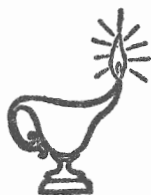


THE ROSIKRUCIAN FELLOWSHIP MAGAZINE

RAYS FROM THE ROSE CROSS



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**Creation, Change, and
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Rays from the Rose Cross

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Creed or Christ?

No man loves God who hates his kind,
Who tramples on his brother's heart and soul;
Who seeks to shackle, cloud, or fog the mind
By fears of hell has not perceived our goal.

God-sent are all religions blest;
And Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life,
To give the heavy-laden rest
And peace from sorrow, sin, and strife.

Behold the Universal Spirit came
To *all* the churches, not to one alone;
On Pentecostal morn a tongue of flame
Round *each* apostle as a halo shone.

Since then, as vultures ravenous with greed,
We oft have battled for an empty name,
And sought by dogma, edict, cult, or creed,
To send each other to the quenchless flame.

Is Christ then twain? Was Cephas, Paul,
To save the world, nailed to the tree?
Then why divisions here at all?
Christ's love enfolds both you and me.

His pure sweet love is not confined
By creeds which segregate and raise a wall.
His love enfolds, embraces human kind,
No matter what ourselves or Him we call.

Then why not take Him at His word?
Why hold to creeds which tear apart?
But one thing matters, be it heard,
That brother love fill every heart.

There's but one thing the world has need to know,
There's but one balm for all our human woe;
There's but one way that leads to heaven above —
That way is human sympathy and love.

—Max Heindel



Life Unfolding

MANY people would probably agree, if asked, that there is some sort of over-all progress going on in connection with the life which is manifesting through human bodies, and perhaps through animal bodies, also, but they would be more dubious about including the plant and mineral kingdoms in this conclusion. Perhaps an even fewer number would agree that the thread of life permeates all living creatures and "doth all unite." Actually, until the last few decades most people have not seemed to be very concerned about such "abstract" matters, but now evidence seems to show conclusively that there is taking place an acceleration of interest in the deeper phases of life which pertains to all four of the kingdoms presently on our Earth. Some recent spectacular developments in regard to the nature of the plant kingdom are such as to intrigue even the casual thinker.

In *Rays from the Rose Cross* for July, 1969, reference was made in an editorial ("The Wisdom of Nature") to an article which appeared in *National Wildlife* for February-March of that year describing some remarkable findings concerning plant life by Cleve Backster of New York City. Experiments had seemed to prove that plants, contrary to the generally accepted opinion, *do* have feelings and react definitely to certain outer stimuli.

Now, in the October-November, 1971, issue of *National Wildlife*, a report is given (in an article by Janice and Charles Robbins) of the results of further investigation and research by Mr. Backster. One of the most surprising (to most people) of these findings is that which points toward a sort of "back memory" by plants. Six of Mr. Backster's polygraph students (he teaches the technique of the lie-detector or polygraph to "policemen and other interested parties") participated in an experiment in which one of the students was designated by lot to destroy a plant secretly. When a polygraph was hooked up to a surviving plant, and "the six suspects paraded into the room in turns," there was no reaction from the plant except to the "killer." For this student the plant went "into a tizzy," seeming to indicate that the plant "remembered" the vibration of the person who was guilty of the "crime." As Mr. Backster did not consider this reaction entirely conclusive, he is continuing his efforts to obtain additional scientific data bearing on the phenomenon.

Another experiment, having especial interest for the occult student, was made with chicken eggs. By attaching polygraph electrodes to eggs and making a nine-hour recording, Mr. Backster found that part of the recording "showed pulsations: the heartbeat of the chicken embryo." By investigation it was found that the egg "had undoubtedly been fertilized But when he dissected the egg, he was astonished to find that it contained no physical, circulatory structure to account for the pulsation." Research is being continued to "find out if eggs from the same hen react to each other in the same way as those from different hens, and so on."

Quite intriguing, too, is the finding that plants react mostly to "animal life, especially human life," rather than to each other. On the other hand, it seems that eggs "are mutually sensitive the destruction of an egg at one end of the laboratory will predictably cause great agitation in a second egg at the other end." Also, "when the egg knows you are going to break it or cook it it goes into a state of shock." Plants and vegetables do the same thing. This has not seemed to happen to animals. Mr. Backster makes this pertinent statement: "Higher forms of animal life don't seem to get the point so quickly. The rabbi's prayer before the slaughtering of animals for kosher food gives notice of intent to kill and allows the animal to go into a configuration, which is like a state of shock. So the violence doesn't leave a residue in the animal cells which might be disagreeable to taste."

The application of the deeper truths given in occult philosophy to these experiments reveal some of the occurrences as much more "natural" than the materialist supposes. The occult student accepts the fact (a fact to him by means of logic and intuition, if not by extended vision) that one life does permeate all the forms in our universe, and he is therefore not surprised to hear that various types of plant and animal life are sensitive and responsive to what happens to others. Furthermore, the existence of the Group Spirits for both plants and animals is a big factor in accounting for some of the results so astonishing to the materialist.

According to the teachings of occult science, the four streams of life now manifesting on our planet in the mineral, plant, animal, and human forms began their manifestations, for the purpose of gaining self-consciousness, at different times in the past. The human life wave, the oldest of the four, began its journey into matter at the dawn of the first great Septenary Day, or Saturn Period, as designated in the Western Wisdom Teachings, and has gone through the mineral, plant, and animal stages of form and consciousness. The next oldest, the animal life wave, began with the second great Septenary Day, or Sun Period, and has passed through the mineral and plant stages. The plant life wave began in the third great Septenary Day, or Moon Period, and has completed its mineral stage. The youngest of the four life waves, the mineral, began at the dawn of our present Earth Period, and has yet to evolve through the plant, animal, and human stages in future Periods. Although these streams of life were started out at different times, they are all a part of the One Life of God — they are and always have been a part of the God of our solar system.

Each life wave evolves under the direction of higher life waves or Intelligences until its members are able to function under the Law of Cause and Effect and carry on largely by themselves. From then on they reap what they sow, and learn by experience — if they will not learn by

observation. Human beings have reached this stage; the other kingdoms have not, but will in future Days or Periods.

The higher Intelligences guiding the animal life wave are two "steps" (Periods) ahead of humanity, and are designated by the name *Archangels*. They were human in the second or Sun Period, and their lowest vehicle is composed of desire-stuff. Although invisible to the physical eye, they are nonetheless real and keenly active in furthering the evolution of our younger brothers, the animals. People who have developed Desire-world vision or clairvoyance have contacted them and found them to be highly intelligent. Max Heindel states concerning them:

"The ancient Egyptians knew of these animal Group Spirits and sketched many of them, in a crude way, upon their temples and tombs. Such figures with a human body and an animal head actually live in the Desire World. They may be spoken to, and will be found much more intelligent than the average human being."

The Group Spirits direct their charges by means of a "silver cord", directing them to migrate at certain times to certain places, to build nests or lairs where the young are cared for, etc. There are many different stages of development among the Archangels, just as there are among human beings. Each, itself, is evolving by means of the service it renders, in conformity with the "Law of Service" operating throughout the universe.

The Angels, one evolutionary step above the human life wave, are the Group Spirits of the plants. They are particularly active in the etheric bodies of the plants, having special affinity for them because the stream of life ensouling that kingdom started its evolution in the Moon Period, when the Angels were human and learned to build their densest bodies from etheric materials. They became expert at it, and are therefore especially fitted to help the later life waves with the processes taking place through the ethers: germination, assimilation, growth, and propagation.

The Angels can be seen by people who have developed etheric vision (by means of sensitizing the optic nerve), appearing as mighty centers of spiritual force which radiate outward in scintillating colors. They direct the innumerable Nature Spirits (gnomes, sylphs, undines, and salamanders) in their application of the forces that bring about growth and propagation. People like Luther Burbank and Cleve Backster who have worked (consciously or unconsciously) with the laws governing the plants find that with proper manipulation and experiment they can improve old species, modify or change colors and flavors, and wrest fascinating secrets from Nature's boundless store. It is actually the intelligent Group Spirits they are working with, and these angelic Beings are happy to co-operate with human beings interested in furthering the evolution of their charges. They, too, are evolving by means of the service they are rendering to other life waves. In the next great Day of Manifestation, the Jupiter Period, they will be on a level corresponding to that of the present Archangels.

Mr. Backster's experiments are surely proof of the inter-relationship of all life, regardless of the form in which it is manifesting, and of the fact that plant life, in particular, is growing more sentient. Thus it is preparing for the future time when the plants will take on animal-like forms — that is, the life now ensouling the plants will in the Jupiter Period ensoul the animal forms of that time.

(Continued on page 132)

THE Mystic



... LIGHT

Creation, Change, and Development

A LECTURE GIVEN IN OUR CHAPEL BY J. A. JOHNSTON

THAT great seer and investigator of the records in the Memory of Nature, Max Heindel, has given us the following picture of Creation as shown to him by the Brothers of the Order of Rosicrucians:

When we try to discover the origin of the Architect of our solar system, we find that we must pass to the highest of the seven Cosmic Planes. We are then in the realm of the Supreme Being, who emanated from the Absolute. The Absolute is beyond our comprehension. No expression or simile which we are capable of conceiving can possibly convey an adequate idea of this greatest of all Beings. At best we can only say that the Absolute is Boundless Being, the Root of Existence.

From the Absolute came the Supreme Being. The first aspect of the Supreme Being is Power. From this proceeded the second aspect, the Word, and from these two proceeded the third aspect, Motion. From the threefold Supreme Being emanated the Seven Great Logoi into the First Cosmic Plane. They contained within themselves all the great Hierarchies who differentiate more and more as they diffuse through the six lower Cosmic Planes. Each of the Hierarchies is capable of septenary division and subdivision, the number of divisions in the second Cosmic Plane being 49. In the seventh Cosmic Plane where our involution and evolu-

tion take place, and the solar systems manifest, the number of divisions and subdivisions is almost infinite.

In the highest world of the seventh Cosmic Plane dwells the God of our solar system. He limits Himself to a certain portion of that Plane, in which He chooses to create a solar system. The Cosmic Plane is an expression of the negative pole of the Absolute. The Being we call God is an expression of the positive energy of the same Absolute. From the interaction of these two poles, all that we see about us in the Physical World has resulted.

Included in God's own Being are hosts of glorious Hierarchies of immeasurable power, the fruitage of past manifestations. They seek to acquire more experience by working on those who have not yet evolved any consciousness, and induce in them a stage of self-consciousness with which they can take up further work themselves.

At the beginning of our journey into matter, God differentiated within Himself some sixty billion Spirits, and these Virgin Spirits are distributed over the seven planets of our solar system. Each Virgin Spirit was endowed with the latent powers of Will, Wisdom, and Activity, to be aroused into active spiritual powers during this Day of Manifestation.

There were twelve great Creative Hierarchies active in the work at the be-

ginning of *Involution*. Five have with-first or Saturn Period. drawn, leaving seven Hierarchies still active at the time of the Earth Period.

Our humanity started its evolution when God differentiated these Virgin Spirits *within* Himself — not *from* Himself — and endowed each with His three-fold powers of Will, Wisdom, and Activity. Two spiritual Orders who gave assistance at the beginning have passed beyond the knowledge of anyone on Earth. They are known as the great Spiritual Hierarchies associated with the constellations Aries and Taurus.

As each world had to be divided into seven regions, we can realize that a long period of gestation and preparation was necessary for the billions of thought creations in the mind of God to be separated and, as individual parts of God, endowed with the latent qualities of Will, Wisdom, and Activity. Man's relationship to God and the Hierarchies of celestial Beings is Jacob's Ladder of Attainment which stretches from man to God — and beyond.

The sixty billion Virgin Spirits were embedded in a globe composed of the matter of the Region of Concrete Thought, incorporated in the globe as the life ensouling the present mineral in our Earth. All was dark, and anyone entering that globe would have seen nothing, but would have felt its warmth.

The Lords of Flame, from the constellation Leo, and other great Creative Hierarchies, were helping the Virgin Spirits to develop Form and Consciousness. They were outside the Saturn Globe, their bodies emitting a strong light to project pictures upon the surface of that globe, which was so unimpressionable that it reflected in an echo-like manner everything that came in contact with it. They succeeded in implanting in the evolving life the germ that has developed into our present dense body, with the capacity to develop sense organs, notably the ear, and aroused, at the end of the Saturn Period, the germ of the Divine Spirit. Thus we owe our highest and lowest vehicles to the work done in the

The Lords of Mind, from Sagittarius, were the humanity of the Saturn Period. The consciousness of the Virgin Spirits at that time was that of deepest trance, such as the mineral kingdom has today. This work took place in the Region of Concrete Thought.

In the Second, or Sun Period, our field of Involution took place on glowing balls of light the consistency of gas; they had the quality of absorbing and working over any sight or sound projected against their surfaces. The first work was to change the germinal dense body so as to allow the interpenetration of a vital body, also to give the dense body the capability of evolving glands and an alimentary canal. This was done by the Lords of the Flame (Leo), and the Lords of Wisdom (Virgo). The latter gave the germinal vital body, making it capable of furthering growth and propagation, exciting the sense centers of the dense body and causing it to move.

The Archangels were the humanity of the Sun Period. They are now the Race Spirits under Jehovah, the third aspect (Holy Spirit) of God. They work with the evolving beings that have desire bodies. They guide races to various climates and to different parts of the Earth, thus producing the different peoples and nations. Patriotism is one of the sentiments emanating from and fostered by them, but patriotism has not the power over many people that it formerly had, particularly in the more advanced nations. Some people are being liberated from the Race Spirit and are able to say, as did Thomas Paine, "The world is my country." Altruism is slowly superseding patriotism.

The Cherubim aroused in man the second spiritual aspect, the Life Spirit, which was linked to the Divine Spirit. The consciousness of the Virgin Spirits was then that of dreamless sleep, similar to that of the present plant kingdom. This work in the Sun Period took place in the Desire World.

In the Saturn Period the globes were

described as warmth; in the Sun Period as light or glowing heat. Now, in the Moon Period they are described as Moisture. In the center of the globe was the hot, fiery core; next to that and in the cold of outside space, there was dense moisture. By contact with the fiery central core, the moisture was changed to hot steam, which rushed outward, to cool and sink again to the center. The occult scientist refers to the Moon Period as water, and describes the atmosphere as fire-fog. In the first Revolution the Lords of Wisdom (Virgo) and the Lords of Individuality (Libra) reconstructed the germ of the dense body to make it capable of being interpenetrated by a desire body, and of evolving a nervous system, muscles, cartilage, and a rudimentary skeleton.

In the second Revolution, the Lords of Individuality (Libra) radiated from themselves the substance which they helped the evolving Virgin Spirits to acquire and build into a germinal desire body. They also helped to incorporate this germinal desire body in the already formed dense and vital bodies.

To awaken the germ of the third spiritual aspect in man, the Human Spirit, was the work of the Seraphim from the constellation Gemini.

They later helped the Lords of Individuality to link the Human Spirit to the Life Spirit. The Lords of Flame helped the Lords of Individuality to link the Human Spirit to the Divine Spirit. Thus the threefold Spirit came into existence.

