words like Krishna, Balaram, butter, etc.

Q.: Do you have any attraction for sense gratification?

A.: Nope.

Q.: What about your bike?

A.: Oh, that's just for exercise.

Q.: Do you have any trouble following the regulative principles?

A.: I can chant 16 rounds all right but I have a hard time getting up in the morning. Maya talks to me in the morning, strong.

Q.: In conclusion, what is your hope for New Vrindavana?

A.: That we can have as many Radha Krishna Deities as possible here like in Vrindavana, India.

BAHULABAN DIARY

I cannot help looking back again a year ago, at this funny old house full of sensations simultaneously warm and terrifying. I cannot forget the sound of his footsteps and the tapping of his cane, how he would drag his crippled little body every day up those steep attic stairs in the middle of the night, to wake us one at a time. I cannot forget the sound of his voice against the threat, how everything seemed dark and full of strange terror except the sound of his voice and the light in his eyes. I have tried very hard to forget every word he ever told me. But I cannot forget. I cannot forget that by some miracle he simultaneously understood where each of us were, what we were doing, how we were feeling. I cannot forget that smile, how everything seemed worthwhile just because he was smiling. Then suddenly with the warm weather hundreds of people came to this Holy Land, and they were singing his name. I cannot forget feeling very displaced, I was foolish enough to believe all along that no one else belongs here but me, that New Vrindavana cannot grow. But it has grown, and will continue to grow, despite my foolish attachments. The question is now whether we as individual devotees have the courage to deliver Kirtanananda Maharaj to the many shy and bewildered souls who will be coming here this spring. Can we make them feel wanted, can we make them understand that this is really their home, and not the streets? If we cannot do this, we ourselves do not deserve to stay on, or to consider ourselves servants and associates of the Swami. New Vrindavana is the property of anyone who is chanting it, no matter what the condition of their bodies

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BAHULABAN DIARY (Continued)---

and minds. Last spring Maharaj told me, "If you leave your body in my custody, no matter where your mind will go, then you are safe. But if you leave this place, you will simply go to hell." This same offer must certainly be made available to the Vahna das's of 1974.

---Vahna das Adhikary

TALES FROM THE GARDEN

New Vrndavana will come another step closer to self-sufficiency this summer due to a large increase in the amount of space and time devoted to gardening. Although more increase will be needed to bring us to the point of meeting the year-round demands of the devotee prasadam program, enough will be produced and stored to enable us to offer the Deities' a vegetable preparation year round.

The temple gardens have expanded to $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres this year. Progress in these gardens shall be reported in Brijbasi Spirit weekly. Many householders have also enlarged their gardens. What is most encouraging is the number of grihasthas that have taken up gardening for the first time. The best gardens are usually small plots where each plant entity can be given more intensive care.

The temple gardens were plowed and disced by horsepower this spring. Planting began with asparagus seed and rhubarb roots. These are perennials that won't be ready for another 3 and 2 years respectively, but once established, are the first to produce in the spring before most vegetables can even be planted. Next planted were peas, followed by beets, carrots, and radishes. These root crops were planted between where the rows of tomatoes, peppers, and fall cabbage will be transplanted later. By the time the late maturing plants grow enough to need the room, these early crops will have already been harvested. Fall root crops such as turnips and rutabagas will be planted where the spring peas were and should benefit from the nitrogen that peas, a legume, fix in the soil.

Krishna has amply provided us with sufficient wild greens such as mustard, dandelion, burdock, and chickweed so only a small amount of lettuce and spinach for

the Deities has been planted. Swiss chard, which last year proved to be a big yielder for the space required, has been planted & should be a regular companion of the abundant wild greens.

The peas and radishes are now both up and growing vigorously after this past week's welcome and needed rain. Radishes should be ready in 4 to 6 weeks depending on the weather.

This past week's activities included planting more beets, carrots, and radishes, as well as 150 feet of kohlrabi.

The main project was preparing for the transplanting of the cabbage family--cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli. Holes were dug in a grid pattern with rows 36" apart and 18" from hole center to hole center for cabbage and broccoli, 20" for cauliflower (Making marks 6 inches apart on a shovel or other tool handle serves as a handy guide for spacing.). These holes were big enough so that a part forkful of rotted manure or compost could be put in and after the hole was filled in again it would be about 2" below the level of where the plant's roots will be after transplanting. Each hole center was then marked with a twig.

