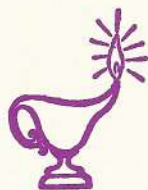


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The Rosicrucian Fellowship Magazine

Rays from the Rose Cross

ESTABLISHED BY MAX HEINDEL
JUNE, 1913

J U N E

1 9 7 4

Vol. 66

No. 6



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Subscription in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, one year \$4.50; two years \$8.00. Other countries, \$5.00. U. S. money or equivalent. Single copies 50 cents, current or back numbers. Entered at the Post Office at Oceanside, California as Second Class matter under the act of August 24, 1912. Accepted for mailing at special rate postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of Congress of October 2, 1917, authorized on July 8, 1918. Writers of published articles are alone responsible for statements made therein.

Issued on the 5th of each month. *Change of address* must reach us by the 1st of month preceding any issue. Address ALL correspondence and make ALL remittances payable to The Rosicrucian Fellowship.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
The Rosicrucian Fellowship
Oceanside, California, U.S.A., 92054

Reaching Out

There is a reaching out for God
In all the world today,
For men are yearning for a light
To help them find a way
From out of chaos, war, and grief,
This seeming endless strife,
To gain a vision that will show
A better way of life.

And "every one who seeks shall find";
This promise is the hope.
Of minds bewildered as they strive
And in their darkness grope.
Illumined souls have caught the gleam;
Their wisdom, faith, and love
Are earthly lights that reinforce
The radiance from above.

All strife will vanish when the good
That men long for will be
Allowed to manifest; when they
From hate and fear are free.
Through understanding, love and trust,
Men, reaching out, will find
This world, free from their greed, will
Be at peace, as God designed.

-- Della Adams Leitner



Probing the Supernatural

Part 2

MAN, the Spirit, has a body, actual or incipient, corresponding to each of the five lower worlds in which he operates at present, and only as the body is sufficiently developed can he function in that world. He has a dense, physical body which correlates him to the material world and enables him to function therein and gain essential experience. Ether, which is also physical matter, is the medium of ingress for the quickening spirit which imparts vitality to the forms in the Chemical Region. Man has an etheric body, and by means of etheric vision can cognize the objects and beings composed of ether; he has a desire or emotional body which correlates him to the Desire World and enables him to function therein while asleep and become rejuvenated; when sufficiently developed, he can depart from his dense body and function in the Desire World, connected to the physical body by means of the silver cord. Man also has a partly-formed body of mental stuff, whereby he is correlated to the World of Thought.

Throughout the seven worlds or states of matter, each of which serves a definite purpose in the economy of Nature, the Power which we designate as God, operates, permeating and sustaining the universe with its life. In the Sixth World, or World of Virgin Spirits, are the differentiated sparks of the Divine Flame, each containing within itself all the potentialities of God Himself. They are sent forth into the lower worlds to unfold their potentialities through experience. Beings higher than man live in and function in the invisible worlds. In the etheric realm are the Angels, in the Desire World are the Archangels, both of which beneficently aid in man's evolutionary progress. There are other types of higher invisible Beings, too, which play their beneficent part in the progress of mankind.

But what about the so-called "evil" forces which people seem to be aware of most? Is there such a thing as obsession, or exorcism? Many people are now asking this question who hitherto scorned the idea, in spite of the fact that our New Testament is full of accounts of the exorcism of demons by Christ Jesus. It is not a pleasant subject, but it is one about which people need to

know, if they are to live in harmony with the laws governing themselves and their universe.

Occult philosophy teaches that man, the Spirit, by means of experience in its bodies, creates soul, or food for itself, and is thus nourished from impotence to omnipotence. The Spirit is connected with its bodies by the silver cord, which breaks at death to liberate the Spirit into the Invisible Worlds. However, the Spirit may be pushed out of its lower vehicle by another more powerful entity, and have to stand aside, so to speak, while the obsessing entity uses its bodies. Max Heindel describes this process as follows:

"Obsession is a state where a discarnate Spirit has taken permanent possession of the body of someone after dispossessing the owner... Only the true owner is capable of contracting and expanding the pupil of the eye, so that if we take a person who claims to be obsessed to a room which is darkened, we shall find that the pupil of his eye will not expand if he is obsessed. Neither will the pupil contract when we bring him into the sunlight, or ask him to read small type, nor expand if we ask him to look at an object at a distance."

"Spirit controls stand outside their victim's body and behind him, manipulating the organ of speech or the whole body, as the case may be, from and through the cerebellum and medulla oblongata where the flame of life burns with a double, buzzing sound composed of two tones, indicative of the resistance of the body to the manipulations of the intruder... However, the Spirit controls who thus manipulate their victims from without, are the wise ones who are too wary to be caught in a trap. While they are without, they can let go at any time they wish and leave their victim to pursue his daily life as desired, while they do the same themselves. But there are other Spirits who are not so wise, or who are perhaps more foolhardy, or else so anxious to get into the Physical World that they throw all caution aside. Entering the body of their victim, they find the body of their intended victim has a lock grip upon them and they cannot let go under ordinary circumstances. Thus the obsession becomes permanent, and the whole personality of that victim changes."

"If the obsessing Spirit be an elemental or subhuman entity which is not able to use a mind or larynx... the person so obsessed becomes a hopeless lunatic, not infrequently of a malevolent nature, and the faculty of speech is also impaired... Investigation of former lives shows that affliction is usually the outcome of a desire to run away from life's experiences; for those who are obsessed are often found to have been suicides in a previous existence. It is curious that the commission of suicide in one life and the consequent post-mortem suffering during the time when the archetype still exists often generates in such people a morbid fear of death in the next life, so that when that event actually occurs in the ordinary course of life, they seem frantic after they leave the body and so anxious to get back again that they frequently commit the crime of obsession in the most foolish and unthinking manner."

But Max Heindel assures us that: "No one who maintains a

positive attitude of mind can ever become obsessed, for so long as we assert our individuality, that is strong enough to keep all outsiders away... Anyone who is at all negatively inclined should avoid spiritualistic seances, crystal gazing, and other methods of evoking Spirits. This is a bad practice, anyway, for those who have gone beyond have their work to do there and should not be brought back here."

Just as we can live so as to avoid sickness or being put in jail, so we can live so as to avoid obsession. Although many people have great fear of the invisible, of the unknown, there is nothing to be afraid of if we live right. We know by experience that we get along better here on Earth if we live according to the law of the land. The same applies to the invisible realms. So long as we obey the laws that apply to our invisible bodies and their corresponding worlds, we need have no fear. However, we do not always do that. Passion and temper sometimes drive the Ego out of the body by over-heating the blood. We speak of such a person as "losing his head," that is, becoming incapable of thought. That is exactly what happens when passion, rage, or temper overheats the blood, thus drawing the Ego outside the body. The great and terrible danger is that before the owner re-enters his body some disembodied entity may enter and take possession of it and keep him out. This is the terrible condition of obsession.

Now, what about exorcism? Can obsessing entities be driven out of their victims? Of course they can. Christ Jesus performed this service many times, and He promised that we would eventually learn to do even greater things than He did. Many instances have been recounted of exorcism taking place, but not everyone can perform this service. It takes some one who, by right living, has evolved the spiritual power and will to subdue the criminal entity. Usually the exorcist is a priest or minister of some religious body, but he does not need to be. Anyone can, by the magic formula of loving, self-forgetting service to others unfold the ability to free victims of most obsessing Spirits.

Finally, we face the question, Is there a power of evil in the world --- a devil, or Satan that encourages man to cater to his lower, beastly desires? To this question, too, we must answer yes, though it may not be exactly what many people think. Much of the power for evil is created by man himself.

While occult philosophy teaches that Lucifer, the leader of the fallen Angels, inviegled infant humanity into the ignorant misuse of the holy creative force, and revels in such intense emotions as lust, rage, temper, hate, etc., there is no compulsion on man's part to obey satanic impulses. Man is a part of the mighty Force and Intelligence we call God, and as such he has the power to withstand all evil. He is here on Earth to unfold his spiritual powers, to become a god himself, capable of repulsing and transmuting the forces that encourage mankind to disease and suffering. To be fearful and craven is entirely unbecoming to us as children of the Light --- the Light which is God.

The Christ came to bring His all-powerful Love Force to ex-

(Continued on page 248)

THE *Mystic* LIGHT

Regeneration

ELSA GLOVER

THE aim of life is evolution --- evolution from unconsciousness to consciousness, from weakness to strength, from disharmony to harmony, from passiveness to creativity. To attain these aims, spirit builds bodies of varying degrees of crystallization and works in and through these bodies. Any body, being a crystallized structure, has limitations as to what it is able to do. After a Spirit has gained all the experience it can from one particular set of bodies, it will release itself from those bodies and start planning how to build new bodies through which to work. Thus, spirit undergoes periodic cycles of manifestation and withdrawal, with the manifestation periods being used for gaining experience and the withdrawal periods being used for evaluation and planning. These cycles of manifestation and withdrawal (or birth and death) tend to promote growth, because at each withdrawal an old imperfect structure is thrown away, and at each manifestation a new and better structure is built.

The word *regeneration* literally means rebirth, and also denotes the step forward in evolution that a human Spirit takes each time it makes new bodies and enters into them. But the same steps forward that most Spirits make only when they enter

new bodies are made by some without entering new bodies. That is, some Spirits are able to restructure their lives not only between manifestations but also during periods of manifestation. Such Spirits are said to be following the "Way of Initiation." They no longer follow the cyclical path (represented by the snakes on the Caduceus), but follow the "straight and narrow way" (represented by the Staff of Mercury, around which the serpents twine). The purpose of this article is to investigate means of achieving regeneration apart from the process of physical rebirth.

After death, one of the main activities of the Spirit is retrospection --- a reviewing of the events of the past life so that patterns can be recognized and basic principles and laws can be extracted from the many individual experiences of the life. If a person is to regenerate himself during his Earth life, he must do this retrospection during his Earth life. Aspirants who wish to tread "The Path" find it very helpful to undergo retrospection each evening before going to sleep.

A young child is full of hopes and dreams that he will grow up to do great things. Many people, as they get older and as they are faced with repeated frustrations, tend to lose

some of these hopes and dreams, but the aspirant must hang onto them. The aspirant must believe that all things are possible, and that he can do anything (even if he has never been able to do it before), and he must use his will to keep working at it until he has achieved his goal.

A young child is open minded. He is willing to consider new ideas and to try new ways of doing things. Many, as they get older, become lazy and self-satisfied. The aspirant, however, must continuously seek the truth and continuously seek new and better ways of doing things; he must have the will immediately to break old habits when they are recognized as undesirable and to form new habits when they are recognized as desirable.

The combined effect of the natal, progressed, and transiting astrological configurations determines what astrological forces are available to a person at any particular time. Many people simply use whichever forces are felt most strongly, so that their character is determined almost completely by the strongest astrological forces. Astrological forces which form a harmonious pattern, using them naturally, just as they come, produce harmony and no problems arise. When, however, the astrological forces form disharmonious patterns, using them just as they come will produce disharmony. To achieve harmony in such a case, the forces from one or more of the planets involved must be temporarily suppressed while the other forces are used, and later on those forces which were previously used may be suppressed while those which were previously suppressed may be put to use. The person who is able consciously to choose, from the forces available to him, which he will use and which he will not use has the ability to regenerate his character. One way to start on this path is to study one's own horoscope to find what forces are available and which

forces will bring disharmony if used simultaneously. The second step is to recognize situations in one's everyday life in which these forces try to manifest simultaneously. The third step is to decide how one should respond to such situations and then to put that response into effect whenever such situations arise. Many difficulties will be encountered in trying to put these steps into practice, just as one who tries to swim against a current in a stream encounters difficulties which someone who floats with the current is completely unaware of. There may be many attempts which end in failure. But if one tries long enough and hard enough, in the end the goal will be reached.