Henceforth the All-consciousness of the Virgin Spirit is lost. It can no longer penetrate its veils and look outward and perceive others, so it turns its consciousness inward, and there it finds itself as an *Ego*, separated and apart from all others. Evolution will dissolve the illusion, bring back the all-consciousness, and self-consciousness will be added.

Toward the end of the Moon Period there was a division of the globe. That part of the globe which humanity inhabited was sent spinning into space because of their inability to keep in the

high state of vibration maintained by the other life waves. This globe began to circle around the central, fiery globe, with one of its poles pointing directly at it.

On this satellite the Virgin Spirits followed instinctively the currents that encircled it. The lowest world in the Moon Period was the Etheric Region. The Angels were the humanity. The consciousness of the Virgin Spirits was the internal picture consciousness which our present animals have.

Thus the Virgin Spirits came down from the higher worlds during Involution, and by concurrent action the bodies were built upward at the same time. It is the meeting of the Spirit and the bodies in the focusing mind that marks the point when the human Being, the *Ego*, is born. This took place in the Earth Period.

In the first or Polarian Epoch of the Earth Period, the dense body was a large, baggy object, with an opening at the top from which an organ of orientation projected. This organ was capable of sensing heat and cold, and has now drawn into the head and is called the pineal gland. The sense of feeling is now extended over the entire body, as the senses of sight and hearing will be in the future; man will then be all eyes and ears, which will be comparative perfection.

The immense baggy creatures divided into halves, but the halves did not grow any larger, each remaining half as large as the original form. This was the mineral stage with a trance state of consciousness, and took place on the Sun. As the formation of crust islands was becoming an obstacle to the progress of the higher evolved beings, and as the lesser evolved beings, such as man, required a denser world for further development, the Earth was thrown off from the Sun at the end of the Hyperborean Epoch.

In the third or Lemurian Epoch there were failures from the other Epochs who had crystallized a part of the Earth and were a hindrance and obstruction, so

they, with the part of the Earth they had crystallized, were thrown out into space, beyond recall. That globe is our Moon, the field of disintegration.

In the fourth Epoch the Lords of Form were given charge of the Earth Period and helped man build his desire body. The Lords of Mind took charge of the higher part of the desire body and of the germinal mind, impregnating them with the quality of separate selfhood, without which no separate, self-contained beings such as we are today would be possible.

In the inner worlds sex expresses itself as Will and Imagination. Will is the male power and allied to the Sun Forces. Imagination is the female power and is linked to the Moon forces. When Mars released its influence over iron, it became available for use in this planet. Without iron, red, heat-giving blood would be an impossibility. When red blood developed in the latter part of the Lemurian Epoch, man's body became upright and the Ego could enter his body and control it. It then became necessary to use part of the sex force for the building of a brain and larynx. As a result of that modification the Ego has evolved the power to create and express thought.

The Lords of Venus and the Lords of Mercury came and guided man to manifest will and judgment, as an independent will was not yet evolved. The Lords of Mercury are now working on the individual to teach him the art of self-mastery. Only in the measure that man masters himself is he qualified to govern others. During the next three and one-half Revolutions of the Earth Period the Lords of Mercury will operate to extricate the Ego from its densest vehicle by means of Initiation. They taught man to leave his body at will so that it became a cheerful dwelling house, a useful instrument, instead of a clogging fetter.

For eyes the Lemurian had two sensitive spots affected by light, and not until the end of the Atlantean Epoch did he develop eyes as we have today. Each sound uttered by the Lemurian had power

over his fellow beings, the animals, and Nature around him. The boys were taught to develop the quality of will, the girls to develop the imaginative faculty.

As Virgin Spirits we belong to the constellation Pisces, the last Hierarchy in this Day of Manifestation. We have dipped into the lowest world for experience. We should remember that to make progress we must follow the example of the great Creative Hierarchies that have preceded us, by fitting ourselves to help those less evolved. The road may be difficult, but we know we are on the right path. Any improvement in spiritual or physical conditions must first be imagined as possible before it can become a reality.

Mr. Heindel tells us that the deepest phases of the Rosicrucian Teachings now perceived by us are but the initial introduction to the scheme (plan) as it will be revealed to us when our minds have become capable of understanding more, in later stages of our development as supermen. The mirror of mind contributes increasingly to spiritual growth, as the thoughts which it transmits to and from the Spirit polish it to greater brightness, sharpening and intensifying its focus more and more to a single point, perfectly flexible and under the control of the Spirit.

In evolving life, as in the business world, there is no such thing as merely holding your own. Progression or retrogression is the law.

The more we accustom ourselves to think in terms of the spiritual worlds, the better we shall be able to rise above the illusions which surround us in this concrete existence, where the twin feelings of Interest and Indifference obscure the Truth and adversely influence us.

Right living is like a work of art, a product of vision, and a wrestling with concrete situations. If at the heart of things there is a living presence, a Divine Being, then the sum total of our lives is open to that knowing One. Then it is the case, *not* that God is a thought in our minds, but we are thoughts in the mind of God.

The Illusion of Fatigue

CHRISTINE LINDEMAN

MANY working people labor during the eight hours of their prescribed working day and come home too tired to contemplate anything but dinner and an evening of leisure. Many housewives, busy all day with domestic chores and children, are ready to "drop" after the dinner dishes are washed and have no energy left save to stare at TV and, often, to fall asleep in front of it. How many thousands of evening hours, which could be devoted to philanthropy, self-improvement, or meditation, are wasted each day in profitless idleness because so many of us have not the stamina, energy, will-power, or sense of self-discipline to "do something constructive" with that period of our day!

Must this be? Can the average human being really manage to work profitably for only about one-third of his daily twenty-four hours, devoting most of the rest of his time to sleeping, eating, and self-indulgence? Are we truly such slaves to fatigue that we permit it to take hold of us as easily as it seems to?

At first glance this would appear to be true, but we have always before us the example of those exceptional people who seem able to conquer weariness and accomplish more in one day than the average person does in several. How do they do it?

An abundance of physical energy is sometimes, but not always, part of the answer. A physically robust individual would naturally appear to have a greater ability to withstand fatigue, but there are many instances on record of frail, delicate people accomplishing evident "miracles" in terms of work.

If physical stamina is not the entire answer, it appears that mental and emotional factors must also be considered. The first of these is the joy of work — too often unknown or derided in our leisure-loving, convenience-seeking society.

"If a job is worth doing, it is worth doing well," the old adage tells us — and it might continue "it is worth doing joyfully." Idleness, contrary to certain segments of popular opinion, is *not* an enviable condition, for idleness breeds only sloth and inertia, stultifying to both mental and spiritual growth. Therefore the mere fact that we have work to do, whatever its nature, is in itself cause for joy and gratitude. If a job is worth doing, it means that someone, somewhere, is benefiting from the service, or the finished product, or whatever the task might be. And if someone is truly benefited, then there is reason for joy at being able to serve the customer or end-user, be he known or unknown. If the job is not worth doing, if it is not of benefit to anyone, then it certainly seems that the sooner the task is abandoned, the better.

Granted that certain types of labor may seem more conducive to engendering joy than others. The teacher who loves children and the creative challenge of helping them learn will probably find it far easier to rejoice in her work than the laborer on the assembly line who automatically attaches the same type of knob to the same type of part hundreds of times a day. The doctor can far more readily rejoice at the results of his work when he observes a patient regaining his health than can the clerk in a food store who does not witness families enjoying the food he sells to his customers. Yet all these types of work are necessary. Were it not for the man on the assembly line, the teacher would not have her car with which to get to work or the educational aids with which to help her children; were it not for the clerk, the doctor might have to spend his time growing food for his family's meals. This way, the teacher helps the child of the laborer who is helping her, and the doctor aids the family of the clerk who

makes his own family's food available. No matter what our job is, we can always be certain that many people in many walks of life are doing work which will eventually benefit us. Thus, when we consider how mutually helpful human beings continuously are, we see that there is reason to rejoice in all necessary work, no matter what it is.

If we find joy in our work, enthusiasm and optimism will naturally follow. If we rejoice in doing something, we will try to do more of it, to improve upon it, and to accomplish as much as we can in a given period of time instead of seeking to fulfill merely the minimum requirements. We will believe in the worth of what we are doing and be eager to continue. And it is well-enough known that joy, enthusiasm, and optimism create a frame of mind and an atmosphere in which fatigue does not easily take hold. Weariness makes itself felt much more quickly in a context of depression, pessimism, and disgust. The worker who spends his day thinking negative thoughts about his job and living only for quitting time is bound to be mentally and emotionally drained and exhausted long before the working day is over. This mental oppression, all-pervasive as it is, cannot help but remain with him throughout the evening hours, deadening the desire to accomplish anything creative. Because such oppression is an unnatural state — which he has mistaken for “bone-weariness” — he desires to escape it and thinks himself too tired for any form of escape except to be amused or entertained by an outside source. He can contribute nothing from within. What he fails to realize is that this mental oppression, or fatigue, must be dealt with from within in order for any profitable “escape” to take place, and in order for him to rise above the purely passive state into which he has placed himself.

It is equally well-known, but often lost sight of, that someone who approaches his work with joy and enthusiasm not only accomplishes much more during his allotted working time, but also is quite

capable of continuing beyond that time without feeling anything like the exhaustion which his depressed, pessimistic colleague experiences long before the working day is over. When his job is over for the day he is much more likely to be mentally stimulated and alert, and although he naturally profits then from a period of relaxation and change of pace, he will, far more than his colleague, be ready to plunge into some sort of active, constructive passtime after the dinner hour.

Another factor leading to exhaustion at the end of a work day is the driving force of personal ambition. People who work hard merely in order to make personal headway, climbing over their fellows on the “ladder of success” and sparing no effort to advance and enhance their positions simply for the sake of advancement and prestige, are bound to become exhausted by it all. This is not to imply that advancement is not desirable — far from it. The promotions that come of experience and work well done are certainly merited, laudable, and to be welcomed. They are the promotions forthcoming when the work itself is seen as the end, and praiseworthy work is done for the sake of getting the job done well and efficiently, not for the sake of making the worker “look good” in the eyes of his superiors. But advancement achieved from efforts in which the advancement itself is seen as the end and the job merely a means toward that end, in the attainment of which others have been unnecessarily hurt or displaced, and which may have been obtained as a result of treachery, deceit, and trickery, affords only a temporary source of satisfaction for the person promoted. Soon he will be eyeing the next rung on the ladder and the cycle will begin again. Too often, too, such a promotion is gained at the expense of the person's, and his family's, health or peace of mind. Certainly, after spending his days involved in the machinations incidental to such advancement, the individual concerned is mentally and emotionally tired in the extreme, whether

or not he realizes it. He then often seeks release with strong drink or some other "stimulant" which will, after some time has elapsed, only serve to depress him still further. The harmful and destructive nature of his designs, schemes, and activities have mentally exhausted him far more than concerted application to his work for the sake of performing it well could ever have done. For it is certainly true that negative, destructive activities of any sort take a physical, mental, and spiritual toll in a way that positive, constructive activities, restorative by nature, would never do.

The main cause of the exhaustion felt at the end of a working day, however, is the fact that we have failed to seek the spiritual renewal of our faculties which would help us meet the day's challenges with confidence, assurance, success, and energy to spare. When we depend exclusively upon our own as yet limited inner resources we are often tired. But when, in all simplicity, humility, and trust, we request divine assistance in performing our work in this world, if our motives are good, our interest sincere, and our work worthwhile, assistance will be given in ample measure. Then, after we have done a day's work, instead of being depleted, we shall feel strong and be able to immerse ourselves in activities beneficial both to us and to others. Instead of devoting our evening hours to idleness and inactivity, we will find ourselves eager to read, engage in creative projects for home or neighborhood, devote time to civic undertaking or other altruistic activities, or undertake serious study or the meditation essential to spiritual and soul growth.

Disharmony within ourselves is always tiring. As long as we are "in and off" the world we are too prone to react emotionally to the discords and frustrations which beset us. Unexpected situations, mistakes, and misunderstandings are viewed personally and subjectively, instead of with the objectivity which always helps us keep from making mountains out of molehills. As we become aspirants, how-

ever, and begin to grow spiritually, we achieve more and more of an internal equilibrium. Our perspective is radically altered, and little by little the vicissitudes of the material plane cease to move us. We gain, accordingly, in the inner peace and strength which permits the most efficient utilization of our abilities.

The important thing to remember is that each one of us has work to do in this world, and whether it appears "interesting" or "uninteresting" on the surface should not affect the attitude with which it is performed. No job is so "dull" that it cannot be made more interesting if we will but channel our thoughts into the right direction. No one with a job to do, provided it is truly necessary and of benefit to someone, should fail to be grateful for the opportunity of serving and should fail to be happy that he has his work to do. And finally, no one who sincerely desires spiritual help in restoring his faculties for the purpose of doing more and better work and who humbly requests such help will go unheard or unanswered.

Most of us as yet have no idea of the tremendous amount of mental — and physical — output and achievement of which we are capable. We can, and eventually will, bring ourselves to such a state of evolution that we will always be equipped for whatever tasks loom ahead, and will be capable of working concertedly and productively for much longer periods of time than now appears possible to most of us. The "fatigue" to which we so often currently succumb will be recognized as the illusion which it is, easily conquered by our own inner buoyancy, creativity, and enthusiasm. The amount of good that will be done, for ourselves individually and for humanity, when we have all learned to work and produce to our full, unrealized, capacities, can now only be dreamed of.



The Christ Love

A TALK GIVEN BY GERTRUDE MARIE GREENE AT THE READING CONCLAVE, 9-26-71

WE sometimes hear it said that esotericists (students of the deeper truths) should hold themselves aloof from mundane affairs, that they should take no part in the affairs of humanity as a whole, that they should be active only in the mental and spiritual realms. However, students of the Western Wisdom Teachings do not hold to this view.

If the physical world and its affairs lie outside the sphere of influence of spiritual livingness, then there is something basically wrong with our interpretation of truth. If the goal of spiritual effort is to establish the Kingdom of God on Earth, then all physical plane events become the concern of all spiritual people everywhere. May it not be true that because of the ancient cleavage between the spiritual life and material action, politics, the church, and economic life have degenerated into the deplorable conditions that twentieth century humanity has to face? We students should feel impelled to carry our spiritual knowledge, energy, and understanding into the affairs of humanity on the physical level of existence. It is our duty to study the plan and purpose in every phase of human activity, thereby relating the word *spiritual* to all our daily activities, and not only (as too often is the case) to existing religious groups, to aspiration, to the processes of meditation and occult study.

Those with a fixed belief that "the souls of men are one" will find themselves forced to carry the concept into practice in their every day lives. If he (or she) doesn't do so, he (or she) is only a theorist, an idealist, an impractical mystic. It is the daily application of spiritual and esoteric truth which makes the work of The Rosicrucian Fellowship practical, useful, and interesting. One of the major needs today is the preparation of the minds of men for the Love of the

coming of the Christ, within themselves — for consideration, for acceptance, or regeneration, according to the thinking, the wish, the desire. There is, as we all know, no official, theological, or dogmatic imposition of truth.

The Kingdom of God can and will be manifested on Earth. Can you believe this — that it will be recognized, later, as the culmination kingdom in Nature? There has been a continuity of revelation through the ages; from "cycle to cycle" God has revealed Himself to humanity.