This year the cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower plants were ordered from a professional nursing nursery in Georgia and should be arriving by U.P.S. any day now. Anyone who wants some and have not yet placed an order should contact Adi Pati immediately.

Anyone having any helpful suggestions is encouraged to share them through this column. Also, questions regarding gardening will be welcomed and answered to the best of our poor fund of knowledge (With maybe a quick peek in Rodale's Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening or hopefully the advice of some local longtime gardener to fill our gaps). All glories to the Sri Krishna Samikirtani!

---Bhakta Mark

MOTHER GOKULA'S OLD FASHIONED LOCKJAW CHEW-
ING CHAW (Organic)!

Every day

It tastes a new way.

Why don't you buy a pound

And pass it around?

Made from fresh cow's milk

Texture smooth as silk.

Coming Soon!!! Medicinal, mentholated chaw.

Contact: Anybody at Bahulaban, any time.

JITAVRATA'S REALIZATION

During the first months I joined the movement, I was very much inquisitive about many little details about this Krishna consciousness. I was so unfamiliar with our pious activities that I was even inquiring about simple things like: "why are we clasping our hands when we dance in front of the Deities?" The devotees told me that we should always talk with the Deities because they are persons and they can answer, so I planned to ask Lord Jagannath the symbolism of clasping our hands at the level of the heart like Srila Prabhupada does.

One day at Arotrika I was dancing in front of the Lord of the Universe and I joined my hands because I just didn't know what else to do with them and all of a sudden this first realization came to me—so evident, so clear, just like inspired from within.

"Joining your hands near your heart is a communion of the temple room and your heart. The Temple room is considered the heart of the community, just like the heart is the residence of the living force in the body. Within the heart the Supersoul is seated along with the jiva soul, just like the Spiritual Master is seated along with the disciple within the temple room. But because of our attachment to our own sense gratification, being too busy trying to satisfy the Witch, we do not listen to the instructions of the Supersoul, Who is always telling us how to act. But because we became fed up with this material world, and a little sincere to get out of it, the Supersoul appears externally, because we still aren't able to hear Him within. So Srila Prabhupada is instructing us that we are eternal servants of Krishna and simply by serving him, like cleaning the temple, just like we must clean the body. One day when the Deity doors will open we will see the Lord, alive, not simply wooden forms. So in the heart of the jiva soul Krishna reveals Himself in the Syamasundara form and then one is able to receive understanding and instructions from within which aren't any different from Srila Prabhupada's instructions. So I realized that at my state, or stage, when I am asking a question to the Deities, the

way they answer me is by an incident, like an act, a show that happens during the day that gives me the answer to my question. Right after that I asked Him to show me that I wasn't the body. Then all the devotees within the temple became as white as snow, full of wrinkles. I could see that the body was just dead matter and if it was moving it was because of the soul within, then I looked over to the Deities and Radha Dwarakadish were dancing beautifully in a scented cloud of sound and color of the beautiful arc-trika. It appeared to me for the first time that Krishna's body was the only one alive, and the bodies of the devotees were just like dead dancing zombies. Then I told Lord Balarama that I wanted to go to India because I thought it would be best for me, I told him I would leave tomorrow night after the Sunday feast.

The feast was so nectarine, so intoxicating, the temple commander asked me to get everything ready for the clean up so I took five brooms, two mops, and two water buckets at the same time, and running down the stairs a devotee asked me if he could help me. I turned to look at him and then thanked him, no. The mop wringer fell from the bucket on my foot and broke one of my toes in half. My foot became big like a stumbling block in the path of devotional service. The next morning the temple commander came to tell me that because I was in the temple for two weeks now, it was time for me to shave or to leave. I told him I didn't want to shave, but I couldn't leave because I couldn't walk at all. Anyway I was forced against my will to shave, I was thousands of miles from all karmi friends, no other shelter but the kind devotees. The next month and a half I learned how to run a printing press on a broken toe, every day I used to hate it so much, I would have run away. After three months my heart became like steel, and my only friend was a picture of Krishna in front of the printing press. I was beginning work before the sun rises and used to finish after the sun set, in a dark, cold warehouse without windows, in the middle of California. A year passed like that; meanwhile, I learned how to run bigger and bigger machines, breaking my fin-

