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Pictorial conference*

November 7, 1935

Dear Mr. Trilby:

Sometime ago you wrote me an interesting letter apropos of an article I had written in the Pictorial Review. I have been away from New York a good deal and very busy when here. Please pardon the delay in replying or rather in acknowledging for I shall not attempt to reply - your letter is too long and too personal.

Generally, let me say that I believe you are entirely right in the strong emphasis you place on personal effort - individualism. I do not believe we get anywhere without that, but I believe at the same time that when people are sick or ill or unable to find work which they are honestly seeking, or old and homeless, that it is the obligation of society to help them. I should like to see it all in the first place done by the families to which the unhappy one belongs. That is impossible by the community or the state but when the state breaks down, as it did to so large an extent in this last depression, there is nothing to do in my judgment but for the Federal Government to take hold. I think we are working out of the trouble.

You are right in believing that the faster each one takes on his own load the quicker the whole country will come out of its trouble.

Perhaps after all we are not so far apart.

Thanking you for your letter, believe me

Very truly yours

Mr. Arnold Trilby  
Tempe, Arizona