Pluto is said to be the planet of regeneration, and Scorpio, in part, is ruled by Pluto. If you consider where Pluto and Scorpio are in your horoscope, you will be able to see where the regenerative forces enter your life most naturally. Harmonious aspects to Pluto will indicate that a step forward can be easily obtained if effort is made to use the forces available. Disharmonious aspects to Pluto indicate stumbling blocks and hindrances to regeneration, and the tendency may be either to crystallize and resist change (underuse of the Pluto forces) or to destroy the old without rebuilding (overuse of the Pluto forces).

The mythological Phoenix portrays regeneration. The Phoenix was reputed to be a bird which lived for five hundred years, then built a nest for itself, sat down in it, and died. A new Phoenix would then arise from the ashes of the old. The main point to note is that the Phoenix arose from his own ashes, not from someone else's ashes. Thus, we achieve regeneration by burning out our own impurities, not by crucifying (or blaming) someone else for our problems.

Not only do people as individuals undergo regeneration, but also humanity as a whole needs to progress and

regenerate. The natural tendency of people is to love those who love them, to give to those who give them something in return, and to hate those who hate them. When these tendencies are followed, the result is a static situation in which the amount of love in the world remains constant. If the world is to undergo a regeneration, some must be able to give where they have not first received, and to return good for evil. Christ and other leaders of humanity have set an example in this respect by giving humanity much help and not expecting anything in return. Christ also urged men to follow His example when He said:

Resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man... take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain... Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you. ---Matt. 5:39-44.

He also suggested:

When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbors; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompense be made thee. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

---Luke 14:12-14.

All sincere aspirants will pray with St. Francis of Assisi:

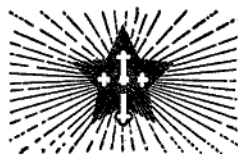
Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

PROBING THE SUPERNATURAL

(Continued from page 245)

tricate man from the toils of his lower self, and He exemplified in His three and one-half years on Earth the kind of living which man himself must eventually adopt. There is no other way to bring about the redemption of the human race. We are too prone to think of the "evil" side of man's nature as "human" nature. This is far from the truth. Our real selves are immortal Spirits, pure and powerful, destined to become ever more Christ-like and God-like. We have the help of hosts of beings on higher rungs of the evolutionary ladder in unfolding our spiritual faculties, in less or greater degree as we may choose. However, we ourselves must take the initiative, must learn to follow the promptings of the Higher Self. May we all heed the call --- and accept the challenge.



"GIVING" AND "RECEIVING"

"The most widespread misunderstanding is that which assumes that giving is 'giving up' something, being deprived of, sacrificing. People whose main orientation is a non-productive one feel giving as an impoverishment... just because it is painful to give, one should give; the virtue of giving, to them, lies in the very act of acceptance of sacrifice.

"For the productive character giving has an entirely different meaning. Giving is the highest expression of potency. In the very act of giving I experience my strength, my wealth, my power. This experience of heightened vitality and potency fills me with joy. I experience myself as overflowing, spending, alive, hence as joyous. Giving is more joyous than receiving, not because it is a deprivation, but because in the act of giving lies the expression of my aliveness."

--- Erich Fromm.

Miracles

PAULA MARY BURTT

HOW often, when faced with the apparently insurmountable, do we hopelessly shake our heads, and remark: "The age of miracles is past." The age referred to is presumably that of the Earth life of the Christ and the subsequent period of early Christian history.

Quite true, the age of miracles may well be past for those who are content to stand by and wait for someone else to perform the miraculous --- someone, they feel, who has spiritual gifts superior to their own.

We accept the fact that a miracle always implies a deviation of some sort from the usual normal progression of everyday events --- the encroachment of what we term the supernatural upon our mundane world. That is true, but the occurrences are much more rare than they need be.

We are so conditioned to thinking of this everyday physical world as completely circumscribed, with the superphysical realms lying neatly beyond the boundary, and having little, if anything, to do with us at the present time. However, the idea of interpenetrating worlds is not beyond the conception of most people if they are at all interested in thinking of it.

There are rare moments in life, moments perhaps of desperation, when the Spirit cries out for a miracle to happen. It is at such times that we may dimly perceive that we are not alone, nor ever have been. We sense the presence of the glorious hosts who continually surround us, unperceived by ordinary sight. They are ever willing, nay, eager to assist us in performing the miracles which would change completely our whole view of life --- in fact, show us real life as opposed to this world of illu-

sion in which we live.

Francis Thompson, that great English poet and mystic, has brought this all before us in his wonderful work *The Kingdom of God* --- "In No Strange Land." Some hold it to be true that no one can read or recite this poem daily without feeling a gradual, natural expansion of consciousness, a normal opening up of the inner eyes, revealing the vision of the unseen worlds. To quote:

"Not where the wheeling systems darken,
And our benumbed conceiving soars!
The drift of pinions, would we hearken,
Beats at our own clay-shuttered doors.

The angels keep their ancient places;
Turn but a stone and start a wing!
'Tis ye, 'tis your estranged faces,
That miss the many-splendoured thing."

Once we perceive, 'ever so dimly, that inner superphysical world, and work to become denizens of it as well as of the mundane world in which we live between waking and sleeping, then we become miracle-workers of varying degrees. There is really no deviation required, since we are a conscious part of the whole; we simply use the natural forces within us.

A miracle requires on our part so few attainments. It is relatively uncomplicated. Possibly three things only are necessary to qualify us as white magicians --- love, faith, and the will to persist.

No earthly power can withstand love, the primal force which governs all things from the smallest particle of an atom to the greatest galaxy. Since the whole Cosmos moves in ordered rhythm simply by the potent power of love, wisdom-love, there is no shortage of it. All we need do is to use it. Yet we are so chary of its use! --- always in fear that we may

overdo it, misplace it, or run short of it in our own lives!

Can we not see that by its very use we continually create the inexhaustible supply? The more we give, the more we possess. That in itself is a miracle.

No living creature ever suffered by being too much loved; but how many countless thousands there are of emotionally starved souls—famishing, that is, for the higher emotions, the true Bread of Life. Study the faces of hurrying people on our streets, people of all ages, and in all ranks of society. View the all-too-often flat, expressionless features! All they lack is a light in the window, and only love can kindle that light.

The miracle of love is its adaptability, its fluidity, its capacity to pour itself into any mould, its strength to flow against and wear away all obstacles, renewing its force as it spends it—and, perhaps greatest of all, its power to wash clean what has been tarnished, to remove all memory of disappointment and pain, which, put briefly, is forgiveness, and the acceptance of the same.

Faith seems for many of us more difficult of attainment than love. Yet faith may be born by witnessing just once the power of love working in a life, human or animal, child or adult. Faith grows in strength only by the constant repetition of the use of love.

What of the will to persist? That, too, comes with increasing spontaneity the more we experience the transforming power of the miracle worker—the transmutation of the base metal into the gold of the glorious Soul Body, the true Philosopher's Stone. Can one ask for a greater joy on Earth than the realization that one is a god in the making, a worker of miracles? We use what may seem simple elements, but which are of the very substance of the One we call God. Each day, and each hour of the day, we walk on the very edge of the miraculous, almost

within the bounds of that invisible realm, the Kingdom to which Francis Thompson so beautifully referred:

"O world invisible, we view thee,
O world intangible, we touch thee,
O world unknowable, we know thee,
Inapprehensible, we clutch thee!"



COMPENSATION

I'd like to think when life is done
That I had filled a needed post,
That here and there I'd paid my fare
With more than idle talk and boast:
That I had taken gifts divine,
The breath of life and manhood fine,
And tried to use them now and then
In service for my fellowmen.

I'd hate to think when life is through
That I had lived my round of years
A useless kind, that leaves behind
No record in this vale of tears:
That I had wasted all my days
By treading only selfish ways,
And that this world would be the same
If it had never known my name.

I'd like to think that here and there,
When I am gone, there shall remain
A happier spot that might have not
Existed had I toiled for gain;
That some one's cheery voice and
smile
Shall prove that I had been worth
while;
That I had paid with something fine
My debt to God for life divine.

—Author Unknown

Midsummer and the Risen Christ

G. R.

The Christ story is eventually to be our story, therefore we have a particular interest in tracing it again and again as the changing seasons bring it to mind, and in letting it sink deep into our hearts, for only that which we think and know in our hearts do we become.

There are different ways of regarding the four cardinal points of the year:

First, we may see them simply as seasonal changes brought about by the various phases of the Earth's yearly pilgrimage around the Sun.

Second, we may add to our astronomy a little astrology and think of them in terms of the passing of the Sun into the cardinal signs of the zodiac, initiating certain activities for the coming quarter year.

Third, we may be chiefly occupied with the religious aspect through the church festivals which come at these cardinal points.

Fourth, we may go a step farther and note the correspondence between the recorded lives of the world's great teachers and saviors and the Sun's yearly passage through the zodiac.

The true Rosicrucian Fellowship student is aware of all these various aspects of the seasonal changes, and more. To him the spring and autumn equinoxes and the winter and summer solstices mark turning points in the life of the indwelling Planetary Spirit of the Earth, that great Christ Spirit which manifested among men for a few years in the body of Jesus of Nazareth. When that body was crucified on Golgotha the Christ Spirit gained access to the Earth through the vital body of Jesus and the blood which flowed to the ground. He then took possession of the Earth, infusing

it with His aura and enduing it with His life, much as we infuse life into our physical bodies. The Earth is now sustained and guided by the Christ life and love.

The great festivals of the Christian Church are celebrated at the seasonal points of the year. Christmas at the winter solstice and Easter at the time of the vernal equinox are the two church festivals most widely known. In the fall comes the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and June 24th is dedicated to John the Baptist. The Ascension of the Lord is celebrated prior to the summer solstice or just forty days after Easter. Other religions have had and have their observances at these times. We may give as examples the Passover of the Israelites at the vernal equinox, the Jewish New Year in the fall, and the Roman Saturnalia which was held at about the time of the winter solstice.

Those who wish to discredit Christianity advance as a criticism that it patterns its holy days on those of the pagan and pre-Christian religions. Critics should know that all religions were pointing to the one religion which was to come, the universal religion of Christ. Therefore it is not strange that earlier religions, as well as Christianity, make their religious year conform to the solar story. Rather, it is a sign of the cosmic wisdom manifested in all true religions.

Orthodox Christianity, it must be said, has materialized this drama of the life of Christ Jesus as given in the Gospels, limiting a universal truth to one historical event. They apply it to Jesus of Nazareth only, in whom they see a personal Savior who suffered once and who takes from the individual the guilt of his sins. The greater significance of the sacrifice of Christ

is not taught by them. As a consequence the Christian holy days are to the orthodox Christian but commemorations of certain events.

The Christian mystic needs a *living* belief, and to him each year brings new acts in the cosmic drama. He sees a new wave of the Christ Light approach the Earth each autumn; greets it as fully born into the Earth at Christmas; beholds it rise in splendor at Easter; and witnesses its ascension to the Father at midsummer.