JITAVRATA'S REALIZATION (Continued)---

ger in the inking rollers, burning my brain with the heavy solvents, and my eyes with the arc lamp, printing for months at the time, twelve hours a day, seven days a week one year round. For one month I printed 44,000 "Krishna, Reservoir of Pleasure's" in 4 colors, four times, through the machine, always that same picture of Krishna smiling with his flute, my only friend, getting ripped all the time in the machine. Everyone else was afraid to touch these machines. Two blooped, one ran away, the other managed to get his hand so mutilated in the machine that he could not run it anymore, and now they were thinking about getting bigger machines, but I told them there was no one to run them, I would walk out if another machine would get in. Anyway a new devotee came to manage the printing presses and told us that anyone who didn't like it, and wasn't desirous to work hard for the press should say it right away and get ready to leave, because he didn't want unwilling personnel that would not fit the atmosphere of the press.

So I told him, "I have always hated it, I never wanted to work for it, and I would be very happy to leave it." So he said all right. My printing samadhi was over, and the next morning I was getting ready to leave for Houston, Texas, for the "Millennium '73", decided to kill that Guru Maharaji, who took away all my wives when I was a hippie. That was an old business I promised myself to take care of as soon as I would get a chance. Then that same morning a crazy initiated bloomed devotee came with a knife and tried to kill some devotees. I got to stop him, got my hands chopped up, I ran in the kitchen guided by the Supersoul, grabbed a knife and came back to finish him. For 3 weeks I couldn't do anything but read Bhagavad-gita; meanwhile they sold all the printing equipment because no one else wanted to run the machine. Then Karandhar asked me to go and stay in India for two years, so I started collecting money, but then I decided to go to New Vrindavana with another devotee friend of mine. When I told that to Karandhar he got upset, and said I should go to India anyway. So I went and when I was in India I heard he blooped a week after

I left, so I decided to come back (anyway, there was no devotees in India). Now by Krishna's grace I am in Vaikuntha and I hope Nitya will never make me leave New Vrindavana. My stainless steel heart has melted a little, all that is funny to say made me fall in love with Radha and Krishna, Jagannath Deities and Gour Nitai, now I am carefull about the questions I ask the Deities, I try to just be satisfied with chanting Hare Krishna and taking some prasadam.

L AND J PLEA

HELP RESCUE THE MOTHER

On May 22nd, the greatest cow sale of the 70's is coming up. The herd of Brown Swiss cows being sold is one of the best in the country. We are just starting our cow herd here in New Vrindavana, so in order to start the herd right, it is most intelligent to have the finest quality cows and then all the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc., etc. generation cows and bulls will be high quality also. A sale like this L & J sale (as it is called) is a very rare sale so we must take advantage of it. Any devotees who get \$1000 or more will get a lifetime supply of chaw. And anybody who gets \$100 will get a Sunday maha-plate, Jaya. Try to get as much as possible right away. Hari bol!

PLEA
FOR
CONTRIBUTIONS

The BRIJBAZI SPIRIT needs your help! New Vrindavana is a growing community with its areas of development expanding rapidly. There is so much going on that volumes and volumes could be written on the exciting and transcendental activities of the dwellers of New Vrindavana (brijabasis)! So please, let us all contribute to The BRIJBAZI SPIRIT and let others know what is going on in our community. Every one of you is engaged in a special field of activity so please make it a point to write a small (or large!) article on what you are doing to please Radha Vrindavana Chandra! Thank you.

--the editors

SWAMIJI'S DEPARTURE

(BTG REPRINT)

A girl who had been coming to Kirtan wants to be initiated 30 minutes before Swamiji is to leave for the airport. He says Yes, so while all the devotees are rushing about, making last minute preparations, Swamiji sits on his white sheet in his room, chanting the Lord's Names on her heads, bringing another soul Back to Godhead, fulfilling his Master's mission up to the last minute, serving Krishna always.

He emerges from His apartment, smiling, a transcendental mother who has just delivered another child into eternal life. As he has done so many times before, he descends the stairs, taking each step gracefully, and sweeps across the courtyard—a young bride going to join her beloved. Entering the temple, before the painting of Guru Maharaj he offers his obeisances, prostrating himself on the floor, humbly, as an atom of His Lotus Feet. And, walking to the waiting taxi, he embraces Achyutananda, and then Gargammi, who stoops to touch his forehead to the pavement.