Through human beings, who in truth are the "Sons of God," if the words of the Christ mean anything to us, the three divine Aspects: Will, Love, and Activity, can be expressed. They are expressed through the one Divine Life and through the multiplicity of forms in all the kingdoms of Nature. The sons of men are one.

In each human being is a light, a spark of the One Flame. This Paul spoke of when he referred to the "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

Discipline is essential on the Way of Attainment. Ultimate perfection is possible for humanity through the action of the evolutionary process, which works out the Divine Plan.

There are certain immutable laws governing the universe; man becomes aware of these as he evolves. These laws are the expressions of the *Will* of God. The basic law of our universe is to be seen in the manifestation of *God as Love*.

In the esoteric teachings we learn of the Laws of Rebirth and Consequence, of the Elder Brothers and their work, of the nature of consciousness, with its various stages. There is an all-consciousness and a self-consciousness, also a spiritual consciousness attained by those who follow the Path of Initiation. Great primary

truths are presented for our acceptance, because they exist as the foundation of all world religions. They are supported by logic, reason, and intuition, but they can be accepted only according to one's point in evolution.

As spiritual aspirants we all have moments of discouragement; none of us will see the world as perfect as we hope it to be some day, nor will we see ourselves as perfect as we should like to be. However, we can work for and see many great improvements, both in ourselves and in the world. The vision ever lies before us! It is helpful, however, to realize that some part, at least, of our vision can become an attained fact here and now. It is for this that we strive.

As an Aquarian esoteric group we are attempting to aid humanity in conscious relationship. We strive to work with causes rather than with unfortunate effects, seeking to understand the deeper spiritual meanings which lie behind world events. We are striving to live so as to exemplify essential spiritual qualities, but making no claims! The personality must be spiritualized or transmuted.

Such living brings forth powerfully effective and fruitful work, and acceptance of tasks carrying direct impact of spiritual force. We need to be strong enough for a program of service, for pledging ourselves to certain spiritual essentials, for making use of our soul power among our fellowmen.

Our Headquarters is a center of living, spiritual energy, to which we may all contribute, whether we live there or not. Our common ideals and the selfless service we render link us in a Fellowship which radiates Light to the world. From their great store of wisdom the Elder Brothers have given out the Western Wisdom Teachings, making them available to humanity during this critical period of world history while we pass from the Piscean Era into the Aquarian Age. The consecrated, daring ones on the physical plane must carry forward their work. Many spiritual activities are now being initiated in an effort to prepare for the

Second Coming. These are tremendously significant and encouraging, and we rejoice at every new evidence of spiritual progress being made.

Initiating in each lifetime some activity which serves the Divine Plan, some activity which aids in carrying out one's accepted responsibility, individually and collectively, brings assistance from the Higher Ones. Opportunities for using the forces available for ultimate beneficial results increase. Creating group consciousness, group responsibility, and group action can result in far-reaching constructive results. An intense group consciousness among all Fellowship members can be our greatest guarantee of successful operation in the days ahead.

A real need exists for more workers having the Aquarian consciousness sufficiently to carry forward the Divine Plan. Teaching and action to offset crystallization, to bring in forward-looking ideals are needed in all walks of life. Idle criticism of present errors is never justified. Cooperation in constructive activity, selfless service, constant self-discipline, and intelligent awareness of the meaning of world conditions are all calling for our attention.

Practical application of spiritual truths must succeed the mystical and all-too-often impractical idealism of earlier spiritual training. The faculties of the head and those of the heart must blend, so that separateness gives way to the dominance of the Higher Self. One other consideration affects the whole operation: the life work of each disciplined one must be objectively useful in its effects in the world, but each must also have adequate opportunity for gaining the experience which he must have if he is to play his proper part in planned teamwork as a Fellowship. Ever ready to help are the Great Ones, who are subjectively and telepathically in rapport at the present time; those who are sensitive register impressions.

It is said that humanity is passing through the greatest spiritual crisis of its long history on this planet. The implica-

tions are too deep for our full understanding. The choices that humanity has been making in recent years, and will make in the years just ahead, are of most profound significance. What the Elder Brothers can do to help us depends upon how we respond to spiritual stimuli in the hour of crisis. They augment the good which we initiate. It is abundantly clear that God's Plan for humanity is for each man to achieve his own destiny in the light of his own soul. By the power of his own developing intellectual capacity and deepening awareness of and consecration to the fulfilling of his divine destiny does he progress.

It is in this light that we can understand how it is that from the position of greater knowledge and wisdom certain things are known to be inevitable for the human family, and certain other things are subject to our responses to developing events. What we know as the Second World War was not necessarily "ripe destiny", military warfare on the physical plane might have been avoided had certain spiritual achievements been attained.

Man himself determines whether it is necessary for him to have an "operation for spiritual cataract," which Max Heindel says war is. Effective spiritual work is of course delayed by war, but there is always the probability that many will become stronger and thus serve more efficiently.

The group of which we are a part, The Rosicrucian Fellowship, is functioning as a great station of Light. Its service is impersonal and universal in scope. Each of us is a magnetic focal point in that body of service, bringing potency to it and aiding in making its work successful according to our own life and efforts. This is a position, and a responsibility, to be cherished.

Let us remember that we do not stand alone. There are many others all over the world who are consciously or unconsciously serving in some manner to meet the needs of the less fortunate. All of them together may be thought of as the synthesized project of field operations which

heralds the coming Aquarian Age of brotherhood and unity. Our individual place in this world-wide action can be understood only in terms of our participation in the larger life activity.

We find beauty, strength, simplicity, and infinite satisfaction in the central truths which all peoples can accept, inwardly and outwardly. We believe in a basic Intelligence, our Creator-God; we



believe the motivating power of the universe is *Love*, the Christ Love; we hold fast to the assurance of Divine Care and Protection. Through these the working out of the Divine Plan becomes irresistible!

Public opinion is created by a great many people thinking the same way about the same thing. By our combined efforts to love more unselfishly, to serve more unselfishly, we can create a public opinion which will carry people toward the Christ Consciousness. "Let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God." —I John 4:7.

MAX HEINDEL'S MESSAGE

Taken from His Writings

THE WEB OF DESTINY

(THIRD INSTALLMENT)

The Christ Within — The Memory of Nature

(Continued)

BY the exercises given in the Western Mystery School of the Rosicrucians, it becomes possible in time to detach the two higher ethers, and the man may then step away from his physical body, leaving it for a time invested and vitalized only by the two lower ethers; he is then what we call an invisible helper.

There are various grades of spiritual sight. One grade enables a man to see the ordinarily invisible ether with the myriads of beings that invest that realm. Other and higher variants give him the faculty to see the desire world and even the world of thought while remaining in the physical body. But these faculties, though valuable when exercised under full control of the human will, are not sufficient to read the Memory of Nature with absolute accuracy. To do this and to make the necessary investigations in order that one may understand how the "Web of Destiny" is made and unmade, it is necessary to be able at will to step from the physical body and function outside in that soul body which we have spoken of as composed of the two higher ethers, this being also invested with the desire body and the mind. Thus the investigator is in full possession of all his faculties; he knows all that he knew in the physical world, and has the ability to bring back into the physical consciousness the things which he has learned without.



When he has this ability he must also learn to balance himself, to *understand* the things which he sees outside, for mark this: it is not enough to be able to step outside the body into another world and to see things there. We do not by that fact become omniscient any more than we understand what everything is used for and how everything works here in this physical world because we live here from day to day and year to year. It requires study and application to become thoroughly familiar with the facts of the invisible world as it does with the facts of the world in which we are now living in our physical bodies. Therefore the book, the "Memory of Nature," is not read easily at the first attempt or at the second either, for just as it takes a child time to learn to read our ordinary books here, so, also, it requires time and effort to decipher this wonderful scroll.

It is a familiar fact to students of science that the history of the Earth is written in unmistakable characters upon the rocks and by the glaciers. Upon every stone there is found some sign which guides the trained investigator in deciphering its message concerning the development of the Earth during past ages, and it is wonderful to read in the text books upon this subject how well the scientific investigators have been able to make a connected story out of these many clues. It is also well known that wherever we move individually, we leave behind us marks which may be traced though they

are unseen even by ourselves. The wonderful ingenuity displayed by the Indians, as told by Fenimore Cooper and others, in tracing their friends or their foes through the virgin forest guided by broken twigs, etc., is far exceeded by scientists today, who trace the criminal by his finger prints.

The seemingly fantastic exploits of Sherlock Holmes are duplicated by actual experience in criminal detection. The actions of men now living may be reproduced by the moving picture camera a hundred years hence when the real actors have long moldered in the grave; so we can by the light of these later discoveries prepare our minds for the belief that there is an automatic record of every human life and of the lives of communities, kept in what we may call, for want of a better name, the Memory of Nature. This shows the stages in evolution attained by all living things, and gives the ministers of God, the Recording Angels, the needed perspective in order to aid us in our attainment of wisdom, knowledge, and power; the clue to what lessons are needed to carry us further on the path.

So far as the individual is concerned, this record starts at the moment when he draws the first breath and continues until the last respiration has emptied the arteries of blood. We know that the whole universe is vibrant with life, that each object constantly emits from itself vibratory waves which reveal its nature and presence. We also know that when a child takes its first complete breath, the physiological conditions in the heart are changed, the foramen ovale is closed, and the blood forced to circulate through the heart and lungs. There it meets the air charged with a picture of the surroundings. Thus the blood, which is the vehicle of the Ego, absorbs in the lungs a complete picture of the outside world. When it rushes through the left ventricle of the heart, it leaves an impress upon the little seed atom situated at the apex and which corresponds to the film of the camera, nor should it be an obstacle to belief in this idea that a large number

of pictures must be imprinted upon a very small surface. When we consider that the picture of the Moon which we see in the retina is less than one two-hundredth part of one inch in diameter, we can see that a very small picture can be very distinct, for even within that small space we note upon the Moon a number of mountains and valleys with the naked eye. The picture of a man at a distance of a hundred feet or so is not one-twentieth of an inch in size, according to an authority upon this subject, yet we distinguish in that minute picture the expression of the face, the pattern of the clothing, etc. Similarly, there is upon this minute seed atom a picture of every action ever performed, of every scene in which we have ever found ourselves, during the whole time from birth to death. George du Maurier and Jack London describe in "Peter Ibbetson" and in "The Star Rover," how a prisoner in the flesh may live over again the scenes of his childhood, where he sees himself, his playmates, his parents, his whole environment, effectively reproduced from the etheric record of his child life or even of past lives. Any one who knows the secret of how to put himself in touch with these pictures may find and read the lives of the people with whom he comes in contact, as proved by mediums. But while fresh or contemporary records may be read with comparative ease, it becomes increasingly difficult to read as we go backwards, for the records which are made in the ether are faint compared with the ones in the next higher realms and fade gradually.

(Continued)

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"The superconscious memory is the storehouse of all faculties acquired and knowledge gained in previous lives . . . This record is indelibly engraven on the Life Spirit. It manifests ordinarily as conscience and character which ensoul all thought forms, sometimes as counsellor, sometimes compelling action with resistless force . . ."—*Max Heindel*.

Studies in the Cosmo-Conception

This department is devoted to a study of the Rosicrucian Philosophy by the Socratic Method, the material being taken from the Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception.

The First Heaven

Q. Where does the man go from Purgatory?

A. When the purgatorial existence is over the purified Spirit rises into the First Heaven, which is located in the three highest regions of the Desire World.

Q. What change occurs here?

A. Here the results of its sufferings are incorporated in the seed atom of the desire body, thus imparting to it the quality of right feeling which acts as an impulse to good and a deterrent from evil in the future.

Q. Is the past life again reviewed here?

A. The panorama of the past again unrolls itself backward, but this time it is the good acts of life that are the basis of feeling.

Q. How does this affect us?

A. When we come to scenes where we helped others we realize anew all the joy of helping which was ours at that time, and in addition we feel all the gratitude poured out to us by the recipient of our help.

Q. Do kindnesses from others aid us also?

A. Yes, when we come to the scenes where we were helped by others, we again feel all the gratitude that we then felt toward our benefactor.

Q. What lesson can this teach us on Earth?

A. We see from this the importance of appreciating the favors shown us by others because gratitude makes for soul growth. Our happiness in heaven depends upon the joy we gave others and the

valuation we placed upon what others did for us.

Q. Is not our giving limited by our possessions?

A. No. The power of giving is not vested chiefly in the monied man. Indiscriminate giving of money may even be an evil. It is well to give money for a purpose we are convinced is good but service is a thousandfold better.

Q. Is this First Heaven a place of happiness?

A. The First Heaven is a place of joy without a single drop of bitterness. The Spirit is beyond the influence of the material, earthly conditions, and assimilates all the good contained in the past life as it lives it over again.

Q. Are there additional advantages to the Spirit?

A. Yes, here all the ennobling pursuits to which the man aspired are realized in fullest measure. It is a place of rest and the harder has been the life, the more keenly will the rest be enjoyed. Sickness, sorrow, and pain are unknown qualities.

Q. What does this region give the religious-minded?

A. This is the Summerland of the Spiritualists, and here the thoughts of the devout Christians have built the New Jerusalem. Beautiful houses, flowers, etc., are the portion of those who aspire to them; they build them themselves by thought from the subtle desire-stuff.

Q. May we say they are real?

A. These things are just as real and tangible to them as our material houses are to us. All gain here the satisfaction which Earth life lacked for them.

—Ref., *Cosmo*, pps. 113-117.

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

Crowning Works of the Ministry

The Initiate Prayer for the Illumined

CHAPTER XVII of John's Gospel contains the words of the Master's last prayer upon Earth. At this time He had with Him only the innermost group of the Disciples who had received the holy teachings embodied in the ceremonial of the Last Supper, and the final teachings contained in Chapters XIV, XV, and XVI of John's Gospel. He concludes this work with prayer for these few who have remained faithful. "I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine" (John 17.9). This last communion closes with a prayer unto the Father in which Christ consigns them to His care and in which He reaches the heights of communion, of at-one-ment: "The Father and I are one." In the beginning of His ministry He taught them how to pray the universal prayer. His parting instruction pertains to that height of communion wherein the exalted spirit is one with the divine; it is the prayer of the illumined one, the Initiate. It is no longer the prayer of petition, offering, or demand, but a wordless, soulful ecstasy which sounds forth in a chant of praise and adoration. It intones a similar keynote to the rhapsody of Paul when proclaiming that "In him we live, and move, and have our being."

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.—*John 17:1-4.*

The above has reference to the Master's esoteric mission and to His becoming the Planetary Spirit of the Earth.

Also, it tells of His bringing the new religion to all the world and opening the way of Initiation into the Christian Mysteries for whosoever wills to come.

And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.—*John 17:5,24.*

In these verses the Christ refers to his aeonic evolution which began before the creation of the Earth. He belongs to the archangelic life wave.

I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: Thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they kept thy word.

Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.

For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.—*John 17:6-8.*

Through first-hand knowledge the esoteric group had learned something of the truth of His work and mission. Throughout this beautiful prayer the Christ is instructing the Disciples how to surround themselves with an aura of protection.