This teaching concerning Christ as the indwelling Planetary Spirit seems to be unique to the Western Mystery School of the Rosicrucians. Occultists of other schools recognize the solar origin of the story of Christ Jesus as well as that of other great world teachers, but some of them deny entirely its historicity, alleging that it is just another presentation of what they are pleased to call "the solar myth." In their effort to counteract the effect of the church's teaching regarding the nature of Christ's mission and the personality of Jesus of Nazareth, they go to the opposite extreme. In the Rosicrucian School we find a blending of the two poles of thought.

Let us now consider particularly the summer solstice. This marks the completion of the withdrawal of the Christ Spirit from the aura of the Earth to the World of Life Spirit. Just as we leave our physical bodies each night, so the Christ withdraws each year for a season of rest and refreshment. We will quote from an article on "The Midsummer Festival" by M.M., published in this magazine in June, 1931. It gives the description of the ascension to the spiritual realms by one who was privileged to see it on the inner planes:

"How this is accomplished can be learned first-hand by those who have earned this holy privilege. But the experience must always be concealed behind words, because it is impossible to put experience on the superphysical planes into speech. We are trying to

describe another dimension of space which words cannot describe.

"At the Midsummer Festival the hosts of heaven rejoice, for the 'Great Sacrifice' has been accomplished once more. Legions and legions of angelic beings bear 'Earth's Redeemer' to the gates of the World of Life Spirit. He has accomplished the work of speeding up the vibration of the Earth, with its inner worlds, just a little more. These angelic beings form group after group according to their status in evolution. Their bodies are luminous and dazzling with the white light of heaven.

"There are certain ones who form a golden cloud with their radiant bodies 'like unto the rays of the Sun.' In this the Christ is borne on high. At length He steps forth and blesses them. At this the 'Music of the Spheres' bursts forth, and reverberates throughout the worlds. Christ has risen to life more abundant."

At midsummer there is another festival, that of the Nature Spirits, and we will quote from the same article a description of the joy shown by them on this midsummer night when Nature is manifesting her fullness and beauty:

"Those little creatures known as 'Nature Spirits' perform a wonderful miracle in the great economy of Nature, for it is they who furnish the link between the stimulating energy of the Sun and the raw material of form. They work under the guidance of higher beings, the Angels, who guide the evolution of the plant kingdom. On the Festival night they rejoice too that they also have done their work faithfully so that there may be life more abundant on Earth. They reflect on the physical plane the great festival in the higher realms of this Midsummer Night."

What of the Earth and its inhabitants when the Christ Spirit withdraws at midsummer? They are left with "John the Baptist," to whom June 24th is dedicated. You remember that John

the Baptist was the forerunner of Christ. It was said of him: "Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

John typifies to us the pre-Christian era, the consciousness that prevailed before Christ took upon Himself the task of purifying the Earth's aura. This is the consciousness that prevails during the summer months, plus that amount of true Christian spirit that has been assimilated and absorbed by the human race. John said, in comparing himself to the Christ: "He must increase but I must decrease." Year by year as Christ accomplishes His magic in the Earth, its materiality is lessened, the heavy mass is lightened and the "sorrowful star" absorbs a little more of the light of heaven. Each year as He withdraws at midsummer He leaves a little more of Himself in the hearts and minds of men. Gradually "John the Baptist" decreases, as the Christ increases.

Midsummer and the months immediately following, then, are a time when we may weigh ourselves and see how much nearer we have come to the Christ ideal than we were a year ago. "It is expedient for you that I go away," said the Christ. Expedient that there may be an opportunity for the "Christs-in-the-making" to learn just where they stand and what they are able to do when the Master's help is withdrawn. Summer time calls to man to play, to relax, to enjoy Nature. Spiritual work is harder at this season than in the winter months -- harder but more meritorious. Of what avail is the annual sacrifice of Christ unless it stirs us to action? The measure with which we mete at this season will be the measure that we shall hold out to receive the spiritual impulse in the fall.

Man will not always live under the law of alternation. Summer and winter, day and night, seed time and harvest, light and darkness as we know them

at present belong to the Age of the Rainbow, or as we call it, the Aryan Epoch. Always "the old order changeth, yielding place to the new," and this present Epoch is to be followed by Christ's kingdom, the New Galilee, the Sixth Epoch. Something of what this will be is told us in "Revelation":

"And I saw a new heaven and a new Earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there, and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever."

The New Era is ready when we are, but first we must have built the "house not made with hands," called in the Rosicrucian terminology the "golden wedding garment" or soul body. This garment of love and light, woven by continual deeds of loving service, alone will admit us to Christ's kingdom.

Thus SERVICE is the great lesson of this drama of the four seasons. A new meaning is revealed in the words of Christ Jesus: "I am among you as he who serves." He calls upon us to follow in His steps, and that we may not be discouraged He extends to His followers the name of friends. "Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you."

This brings to mind other of His words: "A new commandment give I unto you, that ye love one another as I have loved you." And though nineteen centuries have passed since then,

(Continued on Page 262)

One Body

CATHERINE ROBERTS

If we think of the universe as the body of God we realize that each individual is a part of that body and has his own function and duty.

As a cell of that body we may not scorn any other cell as useless or less important for, as St. Paul asks, "If they were all one member, where were the body?" (1 Cor. 12:19).

We must realize that the inner core or Spirit is pure and perfect. To dislike someone because of appearance, personality, or action is like judging him by the garment he wears.

Perhaps a person has fallen in the dirt so that his clothes are mud-caked when we meet him. Would it be fair to judge him by this? The person wearing those clothes may be kind and helpful, but if we turn away because of his outer appearance we will never know the truth about him. The truth is that he is a cell in the body of God just as we are, whether he is aware of it or not, and we may not look down on him as being of less importance. "The fact then becomes manifest that though in the stress of ordinary life our actions may deny it, nevertheless at heart we know and acknowledge the great truth that we are brothers and the hurt of one is really felt by all." (*Cosmo-Conception*)

Each person deserves the care and respect we give to every portion of our own physical body, for when one part suffers it all suffers. When we say each person, we must include ourselves. Too often through a mis-placed sense of humility or a genuine lack of appreciation we feel that we are less than others. We, too, are cells in the body of God. We must respect ourselves as perfect Spirits, necessary in the total scheme of things. Perhaps our outer garment of body is a bit "mud-

caked," too. If we are on the Path we are aware of this and are working to bring the inner and outer into harmony. We must realize that others are doing the same thing and let our projection be of love and respect, never impeding their progress by sending them feelings of disdain and disrespect. We all need all the help we can get to shine forth as perfect cells in the body of God.

As the members of an orchestra must learn to keep their eyes on the conductor, so must we learn to keep our eyes on God.

A little junior-high-schooler was delighted when she was asked to play the bass drum in the orchestra. At her first rehearsal she kept time carefully, banging away, but she failed to notice when the leader suddenly slowed the tempo for an impressive ending. Boom! the bass drum rang out in the silence. Everyone giggled and the drummer blushed furiously. She had fallen into the trap set for her and learned her lesson quickly without a long lecture by the leader.

Would that we could learn so graphically and quickly! Each is important, each has a part to play and each must work in harmony with all the rest, looking to God for guidance and cues. The cosmic orchestra of which we are members needs each instrument playing in tune and rhythm. None may go his own way without affecting the harmony of the rest.

Fortunately, we are given all the rehearsals we need. Over the ages we practice, improving our skill and performance. Even before we reach the virtuoso class we are able to help others and do so joyfully, knowing that, since we are all one body, to help another is to help one's self.

MAX HEINDEL'S MESSAGE

Taken from His Writings

OCCULT PRINCIPLES OF HEALTH AND HEALING

(Sixth Installment)

MAN AND HIS VEHICLES



The Dense Body - The Ductless Glands (Cont.)

The occultist speaks of these finer vehicles as the vital body, made of ether, and the desire body, made of desire stuff, the material whence we draw our feelings and emotions; and with the addition of the *sheath of mind* and the physical body these complete what may be termed the personality, which is the evanescent part distinct from the immortal Spirit that uses these vehicles for its expression.

These finer vehicles interpenetrate the dense physical body as air permeates water and have particular dominion over certain parts thereof, because the physical body itself is a crystallization of these finer vehicles in the same manner and upon the same principle that the soft fluids of a snail's body gradually crystallize into the hard and flinty shell which it carries upon its back. For the purpose of this dissertation we may say broadly that the softer parts of our bodies which we commonly call flesh may be divided into two kinds, glands and muscles.

The vital body was started in the Sun Period. Crystallization from that time on in that vehicle has developed what we now call glands and to this day they and the blood are the special manifestations of the vital body within the physical vehicle. Therefore, the glands as a whole may be said to be under the rule of the life-giving Sun and the great benefic, Jupiter. It is the

function of the vital body to build and restore the tone of the muscles when tense and tired by the work imposed upon them by the restless desire body, which was started in the Moon Period.

The muscles are therefore ruled by the wandering Moon, which is the present vantage point of the Angels, the humanity of the Moon Period, and by the impulsive and turbulent Mars, where the so-called "Fallen Angels," the Lucifer Spirits, dwell. That is to say, as a whole, for the student must carefully note that individual glands and particular groups of muscles are under the rulership of other planets as well. It is as when we say that all who live in the United States of America are citizens of that country, but some are subject to the laws of California, others to those of Maine, etc.

We know the Hermetic Axiom, "As above, so below," which is the master key to all mysteries, and as there are upon the Earth, the macrocosm, a great many undiscovered places, so also in the microcosm of the body do we find unknown countries that are a closed book to the scientific explorers. Chief among them has been a small group of the so-called "ductless glands," seven in number, namely: the Pituitary Body, ruled by Uranus; the Pineal Gland, ruled by Neptune; the Thyroid Gland, ruled by Mercury; the Thymus Gland, ruled by Venus; the Spleen, ruled by the Sun; the two

Adrenals, ruled by Jupiter.

They have a great and particular interest for occultists, and they may be termed in a certain sense "the seven roses" upon the Cross of the body, for they are intimately connected with the occult development of humanity. Four of them, the thymus gland, the spleen, and the two adrenals are connected with the personality. The pituitary body and the pineal gland are particularly correlated with the spiritual side of our nature and the thyroid gland forms the link between. The astrological rulership is as follows:

The spleen is the entrance gate of the solar forces specialized by each human being and circulated through the body as the vital fluid, without which no being can live. This organ is therefore governed by the Sun.

The two adrenals are under the rulership of Jupiter, the great benefic, and exert a calming, quieting and soothing effect when the emotional activities of the Moon and Mars or Saturn have destroyed the poise. When the obstructive hand of Saturn has awakened the melancholy emotions and laid its restraint upon the heart, the adrenals' secretions are carried by the blood to the heart and act as a powerful stimulant in its effort to keep up the circulation, while the jovial optimism struggles against the saturnine worries or against the impulse of Mars, which stirs the desire body into turbulent emotions of anger, rendering the muscles tense and trembling, dissipating the energy of the system. Then the secretion of the adrenals comes to the rescue, releasing the glycogen of the liver in a more abundant measure than usual to cope with the emergency until the equipoise has been again attained, and similarly during whatever other stress or strain.

It was the knowledge of this occult fact that prompted the ancient astrologers to place the kidneys under the rulership of Libra, the Balance, and in

order to avoid confusion of ideas we may say that the kidneys themselves play an important part in the nutrition of the body, being under the rulership of Venus, the Lady of Libra. However, Jupiter governs the adrenals, with which we are now particularly engaged.