Some devotees have already left by subway, and some by our chariot, and some ride with him in the taxi. Brahmananda sits in the front crying, and Swamiji reaches over and slaps him on the back—a father giving his loving son support, a pal, and Rayrama only rivets his eyes to Swamiji, ever-attentive, and Kirtanananda, sparkling, sits beside the most beautiful man in the world.

Swami says in the taxi, "There is no question of separation. The sound vibration fixes us up together, even though the material body may not be there. What do we care for this material body? Just go on chanting HARE KRISHNA, and we will be packed up together. You will be chanting here, and I will be chanting there, and this vibration will circulate around this planet."

And Swamiji says, "I may be going, but Guru Maharaj and Bhaktivinoda are there. I have asked them to kindly take care of all of you, my transcendental children. The grandfather always takes care of the children much better than the father. Do not fear."

And Swamiji says, "I think this is what Krishna desires. I have come to you, but now in this old age I may be going there to Vrindaban, and you may be coming there to me and be trained up, and we will spread this movement all over the world. Rayrama—you will go to England. Brahmananda—you want to go to Japan or Russia? That's all right."

And Swamiji says, "When Kirtanananda sees Vrindaban, he will not be able to understand how I could have left that place to come to this place. It is so nice. There are no motor cars there like here, rushing Whoosh! Whoosh! and smelling. Only there is HARE KRISHNA. Everybody, always chanting. Thousands and thousands of temples. I will show you, Kirtanananda. We will walk all about there, and I will show you."

And Swamiji says, "I can understand your feeling separation. I am feeling for my Guru Maharaj."

As the cab pulls up to the terminal, the chariot also pulls up behind it, and devotees pour out, chanting, cymbals clashing, chanting HARE KRISHNA, HARE RAMA, into the Air India terminal. And the ticket man runs out from behind his protective counter and demands excitedly, "What is the meaning of this?" "We want to ride in your airplane," one devotee says. "Oh, yes, yes. I see," says the man. "Air India?" asks Swamiji. "El-Al" says the man, misunderstanding, thinking the robed Brahmacharys to be Arabs of some kind. "El-Al is over..." "No, Air India. We want to go to India." "Oh, yes, yes. I see."

And Kirtanananda stands at the counter, while Swamiji sits in a nearby chair chanting and Kirtanananda is dispatching all the paper business, a beautiful young American Brahmachary in his black suit and red tie and his budding flag. He gives the man his passport, and the man looks at the identification picture taken two years ago of a bearded, run-down youth and now at this beautiful Brahmachary standing before him. "Are you sure you are Keith Gordon Ham?" "That was taken before I met the Swami. I have changed." "Yes, yes. I see."

(SWAMIJI'S DEPARTURE continued in next issue)

SHOWDOWN AT RAIVATAKA MOUNTAIN

APRIL 26, 1974

BY YUDHISTHIRA DAS

It was a very nice afternoon in late April and I was working alongside the road in front of the house putting up a pole fence to keep the cows from engaging in mischief. My wife was coming across the road from the garden where she had been putting insome radishes. As she came up to me she glanced up the road & exclaimed, "Look, someone's taking the sign. It's a karni car! What do we do?"

I looked, and sure enough two men were carrying into their truck one of the signs telling of the new development to be built. They were pretty far away and I couldn't tell who they were.

"You're right, prabhu," I said. "And they've probably seen us standing here in the road, too. They sure have a lot of nerve to steal it in the broad daylight, and if they had any intelligence at all they would turn around and go back the other way."

But to our surprise the truck started down the road towards us at a slow pace. Kamalavati said, "What are you going to do? Stop them, or let them drive by and get their license number, or what?"

"I guess I'll just stop them and ask them what they're up to," I said. So I picked up my fencing tump and stepped up to the edge of the road as they passed.

"Earl Sol there. What are you guys doing?" I asked.

They slammed to a halt, rolled down the window and shouted back, "What do you mean what are we doing? What are you doing stopping us on a public road. You're a wise guy and look like you're asking for big trouble."

From this reply it was obvious that they were very angry and rather drunk. I thought, "Krishna, help! Let me just think of Your Lotus Feet and You tell me what to do."

So I said, "Actually, I'm not looking for trouble, I just thought that if you have the sign that belongs to us you might want to give it back."

"We don't have nothing of your'n, Big Mouth!"

"Well, is it OK if I look in the back of your truck?"