I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.—*John 17:15-17.*

Christ sent His Disciples forth to demonstrate His teachings, for in them His precepts had become living powers; this is true discipleship. "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." (John 17:18).

Christ came to point the way to first-hand knowledge not only to His immediate Disciples, but to all the world . . . Whosoever knocketh, to him it shall be opened.
(Continued)



Cosmobiology: the New Astrology

KENT LORIMER

WAITING one morning in the office of a nationally famous doctor, I picked up the October, 1971, issue of the magazine *Today's Health*, and, flipping the pages idly, found my attention focused on an article entitled, "How the Heavens Influence Our Lives," by Martin Cohen. The article was preceded by a full-page colored illustration of a scientist in his laboratory examining a retort, while round about the page were symbols of the zodiac.

This was the last office in the city in which I would have expected to find such an article, and in a magazine devoted to medical discovery! The mere fact of its being there is a fact of great significance in modern occultism.

In this article, Martin Cohen says: "Modern science, much against its will, may find itself appearing to give aid and comfort to astrology." This has been evident now for quite a considerable number of years, with some geologists tracing the incidence of earthquakes by the positions of the heavy planets Jupiter, Saturn, and Uranus; and psychiatrists observing the effects of sunspots on the planet Earth and its inhabitants. When it came to applying the cosmic knowledge to the biological man, however, they ran up against the deep-rooted opposition of both scientists and religionists; and then of course they sought for a new name to give the age-old science of astrology, so

that under a new guise it might enter the family of respectable sciences. The name conferred upon astrology, which is the science of cosmic influences upon the human being; primarily, is cosmobiology. Truly a beautiful word, one which captivates the imagination, so that we scarcely miss the hoary old name astrology.

Scientists, as this author observes, are indeed discovering "more and more ways in which all life is affected by the Earth's pervasive electromagnetic fields — which are themselves altered by the sun and moon. The inhabitants of the Earth can thus be said to be guided in some ways by geomagnetic signals controlled by heavenly bodies."

The public is already aware that sunspots and their attendant electromagnetic storms on Earth cause nervous disorders in susceptible people and that the number of admissions to psychiatric institutions increase at such times. The fact that the aspects of the Moon also have an effect on mental patients has also been much publicized. But further research in modern laboratories and hospitals by respected scientists both in Europe and America show also that composition of human blood has been affected by sunspots. Parapsychologists find that magnetic storms on the Sun, reflected upon the Earth, affect the results of psychic experimentation because of changes in

the electromagnetic field which surrounds the human being.

Astrology is being given a thorough checking by doctors and psychic investigators in Russia and other Iron Curtain countries, but there are awakened scientists everywhere. Some scientists still insist that astrology has been completely disproved, author Cohen says; but he goes on to discuss the work done by the pioneer in biomagnetism, Georgi Piccardi, an Italian chemist, who in 1936 observed certain peculiarities of activated water, which he found would sometimes work and sometimes not. Why was this? He discovered through much experimentation that many chemical reactions vary with the eleven-year sunspot cycle, and also in March and September each year, "regardless of weather." March and September are the months in which the equinoxes occur; in the spring the Sun crosses the celestial equator northward, in the autumn it crosses the equator southward.

Piccardi now decided that the influence noted came from the Earth's "spiraloid motion" in its orbit. This "spiraloid motion" is described by the Earth's turning on its axis as it orbits around the Sun, while at the same time the Sun is speeding onward in space in the direction, at present, of the constellation Hercules, as the solar system itself orbits the center of the Milky Way Galaxy.

Now Fermi announced in 1947 that the Milky Way possesses a magnetic field. Piccardi demonstrated that there were "fluctuations in radiation according to the earth's position relative to the Milky Way's magnetic field"; through which field, of course, our solar system is forever moving, since the Milky Way is our home Galaxy.

Piccardi's first experiments were with non-organic materials; but it was reasonable that if the activated water in Piccardi's boilers was being affected, so also organic, or living matter, might be affected, since living matter is built up out of inorganic substances.

Meanwhile, in Japan, Dr. Miki Ta-

kata, trying to determine the cycles of ovarian action by means of a "flocculation index" of blood serum, discovered early in 1938 that the cycle which he had found (constant in men and predictably variant in women) was suddenly disrupted — the indexes of both sexes rose abnormally. Moreover, the reaction was not localized in Japan. It occurred all over the world.

This demanded a cosmic rather than a terrestrial cause, and he discovered that it coincided with the sunspots cycle and other eruptions on the solar orb. The index rose sharply at sunrise and fell during eclipses. Tests undertaken high in the atmosphere in an airplane showed that the index rose as the air thinned and the Sun's forces were stronger. "Man is a living sundial," Dr. Takata proclaimed.

It is largely during the present latter-half of the twentieth century that science has begun to organize world-wide data on the effects of geo-magnetism on living creatures — animals and plants as well as men. These geomagnetic forces are linked with the Sun and Moon by virtually all researchers, but the link with the planets has been more difficult to prove. Dr. Frank A. Brown's experiments with oysters in the laboratories of Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, is well known and frequently quoted in studies of the geomagnetic influence on life. Dr. Brown determined that his oysters, a thousand miles from the sea where they are grown, changed their schedule of valve opening to coincide with what the tides would do in Evanston if there were any tides there; they were in fact reacting to geomagnetic influences as affected by the Moon at Evanston, when it was directly overhead. It was not the vision of the Moon which activated the oysters. The oysters were enclosed in a laboratory. No, it was purely the geomagnetism which they were feeling and responding to — the geomagnetism which was touched upon by the Moon's position at that particular time.

What these experiments demonstrate is that many creatures are responding to

cosmic conditions and not to "autonomous internal clocks" as biologists theorized a short while ago. The so-called "internal clocks" were not, after all, autonomous. They were responding to outside influences to which they adjusted themselves, regulating the biological rhythms of the living creature. Therefore evolution is not merely linked to geological features as in Darwinian artificial selection, but must also include the magnetic responses of the living organism to geomagnetic conditions which are linked to the solar system and universe. The Earth's magnetic field is termed "weak" by physicists; but living creatures are affected by it, even though they do not react to some very strong magnetic fields created for them artificially in the laboratory. Why? Perhaps, the experimenters suggest, this is on the same principle as that the eye can see with a normal amount of light to which the eye is normally adapted, whereas with too bright a light the eye is blinded.

The scientists are approaching astrology by a roundabout path, but they are

reaching their goal nonetheless. They are refusing to accept the dicta of traditional astrology and are instead conducting their own statistics, with thousands of horoscopes. One such researcher mentioned by our author is Michel Gauquelin. He noticed that many doctors seemed to be born when Mars or Saturn had just risen or was at the zenith — that is, rising in the 12th house or standing on the mid-heaven area, limiting himself, apparently to the Ascendant and Midheaven, Gauquelin studied many hundreds of horoscopes which corroborated his first findings as to doctors; while others had other planets rising or at zenith, as the case might be, with differing vocations and careers.

After studying 25,000 horoscopes Gauquelin stated that Mars and Saturn were significant for doctors; Jupiter for actors, the Moon for writers, to mention only a few. This result is a bit surprising even for astrologers, yet it is plain that Mars and Saturn when rising in the 12th house, which rules hospitals, clinics, etc., indicate the drive and energy needed by the successful physician or surgeon, together with the grim persistence demanded even for the mere completion of medical training, and the one-pointedness necessary to so difficult a profession. It would be interesting to know what difference Gauquelin found between those physicians who had Mars and Saturn on the Ascendant and those who had these planets on the Midheaven.

Gauquelin offers a theory to account for planetary influence at birth. Perhaps, he says, the magnetic forces of the planet may act upon a specific genetic code as a releaser, or trigger, for that code. The individual coming to birth already possesses the genetic code; the planetary ray triggers the code, and the infant is born at a time when the horoscope shows what the "triggering influence" has been. This obviously agrees with Max Heindel's statement that the Ego coming to rebirth "chooses" its hour of birth, and the Angels who have charge of generation

(Continued on page 128)

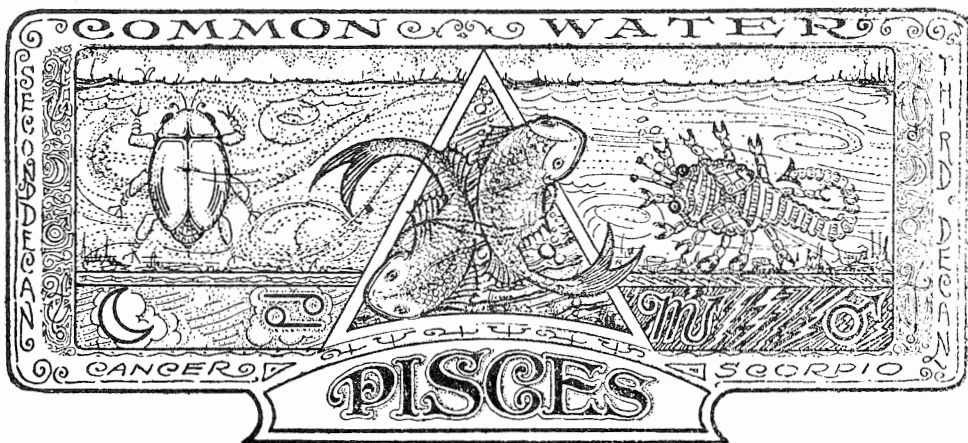
Your Child's Horoscope

THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A READING

Each full year's subscription to this magazine, either new or renewal, entitles the subscriber to a chance for a reading of a child's horoscope in this department. Character and vocational delineations are made for applicants of any age up to 14. The names are drawn by lot each month, but unless there is an unusually large number of applications you may have more than one opportunity for a drawing. Application for reading should be sent in when the subscription is made or renewed.

Data required are name, sex, birth-place, and year, month, and date of birth, also hour and minute as nearly as possible. If *Daylight Saving Time* was in effect this should be stated.

We do not read horoscopes for money and we give astrological readings only in this magazine.



The Children of Pisces, 1972

Birthdays: February 20 to March 21

CHILDREN who come to birth during this solar month have the Sun (symbol of individuality) in the third sign of the watery triplicity, Pisces. Two fish trying to escape the bond that exists between them portray the double-bodied nature of this sign. Its natives are emotional, changeable, imaginative, and impressionable, and being of a dual nature are often torn by opposing forces. Beneath a seemingly calm exterior may rage an unceasing struggle between hope and fear, faith and reason, the Spirit and the flesh, the dreams of the future and the memories of the past.

Piscean natives are highly sensitive to the mental and psychic atmosphere about them, and are consequently apt to be easily influenced. Kindness, sympathy, and desire to serve are characteristic of those who respond to the higher side of the sign, but many of them need to cultivate discrimination, a sense of responsibility, and a desire to accomplish objectives here on the material plane.

Since Pisces is the 12th house sign, the house of ripe destiny, many of these natives come to Earth life to face much accumulated destiny from past lives. They are prone to yield to being in the

hands of fate and may enjoy playing the martyr. At the same time they often have an inner understanding (Neptune) which enables them to distinguish the essential from the non-essential more accurately than most of their associates.

Unhappy and ineffectual when functioning solely on a personal or materialistic level, the children of Pisces can be surprisingly capable and creative when, true to their inner light, they lead a simple, charitable, and meditative life, expecting little, giving much, thoughtful of the needy and forgetful of self.

Two aspects affect all of the children born any time during this solar month: Mars sextile the Sun, and Saturn opposition Neptune. The first of these gives a superabundance of physical vitality and ability to recuperate. The constitution is strong and the native is able to endure harder tasks with determination and courage. There is constructive and executive ability, and an indomitable will which knows no defeat. The disposition is frank and open but sometimes too blunt to suit the more sensitive types. This aspect indicates the doer, one who helps the wheels of industry to turn. The opposition of Saturn and Neptune suggests lessons to learn by being subjected to deception, treachery, or fraud.

The Sun and Mercury are in conjunction from February 20 to 26, a configuration which brightens the mentality and favors the memory on the days when the orb of aspect is three degrees or more.

Also beginning February 20, and ending the 27th, there is a square between the Sun and Saturn, a stellar pattern which gives opportunities to learn unselfishness, cheerfulness, optimism, and consideration for others. The channel for these opportunities will be indicated by the house positions of the planets, but some of them are apt to come through the marriage partner.

A more favorable solar aspect is the sextile of Sun to Jupiter, which begins on February 20th and ends March 2. This configuration indicates abundant vitality and a disposition that is cheerful, generous, and friendly. Trustworthy, kindly, and possessed of good judgment, these natives are well fitted to help others. Finances are favored, and activities in religious and government fields are indicated.

Also beginning February 20, and lasting until March 3, is the square of Sun to Neptune, which raises the vibrations of the aura but tends toward negative psychicism. These natives should avoid intoxicants and seances and strive to live a positive life of helpfulness to others.

Venus and Uranus are in opposition from February 20 to March 1, pointing toward a need to cultivate balance in thought and feeling. Opportunities to learn this quality are apt to come through close family associates.

From February 20 to 23, Mercury sextiles Jupiter, one of the finest assets in life, for it indicates a cheerful, optimistic disposition that can be maintained in the midst of severe adversity. The mind is broad, versatile, and able to reason correctly. Success in law and literature is favored.

Mercury also sextiles Mars, from February 20 to 27, another excellent mental influence. It gives a keen, sharp and resourceful mentality, with a love for argument and debate. Indefatigable work-

ers, these natives have remarkable dexterity and usually succeed in whatever they choose to do.

Another fine aspect beginning February 20, and lasting until the 25th, is the trine between Jupiter and Mars. Here is indicated a noble, sincere, and honest nature that has good earning capacity along with much ingenuity and constructive ability. These natives usually like to travel, are popular in society, and fond of out-door sports and games. Good health is strongly favored.

Mercury sextiles Saturn from March 2 to 10, a splendid mental aspect indicating power of concentration and ability to think deeply. There is the patient persistence and diplomacy which make these natives invincible in the long run. Honest and fair, they make very fine judges.

From March 4 to 13, Mercury and Jupiter are in square aspect, suggesting that these natives need to learn to grasp opportunities when they appear, and to take special pains to fulfill any agreements or contracts entered into.

The Sun sextiles Saturn, and Mercury opposes Uranus from March 13 to 21. The former aspect endows the native with some very fine qualities: method, foresight, and organizing, executive, and diplomatic ability, along with the moral stamina to carry projects to a successful conclusion in spite of obstacles and delays. The latter stellar pattern indicates a need to cultivate poise, moderation, and a kindly attitude.

A final aspect, the trine of Sun to Neptune, begins on the 17th and helps to end the month on a constructive vibration. It intensifies the spiritual vibrations in the aura and thus favors the development of the spiritual faculties. Many people with this configuration hear the harmony of the spheres, and if Mercury gives the necessary dexterity, they become inspirational musicians of a high nature. Others are led into the higher life through their interest in the occult, but are apt to approach it from the intellectual viewpoint of psychic investigators.

Readings for Subscribers' Children

DAVID C.

Born July 9, 1965, 0:58 P.M.

Latitude 40N45, Longitude 73W57.