Both Venus and her higher octave, Uranus, govern the functions of nutrition and growth, but in different ways and for different purposes. Therefore Venus rules the thymus gland, which is the link between the parents and the child until the latter has reached puberty. This gland is located immediately behind the sternum or breast bone. It is largest in antenatal life and through childhood while growth is excessive and rapid. During that time the vital body of the child does its most effective work, for the child is not then subject to the passions and emotions generated by the desire body after that comes to birth at or about the fourteenth year.

But during the years of growth the child cannot manufacture the red blood corpuscles as does the adult, for the unborn, unorganized desire body does not then act as an avenue for the martian forces which assimilate the iron from the food and transmute it into hemoglobin. To compensate for this lack there is stored in the thymus gland a spiritual essence drawn from the parents, and with this essence provided by their love the child is able to accomplish the alchemy of blood temporarily until its desire body becomes dynamically active. Then the thymus gland atrophies and the child draws from its own desire body the necessary martian force. From that time, under normal conditions, Uranus, the octave of Venus, and ruler of the pituitary body, takes charge of the functions of growth and assimilation in the following manner:

(Continued)

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.

Race Religions

Q. What is the source of Race Religions?

A. All Race Religions are of the Holy Ghost. They are insufficient because they are based on law which makes for sin and brings death, pain, and sorrow.

Q. Are the Race Spirits aware of this?

A. All Race Spirits know this and realize that their religions are merely steps to something better. This is shown by the fact that all Race Religions, without exception, point to One who is to come.

Q. What examples might be cited?

A. The old Norse Gods foresaw the approach of "The Twilight of the Gods," when Surt, the bright Sun Spirit, should supersede them and a new and fairer order be established. The Egyptians waited for Horus, the newborn Sun, Mithras of the Persians, and Tammuz of the Chaldeans are also symbolized as solar orbs and all the principal Temples were built facing the East that the rays of the rising Sun might shine directly through the open doors; even Saint Peter's at Rome is so placed.

Q. What do these facts indicate?

A. All these facts show that it was generally known that the One who was to come was a Sun Spirit and was to save humanity from the separative influences necessarily contained in all Race Religions.

Q. Why were these religions given to man?

A. These religions were steps which it was necessary for mankind to take to prepare for the advent of Christ, the

Sun Spirit, and the embodiment of unifying and universal Love.

Q. How did these steps prepare humanity?

A. Man must first cultivate a "self" before he can become really unselfish and understand the higher phase of Universal Brotherhood (unity of purpose and interest) for which Christ laid the foundation at His first coming and which He will make living realities when He returns.

Q. How does this relate to the Race Religions?

A. As the fundamental principle of a Race Religion is separation, inculcating self-seeking at the expense of other men and nations, it is evident that if the principle is carried to its ultimate conclusion it must necessarily have an increasingly destructive tendency and finally frustrate evolution unless succeeded by a more constructive religion.

Q. How is this established?

A. The separative religions of the Holy Spirit must give place to the unifying religion of the Son which is the Christian religion. Law must give place to Love and the separate Races and Nations be united in one Universal Brotherhood with Christ as the Eldest Brother.

Q. Has this objective been achieved?

A. The Christian religion has not yet had time to accomplish this great object. Man is still in the toils of the dominant Race Spirit and the ideals of Christianity are yet too high for him.

—Reference: *Cosmo*, 383-384.

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

The Mystic Interval

The Risen Christ (Cont.)

And as they thus spoke, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?

Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and feet.

—*Luke 24:36-39*

Christ opened their eyes that they might understand the Scriptures. It was not physical food with which He was concerned, but the mysteries pertaining to His mission and the furtherance of the great work. Each appearance before the Ascension is a deeper revelation and a promise of the bestowal of greater spiritual powers.

And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day;

And thus repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

And ye are witnesses of these things.

And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. — *Luke: 46-49*.

But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them; then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

And Thomas answered and said unto him, my Lord and my God. — *John 20:24-28*.

John tells of the appearance of the Christ to eleven of the Disciples. Eleven is a master number, the number of polarity. The other Gospel writers record Christ's appearance to ten of the Disciples. Only those who had attained to the polarity represented by eleven were in that upper room of high spiritual consciousness and were found worthy to commune with and receive the deeper work of the Risen Christ.

After the doubts of Thomas had been allayed he commenced his glorious career as an eminent apostle of healing, and preached the truths of the new Christianity. Skepticism was replaced by that faith that removes mountains, and Thomas, the doubter, became Thomas the believer. Among the final works are the conquest of doubt and the ascendance of faith as the dominating principle of a life dedicated in love.

During the forty days or the traditional interval between the Resurrection and the Ascension, Christ was engaged in many works connected with all the life waves evolving upon this earth. This also included work with the various Race and Group Spirits who guide their progression. These beings are all stragglers of the archangelic host of which the Christ is the highest Initiate. They are, by their sacrificial services, retrieving their lost estate. Their task will be finished when the love and unity radiated by the Christ shall have obliterated the boundary lines of race and nation. Christ's coming, therefore, was not for man only, but for the Angels and Archangels; that is, for the fallen Angels or Lucifers and for the backward members of His own archangelic life wave. (Cont.)



Astrology in Treatment of Disease

M. M.

Why is it that some "major" operation, as it is termed, will be a great success in several cases, and then, with comparatively little warning, in other cases the patients will forfeit their lives? Why should there be so much experimentation with all sorts of treatments before the correct one is found?

Wise old Hippocrates, the "Father of Medicine", who lived from 460 to 377 B.C., made this significant statement: "A physician cannot safely administer Physic (medicine) if he be unacquainted with Astrology." Hippocrates taught astrology in connection with medicine and practised them together. A knowledge of the stellar science enables physicians to determine why in one case "it is a physical impossibility for recovery to take place, while in another case it is a physical impossibility for death to take place."

Among the works of Hippocrates is one on prognosis of disease. The word "prognosis" signifies a forecast as to the course and termination of disease in a specified case or cases. It is scarcely necessary to say that the prognosis of disease is one of the chief goals to which all medical studies should eventually lead, and it is the chief criterion by which the public estimates the scientific value of medicine and the skill of the practitioner.

A correct prognosis involves a correct diagnosis, a correct pathology, a correct value of the therapeutic agents at the disposal of the physicians, and a due consideration of the constitution of the patient, his mode of life, and his surroundings. In the last analysis prognosis stands on an even higher footing than treatment or the combined knowledge of anatomy, pathology, diagnosis, Therapeutics, and chemistry.

Galen as well as Hippocrates taught that astrology should be studied by physicians before they can be trusted to arrive at a correct prognosis or employ the proper remedies in cases submitted to their care. Why has this fact been overlooked by physicians of the present day? A physician is Nature's healer, or at least he ought to be. Whoever would help Nature must of necessity be well acquainted with her laws.

It has been determined, by research and observation, that the twelve signs of the zodiac, along with their planetary rulers, govern the various parts of the body. The presence of a forceful planet like Mars, Uranus, or Saturn in any sign foretells that the corresponding part of the body will be affected at some period in the life of the person whose natal horoscope shows this configuration.

According to astrology, the diseases in which Mars is involved are fevers, inflammations, plagues, carbuncles, blisters, insanity produced by rush of blood to the head, jaundice, diarrhoea, dysentery, hemorrhoids, affections of the gall bladder, genital organs, kidneys, and bladder, eruptions on the skin, smallpox, and measles; wounds caused by sharp instruments or firearms are also included.

The diseases of the planet Saturn include impaired hearing; affections of the bones, including the teeth; hardening of the skin; and such diseases as tuberculosis, palsy, dropsy, rheumatism, arthritis, etc. All depends upon the sign position of the planet and its aspects with other planets.

The planet Uranus shows its influence in spasmodic, convulsive diseases, such as cramps and seizures; it rules the ethers, the eyes, the pituitary body, and gases. It also has to do with accidents and sudden death -- all depending, of course, upon its sign and house position, and its aspects to other planets.

The anatomical, physiological, and pathological correlations of the other planets, including the Sun and Moon, may be found in *The Message of the Stars and Astro-Diagnosis: A Guide to Healing*, by Max and Augusta Foss Heindel, put out by The Rosicrucian Fellowship.

The twelve signs of the zodiac: Aries, Taurus, Gemini, etc., ruling the different parts of the body, show by the planets contained and their aspects the specific nature of the disease. For example, Aries, ruling the head, brain, and face, covers diseases affecting these parts, and a planet in this sign making a square or opposition to another planet, indicates such afflictions as neuralgia, headache, toothache, baldness, swellings on the face, apoplexy, dizziness, eye affections, cerebral congestion. More specifically, an afflicted Mars in Aries would indicate inflammation or erup-

tion on some part of the head, including the brain, brain fever, abscess of the brain. Taurus, ruling the throat, palate, tonsils, lower jaw, ears, occipital region, cerebellum, thyroid gland, and cervical vertebrae, would pinpoint diseases of these areas. Saturn in this sign, adversely aspected to other planets, would point toward possible diphtheria, goitre, tonsillitis, quinsy, paralysis, restricted hearing, and thyroid disfunction. Gemini rules the lungs and chest, arms, hands, shoulders, upper ribs, trachea, bronchi, and oxygenation of the blood. An afflicted Uranus in this sign would indicate spasmodic action of the lungs, convulsions, erratic oxygenation of the blood, and possible accidents to the arms, hands, and shoulders.

Thus we have the basic rules governing diagnosis of disease; a more detailed elucidation may be found in the two books previously mentioned. Progression of the planets, along with the current transits, furnishes additional assistance in determining the progress and ultimate outcome of the affliction.

Galen, a celebrated Greek physician and philosopher, born about 130 A.D., declared that "anatomy is the right eye of Physic, and Astrology its left; for such is the influence of the Sun, Moon, and Stars, especially the planets, upon the human body, or terrestrial bodies."

Cardano, an Italian physician and astrologer of the 16th century, says in relation to medical astrology: "Wisdom instructs her children in the knowledge of time, for there is an appointed time for everything under the Sun. If then, when a disease seems extremely dangerous, you would make an essay to relieve languishing Nature, do it at a time when the Moon passes by the body or good aspect of Jupiter or Venus; then is the patient in a condition to receive help. You can sooner lift up a living man with one finger than a dead one with both

hands; a bird, whilst it has wings, can fly, but cut off the wings and hang a couple of stones on its legs, and it cannot. Even so the good aspects of Moon to Jupiter and Venus are like wings to conduct a man from sickness to health. The bodies and aspects of Saturn and Mars to the Moon are like stones to weigh him down to the grave."

Culpepper, in his *British Herbalist*, says: "Those who study Astrology are the only men fit to study Physic; Physic without Astrology being like a lamp without oil." In short, he says, it is impossible for any physician to foretell the various changes of diseases, the "crisis" or "climactic periods," without a knowledge of astrology. He says further:

"When a child is born, the susceptibilities to the various diseases it will suffer from through life are impressed upon it by the heavenly bodies, and can be foretold or pointed out by the astrologer. The physician who undertakes to treat a difficult case of sickness without any knowledge of Astrology is equally as criminal as the captain who would attempt to guide a vessel across the Atlantic without a knowledge of astronomy and navigation. The time will come when this will be the general opinion formed by the public of physicians who are ignorant of Astrology."

The following questions may be correctly answered by the science of astrology: (1) The time when a sick person will begin to mend; (2) What part of the body is afflicted or diseased; (3) What has been the cause of the sickness; (4) When the sick person will have a change, either favorable or the reverse; also what kind of treatment or medicine would be the best adapted for him.

