

LA SOLANA INN
TELEPHONE SYCAMORE 2-5392
450 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

February 17, 1940

Col. O. N. Solbert
Rochester, N.Y.

MOORE
2/17/40

✓
copied all

My dear Col. Solbert:

In reply to your request in your letter of February 7, I would say that it is a matter of satisfaction to me that a more intimate glimpse into Mr. Eastman's personality is to be given to the public. With you I feel that the biography, already published, is a bit too matter of fact. But, as you know, Mr. Eastman's nature was not expansive, - perhaps it may have been to very intimate friends, in which I can hardly place myself; but he was always kindly, sympathetic, and wishful to help when he could.

Some of his opinions I cannot bring myself to record, for he was keen and critical of those whom he judged not true or loyal in public and private life. He expressed himself

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as regretful that Mr. Wilson would go down to
many in history as a martyr to his country.

One little incident my interest you: my wife,
during that disastrous epidemic of influenza
in 1918, was working in the dining-room at the
armory. The patients from the hospitals were being
evacuated as soon as possible to make room
for more serious cases. A young Catholic priest
asked my wife to try to explain to the poor
sufferers that all was donated, as he feared they
were refusing food for fear they had to pay
for it. My wife tried to explain to an elderly
Pole, who knew little English, that certain citi-
zens of Rochester were footing all the bills, and
wanted them to enjoy all the hot chocolate and
good things they could eat.

A bright little Jewish boy piped up and
said, "I bet yer that man who takes photo-
graphs is paying for it all." This little incident

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amused Mr. Eastman greatly, when my wife related it to him. I can see his pleased, quizzical smile, knowing, as he did, that he was loved and trusted by the people. We were fond of him because of his sincere kindness; he was more of a true follower of Christ than many who were closely affiliated with Churches.

We had formerly in our garden some extraordinarily large and luscious quinces, as our small lot had been part of the Hooker nursery of earlier days. Mr. Eastman was as punctilious and appreciative of our small yearly gift of this fruit, as if it had been of great value.

Occasionally he came to us for dinner and a game of bridge with Mrs. Mulligan, when her husband was at the Pundit Club meeting. This was a delightful occasion for

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us, as he was so informal, and remarked that he had had a bully time, and he loved to tell how he had begun life at \$3.50 a week. His indomitable will and belief in himself and in his inventive power carried him over rough financial losses and discouraging failures.

I do not know that this will be of much value to you, but it has been, truly, a satisfaction to us to have this opportunity of expressing our admiration for this unique personality.

Very sincerely yours,
Clarence King Moore.

C
O
P
Y

La Solana Inn
Pasadena, California

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Rochester, N. Y.

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Moore, Clarence King

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acs 2/26/40

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