

Echoes From Mt. Ecclesia

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As you will remember, we stated in the first number of the *Echoes* our reason for thus naming the little sheet; namely, that as builders of the physical temple we are working in the midst of the sound of carpenter's hammers, the noise of engines, of printing presses and with other mechanical sounds about our ears. During this month Mt. Ecclesia has at times seemed to be the scene of a Fourth of July celebration, for we have had to use dynamite to help us make improvements. We dug a large reservoir so that now we have storage for thirty thousand gallons of water; and we used the gravel therefrom to make a main road through the grounds, which we have named Ecclesia Drive.

Mr. Stewart Vogt of Cincinnati, Ohio, noted landscape artist and a member of the Fellowship, has laid out this road in a graceful curve. And we have been blasting holes by the side of it with the intention of planting palm in January or February. Thus the echoes have been particularly strong this month; and as we are not through with the work, the world will hear more from us in the near future. At least that part of the world, which is within a few miles of Mt. Ecclesia will know that there is something going on, unless they are altogether deaf.

On the 27th of November it was just two years since Headquarters were established on Mt. Ecclesia. And for a long time we were undecided how we might most fittingly celebrate the Anniversary. First we thought of a

flag raising, and then it occurred to us that it would be a good idea to send out a letter to the students asking each to contribute not more than five cents to defray the cost of making an emblem flag so that everyone would have a part in that symbol of our faith. We felt that all the students would have appreciated this privilege, but in the last moment the scheme was abandoned as being in direct violation of the injunction of the Elder Brothers to Mr. Heindel, "Never to ask for money for any purpose whatsoever." And although the amount was so insignificant, we felt it might be the entering wedge, and once the precedent had been established there is no telling where we might end. As it is now, we know that every stick and stone that is on Mt. Ecclesia is the unsolicited voluntary expression of the love of the students—given out of the goodness of their hearts. And therefore, a thousand times more precious in the sight of the Saviour than if they had given because they were asked to do so.

Then we thought of a palm planting, and Mr. Vogt bought four palms as a starter, but as we found that it is not a good time until January or February, we had also to abandon that plan and to content ourselves with planting what we had right away. But finally a suggestion from the Teacher, though not given to help us out of that dilemma, has solved the problem in a manner that we believe will be generally appreciated by the students.

The way it came about is that we have been

using the dining room both as class room and for the Sunday evening services, while the New and Full Moon meetings have been held in Mrs. Heindel's room; it being felt that the particularly sacred nature of these last named meetings demanded a place which was free from the atmosphere of discussion unavoidable in the classes. But we have had no place set apart entirely for spiritual exercises. Sometime ago, the Teacher spoke regretfully of this lack to Mr. Heindel, and suggested that simple morning and evening devotional exercises be taken up, and that one room be set apart for that purpose. This was immediately done to the unanimous satisfaction of the students, who all feel the benefit thereof. The Sunday evening service, however, is still held in the dining room, and the New and Full Moon service in Mrs. Heindel's quarters. We could see no way of altering this until we comply with the further suggestion of the Teacher, "that as soon as possible, we should erect a separate building devoted entirely to spiritual work, and that it need neither be large nor elaborate."

We therefore decided to celebrate the Second Anniversary of the Headquarters by breaking the ground for the Pro-Ecclesia, which will be built in the Spanish or Moorish style, 36 feet long and 18 feet wide, with seating capacity for about seventy-five. Mr. Heindel drew the plans and the design was perfected by Miss Lyon. Mr. Wm. Koenig, a student, who is a contractor and builder in San Francisco, has taken charge of the work and is pushing it as fast as possible; so that we hope to have our Dedication Services in the new building on Christmas Eve. Although the Pro-Ecclesia will be small, we believe it will be very artistic, for both Miss Lyon and Mr. Vogt will help on the interior decorations.

We want all the students who can, to come

and spend Christmas with us and help to start the vibrations in the Pro-Ecclesia, so that we may make it an effective spiritual center for the benefit of humanity. If you can not come in person, please be with us in spirit at midnight on the twenty-fourth of December.

The fall term of school will end December 15th, and the new term will begin on January 1st. All students who wish to attend the winter session will kindly send application and date of birth to the Esoteric Secretary.

Thanksgiving Day at Mt. Ecclesia

Thanksgiving Day started with us here at Mt. Ecclesia with the New Moon meeting Wednesday evening. Such a meeting! so sacred, and we had beloved visitors from the other side. The vibrations were wonderful, almost overpowering to some of us. Then up Thanksgiving morning and service as usual at eight fifteen, then breakfast. After breakfast various duties and pleasures until 10:30 a.m., the hour for Special Services in the classroom. This was the Second Anniversary here. Again we had a wonderful service. Music and reading of the scriptures. Then again we felt the presence. We adjourned to the site of the Pro-Ecclesia, 29 of us, and forming a circle with Mr. and Mrs. Heindel in the center. After a few remarks, Mr. Heindel turned the first shovelful of earth. Each one in turn then did the same and we went back to the classroom and there finished the services. Each one then proceeded to enjoy himself or herself to the best of their ability until the gong was sounded for dinner at 3:30 p.m. Who was responsible for that dinner no one could tell. Mr. and Mrs. Heindel blamed the cook, the cook denied the imposition and blamed Mr. and Mrs. Heindel. But it was the finest dinner ever! The table was set in the form of a cross. At each place was a spray of Holly with its beautiful red berries; a place

card with the Emblem and a verse of scripture, which, during the course of the meal, was read in turn. The dining room was beautifully decorated with holly. After dinner Miss Lyon started a series of anecdotes, being ably followed in turn by Mr. Koenig, Mr. Langevin, Mrs. Rockwell, Mr. Hayman and Mr. Warren. Then Mrs. Boyle played the accompaniments for Mr. Rockwell and Mr. Hawley on the violin. This was followed by several hymns, and we wound up with that grand old song known as the Doxology. Another interval and then, after the regular 7:15 services, the question class in the evening.