The chief method of forming a judgment of the violence and magnitude of a disease, whether it is curable or fatal, is by an inspection of the

scheme of the heavens erected for the moment of birth of the patient, if it can be ascertained, for sickness very seldom happens but through some malignant directions of the Sun, Moon, or Ascendant, or from adverse transiting aspects of Mars, Saturn, and Uranus. The occurrence of the crisis can be foretold with scientific precision by watching the motion of the Moon and her configurations with the Sun and the planets in the sick person's nativity; if this cannot be procured, a map of the heavens made for the time the patient is first taken sick or the time he first sees a physician will give information on the subject. There are times, during certain positions of the planets, when to change the physician or medicine or to perform a common surgical operation is almost certain death to the patient. It is only through astrology that these facts are elucidated and logically explained. Man's constitution is subject to and interwoven with subtle laws which cannot be violated with impun-

Horoscopes for Subscribers' Children

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TWO names only are usually drawn each month, but unless there is an unusually large number of applications, you may have more than one opportunity for a drawing.

BE SURE to give: Name, Sex, Birth-place, and Year, Month, Day (of month), and minute of birth, as nearly as possible. Also please be sure to state if Daylight Saving Time was in effect.

NOTE: We give horoscope readings **ONLY** in this magazine.

ity or without his suffering the consequences. Without astrology man treads, as it were, in the dim light of ignorance.

By observing the different signifiers or planetary rulers in a nativity the nature of the disease to which the constitution is predisposed can be ascertained, and this fact once known, the cure is half effected. Physical harmony and perfect development come from planetary harmony at the time of birth, and from such harmony inharmonious results cannot come. When people are ignorant of the planetary laws governing our nature the mistakes and wrong conclusions they arrive at are innumerable; especially are these mistakes likely to occur in calling in or changing a physician, or prescribing for a very sick patient. How many sick people have gone the rounds of several reputable physicians and found themselves to be suffering from as many diseases with corresponding prescriptions recommended for their ailments!

The following advice from Hippocrates is well worth while noting: "It is the best thing, in my opinion, for a physician to apply himself diligently to the art of *foreknowledge* (or *Astrology*); for he who is master of this art, and shows himself such among his patients with respect to what is present, past, or future, declaring at the same time wherein the patient has been wanting, will give such proofs of a superior knowledge in what relates to the sick that the generality of men will commit themselves to that physician without any manner of difference. Add to this, the cure will be best performed by one who knows beforehand what will happen in diseases. It is indeed impossible to recover every sick person, or else this would be better than the *foreknowledge* of what is to happen. And therefore, since mankind die, some before the physician has time to set himself

by his art against the particular disease, he ought also to study the *art of foreknowing disease*, for by this means he will be justly admired and esteemed a good physician. Add to this, that as to those who are to recover he will be better able to preserve them in a proper manner, as his intention or advice in every step is founded upon a long view beforehand."

* * *

MIDSUMMER AND THE RISEN CHRIST

(Continued from page 253)

though nations have risen and been brought low, though empires have come into being and sunk into oblivion, this commandment is as new as it was on the day it was given.

Something of the depth and wonder of the Christ love is borne in upon us as we meditate year after year upon the revelation given concerning this mystical Cosmic Drama of the Four Seasons.

* * *

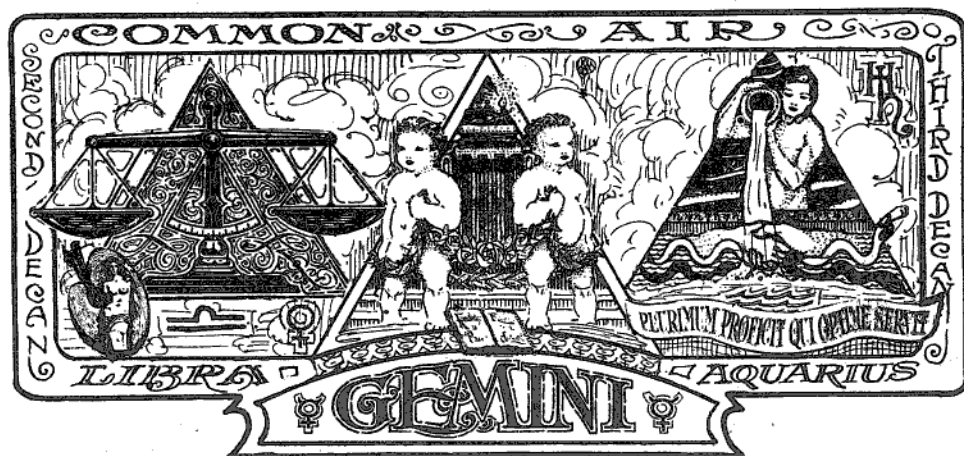
BIBLE INTERPRETATION

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The Children of Gemini, 1974

Birthdays: May 21 to June 22

Gemini, first of the airy triplicity, is a common, mental sign, symbolized by the twins. Duality of nature (the higher and the lower selves), as well as flexibility and versatility, are prominent traits of those born while the Sun is in this sign.

The planet ruling Gemini is Mercury, "Messenger of the Gods," and "the mental educator of men," and we find that those born under the positive aspects of this sign are possessed of the ability to learn quickly and express themselves clearly and to the point. They are interested in many different subjects, usually acquiring quite a fund of knowledge by much reading, but are not apt to be deep thinkers. Conversation never lags when a Gemini native participates, and he may monopolize it entirely if allowed to do so.

The Geminian facility of expression may become a nuisance if the native has negative aspects to the Sun or Mercury, for then he is apt to be an inveterate chatterbox, talking incessantly on any subject that may come to mind and ignoring the possibility

that others also may have something to say! Therefore parents whose children's horoscopes indicate such tendencies should take extra pains to train them in acceptable "conversation manners." Otherwise, they may grow up to be bores.

Gemini children are usually quite adaptable, affable, and easy to get along with. In fact, they may be too flexible and easily influenced for their own good, and should therefore be taught early the wisdom of persistence until an objective is completely obtained.

Mercury rules the sensory nerves and Gemini the lungs. Consequently, natives of Gemini are usually rather highstrung, impatient, easily irritated, and prone to shallow breathing. Unless taught to cultivate poise and deliberation, and to breathe deeply, they may develop nervous disorders or lung difficulties. They are apt to be careless of their health, too, another reason for stressing proper care of their "temple of the living God."

The children born during this solar month will have Neptune in Sagittarius sextile to Pluto in Libra, a planetary pattern which favors spiritual un-

derstanding and inclination.

From May 21 to June 7 the Sun opposes Neptune, accelerating the vibrations of the aura and therefore bringing the native in touch with the denizens of the invisible world. This is a negative vibration, though, and anyone possessing it should cultivate positive thought and action, and avoid seances, the ouija board, and other such negative psychic phenomena.

Venus and Mercury are in sextile aspect from May 21 to June 17, indicating that the native is cheerful, sociable, and interested in music and poetry. The nature tends to be affable and persuasive.

From May 21 to 23 Mercury squares Jupiter, suggesting a tendency to be vacillating and wavering of mind. These children should have special training in decisive thinking and acting, being particularly careful in fulfilling agreements and contracts at specified times.

A better aspect for Mercury, the trine to Uranus, is in effect on May 21. Those born on this day will have an original, independent mind, and inclined to be a pioneer in thought and invention. His ideas are lofty, progressive, and inspiring, and success in literary and scientific pursuits is favored.

From May 21 to 25 Jupiter and Mars are in trine aspect, an excellent configuration pointing toward honesty, sincerity, and nobility of nature. Financial prosperity is favored, and there is much ingenuity and constructive ability. These natives love travel and out-of-door sports, and have an abundance of health and endurance.

Uranus in Libra and Mars in Cancer are in square aspect from May 21 to June 8, a stellar vibration showing that the native needs to cultivate control of temper, respect for authority and the opinions of other people. These children should be given special training in kindness and consideration for all living creatures, especially for those

in the home and in partnerships.

From May 28 to June 11 Mercury conjoins Saturn, giving depth of mind, forethought, and power of concentration. However, there may be a tendency to gloominess, so that finding joy in everyday life should be taught these children.

The Sun squares Jupiter from May 29 to June 16, suggesting a tendency toward self-indulgence and selfishness, with consequent ill health due to sluggish circulation and noxious growths. These children need special training in self-restraint, thrift, and honesty, as well as in spiritual ideals.

From May 29 to June 10 Venus and Saturn are in sextile aspect, indicating one who is faithful and true, just and methodical, qualities which make for success in all departments of life. Being honest and trustworthy, as well as simple of tastes and having high moral ideals, these natives are much sought as friends and advisers.

The Sun trines Uranus from June 6 to 22, showing that the native is intuitive, original, inventive, and independent. These are the people who are able to invent ways of using Nature's finer forces, and often rise in life through the friendship of those above them in the social scale.

From June 8 to 22 Mercury and Jupiter are in trine aspect, an excellent mental aspect. The mind is broad, versatile, optimistic, and able to reason correctly and form a reliable judgment. They are successful in law and literature and much respected for their honesty and sincerity.

Venus sextiles Jupiter from June 9 to 20, favoring the accumulation of wealth and all the luxuries of life. Social prestige and a happy marriage are favored by this combination of forces from the two Benefics. The nature is jovial, friendly, optimistic, and generous; there is a fondness for travel and pleasure, and there may be talent along musical lines.

Readings for Subscribers' Children

GREGORY, A. G.

Born December 14, 1968, 2:26 A.M.

Latitude 39N45; Longitude 75W33.

Signs on Cusps of Houses:

ASC, Libra .23.09	4th,	
2nd,	Capricorn	..27.00
Scorpio ...21.00	5th, Pisces	. 0.00
3rd,		
Sagittarius 23.00	6th, Pisces	.29.00

Aquarius intercepted in 4th

Positions of Planets:

Neptune ..27.09	Scorpio	2nd
Sun22.21	Sagittarius	2nd
Mercury ...26.25	Sagittarius	3rd
Venus 5.13	Aquarius	4th
Dragon's		
Head 5.36	Aries	6th
Saturn18.45R	Aries	6th
Part of F ... 8.45	Leo	10th
Pluto24.55	Virgo	11th
Uranus 3.42	Libra	12th
Jupiter 3.56	Libra	12th
Moon 7.59	Libra	12th
Mars20.57	Libra	12th

The position of Uranus, Jupiter, the Dragon's Tail, the Moon, and Mars all in the sign Libra in the 12th house is a strong indication of experiences of destiny in this life. The first four are in conjunction and trine to Venus intercepted in Aquarius in the 4th house, showing some very fine traits of character, as well as artistic and musical ability. There is a fruitful imagination, a flair for oratory, and a kindly, affectionate nature which attracts many friends. Gregory is also inclined to be jovial, optimistic, generous, and hospitable, as well as fond of travel and social pleasures. He is mentally alert, of quick intuitive perception, and quite magnetic. Home conditions should be most pleasant

and of a type to encourage pioneering interests and activities.