Signs on Cusps of Houses:

ASC, Libra ..26.12	4th, Aquarius. 1.00
2nd, Scorpio 24.00	5th, Pisces ...4.00
3rd, Sagitt. ..26.00	6th, Aries3.00

Capricorn intercepted in 3rd

Positions of Planets:

Neptune ...17.22R	Scorpio1st
Moon3.36	Sagittarius2nd
Part of F.12.30	Pisces5th
Saturn17.13	Pisces5th
Jupiter11.49	Gemini8th
Dragon's H. .11.58	Gemini8th
Sun17.18	Cancer9th
Venus10.47	Leo10th
Mercury12.08	Leo10th
Uranus11.51	Virgo11th
Pluto14.07	Virgo11th
Mars5.29	Libra12th

This child has the Sun and Mars in cardinal signs, and a cardinal sign rising; the Moon and four planets in common signs; and two planets and the MC in fixed signs; the MC, Moon, and two planets in fiery signs; two planets in earthy signs; the ASC and two planets in airy signs; and the Sun and two planets in watery signs. This placing indicates a temperament that is very nicely balanced; although further blending of the fire and water elements is needed.

The Sun is in the watery, emotional, sensitive sign Cancer, intercepted in the 9th house, therefore the solar power is lessened until by progression the Sun moves out of Cancer. However, since the Sun is not afflicted and sextiles Uranus and Pluto in Virgo in the 11th, and trines Neptune in Scorpio in the 1st, as well as Saturn in Pisces in the 5th, the more positive traits of the sign Cancer are apt to manifest: tenacity, sympathy, and

conscientiousness. This little boy is intuitive, original, inventive, and independent, and has high ideals and an awareness of the superphysical worlds. He will be attracted strongly to the occult, taking to the deeper teachings easily, as he has no doubt studied along these lines in previous lives. David has some splendid practical traits, too, though, such as method, foresight, and organizing and executive ability, along with considerable moral stamina. Kindly, considerate, and just in his dealings with others, he can do well in political, judicial, and agricultural positions.

The Moon in Sagittarius in the 2nd sextiles Mars in Libra in the 12th, trines the MC, and Venus in Leo in the 10th. This configuration, together with the Libran ASC, indicates an alert, active personality, with a liking for walking and riding, travel in foreign countries, and a fondness for animals, especially horses and dogs. The nature is optimistic, good humored, and companionable, and there is talent for music, art, and poetry. There is considerable physical vitality, too, along with courage, ambition, and good earning capacity.

Since Venus rules the ASC, and is strongly placed in the 10th house, conjuncts Mercury, sextiles Mars and Jupiter, and trines the Moon, the Lady of harmony and beauty will play a large part in this child's life. He has considerable musical talent and could be successful as a performer in this field. His power of oral (and written) expression is considerable, too, so that he could write his own songs, lecture convincingly, and teach with skill.

With Uranus and Pluto in conjunction in the 11th, sextile Sun and Neptune, but square Jupiter and opposing Saturn, David will attract some fine, spiritual friends, but also some not so desirable. His parents will do well to help him try to "lift" those who might have lower standards than his.

ELAINE E. C.

Born December 20, 1969, 2:30 A.M.

Latitude 44N57, Longitude 93W06.

Signs on Cusps of Houses:

ASC, Libra25.11	4th, Aquarius	1.00
2nd, Scorpio	23.00	5th, Pisces5.00
3rd, Sagitt.25.00	6th, Aries3.00	
Capricorn intercepted in 3rd		

Positions of Planets:

Jupiter0.38	Scorpio1st
Neptune29.32	Scorpio2nd
Venus19.46	Sagittarius2nd
Sun28.16	Sagittarius3rd
Mercury16.12	Capricorn3rd
Mars3.33	Pisces4th
Dragon's H.16.55	Pisces5th
Part of F.17.00	Pisces5th
Saturn2.15R	Taurus7th
Moon20.05	Taurus7th
Pluto27.13	Virgo11th
Uranus8.32	Libra12th

With the Sun and five planets beneath the horizon, this child's inner life will mean a very great deal to her, and will no doubt become paramount in her later years.

The Sun is posited in the common-fire sign Sagittarius in the 3rd house, sextile the Libran ASC, Jupiter in Scorpio in the 1st, Mars in Pisces in the 4th, trine Saturn in Taurus in the 7th, square Pluto in Virgo in the 11th. Here we have indicated an outgoing person—vital, friendly, generous, and trustworthy. There is good business judgment and executive ability, as well as method, foresight, diplomatic ability, and much moral stamina. These qualities, added to honesty and sincerity, as well as good health, prepare her well for meeting the experiences of life.

Mercury in the Saturn-ruled Capricorn indicates a critical, penetrating mind, thoughtful and diplomatic, but somewhat

suspicious. There is considerable mental persistence, along with an interest in both material and occult science, as well as a practical, thrifty side to the nature. The trine of Mercury to the Moon suggests an excellent memory, so that what is learned is retained ready for use.

The Moon in Taurus in the 7th house, not only trines Mercury, but Pluto (in Virgo in the 11th) also, pointing toward a gentle, self-reliant, and determined nature. Forethought, perseverance, and kindness are present, too, so that Elaine will attract a goodly measure of health, wealth, and friends. She is fond of pleasure, society, art, music, and all the other things that make for the enjoyment of life. Happiness in partnerships is indicated, though the opposition of Saturn in the 7th to Jupiter is apt to bring opportunities to learn decisiveness and trustfulness in her partnerships. When she is nineteen her progressed Sun will begin a three-year trine to the natal Moon, a period considered one of the most favorable for popularity, success, and forming partnerships. This is an excellent time to begin new projects, to forge ahead in any constructive endeavor.

Besides its opposition to Jupiter, Saturn sextiles Mars and trines the Sun, tending to give quietness to the disposition, ability to keep secrets, determination in maintaining a position once taken. Health is favored.

With the Venus-ruled Libra on the ASC, the Moon in the Venus-ruled Taurus, and Venus in Sagittarius, this child has musical ability, and could become proficient in performing on some instrument. However, Venus is unaspected, except sextile to the ASC, so that music is apt to be more of an avocation for her than a vocation.

Ueptune in Scorpio sextiles Pluto, emphasizing interest in the superphysical, but the planet of spirituality squares Mars, so that Elaine's parents should train her into the positive spiritual path. Seances, the ouija board, etc., should be strictly avoided, as they will be especially dangerous for her.

VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE ADVICE

This page is a free service for readers. Since advice is based on the horoscope, we can give a reading ONLY if supplied with the following information: full name, sex,

place of birth, year, day of month, hour. No reading given except in this Magazine and ONLY FOR PERSONS 14 to 46 YEARS OF AGE.—EDITOR.

Merchant, Lawyer

STEPHEN LaT. — Born January 17, 1957, 10:04 A.M. Latitude 33N52, Longitude 117W34. The positions of Venus and Mercury conjunct in Capricorn in the 10th house indicate activity before the public for this boy. Venus is within orb of a conjunction with the MC, a sextile to Neptune in Scorpio in the 7th, a trine to Pluto in Virgo in the 6th, a square to Jupiter in Libra in the 7th and to the Aries ASC. Mercury is retrograde and makes only the 6-degree conjunction with Venus. Mars is in Aries in the 1st house, trine the Moon in Leo in the 5th, but square the Sun in Capricorn in the 11th. The solar orb trines Jupiter. The Moon trines Saturn in Sagittarius in the 9th, and Saturn also trines Uranus in Leo in the 5th. This native has a superabundance of vitality which he should try to hold under control. He has plenty of ambition and considerable ability to accomplish along various lines. He could be successful in contracting, building, merchandizing, law, and lecturing. He could also serve well in the teaching profession, as well as in publishing.

* * *

Secretary, Engraver

LOUISE S. — Born September 1, 1955, 4:22 A.M. Latitude 37 N., Longitude 93 W. This chart shows Uranus and Jupiter in Leo in the 12th, the latter conjuncting the ASC, and Pluto also in Leo in the 1st. Mars, Sun, and Venus are in conjunction in Virgo in the 1st house. The Sun makes an 8-degree sextile to Saturn in Scorpio in the 4th; Saturn squares Jupiter and the ASC. The Moon is in Aquarius in the 7th, opposing Pluto and Mars in the 1st. Since Taurus is on the MC, we look

to its ruler, Venus, in regard to vocational inclinations. As stated, it is posited in Virgo, in conjunction with Sun (combust) and Mars. Mercury is also in Virgo, sextile Uranus. It would seem that this native could use her innate abilities to advantage as a secretary, photographer, engraver, technician, or newspaper critic.

* * *

Collector, Bookbinder

JOHN M. R. — Born April 27, 1951, 10:00 P.M. Latitude 33N25, Longitude 111W50. This native has Mercury, Sun, and Mars, in Taurus in the 5th house, the solar orb conjuncting the two planets, sextiling Uranus in Cancer in the 7th, but squaring the Moon in Aquarius in the 2nd. Saturn is retrograde in Virgo in the 9th in conjunction with the MC, trine Moon, but opposition Jupiter. Neptune is also retrograde, in Libra, in the 10th, sextile Pluto, trine Venus. Sagittarius is on the ASC. Mercury, ruler of the Virgo MC, conjunct Sun, sextiles Uranus, squares the Moon. This young man has a number of vocational possibilities: collecting (accounts), bookbinding, manufacturing chemicals, photography, teaching, reporting or editing.

* * *

When the majority of the planets are in the *fiery* signs, it indicates as profitable the occupations in which the metals and fire play a prominent part, as those of engineers, machinists, smiths, chauffeurs, cutlers, barbers, surgeons, soldiers, also hazardous and dangerous vocations.

* * *

CORRECTION: In the January issue of the *Rays*, page 28, the birth date for James R. E. should have been July instead of June.

Daily Thought and Guide

These daily meditations are based partly on the planetary hours of the day, daily aspects and vibrations.

WEDNESDAY — MARCH 1

"If there is a virtue in the world at which we should always aim, it is cheerfulness."—*Bulwer-Lytton*.

THURSDAY — MARCH 2

Sympathy is a bond that draws us closer together and dissolves the walls of separatism. To sympathize is to care; to care is to help.

FRIDAY — MARCH 3

There is a balance in Creation which we must duplicate within ourselves. Equipoise represents the culmination of our strivings.

SATURDAY — MARCH 4

The blessings of friendship may be particularly agreeable this afternoon. Let us remember those who are lonely and include them, also, in our joy.

SUNDAY — MARCH 5

"Now God be praised, that to believing souls, Gives light in darkness, comfort in despair!"—*Shakespeare*.

MONDAY — MARCH 6

Quiet days are as necessary as busy ones. Let us examine our accomplishments, compare them with our goals, and make needed adjustments.

TUESDAY — MARCH 7

We might be impelled into energetic activity this evening. Tact and good manners should not be forgotten in our exuberance, however.

WEDNESDAY — MARCH 8

We cannot expect all our plans to pro-

ceed as we wish. The ability to profit from setbacks marks a wise, discerning individual.

THURSDAY — MARCH 9

Mixed aspects today might present a wide range of experiences, enabling us to draw on many resources and expand many talents.

FRIDAY — MARCH 10

"Without courage there cannot be truth, and without truth there can be no other virtue."—*Sir Walter Scott*.

SATURDAY — MARCH 11

Prodigious accomplishments are achieved by those who organize their time well, work systematically, and permit no unnecessary distractions.

SUNDAY — MARCH 12

"Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," and let us seek inner communion with our Creator. It is a day for worship and prayer.

MONDAY — MARCH 13

We have every reason for contentment, and no time for gloom. God watches over us with infinite wisdom and love, and we, made in His image, are striving to manifest His great attributes.

TUESDAY — MARCH 14

"Language is the picture and counterpart of thought," said Mark Hopkins. May our words always reveal loving thoughts and high ideals.

WEDNESDAY — MARCH 15

We may feel energetic in the morning, but becoming listless later. By pacing our-

selves, matching effort with strength, we can attain without overdoing.

THURSDAY — MARCH 16

Exercise is as necessary for the mind as for the body. Our muscles would atrophy if we did not use them; the same is true of our mental powers.

FRIDAY — MARCH 17

“If our past actions reproach us, they cannot be atoned for by our own severe reflections so effectually as by a contrary behavior.”—*Steele*.

SATURDAY — MARCH 18

We can learn much by observing our animal friends. They are a source of delight, wonder, and insight.

SUNDAY — MARCH 19

We have so much to be grateful for, and our Heavenly Father bestows added radiance upon us with every prayer of thanksgiving. Let us worship Him with joyful hearts.

MONDAY — MARCH 20

Steadfastness of purpose and persistence are essential to progress. Those who vacillate and are easily diverted will not succeed.

TUESDAY — MARCH 21

“Thus came the lovely spring, with a rush of blossoms and music, flooding the earth with flowers and the air with melodies vernal.”—*Longfellow*.

WEDNESDAY — MARCH 22

To have the courage of our convictions is a virtue; to defend them without rancor, self-righteousness, or pride, is an art.

THURSDAY — MARCH 23

The joys of friendship are gratifying, but can so easily be marred by possessive-

ness. Our friends do not “belong” to us, nor we to them.

FRIDAY — MARCH 24

Strength, efficiency, enthusiasm, diplomacy, and insight can all be our if we respond to the fine planetary influences present today.

SATURDAY — MARCH 25

Splendid aspects continue, and we can help others effectively, wisely, and with compassion.

SUNDAY — MARCH 26

If we rededicate ourselves to God's service this morning, we will easily withstand temptations later in the day to become irascible.

MONDAY — MARCH 27

Quality rather than quantity of food is important. “. . . mankind, since the improvement of cookery, eat about twice as much as nature requires.”—*Franklin*.

TUESDAY — MARCH 28

Beneficent Venusian influences augur a pleasant afternoon and harmonious interaction with our co-workers.

WEDNESDAY — MARCH 29

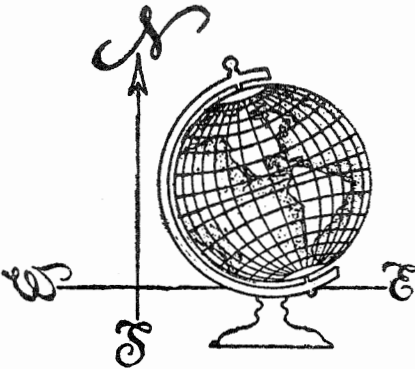
Promptings of the “inner voices” will serve us well this morning; extravagance should be avoided later in the day.

THURSDAY — MARCH 30

Original, imaginative undertakings are favored this morning, but common sense should underlie all our endeavors.

FRIDAY — MARCH 31

May our thoughts this Good Friday dwell on the dynamic impulse of love generated by the Christ within that will one day free us from the cross of matter.



MONTHLY
News
 INTERPRETED

“Far Out” Transportation

Unique forms of transportation reminiscent of the fabled Atlantean achievements (see “The Flying Railroad,” *Rays*, March, 1971) are being studied in Germany. An article in the *Los Angeles Times* of October 17, 1971, describes some of the startling innovations already at the “drawing-board” and “model” stages. They include: a silent train, without wheels and discharging no pollutants, which reaches speeds of 300 miles per hour; an inner city arrangement whereby people will be ferried about in small cars guided by a computer which has been supplied with information about their itineraries; a “floating carpet” supported by a magnetic cushion which moves slowly through tubes above street level and through buildings, delivering commuters to their precise destinations.