"Get back!" exclaimed the old man, and one of the younger men asked, "are you fixen to use that pipe on us?" As he spoke

he slammed the door open and pushed me back. The driver jerked the truck ahead about 10 feet and stopped. Then all three of them jumped out and grappled behind the seat for their guns.

At that point I concluded that real trouble was brewing and it was time to think of Krishna more than ever. "We live far from other devotees, and have no means of quick communication and so must depend on the Lord in the Heart directly for all help." So I ran back to the house and yelled to my wife, "Get the gun!" She quickly handed me the little sawed-off .22 and told me it wasn't loaded. There wasn't time for getting the bullets, for I turned around to see the old man slap a huge clip into his sub-machine gun and level it at my head. His two sons, both holding high powered rifles, dropped to their knees and were ready to shoot.

The old man said, "I'm gonna cut you in half."

I had Hare Krishna on my breath and he had whiskey on his.

"No one stops the Southern Rebel and gets away with it. This is a public road. You don't own it and what I do on it is my business. And if you want trouble I'll blast you to pieces. You want trouble?"

"Krishna, please save me," I thought. "These fools look crazy enough to kill me. This could be it, Krishna. Please wake me remember you. You can do whatever you want." I tried to think of some appropriate prayers by great Vaishnavas to help fix my mind at His Lotus Feet.

"No trouble sir," I said.

"You look like a troublemaker and you're gonna find trouble today. I'm an F.B.I. agent and I don't take _____ like this from nobody. We patrol these roads and nobody tells me what to do. Nobody. You hear, boy?"

"I hear, sir."

"We drink at the tavern up the road and mingle with the common fold to find out what's going on around and if we heah 'bout trouble we go and clean it up quick like! I don't take orders from nobody! I make the laws around here, you get me?"

"I get you."

"You got a gun there, boy?"

"Well, not now," And I laid the gun down.

"You a troublemaker?"

"No."

SHOW DOWN ON RAIVATAKA MOUNTAIN (Cont.)—

"Would you take \$10 if I gave it to you?"

"Yes I would."

"Come here then." He lowered his gun. His boys followed suit.

I walked up to him and he said "F.B.I. here. I don't take _____ from nobody. I didn't steal nothing from you and you couldn't prove it if I did."

He grabbed my hand and shook it and said loudly, "We didn't take your sign but I'll give you \$10 anyway if you can use it."

"Well, actually I'd just as soon have the sign," I said.

"You'll take the money," he said.

"Sure."

"What will you buy with it?"

"Probably a pair of boots."

"What about the wife and kiddies?"

"I'll get something for them, too."

"OK. Yeah. We're fair people. We don't ask for trouble but we don't take no _____ either." I noticed his hands were shaking rather a lot by this time.

"Thank you very much sir. What's your name?"

"Just call me the Southern Rebel."

He climbed into the truck with his boys and drove off. His license plate was covered with a paper bag but he had a radio call number on his back window and my good wife cleverly jotted it down.

I said to myself, "Krishna is really the controller of everything. What can I do? One minute I think I'm to be shot and the next I'm standing with \$10 in my hand. This is a devotional service surprise. What will happen next?" My wife was in the house quaking and bewildered but still trying to think of Krishna. "What happened?" she asked. "Did they leave? Are you alright?"

About a half hour later, after I had calmed down a bit and resumed activity on the fence, I was amazed to see the Southern Rascal coming up the road. He stopped and all three got out and approached me with big grins on their faces and outstretched hands.

"Sorry we caused so much trouble," they said. "We were wrong. We stole your sign and we're sorry. We brought it back though and if you'll give us your hammer and some nails, we'll hang it back up."

"That's very nice," I said. "Thank you very much. And I've got ten dollars for you in the house."

"No thanks," Rebel said. "We caused you \$20 worth of trouble so you'd better just keep that money."

"OK. Thank you. Hare Krishna."

"Hare Krishna," he said. "We're here to help you. We know you guys have been harassed a lot and we're here to help you out."

I said, "Won't you come in and have a bite to eat?"

"Why that's right neighborly of you," he said. "I believe we will." So they came in and when the baby saw them, he cried, recognizing them as sense enjoyers, and not as Vaisnava devotees of the Lord. But when he realized that they were trying to be sincere and were asking nice questions about Krishna, he cheered up considerably and was alright from then on.