Was there ever such a day? Oh, what a privilege we thought it to be here! And our hearts are strengthened and we gird ourselves for our work anew. Love and Peace be with you!

Address at the Ground-Breaking

Passages from I Chronicles, Ch. 22, were read by the editor regarding the building of Solomon's Temple; bringing out the fact that David, who was a man of war, was forbidden to build, the privilege being granted to his son Solomon, who, as read by Mr. Heindel from II Chronicles, Chap. 1, did not ask for power over his enemies but desired that God give him wisdom to lead the people. And then followed the words of the Christ about taking no care for earthly things but seeking first the Kingdom of God, in full assurance that all we need will be given to us when we work with the Great Law.

Mr. Heindel then said in part: During the past year and years we have all had abundant cause to give thanks to our Heavenly Father, but we never before had so great a cause as today, when it is our privilege to lay the foundation for the Pro-Ecclesia, the first building to be entirely devoted to spiritual services on Mt. Ecclesia; and thus carry out the request recently made by the Teacher.

But if we regard only the building of stone, timber and plaster, we see not the true church, for these physical materials are dead and meaningless. But out of the hopes, the longings, the sacred aspirations which we shall voice within this earthly structure, there will be built the true Temple of devotion, an etheric structure of a grandeur inconceivable to the physical senses. Sometime, it will be the privilege of each one who steadfastly pushes forward upon the path of attainment, to visit the "Temple of the Rose Cross" where the Elder Brothers carry on their grand work. But the physical structure gives no clue to what the place is. The structure is etheric; it is still building, as every true spiritual structure in the world, for the work done there adds daily and yearly to its beauty and splendor. Charles Rann Kennedy, author of *The Servant in the House*, had the true conception of the Temple when he lets Manson, the "servant," tell the old worldly bishop what his temple was like, in the following words:

"I'm afraid you may not consider it an altogether substantial concern. It has to be seen in a certain way under certain conditions....Some people never *see* it at all. You must understand, this is no dead pile of stones and unmeaning timber, *it is a living thing*.

"When you enter it you hear a sound, a sound as of some mighty poem chanted. Listen long enough and you will learn that it is made up of the beating of human hearts, of the nameless music of men's souls—that is, if you have ears. If you have eyes, you will presently see the church itself, a looming mystery of many shapes and shadows leaping sheer from floor to dome. The work of no ordinary builder!.

Its pillars go up like the brawny trunks of heroes. The sweet human flesh of men and women is moulded about its bulwarks, strong, impregnable: The faces of little children laugh

out from every corner-stone: the terrible spans and arches of it are the joined hands of comrades; and up in the heights and spaces are inscribed the numberless musings of all the dreamers in the world.

"It is yet building—building and built upon. Sometimes the work goes forward in deep darkness; sometimes in blinding light: Now beneath the burden of unutterable anguish, now to the tune of a great laughter and heroic shoutings like the cry of thunder. Sometimes in the night time one may hear the tiny hammerings of the comrades at work in the dome—the comrades that have gone aloft."

Thus, my dear sisters and brothers, it is of comparatively minor importance that we are here to commence putting stone upon stone and raise a physical structure; what matters most, is that we are today commencing to gather around this spot a cloud of loving thoughts, of high aspirations which are as a beacon light in the invisible world; and as this unseen building grows it will radiate all over the world influences which can be felt by all who are attuned to them. Those members who can not be with us on Mt. Ecclesia are not shut off, for their thoughts of a similar nature will also help to build this new house of worship, to hasten the day when the Ecclesia itself shall be built.

But let us remember that it is not by mere prayer and faith without works that we build, for "Faith without works is dead," says the Apostle. And unless we take the teachings of the Rosicrucian Fellowship into our lives, and strive day by day to live them to the very utmost, our prayers will lack the dynamic energy that carries them to the throne of God, and brings the answer in added soul growth and efficiency for work.

Students who are affiliated with Headquarters by virtue of being on Mr.

Heindel's list of correspondents may apply for admission to the School. The rates are \$6.00 per week or \$25.00 per month for those who are content to dwell in tents; but if room in a cottage is desired the rate is \$7.00 per week or \$29.00 per month. This is for board and room only. Students are expected to support the school by voluntary contribution. As accommodations are limited, application must be made in advance.

We are also prepared to receive patients at the Sanitarium, whether members or not, the rate being \$7.00 per week or \$29.00 per month for the physical accommodation. There is no charge for healing, but patients are also expected to give as they have received. The rule about application for admission applies to patients also and the reason is the same.

At the Oceanside garage we have a rate of 50¢ each when two passengers come together from the depot to Mt. Ecclesia and return. When anyone comes alone they charge 60¢ for the round trip. This includes a reasonable amount of baggage and it is cheaper than the expressman's charge. So call up Main 25 on arrival in Oceanside and they will call for you at the depot.

The joy of our Thanksgiving has not been without its note of sadness, for one of our trusted co-workers, Mrs Kenney, has proved unworthy. After she left Headquarters, taking with her money not her own, it became necessary to search her trunk. There we found books abstracted from Mr. Heindel's study, also from many students. We would have liked to cloak her pitiable misstep with the mantle of silence, but as we found lists of a large number of students in her trunk, and know cases where she has collected funds for the Fellowship and diverted the money, we feel it an imperative duty to warn students that she is no longer with Headquarters.