Times staff writer Joe Alex Morris Jr. indicates that such renovations of public transportation have been made imperative by the “transportation crisis of the future” — the incredible crowding in urban centers which in a few years is expected to produce insurmountable traffic congestion. The renovations are based on already well-known, established principles such as the linear induction motor, an electric motor without conventional moving parts capable of producing speeds up to 650 miles per hour, and the magnetic cushion which “literally hangs on a magnetic field set up by powerful built-in magnets and the track.” It is the perfec-

tion and combination of these and other physical principles that will make the “futuristic” vehicles possible.

There is no doubt but what conveyances such as these are sorely needed to ease the growing urban transportation problem, and that city planners in many parts of the world are looking forward to installing such systems in their areas.

We welcome these advances as being necessary in the service of man. At the same time, however, it cannot be stressed too often that human spiritual advancement must parallel material knowledge, and is by far the more essential of the two. The “miracles” of science fiction are rapidly becoming fact; the miracle of universal brotherhood which will occur when the Christ within each of us is fully awakened will some day completely overshadow the incredible, portentous scientific achievements now being so loudly acclaimed.

Laser — a Household Word

U.S. News & World Report, Oct. 18, 1971, devoted considerable attention to the myriad uses to which laser is being put. Thanks largely to “science fiction turned fact”, the world is already familiar with the destructive military capabilities of the laser — an instrument that produces an enormously intense, needle-thin beam of light.

The implications of its constructive potential in the civilian world are also tremendous, however (see “Magic Light,”

Rays, August, 1971), and the use of this instrument is already revolutionizing various facts of daily life. Perhaps most noteworthy is the fact that "Physicians for some time have been using lasers to 'spot weld' loosened retinas of human eyes and to 'vaporize' skin cancers. Scientists predict that if current trends continue, the laser, because of its accuracy and intense cutting quality, may be the instrument used in brain surgery."

The account of other civilian uses is also impressive:

... the Bell Telephone System announced recently that it has developed a laser smaller than a grain of sand that can be operated for up to a million hours on power produced by flashlight batteries.

Scientists at Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J., said the new laser may be as important in light technology as the transistor was in the field of sound. Once in production, the device can be made for only a few dollars. It is expected to speed development of new communications systems, Bell spokesmen said.

Another use to which the laser now is being put is as a cloth-cutter. The laser beam cuts to a tolerance of 5-1000ths of an inch, the width of a single thread. This means, a clothing industry executive said, "a guaranteed perfect fit."

Some other uses of laser:

Plumbing contractors are buying a laser tool that enables them to lay sewer pipe more accurately

Lasers are being used to fight pollution. Laser beams focused on factory chimneys measure the dispersion and behavior of particles leaving the smokestacks.

Some shipbuilders now use laser beams to cut aligned holes in the hull and framework of new vessels. Previously, holes were cut oversize, then patched to fit. Time saved by the laser is estimated at two weeks per ship.

Oil companies, which must cope with great distances in geological surveys and pipeline construction, find that with lasers they can measure distances to an accuracy of 1 inch in 15 miles. Also, lasers are being used to profile ice floes off oil fields in the Arctic region. And offshore drillers employ laser devices to measure the height of waves.

Terrain-profile maps, essential for builders, developers and scientists, are being prepared with greater accuracy through lasers. A laser device in an airplane flying at an altitude of 10,000 feet can record the difference between street and sidewalk levels.

In the diamond industry, laser cutting beams are being used to pierce the gems

faster and with smaller holes than ever before possible.

Industrial lasers also are being used to drill microscopic holes in needles utilized in manufacture of delicate windtunnel instruments.

In manufacturing plants, lasers cut, weld and measure metals at high speed and with absolute precision. As plants modernize and lasers increase in power, this basic use is expected to expand rapidly.

For work on titanium and other expensive metals, laser cutting results in big saving. The width of the cut is only a fraction of that of other methods.

Laser devices are used to make holograms — which are photographs in three dimensions that can record in the most minute detail changes in materials.

Scientists say such holograms will revolutionize the study of the natural and physical sciences.

A laser-produced hologram of a swarm of termites, for example, can be reformed in detail in a laboratory for a closer inspection of their habits. Holograms are also being used to develop new ways to miniaturize information for computers, thus permitting dramatic savings in storage space. . . .

Ashes Scattered at Sea Increasingly Popular

Despite a dearth of available statistics, health departments and funeral directors in the San Francisco Bay Area indicate more and more persons are choosing to skip more elaborate funeral rites to have their ashes scattered at sea.

Most Californians apparently aren't aware of the six-year-old change in the state law allowing this simple and inexpensive procedure, but statistics indicate they are finding out and choosing that option in increasing numbers, morticians report

A San Francisco funeral director speculates the new trend may result from the busy lives of contemporary Californians, as well as desires to maintain simplicity and keep costs down.

Nick Daphne, owner of Daphne's Funerals, notes that someone who has a relative interred in a local cemetery may find himself living at the other end of the nation a year later due to a job change.

Daphne reported a marked increase at his mortuary in recent years in both the number of cremations and the total followed by disposal of ashes at sea.

Daphne estimated cremations — the least expensive form of funeral — now comprise about one-quarter of all funerals.

When the ashes are scattered at sea, the dead person's estate saves the price of \$250 to \$300 or more for a niche in a columbarium

—*Daily Review Shopping Edition*,
Hayward, California, June 23, 1971

The Rosicrucian Fellowship advocates cremation as the most efficacious method of disposal of deceased human bodies. A physical body interred in the Earth decays slowly, and as long as vestiges of this vehicle remain, the departed Ego is, to some extent at least, drawn to it and unable to devote full attention to its new life and surroundings. Furthermore, the two lower ethers of the vital body also disintegrate and, as we read in *Cosmo-Conception*, “. . . though the vital body returns to the dense body (after the silver cord snaps at death) it no longer interpenetrates it, but simply hovers over it. It remains floating over the grave, decaying synchronously with the dense vehicle. Hence, to the trained clairvoyant, a graveyard is a nauseating sight and if only more people could see it as he does, little argument would be necessary to induce them to change from the present unsanitary method of disposing of the dead to the more rational method of cremation . . .”

It is important, however, that cremation not be performed before three and one half days after death. The vital body disintegrates immediately upon the incineration of the physical body. Since the vital body is the storehouse of the pictures of the past life which, during the post-mortem panorama, are etched upon the desire body to form the basis of the Ego's experiences in Purgatory and the First Heaven, premature cremation interferes with the panorama and, if assistance from higher Beings and Invisible Helpers is not forthcoming, it modifies the Ego's subsequent experiences accordingly and it is in danger of not profiting fully from the recently completed Earth life.

The ashes of the physical body do not hold the Ego to Earth, and the manner of their disposal does not affect his life in the other worlds. There is certainly no harm in burying them in a specific place, or scattering them, as the individual might have requested prior to his passing. This, however, makes no difference to his future development.

Left-Lookers Emotional

Ask a friend to multiply 12 by 13. Then watch which way his eyes move. If they move to the left, he is likely to be emotional, subjective, passive, and relaxed. If they move to the right, he tends to be rational, objective, active and tense.

Left-lookers are more susceptible to hypnosis than right-lookers, who are difficult to put under.

That's the opinion, at any rate, of Dr. Paul Bakan of *Michigan State University*, who describes his work with a number of subjects in *Psychology Today*. The movement of the eyes to one side or the other during concentration, he claims, is caused by the activation of one hemisphere of the brain or the other. In most people, one hemisphere dominates the other.

People who have the same hemisphere dominant tend to have other things in common, he believes. “We don't know why dominance by one hemisphere produces certain traits, but it is obvious there is a relationship between eye movement and a number of other characteristics.”

—*Science Digest*, Aug. 1971

This article is particularly interesting in view of its bearing upon occult information concerning the brain. As is well known to physiologists, the brain is composed of two hemispheres, of which the left, in the majority of mankind, is more active than the right. The left cerebral hemisphere, we are told in occult teachings, is under the sway of the Lucifer Spirits and given over to selfishness and the dictates of the lower desire nature. The right hemisphere, denoting characteristics such as altruism, right judgment, and selfless love, is ruled by Mercury and has, until now, been at least partially dormant in most people. This appears to answer the dilemma of, as Dr. Bakan puts it, “why dominance by one hemisphere produces certain traits” in different people.

It is noteworthy, in this connection, that people who are prone to move their eyes to the left — who use, mainly, the left side of their brains — are found to be more negative, passive, and susceptible to hypnosis. The subjective side of their natures — their personal interests and concerns — dominate their thoughts and activities, and they are evidently not yet developed the strength of character

(Continued on page 142)



BOOK REVIEWS

Literature - Plays -
Motion Pictures - Music

"The Adventure of Being a Wife"

The Adventure of Being a Wife, by Mrs. Norman Vincent Peale, Prentice - Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1971.

THIS book is written in defense of marriage as a challenge, an adventure, and a rewarding experience. It resulted from a request by a college student who urged Mrs. Peale to formulate for others the "secrets" of success of her own happy marriage to Dr. Peale. It speaks most directly to those members of our society who regard marriage as an unnecessary convention, and to those couples whose marriages appear headed for trouble.

Mrs. Peale, daughter of a minister, was raised in a home in which material things were at a premium, but love and mutual respect among family members were high. She married Dr. Peale when he was already a respected young clergyman, raised three children who have fashioned their own useful, successful lives, and has long served as co-worker and co-counselor with, and "general sounding-board" for, Dr. Peale.

She believes firmly in the sanctity of marriage, which achieves its true meaning, depth, and beauty as a result of that very permanence and total sharing and commitment between the partners which those who now so loudly decry the institution seem to want desperately to avoid. Despite the current proclivity in some quarters to downgrade marriage, Mrs. Peale insists that "This country is full of good marriages, built by men and women who know that good marriages don't just

happen, they have to be *made* to happen . . ." Marriages which fail do so, by and large, because the people concerned give up too easily. They have been led to expect that the relationship will be completely without friction, and when they learn that this is never the case, they head immediately for the divorce court instead of trying to compromise and create a climate of mutual understanding, appreciation, tolerance, and helpfulness.

Using illustrations from her own life with Dr. Peale, as well as from the lives of many people whom she and her husband have counseled, Mrs. Peale gives succinct advice for "getting along" which, although it appears to be just simple, forthright common sense, evidently badly needs re-saying and re-emphasizing in our present troubled times. The foundation for much of her advice is that "power of positive thinking" which she and Dr. Peale so strongly espouse.

To what the occult student refers as the "Law of Consequence," Mrs. Peale gives the delightful name of "the law of echo in operation." "When you send out an impulse of kindness or thoughtfulness, it comes bouncing right back to you." Certainly thoughtfulness and consideration for the other partner is a prime requisite for the success of any marriage, yet her own years of counseling have proven to her that the downfall of many marriages is due solely to the fact that selfishness, rather than consideration, rules. Many a marriage has foundered on so seemingly small a thing as a lack of

mutual appreciation, or an expression of that appreciation.

Find the praiseworthy attributes of in-laws, urges Mrs. Peale, rather than criticize their evident shortcomings. The domineering mother-in-law *can* harm a marriage, for instance, but if the understanding wife enlists her aid in cooking dinner or her advice on sewing new drapes, instead of simply bemoaning the fact that she is coming to visit and agonizing through the encounter, mutual understanding and appreciation between the two can, and often has, taken place. This, certainly, is nothing other than "seeking the divine essence within" another person, which the occult student is urged to do in all his relationships. Furthermore, the Golden Rule applies as much to in-laws as to anyone else.

Mrs. Peale devotes considerable attention to raising children, and some of her most important advice in this regard centers around the simple expedient of "being there." So many children who get into trouble are those whose parents are too busy or too preoccupied with their social lives to pay them more than perfunctory attention. She also urges that children be taught good manners — a subject to which minimal attention appears to be paid these days — and quotes a psychiatrist as saying that "about eighty percent of the problems I'm called on to deal with professionally would never have arisen if the people in their formative years had been taught to have manners..." Children who have been taught good manners know what is expected of them and are poised and serene; those who have not are bewildered, make mistakes, consequently feel rejected, and grow up insecure and self-centered.

Dependence on divine guidance is as important in marriage as in all other phases of life, but, as Mrs. Peale said of her own parents: "They trusted the Lord, but they also felt He expected them to deal with everyday problems prudently and without complaining." Naturally prayer is vital, and she relates several instances in her own life which strongly

illustrate the power of prayer. The important thing, as all occult students should know, is to *live* pure, clean, Christian lives continually, rather than simply "analyzing" religion and letting it go at that. She cites the example of a practicing Christian couple who moved to suburbia only to be horrified at the round of cocktail parties, with their attendant off-color stories and other questionable activities, which appeared to constitute their new neighbors' entire social spectrum. In time, however, because of their example of pure, clean living, they began to conduct well-attended religious discussions in their home and "Within a year, that community was completely changed — all because two people who really lived their religion shared it with people who had none — and who were hungrier for it than they knew."

Mrs. Peale also reminds us that "To serve God by trying to serve people lies at the heart of all true happiness . . ." whether in marriage or any other relationship. Her husband once told a bus driver, despondent because his job was not as "important" as that of a professional person, that ". . . if you're serving people, you're serving God . . . if you're serving God, one form of service is as honorable and worthwhile as another." Again, this is but a retelling of the esoteric Truth, applicable to every human being, that "loving, self-forgetting service to others is the shortest, the safest, and the most joyful road to God."

Throughout the book, Mrs. Peale emphasizes the positive role of women in the marriage relationship, and concludes by expressing her "conviction that the success or failure of any marriage depends primarily on the wife . . . who largely determines the emotional climate in which a marriage grows and flourishes — or withers and dies." This, coupled with her many illustrations of the positive role which women *have* played in periods of both well-being and crisis in many marriages, should provide food for thought for those modern women who find mar-

(Continued on page 135)

Readers' QUESTIONS

The Function of Desire

Question:

One current school of thought says that it is bad, or "inhibiting," for an individual to suppress desires and emotions. Others, primarily Eastern philosophers, teach that all desire should be suppressed. Which attitude is correct?

Answer:

Desire is the mainspring of all action, and it should, therefore, be properly directed, not suppressed. Without desire and its subsequent action, there could be no experience, which is the object of life on Earth.

One of the worst things that could happen to an individual would be to lose the purgatorial and First Heaven experiences gained through the medium of the desire body. Purgatorial experiences, based on unworthy, selfish, or evil desires and emotions manifested in the previous life, result in conscience. First Heaven experiences, based on the good done in the previous life, result in virtue and an inner, intuitive, urge toward right doing. If an Ego repressed all desires during life he would have neither purgatorial nor First Heaven experiences, and his previous life on Earth would be essentially meaningless in terms of his evolution.

The Ego's vehicles consist of a physical body, a vital body, a desire body, and a mind. These collectively constitute what is called the lower self. The Higher Self consists of the Spirit, or Ego, with its three powers — will, wisdom-love, and

activity. The object of evolution is the spiritualizing of the lower vehicles so that they may serve the Spirit as instruments on the higher planes of manifestation.