The Sun is in the common-fire sign Sagittarius in the 2nd house, conjoined to Mercury (4 degrees) in the 3rd, sextile Mars in the 12th and the Libran ASC, trine Saturn retrograde in Aries in the 6th, square Pluto in Virgo in the 11th. This native has lofty ideals and a noble, aspiring disposition aiming to rise by raising others. He is inclined to be benevolent, and philanthropic, and therefore beloved by his associates. He is apt to be the recipient of honors and appointments to positions of trust, and missions of a delicate nature, nor could a better selection be made, for he has a high sense of honor. His mind is expansive and fit to grapple with the greater problems of life, so that success in religion, law, and statesmanship is favored. The well aspected Sun in the 2nd house points to excellent earning capacity, but it also suggests a tendency toward too free spending. Wise use of material means may well be cultivated.

The trine of the solar orb to Saturn shows that Gregory has method, foresight, and organizing, executive, and diplomatic ability, with the moral stamina to carry out any project determined upon. Saturn opposes Mars and the ASC, however, so there may be times when this child will be tempted to be selfish, quick-tempered, and harsh. However, with so many positive, constructive traits he should be able to handle this tendency. The opposition also suggests that he may be subject to headaches, catarrh, or kidney difficulty unless he is taught to eat properly and wisely.

For a vocation, music, law, the ministry, or the diplomatic service would provide excellent fields for his natural talents.

WILLIAM M. B.

Born March 15, 1962, 8:08 A.M.

Latitude 39N31; Longitude 84W45.

Signs on Cusps of Houses:

ASC, Aries .25.26 4th, Cancer .14.00
2nd, Taurus 29.00 5th, Leo 7.00
3rd, Gemini 23.00 6th, Virgo . . . 8.00

Positions of Planets:

Moon21.32	Cancer4th
Dragon's H 15.56	Leo5th
Part of F . . .22.29	Leo5th
Uranus . . .27.30R	Leo5th
Pluto8.50R	Virgo6th
Neptune . .13.11R	Scorpio7th
Saturn7.56	Aquarius11th
Jupiter . . .27.41	Aquarius11th
Mercury . . . 0.12	Pisces11th
Mars2.33	Pisces11th
Sun24.29	Pisces12th
Venus5.56	Aries12th

This child has Mercury, Mars, and the Sun posited in the common-water sign Pisces, the first two closely conjoined in the 11th house, and conjoining Jupiter in Capricorn, opposing Uranus in Leo in the 5th. The Sun is in the 12th, trine the Moon in the cardinal-water sign Cancer in the 4th. A favorable aspect between the Lights is a great help in life, favoring the health, fair financial conditions, faithful friends, and general success. It also favors a rise in life because of the native's innate ability.

This is a very sensitive, emotional little boy, with considerable spiritual understanding. His values in life will likely be much more along spiritual lines than material, and his activities concerned with the higher things. Kindly, trustworthy, and dependable, William will show himself to be a worthy friend. He has a vivid imagination, but his mental faculties also include tolerance, keen judgment, and breadth of vision. The opposition of Mercury to Uranus, however, suggests that an erratic tendency may manifest at times,

so that this child should be taught self-control and poise from early years. Temper tantrums should be handled in a quiet, firm manner - lovingly but firmly.

Many friends and acquaintances of many different types will be attracted to William, but he should be taught discrimination in selecting his close associates. The Piscean children are often easily led, so that it is important to see that his associates, as well as his environment, are of a desirable nature.

The fiery, aggressive Mars-ruled sign Aries on the ASC is fortunate in this case, for it indicates a measure of the initiative and courage that the Piscean native often lacks. Venus is in Aries, too, but in the 12th house, sextile to Saturn in Aquarius in the 11th, and ruling the 29 degrees of Taurus in the 1st. This points toward a rather pleasant, but active personality, and the possession of such desirable traits as trustworthiness, method, high morals, a strong sense of justice, and simple tastes. Moderation in the affections should be cultivated, though, and a tendency toward extravagance curbed. The 12th house position of the Sun and Venus suggests occupations of a secluded nature -- in hospitals, prisons, etc.

For a vocation, William could do well as a telephone or telegraph operator, hospital worker, accountant, auditor, laboratory or research worker, or as curator in a museum. He will do better "on his own" rather than in partnership with another.

Healthwise, this child should take care not to over exercise, or indulge in heavy athletics because of the effects of the rather severely afflicted Uranus in Leo, which governs the heart. There might be some difficulty with the feet, too, so his shoes should be carefully fitted.



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 40 YEARS OF AGE. — Editor.

Musician, Interior Decorator

CINDY M. B. — Born November 14, 1953, 9:56 P.M., Latitude 37N29, Longitude 122W13. This native will be quite one-pointed in her efforts. The Sun and Mercury are conjoined in Scorpio in the 4th house, trine Uranus in Cancer in the 12th; Venus and Saturn are also conjoined in Scorpio in the 4th, trine the Moon in Pisces in the 8th. Neptune in Libra in the 4th trines Jupiter; Mars in Libra in the 3rd sextiles the Leo ASC. This young woman has a powerful emotional nature, and should study music, if for no other reason than as an outlet for her emotions. She also has ability as an interior decorator, in law, and in dancing.

Radio Emcee, Writer

HOLLY H. — Born January 31, 1956, 12 Noon. Latitude 41N05, Longitude 73W25. Mercury and the Sun in Aquarius (10 degrees apart) in the 9th and 10th houses, respectively, indicate a public career. Mercury sextiles Saturn in Sagittarius in the 6th, trines the Moon in Libra in the 5th, squares Neptune in Scorpio in the 6th; opposes Uranus in Cancer in the 3rd; the solar orb sextiles Mars in Sagittarius in the 7th (conjoined with the Dragon's Head), trines the Moon. A fine, humanitarian, upright character is here indicated. Uranus retrograde in Cancer in the 3rd, sextiles Moon and ASC, trines Saturn. Gemini is on the ASC. This native could handle radio and TV emceeing well, auditing, government work, including civil service, welfare work, and salesmanship.

Auditor, Teacher

KENNETH M. E. — Born February 12, 1954, 5:52 A.M. Latitude 34N59, Longitude 85W17. The Sun and Venus are conjoined in Aquarius intercepted in the first house of this chart, trine Jupiter and the Moon in conjunction in Gemini in the 5th, trine Neptune in Libra in the 9th, square Mars (8 degrees) in Sagittarius in the 10th. Saturn is in Scorpio in the 9th, conjunct the MC, trine Mercury in Pisces in the 2nd. This young man has an excellent mind, and will no doubt use it for humanitarian purposes, as well as vocationally. He could serve well as an auditor, in connection with radio or electronics, in the civil service, as a college professor, and in the newspaper business.

Librarian, Saleswoman

PAMELA D. S. — Born November 15, 1951, 6:15 P.M., Latitude 30N17; Longitude 81W23. Although the Sun is in a fixed sign (Scorpio), the Moon and 7 planets are in common and cardinal signs, and Gemini is on the ASC, so that this is a very versatile individual. The Sun sextiles Mars in Virgo in the 6th; Mercury in Sagittarius in the 7th sextiles Venus and Saturn in Libra in the 5th, opposes the Moon and ASC. Aquarius is on the MC, and 19 degrees of Pisces are in the 10th house. Uranus, co-ruler of Aquarius, is in Cancer in the 2nd, square to Saturn, the other ruler of Aquarius, in Libra in the 5th. As a librarian, clerk, ticket office helper, saleswoman for clothes, stationery, linen goods, etc., she could use her talents satisfactorily.

Daily Thought and Guide

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

Monday -- July 1

Tendencies to indecision and worry can be dispelled if we turn our attention to higher things, remembering who we are and where we are going.

Tuesday -- July 2

Considerable energy is at our disposal; it is our privilege to use it wisely, avoiding extravagance of any sort.

*Wednesday -- July 3

"The healthy know not of their health, but only the sick: this is the physician's aphorism, and applicable in a far wider sense than he gives it." -- Carlyle.

Thursday -- July 4

Our objective is universal brotherhood. "The world is my country, and to do good is my religion." -- Thomas Paine.

Friday -- July 5

True friendship is based on honor and integrity. "We inspire friendship in men when we have contracted friendship with the gods." -- Thoreau.

Saturday -- July 6

Nature's soothing balm restores and rejuvenates those who make the effort to respond to its healing ministrations.

Sunday -- July 7

The religion of the Son is the religion of love, urging all mankind to be "kindly affectioned one to another."

Monday -- July 8

Progressive thinking can be achieved today, and enlightened measures taken to further human

welfare, if we open ourselves to illumined influences.

Tuesday -- July 9

Mixed aspects portend a busy day in which satisfactory and unsatisfactory experiences vie for attention. Let us try to learn from them all.

Wednesday -- July 10

Strong Jupiterian rays pervade the atmosphere, auguring pleasant associations, noble deeds, and worthwhile accomplishments.

*Thursday -- July 11

We may be faced with some difficult lessons today, but should not let them deter us from participating in the prayers for healing.

Friday -- July 12

It might seem easy to plunge heedlessly into untried ventures today, dissipating strength that could otherwise be put to profitable use. It is always wise to think before acting.

Saturday -- July 13

Mercurial occupations receive impetus today, and an outing in the country or at the beach might have therapeutic value.

Sunday -- July 14

"A philosopher, being asked what were the two most beautiful things in the universe, answered: The starry heavens above our heads, and the feeling of duty in our hearts." -- Bossuet.

Monday -- July 15

We should have a productive day, and can expect to master obstacles

and acquit ourselves well if our goals are worthy.

Tuesday -- July 16

It would behoove us to remain alert, abiding in our highest ideals, honoring only the finest motives, and guarding our tongues.

*Wednesday -- July 17

Liberal thought might bear desirable fruit today; may we give due attention to the needs of others, particularly to the release of the healing force.

Thursday -- July 18

It is true that "we are what we eat"; our diet should be as carefully planned as any other facet of our daily lives.

Friday -- July 19

"It is in length of patience, endurance, and forbearance that so much of what is good in mankind and woman-kind is shown." -- *Arthur Helps*.

Saturday -- July 20

Since the Law of Love is the highest of natural laws, it stands to reason that all spiritual development, present and potential, is based on or closely related to this law.

Sunday -- July 21

"Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." -- *John 4:14*.

Monday -- July 22

Several fine stellar patterns augur a satisfactory start to the work week.

Tuesday -- July 23

Another promising day, on which we would do well to work in conscious awareness of our blessings and, by helping release the healing force, share them with others.

Wednesday -- July 24

We can expect a variety of experiences which, although perhaps troublesome, can bring out the best in us if we conduct ourselves as we know we should.

Thursday -- July 25

A good day to enjoy the company and fellowship of friends. "A friend may well be reckoned the masterpiece of nature." -- *Emerson*.

Friday -- July 26

We can draw on favorable influences from Mars, Venus, and Saturn today, thus enhancing prospects for a satisfying amount of good work, well performed.

Saturday -- July 27

"I follow nature as the surest guide, and resign myself with implicit obedience to her sacred ordinances." -- *Cicero*.

Sunday -- July 28

On this Lord's Day of many divers aspects, let us join our hearts in adoration and gratitude to the Author of our being.

Monday -- July 29

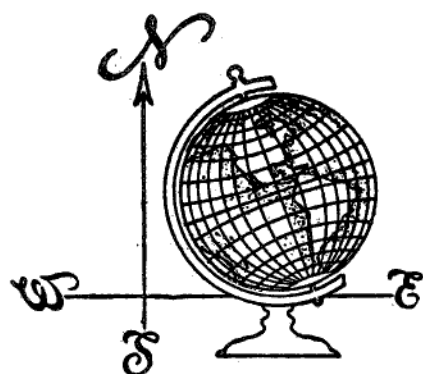
The relief of tender, light-hearted mirth, affectionately conveyed, can ease the most severe tensions, improve the most hostile confrontations, and lighten the heaviest burdens.