We told them about the law of Karma and how there is a reaction for killing living entities and gave Srila Prabhupada's example of how Colonel Sanders would suffer a chicken birth for every chicken that he killed. They then asked what we thought about eating meat and we explained that we offer everything we eat to Krishna first, because He is the Supreme Enjoyer and because He is a Person He has preferences as to what He likes to eat. So we offer Him nice preparations made from vegetables, fruit milk and grains. He doesn't like to eat fish or meat or eggs. They thought that was very interesting and asked, "How do we offer some vegetables to Krishna?"

"Just say Hare Krishna and think, 'Here Lord Krishna, this is for you. Please accept this little offering because you are so kind.'"

Rebel said to my wife, "Ma'am, I held a gun on your husband. I hope you don't mind." He picked up a piece of paper on the desk that had the radio numbers copied down and he said, "Your wife's got a good memory, boy. That's alright, you can keep the numbers, I'm not ashamed of it."

I said, "You should come for supper someday."

"That would be very nice. What time?"

"5:30."

"OK. Well, it's time for us to go now. Thank you very much and we're sorry for stealing your sign. Oh, I know a man who has some tools like shovels, rakes and hoes that he doesn't know what to do with; could

NEW VRINDAVANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Minutes for 4/28/74

Attendance: Paramhansa Swami, Kuladri das, Paramananda das, Bhagavatananda das, Adi Pati das, Devakinandana das, Braumbrahma das.

Minutes: Read, no comments.

Treasurer's Report: Parambrahma das has an appointment with an accountant to review and check all finances and book work on Wednesday, May 1.
 --\$1,625.20 taken in on Spiritual Sky commissions.
 --Current balance is \$600 plus.
 --Open Hours: 8:30 - 10:30 Daily, except Sundays.

Departmental Reports:

Cows - Devakinandana das

- Report back on analysis of our corn silage, tests indicate that the nutritional value of our feed is above the National Average.
- 3 tons of Haylage was purchased @ \$20 per ton; this is the same product we will be feeding from our new Harvestore Silos.
- Cream production has gone up in the past week and milk production is back to normal and rising. All signs indicate this is due to haylage.
- Harvestore salesman came and quoted exact prices on the Silos and their installation: \$28,558.00 for two 20' x 35' silos.
- The cowherd men dehorned two calves with chemical paste this week; a new method we are experimenting with.
- Mother Bhadra just freshened last week and her milk production is already over 70 lbs. per day.
- 50 more fenceposts needed on back pasture border fences--Taru das is putting in 5 or more daily. Will need another man on this project if we are to finish within the week. (Cows scheduled to go to pasture on Lord Kṛṣṇadeva's Appearance Day.
- The lower pasture across the street from the Radha Vrindavana Chandra Temple has been cleaned up along with the ghat area near the barn; this is for cow safety.
- All crab apple trees growing in the pastures are to be cut down to reduce the chances of bloat in the cows.

Paramananda das

- Weekly activities included: plowing, spreading manure, cutting and stacking rye, hauling garbage, and fixing the horse disc. The oats grew 3" this wk.

Bhagavatananda das

- 3 marble runs to Pittsburgh this week--all successful but on Wednesday the Dump truck broke down in Pittsburgh; it has been repaired and is back in good running condition.
- Ananda Dham is cleaned and nearly ready to house Krishna's Kitchen.
- Madakara das has finished the footer for his house. He will begin pouring the walls this week.
- Bascara das and Vazara Jana das are ready to dig footer for their first house.
- Committee reports pending: Maps of all farms/Householder classification/Judicial System.

Adi Pati das

- Gardens are on schedule.
- No frost so far and it looks late enough to count another frost out - good fruit year!

NEW VRINDAVANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (Continued)---

--Oxen: Vrisham and Ganesh are working together with Daivata das at Madaban.

Kuladri das

- 170 lbs of chaw was made this week. 100 lbs. were shipped to L.A. and we are back-ordered. L.A. will take all the chaw we can make.
- White washing of Krishna's Kitchen will be done this week.
- Mother Vidya is now in charge of women at Bahulaban.
- The pot room is being set up in the basement.

Vrindaban - Parambrahma das

- Everything O.K.! All projects are progressing nicely.
- Radha Vrindavanath need some new clothes, along with Lord Jagannath, Gour Nitai and Katamesan.