If the lower self accepts the guidance of the Spirit, that process continues satisfactorily. If it follows its own inclinations, however, indulging in selfish desires and pleasures, in time the lower self may become so powerful and unruly that the Spirit cannot control it; that is, the lower self may arrive at the point where it so strongly prefers evil to good that it cannot be separated from evil practices. In such cases, the Spirit may be forced to abandon it, a process which will retard the Spirit tremendously in its evolution.

Selfish, evil desires, therefore, instead of being given expression, should be transmuted into good ones under the guidance of the Higher Self. Clean, lofty desires should be encouraged and expressed, for they furnish the incentive necessary to *right* action and evolutionary progress. It may require more effort and will power to transmute a desire than to express it, and in the process the individual might indeed feel "inhibited." What is being inhibited, however, is not the Ego, but the lower nature — which is all to the good. Transmutation of an unworthy desire or emotion is accomplished by endeavoring to practice the virtue which embodies its opposite. If the desire for sensual experience is strong, for instance, practice rigid temperance in all things; if the problem is parsimony, practice liberality. If hatred or anger threaten to get the upper hand, quickly send out thoughts of love, and try to be of service in whatever way seems appropriate. If this method is faithfully pursued, it will unflinchingly bring results.

Unfortunately, many people who in-

dulge selfish desires find them — that is, their gratification — agreeable, and therefore they think that they do not want to be rid of them. Consequently, they search for an excuse to indulge these desires, and place the blame for doing so on something or someone else. In such cases, however, the lower nature has control. The Higher Self does not want to be burdened with anything that interferes with the spiritualization of the lower vehicles. Such people, particularly, should make every effort to listen to the dictates of conscience and not rationalize or encourage the unworthy desires in any way.

Building the Soul Body

Question:

How can one begin to build a body of light to travel in the astral planes, and is it dangerous to attempt such travel without the help of a veteran?

Answer:

The "soul body," as it is called in the Rosicrucian Philosophy, is one of the vehicles of the Spirit, and is composed of the two higher ethers of the vital body. It is built by a life of love and service to humanity. If we take whatever opportunities are offered in our immediate surroundings — even if at first this means only visiting a sick friend or helping in some other, seemingly, small way — we can be sure that the scope of these opportunities will soon widen with our dedication and the avidity with which we seize the chances for service that are given.

Dedication of this sort not only attracts and builds in a large proportion of the two higher ethers, but in time it also causes a cleavage to take place between them and the two lower ethers. After this cleavage has been accomplished, the soul body is separate and distinct from the lower ethers, and is available as

a separate vehicle or body for use in soul flights.

It is spoken of in the New Testament as the "soma psuchicon." It constitutes the gold and blue of our aura, and it can be seen with our etheric vision. It distinguishes the saint from the ordinary man. We are helped to build it by Christ, the indwelling Planetary Spirit of the Earth, through His etheric emanations, which pass from the center of the Earth outward and through our vital bodies on the way.

It is best not to focus on thoughts of "conscious astral projection," as some call it, for conscious soul flights will come when the Ego has been found ready in all ways. Yes, it is dangerous to go for the first few times without a "veteran," for even after all the necessary preparation, this initial guidance and protection is necessary. The guide will appear at the proper time; it will not be necessary to seek one.

* * *

LIFE UNFOLDING

(Continued from page 101)

When one understands the unifying effect of the Group Spirits, it is not surprising to note that plants register a sensitivity to what happens to other plants. The fact that plants seem even more responsive to the emanation from animals and humans than from other plants may be explained by the greater strength of the emanations from the higher kingdoms. It is surely no longer questioned that thought power from human beings affects animals and other humans, so why doubt that it affects plants?

Thus we see that in every life wave the process of unfolding consciousness and improving vehicles is going on. All about us this marvel is occurring, whether we are cognizant of it or not. Life unfolding, ever onward, forever!



Helping the Hypochondriac

DIANA DUPRE

ONE of the most annoying and unwelcome problems faced by modern doctors is hypochondria, defined as: "an abnormal condition characterized by a depressed emotional state and imaginary ill health, referable to the physical condition of the body or one of its parts." The patient with this ailment enjoys the *idea* of illness, often going from one physician to another with mysterious symptoms that have no physical basis, and for which no permanent relief in the form of conventional medicine can be prescribed.

The hard-core hypochondriac welcomes exploratory operations, and neither time nor expense appears to be a deterrent as he devotes the major part of his life to unsuccessful endeavors at diagnosing non-existent ailments. Pills, palliatives, and placebos are crutches without which he cannot seem to endure. He is ready to try any new medicine, the consequent possible side-effects of which do not appear to worry him in the least.

His attitude toward his doctors is almost defiant, "daring" them, as it were, accurately to diagnose and effectively to relieve the obscure maladies with which he sincerely believes himself to be afflicted. He even becomes angry when informed that there is nothing physically wrong, and seeks out another doctor to

whom he indignantly describes his symptoms.

In short, he appears to glory in chronic invalidism, deriving a bizarre form of succor from the continuing attention of doctors and others concerned with his condition. If he develops a genuine physical ailment and is actually cured of that affliction, he loses no time in "adopting" other symptoms to take their place. It is quite true that he has talked himself into being sick, and that he sincerely believes himself to be afflicted by the myriad aches and pains which he describes.

As a result of his demanding, sorry-for-himself attitude, his family relationships suffer, his job efficiency is reduced — if he is able to work at all — and his attention becomes so fixed upon himself that he is unable to exercise compassion and sympathy for other people, many of whom are much worse off than he is. From the standpoint of evolution and spiritual progress, his present life is generally wasted, and he is, in fact, as a result of his selfishness, compiling a significant load of karmic debts which will have to be paid off in future incarnations.

It is precisely because of the evolutionary implications of his attitude, we believe, that the hypochondriac most needs help in overcoming his affliction. It is obvious to the occult student that a

life revolving around the demands of the self as much as that of a hypochondriac does can only result in considerable future heartache for the Spirit who has let himself be trapped in such a condition. The sooner he is urged away from his self-centered existence, and the sooner his horizons are broadened into increasing awareness of both the present needs of his fellow men and the underlying positive nature of evolution, the sooner he will be able to begin doing his share of *giving*.

In order permanently to be helped, the hypochondriac must learn to turn his thoughts from himself to others — from receiving to serving. If he can attune himself to a spiritual Teaching such as the Rosicrucian Philosophy, and become convinced of the cosmic glory that exists beyond himself, as well as the magnificent destiny which ultimately awaits all members of the human lifewave, he will most easily be able to abandon the sedatives, tranquilizers, and painkillers which heretofore have made his life “bearable,” and obtain new, positive sustenance from an understanding of spiritual Truths.

Primarily, however, the hypochondriac must be drawn outward so that the attention he lavishes so generously upon himself may be transmuted into loving, selfless service to others. It will undoubtedly be necessary to use benign firmness in helping such an individual begin to function usefully in society. Mere words alone are not likely to convince him that the cure for his all-encompassing malady must come, not from a bottle or a hypodermic needle, but from within himself. A successful way of weaning him away from his complaints might be to let him see for himself the sufferings of others. Take him to a drug rehabilitation center, a slum clinic, a school for the blind, or any other place where truly unfortunate people are gathered. Even such exposure to human misery might not “take” immediately. The hypochondriac might initially react by acknowledging that these individuals do “have problems,” or pay lip service to the fact that

“this is terrible,” but his own self-centered nature might well be too strongly entrenched immediately to release its hold in favor of altruism. His own problems may for a long time continue to supersede all others in his mind. Nevertheless, it is reasonable to suppose that continued exposure of this sort will eventually leave its mark upon even the most self-centered person, and gradually he will turn at least some of his thoughts and efforts into worthwhile channels. Certainly, this form of treatment, severe as it might initially seem, is kinder in the long run than pandering to the hypochondriac’s imagined complaints and indulging him in his self-pity.

Fortunate indeed is the hypochondriac whose family members or close acquaintances are understanding of his problem, strong enough to bear up positively under the weight of the burden he places upon them, and willing to use the necessary tenacity and firmness in helping him, quite literally, to re-enter the world. The strain and suffering under which those who are closely associated with a hypochondriac must labor is often tremendous, and it is difficult for them to retain the buoyancy and enthusiasm for living which will help them, as well as the patient, through the crisis. It is very possible that people who find themselves in close relationship to one who suffers from hypochondria are being given an opportunity to pay a karmic debt. If they succeed in helping such a person lead a useful, productive, outgoing life — in aiding a fellow Spirit along the evolutionary path — they will have acquitted themselves very favorably in this regard.

On the other hand, the most unfortunate hypochondriac is the one who is alone, without close ties, or whose relatives and friends have had enough of his constant complaining and have, consequently, rejected him and are leaving him to his own devices. This person sinks more and more into the quagmire of his own self-pity, until his world becomes a living nightmare of real and imagined pain and misery, relieved, only temporarily, by a

new source of medical attention or a new commercial remedy.

If a person has any tendency toward hypochondria, it will very likely manifest if he is lonely to begin with. To be sure, loneliness is a condition of one's own making, and no one need be lonely, even if he happens to live alone or be without close family ties. Some people who prefer a solitary form of life, and who work by, often for, themselves, perform constructive tasks and live useful lives. The serenity, self-sufficiency and, often, attunement with spiritual principles which these people possess, however, denote a certain inner strength not yet cultivated by many members of the race. Therefore, although being alone does not necessarily mean being lonely, the "weaker" person, de-



void of inner resources and perhaps additionally burdened by an affliction such as timidity, who finds himself alone, is likely to fall prey to various forms of self-pity, of which hypochondria is one of the most insidious.

Here, then, is another field in which spiritual aspirants can be of service. It is becoming increasingly clear to social workers and psychiatrists that the impersonal urban life which has "swallowed" so many people in recent years has also produced loneliness among the population on an unprecedented scale. In these unfortunate ranks are found many hypochondriacs, who, because they know no one with sufficient insight into their problem who cares to help, become increasingly victimized by their treacherous condition and their innate inability to rise above it. They certainly need assistance, sympathetic understanding, and firm guidance if they are to make something of themselves and learn the lessons which we are all expected to master in our earthly incarnations.

"THE ADVENTURE OF BEING A WIFE"

(Continued from page 130)

riage, homemaking, and the vital job of raising a family to be degrading, boring, or an insufficient challenge to their intellectual abilities. We are reminded of a passage in *Questions and Answers*, Vol. I: "Woman . . . has the positive vital body and as a result is intuitively in touch with the spiritual vibrations of the universe. She is more idealistic and imaginative, taking a great interest in all the things which make for the *moral upliftment* of the race, and as it is only by the moral and the spiritual growth that humanity can advance at this time, she is really the prime factor in evolution."

There is no doubt that Mrs. Peale's own marriage has been eminently successful, and, although the Peales can hardly be classified as an "average family," their formula for success, and, principally, their emphasis on a clean, wholesome life of devotion to God and service to each other and to the thousands who have come to them for advice and succor, is certainly an example to be admired and followed. —D.F.

CORRECTION: On page 80 of the February *Rays*, right hand column, the 18th line should read: knew that, possessed of such an education,

ROSICRUCIAN PRINCIPLES

The Rosicrucians advocate a vegetarian diet as superior (physically and spiritually) to a diet containing meat. They regard alcohol, tobacco, and stimulants as injurious to the body and detriments to the Spirit. They believe in the power of prayer and the creative power of thought through concentration in bringing about the healing of mind and body. They hold, however, that physical means can often be used to advantage to supplement spiritual and mental means.

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OUR PATIENTS WRITE

Texas—I feel so well! My M.D. showed me the charts and everything about me is *normal*, blood count and (listen to this!) the diabetes is no more. He said the tests showed I am definitely free of it!

Quebec—Have read your letter at my bedside and received much consolation from the reading and re-reading of it. The doctors were very much surprised this week at the tremendous improvement in my blood, but I still suffer from severe pains in my bones. Anyway, am happy to say that my association with you people has been one of the greatest events of my life.

California—Truly I am doing fine. The infection of the kidneys has just about cleared up. Until you started treating me it just wasn't getting any better. The doctors tried but they did not know what to do for it. After the first instruction letter from you, the urine test showed that the bacteria had cleared up, and from then on the condition has kept improving.

California—Am so glad my warts are gone! A number of my friends have warts, and naturally I tell them I had *twenty-three* but now they are gone.

Oregon—Today completes my third day of fasting with grape juice, Acidophilus, enemas, and rest, and my enthusiasm is high. My progress in both my eyesight and faith have been most rewarding. Have definitely felt the presence of the healing force. Of course my activities have been slowed down by the fasting, but I've experienced an alertness for study and meditation that hasn't always seemed present. Thank you all and bless you.

California—These are wonderful days! My friends tell me how well I look, how much the arms, face, and legs have filled out. They are amazed, as I did look so thin and sickly. When I tell them of the diet and the wonderful results, most say they couldn't do it. However, one of my neighbors now uses the whole wheat flour in her baking. Thank you again prayers, love, and much help.



The Prayer of Faith

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
—Hebrews 11:1.

From this it would appear that an active faith is a most helpful condition in which to abide. If it is the substance from which things are made, it is an important ingredient in our prayers.

But what of the times when we pray for healing and seem to receive no answer — when we continue for a long time in an undesirable state of health?

Here, indeed, is a testing time. Do we pass with flying colors and grow in spiritual graces, or do we wallow in the slough of despond, feeling put upon and resentful? The way we react determines to a great extent our progress on the spiritual path.

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”—*Rom. 8:28.*

It is often difficult to see the good that may come from an unpleasant or even painful situation, but when we abide in God, ceaselessly seeking His will in our lives, we are often astonished at what can grow from soil fertilized with pain and tears.

When in faith we say, “not my will but Thine,” we free the Law to work in and through us.

Many are the lessons to be learned when we allow His will to work in our lives. One of the first is patience when we find that the Divine time-table is

different from ours. If we persistently seek and abide, we reap the joy and peace which comfort and sustain.

A truly committed life sometimes goes through a long period of trial. If the faith remains strong and the eyes fixed on the Highest, the time of testing is transmuted into a deeper wisdom and love than was known before.

He who in faith perseveres, triumphs. By worldly standards it may not seem so, but in the important area of spiritual living and growth there comes a richness and depth of understanding far surpassing any worldly reward.—C.B.R.