Tuesday -- July 30

Joy is often instrumental in maintaining good health. A joyful heart and attitude affect the body strongly and favorably.

Wednesday -- July 31

"Look to the lilies how they grow! 'Twas thus the Saviour said, that we, Even in the simplest flowers that blow, God's ever-watchful care might see." -- *Moir*.



MONTHLY

News
INTERPRETED

Parapsychological Research

Increasing public interest in and scientific research into the field of parapsychology is causing the publication of numerous current accounts of this field of activity. Although some news media continue to maintain a condescending, if not outright sarcastic, attitude, a detailed, objective survey in *Newsweek* ("Parapsychology: The Science of the Uncanny", March 4, 1974) merits serious consideration. It begins as follows:

There is no particular rhythm to the advancement of scientific knowledge. A single experimental finding, a new theoretical concept or a series of observations painstakingly assembled over a period of years can suddenly revolutionize any field of science. Such was the case at the turn of the century, when first the discovery of X-rays and other forms of radiation and then Einstein's formulation of his special theory of relativity made mockery of some scientists' smug confidence that they had learned just about all there was to learn about the nature of the universe.

Even today, physics is invested with such arcane theoretical concepts as anti-matter and particles without mass. So it is hardly surprising that now a number of scientists are paying increased attention to a field that is just as incredible to many modern researchers as was the new physics to the experts of the last century. That field is parapsychology -- the study of such phenomena as clairvoyance and telepathy which lie outside the range of normal experience and which seem to defy many accepted scientific laws.

The so-called "paranormal" has tra-

ditionally been associated with gullibility, faddism, and deliberate charlatanism, the article continues. Fortunately, serious researchers in the field today are motivated by "the belief that sufficient detailed study will separate real paranormal phenomena from the hokum and then place the genuine phenomena into a rational framework - albeit one that may require broad modification of current theories on how the universe works."

Current inquiry into what are considered the five major categories of parapsychology -- psychic healing, clairvoyance, telepathy, psychokinesis, and precognition -- is then noted. Particular emphasis is placed upon Kirlian photography, the process of photographing the etheric corona surrounding things visible to the naked eye (mentioned in the Nov., 1937 *Rays*.) Some vivid examples of this type of photography are shown.

(From the occult point of view, of course, we know that what is being photographed is actually the vital ether which is everywhere present and which composes the vital body of human, animal, and plant.)

Also noteworthy in the article is the indication that the United States government, albeit belatedly, is taking an interest in paranormal phenomena. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Pentagon "are carefully monitoring most of the cur-

rent research into parapsychology, and some government scientists make no secret of the fact that they hope the research may lead to applications still undreamed-of. The National Institute of Mental Health in Washington has already awarded two grants for parapsychological studies in the hope that they may bring improved understanding of such psychiatric disorders as schizophrenia."

One problem faced by material scientists who delve into these matters is that parapsychological phenomena do not lend themselves to repetition on command for the purpose of experimentation. Orthodox scientific research, of course, has traditionally been based on the principle of reiteration -- recurrent testing under carefully staged conditions and circumstances until the plausibility of a particular hypothesis has been proven or disproven. Obviously, unlike purely material phenomena, parapsychological phenomena cannot always be manipulated or "set up" in such a manner.

Furthermore, believes former astronaut Edgar Mitchell, now actively engaged in this field, "the scientist has to recognize that his own mental processes may influence the phenomenon he's observing. If he's really a total skeptic, the scientist may well turn off the psychic subject."

"Many parapsychologists have concluded that these "inexplicable" -- in material terms -- occurrences may be attributable to some form of energy that has not yet been detected. One scientist observed: "There is probably at least one more type of energy operating at the physical level which serves to support psychic phenomena."

(Occultly speaking, these scientists are on the right track. Hopefully they will soon be able to recognize and accept as energy such potent spiritual forces as the divine healing force and human thought power, which certainly

do operate at the physical level and account for much that at present is considered paranormal.)

Among the most difficult of these phenomena to research is the ability to prophesy. In this connection, some scientists are now speculating that the concept of time may have to be re-evaluated. "... there may be two dimensions of time: one that people experience in everyday life, and another - not yet really apprehended - in which sensitives and normal people undergoing physic experiences operate."

(Again, considered from the occult standpoint, we are told that time as we understand it materially does not exist in the spiritual worlds. We do know, however, that archetypes of earthly events are formed in the spiritual worlds before the events take place, and that people who foretell the future have caught glimpses -- sometimes accurate, sometimes distorted -- of these archetypes. If the analogy "as above, so below" applies, perhaps it would be reasonable to speculate that a sequential order of events in the spiritual worlds is translatable in terms of time in the physical world.)

Another problem peculiar to research in this field, continues the article, is the danger that both subjects and researchers may, deliberately or unknowingly, become too subjective in their work. Desire for self-glorification may prompt the subject to "rig" his "performances," thus distorting or negating any truly paranormal occurrence that might have taken place. On the other hand, some critics are said to believe that researchers have become "so messianic about their field that they cannot see through obvious trickery by their subjects or sloppy experimental design by their colleagues," and are unwilling or unable to assume the possibility of fraud.

One observer regards the ideal parapsychological researcher as "a good experimental psychologist with a

strong background in electronics, a skeptical turn of mind and long experience in the art of magic." (We might add that, although a skeptical turn of mind would certainly help in obviating the danger of fraud, it is important to remember that parapsychological material does not lend itself to "proof" as does material which is discerned solely with the five senses. If he is fully to understand the nature of his subject-matter, the researcher in this area must be possessed of sufficient spiritual insight and intuition to be able to accept and work with finer forces. Subject matter of the field of parapsychology will never be grasped by the purely materialistic mind.)

The article concludes on a hopeful note: "... parapsychologists seem to be making steady progress in their battle to convince the scientific establishment that there is at least something in their research that is worth investigating...."

The Role of Television

Noted author and television personality Alistair Cooke expressed his views on the role of TV in America in an interview published in *U. S. News & World Report*, April 15, 1974. A sampling of his opinions is given below.

Mr. Cooke believes that the most striking effect of TV on America "is that it has produced a generation of children who have a delinquent grasp of the English language but also have a visual sophistication that was denied to their parents. They learn so much about the world that appeals immediately to their emotions, but I'm not sure it involves their intelligence, their judgment."

As a result of TV viewing, many children have considerable random knowledge, but their understanding of this knowledge is deficient. "Things can come at you on television in a

flash -- in three seconds -- which would take a fine teacher an hour or so to interpret."

One of the primary problems associated with TV is that it presents more information than the viewers can cope with. "The images overwhelm our ability to make judgments or handle our government and our lives because we are so continuously aware of the disruption that's going on everywhere."

From the positive standpoint, television spreads general awareness of the plight of victims of social and economic injustice, and gives impetus to public and private assistance. Negatively, by vividly publicising such unacceptable behavior as riots and kidnapping, it helps give rise to imitators who might otherwise not have been emboldened, or clever enough, to translate anti-social inclinations into action.

The so-called "rating system" presents the guidelines by which network officials determine the type of programs to be scheduled. According to these ratings, public demand for the portrayal of violence on TV is high. Mr. Cooke, however, points out that "many people use television as sort of audible wallpaper." That is, the set is on as a kind of background while normal household activities take place. The ratings, although indicating what programs are on, do not necessarily indicate the extent to which they are actually observed.

One of the facets of TV that most disturbs Mr. Cooke is "the medical brainwashing that the family gets on television. It seems to me that it easily outweighs any lessons in chemistry or biology that the child picks up in school.... I truly believe that the body of our knowledge about medicine is fed to us from a very early age by commercials - and it's idiotic medicine. Mostly, it's either harmful or useless."

BOOK REVIEWS

Literature · Plays · Motion Pictures · Music

"I'm OK, You're OK"

I'm OK -- You're OK, by Thomas A. Harris, M.D., Harper & Row, Publishers, New York, 1967.

Transactional Analysis is a concept of psychiatric treatment developed by Dr. Eric Berne, and used extensively by the author of this best seller, who is also a practicing psychiatrist. It is a method of examining the nature of stimuli and responses that occur in any interaction between two people. Its goal is to free a person from ingrained, stereotyped thought and behavior patterns, thus making it possible for him, at will, to alter his responses to recurring and to new stimuli.

Transactional Analysis posits three active components to each person's character: the Parent, the Adult, and the Child (P-A-C). One or a combination of these components determines his response to every stimulus he will receive from any other individual.

The Parent, in toto, consists of "recordings" of all imposed external events perceived by a person during the first five years of life. This includes everything that his parents said and did in his presence. It includes rules, admonitions, censure, and hostility, as well as admiration, praise, affection, and delight. It includes all other external stimuli, such as those produced by TV and baby-sitters. The data in Parent is assimilated without editing, since the child is too young to modify

or correct in his own mind what the people around him say and do, and to explain what causes them to behave in that manner. This "replay," which the individual cannot erase, is a powerful influence throughout his life, and often explains his own irrational, seemingly inexplicable, or prejudiced reactions to stimuli in his later years.

The Child is the "recording" of internal responses to external events in the life of the young person. The Child represents the grip of feelings, ranging from fear of parental cruelty to joy of the first exploratory and creative efforts. In view of the restrictions and limitations which necessarily surround children, all too often the primary representations of the Child are feelings of inadequacy, ineffectiveness, and inability to cope with his environment. Dr. Harris, who styles such feelings as "not OK," says "it is a fair estimate to say that everyone has a not OK Child."

The Adult denotes maturity, perception, discrimination, independent thought, and the ability to "transform stimuli into pieces of information and process and file that information on the basis of previous experience." The Adult is generally far more progressive than the Parent, which is judgmental only "in an imitative way." A well-functioning Adult frees the person from the unreasoning domination of the Parent and the unrestrained emo-

tionalism of the Child, thus enabling him to embark upon his own course of creative response.

Dr. Harris indicates four life positions underlying people's behavior, each of them dependent upon the state of P-A-C in a particular individual. "I'm not OK - you're OK" shows the immature person, anxious and dependent. "I'm not OK - you're not OK" indicates the person who has given up in despair. "I'm OK - you're not OK" indicates the criminal. Often, this individual was a so-called "battered child", the horror of whose early years causes him to continue throughout life defensively characterizing all opposition as "their fault." Finally, there is "I'm OK - you're OK", the mark of the mature adult, secure in his faith, knowledge, and abilities, and at peace with himself and the world.

Most people, believes Dr. Harris, still operate primarily from the "I'm not OK - you're OK" position. Obviously, these people are bound by the past as it appears in their Parent and Child, and have not freed themselves sufficiently -- have not created a sufficiently strong Adult -- to confront their experiences in an enlightened, responsible, and progressive manner.

In Transactional Analysis, Dr. Harris points out, people are held responsible for their own behavior. If someone's Child or Parent dominates, he learns to recognize it as *his own* state of consciousness, not as some arbitrary external imposition over which he has no control. He learns, in time, to develop his Adult sufficiently to act maturely and responsibly despite the responses and conduct which he has manifested from early childhood.

Only the person who thinks, speaks, and acts from his Adult, approaching his confrontations from the "I'm OK - you're OK" point of view, has true creative power. History informs us of the past but "it cannot tell us what must be or cannot be. This is an open

and evolving universe and we do not know enough about that universe to say what can't happen. Only the Adult can go to work on this exciting idea."

