

### HOME

It comes slowly, unexpectedly, quietly and most especially in the evening hours when the campus is quiet after the noise and confusion of the day. It comes suddenly in the middle of the thoughts of ourselves, of our uncertain future, of our dim, unpredictable perspectives. Only with far away connections of our thoughts we touch it and here we feel it in its full force; the blood rushing to the temples, and somewhere in the breast it contracts and little bursts and reverberations result—the longing for home. In the middle of the cold Christmas nights it will come very often. And there will come moments when it will be so strong that it may force us to betray our feelings.

Not many of us can escape it . . .

The longing for home is the illness of centuries, the illness of the exiles of all times. There is hardly any remedy for it except solacing thoughts and the hope of return. But on what does this all depend? We know it—how many international connections have to be made and broken, how many conferences and meetings held, how many political dealings initiated. From the depths of unhappiness to the peak of success and down again and up, just like the tide; and then again the greatness and calmness of the waters. This all requires skill in international contacts before the HOPE will become a reality. Through what kind of doubt and hard experiences in the future months and perhaps years shall we pass before we experience the feeling of warm excitement? Then we will be able to pronounce the word full of charm, the word of the end of our wanderings: "Home"!

Home is for us today the forbidden garden, on which fell the shadow of a dark night. Home is for today a far away country full of sorrow, fallen into the hands of invaders. Home is living in the tears, shed for lost and stolen happiness. Home is the far away oasis of love surrounded with barbed wire. Home is shivering with the hundreds of thousands in prayer which we hear within in the cold winter nights. And to this home we are answering with the hope of persistence.

We believe in the return of the free people in the free future. And for this goal we pledge to work with all our might.

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