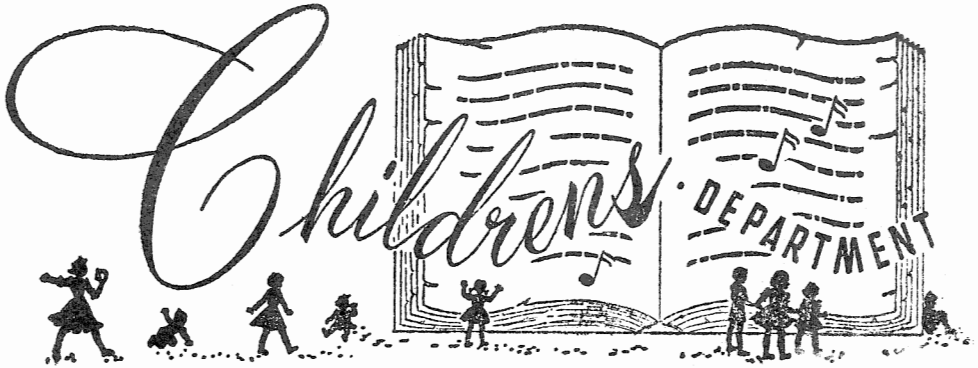
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Visible helpers are just as necessary as Invisible Helpers, and our friends and patients may share in a high privilege, as well as add much to the power of liberated healing force, by joining us in prayer for the sick. Our Healing Service is held every evening in the Healing Temple at 6:30, and in the Pro-Ecclesia at 4:45 P.M. when the Moon is in a cardinal sign on the following dates:

HEALING DATES

March 1 — 9 — 15 — 21 — 29

Relax, close your eyes, and make a mental picture of the pure white rose in the center of the Rosicrucian Emblem on the west wall of our Pro-Ecclesia, and concentrate on *Divine Love and Healing.*



Eugene's Eight Arms

DAGMAR FLAUME

MOTHER Octopus read the note for the third time, and looked sadly at Eugene, who was pulling at the edge of the rug with one of his eight arms.

"Do you know what this note says?" she asked.

"Not exactly," mumbled Eugene.

"It says that you have been in trouble at school, and after school too, every day this week, and that the teacher and the Principal don't know what to do about you, and that if you get into trouble one more time you will be expelled." Mother Octopus waited for Eugene to say something, and when he didn't, she asked, "Is all this true?"

"I guess so," mumbled Eugene again, pulling harder at the rug.

"You don't seem to care very much," Mother Octopus said in a soft voice, trying hard to keep from telling Eugene to stop pulling at the rug. "How do you feel about it?"

"Aw, I don't know," Eugene slurred his words together so that Mother could hardly understand him. Then he put the edge of the rug down and said more distinctly, "I don't want to get in trouble but I can't help it. I can't keep all my arms quiet all the time and I keep doing things with them sometimes that I don't even know I'm doing. It just takes one

arm to write with, and one arm to do arithmetic with, and one arm to make maps in geography with, and the rest of them won't stay still when I'm working."

Eugene looked out the window at a school of flounder swimming by. "None of the fish kids have trouble with extra fins, and even Barney Crab can keep his four legs pretty still. And those jellyfish twins barely move! But I've got all these arms and the only time I know what to do with them is when we're playing baseball. I can catch anything then. When I broke the teacher's vase I was writing a composition and didn't even know that other arm was moving around. And on the playground yesterday I threw a piece of coral because I felt like moving one of my arms real hard, but I didn't mean to break the window. And I didn't mean to hit that oyster kid, honest, but I was digging a hole for our sand fort with two arms and that back one was just wiggling around by itself when he got too close and it hit him. And then he started bawling and the Principal came out and made me sit in the office all the rest of of recess."

Eugene sighed and started pulling at the rug again. Mother's face softened and she smiled at him. "Now I understand, dear," she said, "and I'm so glad

you aren't doing all those bad things on purpose. I'll write a note to your teacher explaining everything, and then I'm sure she'll understand too."

"But," she went on, as Eugene put down the rug again and looked at her with relief, "you must start learning to keep your arms under control. I know it's hard — your father and I had the same trouble when we were little — but in a few years you'll be grown up and then you can't go around breaking things and hitting people, even if it is just by accident."

"How can I keep them under control?" asked Eugene.

"With practice, Dear, and by finding things for all your arms to do. That will keep them busy and out of trouble."

"Oh," said Eugene, trying to think of what he could possibly do besides playing baseball to keep all eight arms busy at once.

He went outside and wandered around the yard, not knowing what to do with himself. He had been in so much trouble lately that most of his friends were not allowed to play with him any more. Their parents didn't know it wasn't really his fault at all, and thought that he was a very naughty boy indeed.

After a while, Eugene picked up sixteen seashells and started to juggle them. Juggling is very easy for an octopus, and Eugene was rather bored, but at least he was keeping all eight arms busy. Suddenly he saw Mr. Turtle, the postman, coming down the road with a staggering load of mail. Besides the mailbag, he was carrying several big packages which kept slipping off his back, and he seemed to be having a terrible time.

"Can I help you with those?" asked Eugene, grabbing one of the packages as it started to slide off again.

"Well thanks, Gene," said Mr. Turtle, "I'd sure appreciate it. Seems like all day long I've been going back to where I've already been, picking up packages I'd dropped."

Eugene scooped up six packages, one in each arm, and still had two arms free.

"I'll carry your mailbag too, for a while, if you'd like a rest."

The postman smiled gratefully at Eugene and handed him the mailbag. Eugene wound his two remaining arms around it and they went on their way, stopping every once in a while to leave mail at someone's house. When they had delivered everything, Mr. Turtle shook one of Eugene's arms warmly. "I don't know how to thank you, son," he said. "No one has ever helped me carry mail before, and it sure made the day a lot easier."

"Oh, I enjoyed helping you," said Eugene politely, and then, somewhat to his surprise, he realized that he *had* enjoyed helping. It was fun doing something useful with all eight arms, and it was downright *wonderful* to go through a whole afternoon without getting into trouble.

The next day at school Eugene tried to be very careful with his arms, and he managed quite well. He didn't break anything, although he did knock a few books off one of the desks, and he accidentally tripped Maude Mollusk as she was walking down the hall. She wasn't hurt, though, and it was partly her fault because she wasn't looking where she was going. Otherwise, though, Eugene had a very good day. He was tired from watching his arms so carefully, but whistling happily when he came home.

Mother Octopus gave him an extra special hug and said, "Oh, Gene, why didn't you tell me what a wonderful thing you did? I'm so proud of you!"

"Huh?" said Eugene, looking confused. It was not very often that anyone was proud of him, and he couldn't figure out what his mother meant.

"Read this," she said, handing him a letter.

"Dear Mr. and Mrs. Octopus," it began. "Postman Turtle told me how well your son helped him deliver the mail and packages today, and all of us at the post-office would like to compliment your very fine boy. If he would like to have a job with us after school, helping sort mail,

we certainly could use him. We have enough work to keep all his eight arms busy, and after the way he helped Postman Turtle, we know he would make an excellent addition to our staff. Sincerely yours, Samuel R. Squid, Postmaster."

"Gosh," was all Eugene could manage to say, and he stared at the letter, not quite believing what he read.

"Do you think you'd like to work at the post office after school?" asked his mother.

"Well — well — sure," said Eugene, still trying to get used to the idea. The more he thought about it, though, the more he liked it. He would be earning money (neither he nor any of his friends thought they got enough allowance), and he would be doing something with all eight of his arms. If he enjoyed working at the post office as much as he enjoyed helping Mr. Turtle, it would be a perfect way to keep busy.

Next day, Eugene went right down to the post office after school. Postmaster Squid and all the workers shook one of his arms, and then he was taken into a big room where there were bags of mail and packages all over the tables and the floor. Two of the walls were lined with shelves on which other letters were lying. "All this mail has to be sorted and put on those shelves before morning," said Mr. Squid. "Each shelf is for a different street, and if a letter get put on the wrong one it won't be delivered on time and might even get lost. Do you think you can help with that, and not get the mail on the wrong shelves?"

"I'll try," said Eugene.

With one of the workers helping him, Eugene began slowly to put letters and packages on the shelves. First he used only one arm, because he was not sure what shelf belonged to what street. He learned quickly, however, and soon was using two arms, then three, and finally all eight arms at once. Then, in practically no time, he had sorted out all the mail and the shelves were full. Postmaster Squid checked the letters, and found only two that were on the wrong shelves. He

didn't mind that, though, because, after all, this was only Eugene's first day and he couldn't be expected to do everything perfectly at once!

"Well done, my boy!" he said. "You did so much work with all your arms that we finished much sooner than usual. We can all go home early, thanks to you. Will you come in and help us again tomorrow?"

"I'll come in every day if you want me to," said Eugene. "It's just wonderful to be able to use all my arms and not get into trouble with them!"

The next day at school, Eugene couldn't stop talking about his new job. "I sorted the mail faster than anyone else, because I have so many more arms than anyone else," he said, not really because he wanted to show off, but because he wanted everyone to know that he *could* do useful things with all his many arms. Pretty soon everyone in the school knew about Eugene's job, and, sad to say, there were some people who just didn't believe that Eugene, who had been such a "naughty boy," really could do good work.

In the middle of the morning, the Principal sent for Eugene to come to his office, and poor Eugene thought, "Oh, oh — what have I done now?"

But when he got there, the Principal said, "Gene, I hear that you have learned to make all your arms work for you. Could you help me stack these new textbooks in the book closet?"

"Sure — er — I mean, yes, sir!" said Eugene enthusiastically. He saw several boxes of new books on the floor near the closet, and without another word he scooped the books up and stacked them neatly on the shelves. He turned around to find the Principal starting at him, his mouth open.

"I have *never* seen anyone work that fast," he said when he could speak. "It would have taken me fifteen minutes to get those books all stacked, and you did it in two minutes. I never would have gressbelieved it!"

From then on, whenever anyone at

school had something heavy to lift, or things to stack, or other jobs that would take a long time, the first person he sent for was Eugene. Sometimes his teacher wouldn't let him leave class. "After all," she said "Eugene is here to learn lessons, That comes first!" Sometimes, however, when he had finished his work, or when the class was repeating something that Eugene already understood, she let him go to help people who needed his eight arms. He was particularly good at putting large sheets of paper on bulletin boards, because he could hold down several corners with several arms, while putting in thumbtacks with several other arms. He could fill boxes of chalk and crayons — eight boxes at a time. Sometimes he helped Mr. Halibut, the school janitor, clean up the playground. The ocean was always washing in sand and pebbles and seashells just where the children wanted to play, and it didn't take Eugene long, working with eight sand-scoops at once, to move all the debris out of the way.

At first, Eugene's mother and father were a little worried that, with his job at the post office and his many jobs at school, his lessons would suffer. But, to their surprise, his school work was getting better and better. Where he had gotten C's before, he began to get B's, and in arithmetic and science, he even began to get A's!

It was Eugene himself who finally figured out why this was so. "I don't have any time to waste any more," he told his parents. "I have to pay attention all the time so I can learn things fast, and I can't daydream any more when I'm doing homework because that wastes time too, and I have to get finished so that I can do my other jobs. When I pay attention all the time and don't daydream I learn more and faster and remember better."

Eugene's parents smiled knowingly at each other, and after he had gone to bed Father Octopus said, "How many times have I tried to tell him that, and he wouldn't listen. Guess he just had to learn for himself!"

The months rolled quickly by, and al-

most before Eugene knew it, it was the last day of school. He was all excited about summer vacation, because he was going to camp for four weeks, and Mr. Squid had asked him to work several hours each day in the Post Office during the rest of the time. The teacher gave out report cards, and Eugene found two A's and four B's — the best report card he had ever had.

Then the bell rang and everyone went to the auditorium, where the Principal was going to show a movie about summer safety rules and make a few final announcements. When the movie and announcements were over, and the boys and girls were wriggling in their seats, eager to go home, Eugene was startled to hear the Principal say, "Eugene Octopus, will you come up on the stage, please."

Everyone suddenly grew very quiet and Eugene's heart was pounding in his ears as he slowly made his way to the stage. Things had been going so well for him lately, and he couldn't think what he might have done wrong recently to make the Principal want to see him in front of the whole school.

Much to his amazement, the Principal shook his arm as he hesitantly came up, and said, "Congratulations, my boy. Never in the history of Underwater School have we had such a fast, accurate worker. You have been such a fine help to us all, and the teachers and I would like to show you how much we appreciate your work." He handed Eugene a large silver plaque, on which were written the words: "Champion Worker Award — Presented to Eugene Octopus, Underwater School."

Eugene took the plaque and stammered out something that sounded like "Thank you very much, Sir." There was loud applause and cheering as he went back to his seat. Of course Sydney Shark tried to trip him as he came up the aisle, but Eugene was prepared for *that* and jumped easily over Syd's fin. Then the Principal dismissed everyone, and the boys and girls were soon on their way home.

Eugene hung the plaque on the wall over his bed, where his friends often ad-

mired it. One day he came home to find Mother showing it to the members of her club, and he was secretly pleased, although he wasn't sure he liked the idea of all those ladies wandering around in his room!

What pleased him even more, however, was the phone call Mother had from his teacher a few weeks before school was to start again in the fall. A new Octopus family had moved into the neighborhood, and their boy, just about Eugene's age, was having even more trouble keeping his arms under control than Eugene had had. Would Eugene, the teacher wanted to know, be able to help the new boy learn to work with his arms, so that when school started he wouldn't have such a hard time?

Of course Eugene said "yes," and on the first day of school, when there were many bulletin boards to fix, many books to distribute, many boxes of chalk and crayons to fill, and many unexpected chores turning up here and there, the Principal and all the teachers were delighted to discover that there were now *two* champions workers at Underwater School.

* * *

NEWS INTERPRETED

(Continued from page 128)

required to transmute negative into positive reactions.

Occult science also reveals, however, that the heart is slowly becoming a voluntary muscle. In time, because of this, we will be able fully to control the flow of blood to the brain, sending it all to the right, or altruistic, side, and withholding it from the left. In this way, eventually, our desire natures will be conquered and our minds emancipated by love from bondage to desire. The right hemisphere of the brain will then be active in all mankind and the undesirable traits characteristic of the left dominance will have been eliminated from the race.

COSMOBIOLOGY

(Continued from page 118)

bring it to formation so that it may have a particular kind of horoscope. Naturally, Gauquelin found that the parents' horoscopes showed influences very similar to those of the offspring. Gauquelin declared that statistically speaking the chances were 499,999 to one against his findings being due to chance alone.

The author comments: "if Gauquelin's preposterous statistics have never been explained, neither have they been explained away." He has not, it is true, explained what "Mechanics", what "organism," the human body is involved in this cosmic magnetic patterning, by which it accepts and interprets geomagnetic signals," but then, there are many body mechanisms which have not yet been explained. The problem is not made easier because of the fact that magnetic fields come in different frequencies as well as in different strengths, this writer comments. He concludes: "Unfortunately, while alchemy was transformed into chemistry, astrology remained astrology. Perhaps . . . astrology will yield gradually to biomagnetics, and science may then be able to think of astrology as Michael Gauquelin suggests: Let us honor the memory of this old and slightly crazy lady who was lively enough in her time . . . As Piccardi says, Man is always at the centre of the universe, for the universe is everywhere."

So far as the contrast between chemistry and astrology is concerned, it is obvious enough that the very, very modern science of cosmic biology and biomagnetics could not have been *proved* at an earlier time. Nobody laughs at alchemy today, nor will they laugh much longer at astrology, even if the name is dropped in favor of a more scientific-sounding term which will not arouse quite so much antagonism and prejudice.

* * *

There is a spiritual reason for the planets in a solar system, as well as a material explanation.—*Max Heindel.*

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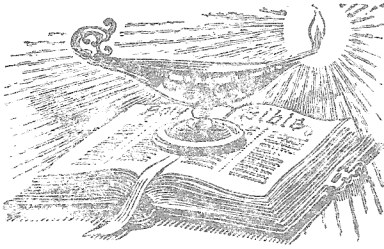
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