Madavan - Bhagavatananda das

- Just about ready for the Lord Nrsimbadeva Appearance Day and Gour Nitai Installation festival on May 5.
- Plowing and disking was done on gardens this week at Madavan with an Ox team. The wave of the future!
- Jayanta is putting the roof up on his Prabhupada House.
- Chakradari is landscaping the surrounding area of the temple, beautifying it for Radha Vrn Madhava.
- Out house finished; meets Health Dept. Standards (Not quite Brahminical, though).

Bahulaban

- All manure spread on various surrounding fields.
- Outhouse cleaned thoroughly; weekly disposal plan set up.
- Rubbish and all burned and cleaned up by Shakta Dick; great improvement of overall New Vrindavana beauty.
- Dump being cleaned and sorted; all the trash there has been burned.
- Tin was put up at ghat; ready for bathers, men only.
- All of the logs in front of the farmhouse and in the burnt hayfield put in to trench silo.
- Garden across the road was plowed for householders who are interested in having their own garden plots--see Adi Pati das.

- OLD BUSINESS:
- Doc Morris is bringing a horse for Paramananda das to try out and hopefully purchase if she works good.
 - The Judicial Board System needs review; Review committee set up composed of Bhagavatananda das, Kuladri das, and Parambrahma das.
 - The Board moved to train more brahmins to serve on the Judicial Board; Kuladri proposed that lists of qualified brahmins be made by all Board members; candidates will require majority vote of Board and approval by Kirtanananda Swami.
 - Cars must be signed out before used; red VW, also.
 - Vehicles need to be readied for inspection.
 - The Board meetings should begin with a 5 - 10 minute lecture by Kirtanananda Swami.
 - All women should stay off the road between Bahulaban and Madaban.
 - It was approved by the Board to fix the radios.
 - It was approved by the Board to clean Yudhisthira das's place.

NEW VRINDAVANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (Continued)---

NEW BUSINESS?

- There is a great need for landscaping to be done.
- A general clean-up of all the farms is needed.
- The radios need repair.
- The Board of Directors Department Heads chart needs updating to keep Brijabasis informed.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

JUDICIAL BOARD PROCEEDINGS FOR 4/14/74

Case #1: Attonement for Romaharsana and wife (disorderly conduct)

Romaharsana and wife are to go to the Radha Madava temple every day for one week in a clean condition at 12:30 - 1:30 pm and (1) pay 25 dundovat obeisances to Srila Prabhupada. Each time down say aloud the full obeisances to the Spiritual Master, each time up say full obeisances to Panca Tattva, (2) read aloud the Sanskrit, translation and purports of the 6 slokas in Bhagavad-gita about anger (slokas specified by Judicial Board) and (3) finish the Hour with reading aloud together from Krishna Book, Vol. 1, chapters 22 - 34, past-times about the Gopis.

Case #2: Vrajesvari dasi and Rasapurayani dasi

charge: stealing Maha Prasadam

plea: both pleaded guilty

attonement: Vrajesvari dasi - 1 month probation. If any further offenses are committed in this time the board will consider a period of ostracism from the temple for a given length of time.

Rasapurani dasi - One week no Maha Prasadam and for further offenses the board will consider a period of ostracism from the temple for a given length of time.

SHOW DOWN ON RAIVATAKA MOUNTAIN (Cont.)---

you use some?"

"Definitely could," I said.

"All right, I'll be stopping by again and bring you some."

"Hare Krishna, Southern Rebel."

"Hare Krishna to you, buddy."

The next day the Southern Rascal returned and brought me a bow saw with spare blades, 5 lbs. of cut nails and about 30 broccoli plants; ate a little prasadam, talked awhile and went his way.

The moral is that we should always think of Krishna and ask Him for help in everything we do, for actually we don't do anything; Krishna is the doer and we can only have desires.

Our business here at New Vrindavana is Sankirtan--to tell everyone we see about

Krishna and engage everyone in the service of Radha Vrindavana Chandra in any way we can. In this way Srila Prabhupada will be pleased, Krishna will be pleased, the Brahmanes and cows will be pleased and humanity in general will become uplifted and happy.

ALL GLORIES TO SRI GURU AND GOURANGA!

ROSE HIPS SYRUP

One swallow and sore throat is mallow. Best medicine for most diseases. Helps kirtan leaders and people who need vitamin C. Made by Chakradarya das at Madhuban. Stop in and test it out some time.

DROPS OF NECTAR

The PRIJBASI SPIRIT

p. 14

April 29, 1974

The following is taken from the morning walks in Vrndavana, India, wherein he is talking about that which concerns us directly here at N. Vrndavana.

Srila Prabhupada: The politician's business will be to exploit the citizens and they will be embarrassed and harassed so much. By one side no sufficient rain and therefore no sufficient food and on the other side taxation by the government. In this way the people will be so much harassed that they will give up their homes and go to the forest. Unless they take to Krishna consciousness they will not be saved. The varna-asrama college has to be established immediately. Everywhere, wherever we have got our centers, a varna-asrama college should be established to train all divisions, one class brahmana, one class ksatriya, one class vaisya and one class sudra. But everyone will be promoted to the spiritual platform by the spiritual activities by which we have prescribed. There is no inconvenience, even for the sudras.

Devotee: Is the sudra supposed to take sannyasa also?

Srila Prabhupada: No. Those who are sudras will not be allowed to take sannyasa--only those who are qualified brahmanas will be allowed to take sannyasa.

Devotee: Ksatriya used to take sannyasa?

Srila Prabhupada: Some of them, but not all of them.

Another Devotee: Yudhisthira took sannyasa?

Srila Prabhupada: Yudhisthira Maharaj did not take sannyasa, but he left home. There is no need for accepting sannyasa. One has to perform the devotional activities; that is the real thing. Simply by changing dress one does not improve, unless he takes seriously to the principles of devotional service. But in Kali yuga because I have changed my dress I have become a big sannyasi (laughter). Because I have got sacred thread now I am a big brahmana. There must be regular training. Hare Krishna.

Devotee: Srila Prabhupada, in the varna-asrama society, are most of the citizens sudras?

Srila Prabhupada: Yes. The number of sudras is always bigger. Just like in university education the number of post graduates, they are less. Others' numbers are bigger.

Devotee: The whole idea is then at the end of everyone's life everyone is required to leave home and perform devotional activities but not necessarily to take sannyasa.

Srila Prabhupada: Yes, devotional activities. Either he leaves home or he does not leave home, that does not matter. He must continue from the very beginning. For the management of affairs we are required to divide because there are different classes of brains. So those who have very intellectual brains, they should become brahmanas. Those who are fit for management and protection, they should be trained as ksatriyas. Those who are fit for producing food and taking care of the cows, they should be trained as vaisya. And the balance, they are all sudras. This is the things. Everywhere you will find this division, natural. One class men, very intelligent. One class of men very strong, good brain for management and administration. One class of men fit for tilling the ground, producing food and protecting the cows, the balance, sudras. So in our society these divisions should be there. The intelligent class of men, they should be engaged in preaching, reading books, instructing, and taking care of deity worship in the temple. Another class will be strong managers to see that everything is going nicely and everyone is engaged, not that only eating

DROPS OF NECTAR (Continued)--

and sleeping. Everyone must be engaged, employed. So if one is very much adopted for eating and sleeping, he'll be engaged with plows; you see, there must be activity. Otherwise, there must be dysentery. Eating and sleeping, you cannot digest. So in this way our society should manage, not that 'give me second initiation, sacred thread' and after taking, business finished, now I am liberated, let me eat and sleep. This should be stopped. Therefore, we have 50 units of land we have cultivated in Mayapur; setting aside 20 units for the temple and grazing ground for the cows, 30 units of land. The production should be 300 mounds of grain but we have produced only 180. So there should be 120 excess of grain. Instead of this excess, I want 10,000 rupees a month for maintenance. This is mismanagement that is going on. These things are not discussed in GBC? So what kind of discussion is there? Simply talking? No practical? And the estimate of the budget was presented for 10,000 rupees a month. And when it was scrutinizingly studied, immediately it came down to 6,000. So what kind of budget? So management should be arranged in that way, that nobody is sitting idle. Automatically he will fall sick. Sickness means idleness. All excess--eating, sleeping. No excess, no lust. 'Yukta hare viharasya, yukta-cestasya karmasu.' Yukta. Yukta means 'actually what you need.' Hare Krishna. So everyone, each center, this system should be introduced. There must be practical application of the varna-asrama system and at the same time this program of devotional service. Then it will go on very nicely.

CLIMATIC

Forecast:

Tuesday: Showers
 Wednesday: Showers ending
 Thursday: Fair
 Friday: Fair

Wednesday thru Friday:
 Highs in 70's, lows in
 upper 40's.

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