From the occult standpoint, we might equate the "I'm OK - you're OK" person, working from his Adult, with one who is living the life of a sincere spiritual aspirant. Such an individual is developing the discrimination, judgment, strength of character, and self-reliance to respond to his interactions with others in a manner constructive for all concerned. He is liberating himself from prejudices and irrelevant strictures of the past, and bringing Epigenesis to bear upon the problem solving with which he is confronted.

Primarily, such a person has overcome the self-centeredness which underlies the three other "OK" positions, and which characterizes his Child and, somewhat differently, his Parent. His Adult functions well because he has broken away from personal desires, resentments, prejudices, and assumed needs sufficiently that his appraisal of his experiences and his consequent reactions can be fairly objective.

At the same time he is developing the compassion for others that will ultimately evolve into limitless universal love. It is this interest in and concern for his fellows that, more than any other single factor, enables his Adult to carry on wisely and well.

We are sure that this book has already helped many people to see themselves more clearly. It is probably most helpful to those who are not yet ready to accept extensive spiritual and evolutionary realities as defined in the Rosicrucian Philosophy, but who, in a more material framework, can be persuaded to understand the universal need for increasing morally-oriented, mature, altruistic, and progressive human conduct, and to accept responsibility for their own behavior and self-improvement.

Readers' QUESTIONS

Advertisements for "Unusual Powers"

Question:

An increasing number of advertisements in magazines and newspapers advocate the acquisition of "unusual powers." For a price, claim these ads, subscribers can learn to wield these powers easily to make money, procure cars, jewels, and other wealth, influence people to do their bidding and, in short, assure for themselves all manner of fame, fortune, and popularity. Have you any comment on these ads and their claims?

Answer:

We have seen many such advertisements. Although we have not investigated them closely, it seems clear enough that they are based on the development of our latent spiritual powers. Unfortunately, the context of personal gain in which such development, as advocated in the ads, would take place, is highly inimical to evolutionary and spiritual progress, despite the temporary material advantages which might accrue.

The Rosicrucian Philosophy teaches that any use of spiritual power for personal gain is both wrong and dangerous. Even Christ Jesus, Who knew how to work with the forces of Nature in order to feed the multitude, did not use His powers to save Himself from the agonies of condemnation and Crucifixion.

In *Teachings of an Initiate* we read: "There is in each one of us a spiritual power that has become latent during

the time we have been going through the pilgrimage of matter, and it is for us to awaken this power . . . (it) is latent at the present time because humanity . . . has not fitted itself to receive it. We are too selfish, and we must cultivate unselfishness before we shall be trusted to wield this wonderful power. Peter is very emphatic in regard to the teachers who may come among us, when he speaks of false teachers and says they will make merchandise of us. Such are they who have lessons in this, that, and the other kind of spiritual science to sell . . . They have these things to give us for the coin of the realm, but we must remember that it is not money but merit that counts in spiritual attainment, and it is impossible to initiate a man into higher spiritual powers for a few dollars or any material consideration".

Continuing, we are told of the proper way in which to unfold spiritual power: "If we can overcome the passionate side of our nature, if we can cultivate within ourselves purity, and if we can withstand temptation . . . then every day we cultivate within ourselves . . . the power of love, which will express itself in service, and gradually it will accumulate . . . Then the Teacher will come to us and show us how to liberate the power we have stored up within our being."

Mongoloid Children

Question:

Please discuss mongoloid children. Why are they afflicted in such a heartbreaking way?

Answer:

From the medical point of view, the mongoloid child, or so-called "Mongolian idiot", is one born with serious mental and physical defects. The child is usually characterized by slanting eyes, a flat face, a stubby nose, a protruding tongue, small or deformed ears, limp muscles, short thumbs, and an abnormal heart. Such children develop slowly, and their intelligence is never high. Most of them die young. Despite their mental and physical shortcomings, however, they may be quite lively and imitative. Mongoloidism is considered a congenital ailment.

From the occult point of view, it appears obvious that these children have misused both physical and mental powers in previous lives. We are told, in *Occult Principles of Health and Healing*, that "mental troubles are particularly traceable to the abuse of the creative function, when they are congenital. . .", and that "the abuse of the mental powers in one life leads to physical disability in later existences."

The Fellowship literature contains no specific references to mongoloidism. We know, however, that Egos now inhabiting the bodies of the Mongolian race are the remnants of the seventh Atlantean race. During Atlantis, members of this race followed lines of reasoning which deviated more and more from the mainstream of life. They failed to develop adaptability, or to keep their ideas in the fluid state that admits of progress. This race, therefore, fell behind, and is degenerating.

It is probable, however, that those Egos who are born in mongoloid bodies in the Western world have made sufficient progress to be given another chance to "catch up" in evolution. Although their activity in this life is severely limited and frustrated, it is possible that the individual Spirits -- who are never retarded -- will learn

enough from the difficult experiences in handicapped vehicles substantially to further their progress.

The fact that these children are often lively and imitative, and the fact that they often die young, are points to ponder in this connection. If people who work with such children can instill good habits into them -- habits they can learn by repetitive imitation -- they will be able to learn and experience much that will be of lasting help to them. Furthermore, Egos who pass out of this life as children are taken to the First Heaven where, in a loving atmosphere, they are taught and trained. They are given object lessons in the influence of good and evil passions on conduct and happiness,



lessons which are indelibly imprinted upon their sensitive and emotional desire bodies to remain with them after their next rebirth. In this way, weak Egos are often strengthened and enabled to make further progress on the earthly plane.

Thus, although in a material context the existence of a mongoloid child in a family may seem heartbreaking, in the spiritual context it offers a unique opportunity for the growth of all Egos concerned. To the extent that other family members lovingly and selflessly serve and work with such a child, all will profit. The parents and siblings will then make the soul growth that comes only from service of this sort. Since no Ego is born "by accident," we may be sure that mongoloid children have been deliberately attracted to their particular families. This most likely represents a tie from the past -- one that should be augmented with love and understanding.



Health in the News

Breakthroughs

The agony of the dentist's drill, the discomfort of such allergic symptoms as hives and asthma and the physical and financial hardships associated with recovery from major surgery — all these are common experiences that most people accept as inevitable. Now, three recent medical breakthroughs promise to bring patients considerable relief from such ubiquitous forms of suffering.

In Boston, two researchers at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine have discovered a chemical substance with the remarkable ability to remove large amounts of tooth decay painlessly, thus eliminating much of the need for drilling. The compound, cryptically identified by Drs. Melvin Goldman and Joseph Kronman only as GK-101, is sprayed on the area of decay with a special metal pump. In just a few minutes, it breaks down large quantities of protein that would normally have to be removed by the drill. In addition to removing decay, GK-101 shows promise in getting rid of plaque, the sticky, mucous secretion that forms on teeth and attracts bacteria . . .

At Duke University School of Medicine, doctors have been daily serving patients a "miracle medical cocktail" composed of such essential nutrients as glucose, salts, vitamins and amino acids. The results have proved beneficial for a remarkable variety of conditions, ranging from skin allergies to high cholesterol levels. Known to physicians as "the elemental diet," the 2,400-calorie liquid formula requires almost no digestion because its nutrients are already broken down; thus it lightens the burden on such organs as the kidneys, liver, stomach and intestine. This can be particularly useful for patients whose immunological systems are in a precarious state, explains

Duke immunologist Dr. C. Edward Buckley, or for patients to whom the possibility of infection poses a serious risk, such as those who are about to undergo major surgery.

But the "cocktail" promises to be most helpful to victims of asthma, hives and arthritis. Buckley believes that such patients may be abnormally sensitive to common intestinal bacteria and that their irritating inflammations may result from increased antibody production. If the intestinal bacteria can be reduced by the elemental diet, Buckley reasons, the inflammation should subside. So far, he has treated three severely asthmatic patients; in two cases, the symptoms have subsided to such an extent that the patients are no longer dependent on steroid drugs to breathe. A number of hives victims who drank the clear liquid diet — no other food is permitted — for two weeks remained itch-free for up to eight weeks. Similar encouraging results, Buckley reports, have been obtained in preliminary trials with adults suffering from arthritis, high blood pressure and high cholesterol . . .

In San Jose, Calif., urologist Dr. Roger Goodfriend recently treated a 35-year-old man suffering from kidney stones with a technique that eliminated the need for major surgery and a prolonged convalescence. The patient's stone was wedged tightly in his lower ureter (the tube that leads from the kidneys to the bladder), causing him considerable pain over a six-week period. Traditionally, a kidney stone in this position is extracted with the help of a special instrument called a cystoscope, but in the case of Goodfriend's patient the stone was lodged so snugly in the tube that it was impossible to move it. The usual alternative in such instances is a major surgical operation, requiring about ten days in the hospital and six weeks of costly convalescence. But for

the past three years, Goodfriend had been developing and testing the use of ultrasound waves to destroy kidney stones in dogs and human cadavers. So instead of choosing surgery, he decided he was ready to try the new technique on a living human being.

First, a cystoscope was inserted in the patient's bladder. Through it a small tube containing a fine metal wire was passed into the ureter until it hit the stone. The position was verified by X-ray. Then the wire was vibrated at ultrasonic speed (above 16,000 cycles a second) for a few seconds, while a solution of water and antibiotics was pumped into the tube to provide irrigation and prevent infection. After two such treatments, the kidney stone splintered into tiny fragments that passed naturally out through the urinary tract. The patient, who has suffered no side effects, left the hospital in 36 hours and was back at work within a few days.

—*Newsweek*, August 21, 1972.

The "miraculous" nature of medical treatment that will become available in the Aquarian Age is already being foreshadowed by many recent advances in medical science, including the three described above.

The news about GK-101 will doubtless delight most everyone who has felt the pressure of the dentist's drill bearing down through his tooth enamel. Ultrasound is achieving considerable medical significance (see *Rays*, September, 1972, p. 416) and it no doubt has vast additional potential.

Perhaps the most significant of these breakthroughs is the "medical cocktail." The importance of diet as an adjunct to good health is becoming more widely recognized in the medical profession, and this liquid formula, with its easily digestible ingredients, may well prove to be of inestimable help to the seriously ill.

Device to Make Blind See

Researchers at the University of Utah are working on plans for an artificial eye that some day may give sight to the blind.

Writing in an article in *Electronics* magazine, researchers for the Institute for Biomedical Engineering say the device so far exists only on paper.

They say more than 30 people in the university's college of medicine and College of Engineering have been working on the project.

In the theoretical design, the artificial eye would be attached to a blind person's eye muscles and would be able to pick up light. The light, in turn, would be transmitted to electrodes resting on the person's brain.

A spokesman for the school said no model has been constructed and that plans have not progressed beyond the drawing stage.

He said researchers in the project face a number of problems, including how the brain can be artificially stimulated over a long duration. Scientists now can stimulate the brain for short periods but have not worked out how such stimulation can be continued over a long time, he said.

The model designed by the institute could produce complex or simple images, depending on the number of electrodes resting on the brain. Levels of light picked up by the artificial eye would be transmitted to electronic circuits built into frames of a pair of glasses.

—*The Houston Post*, Jan. 31, 1974

It will be interesting to see if such a device can be perfected and rendered feasible for general use. Many mad-made aids to the body, from artificial limbs to pacemakers, have been of incalculable assistance to many people. Artificial sight for the blind naturally would be one of the most beneficial and monumental of such discoveries.

It is important to remember, however, that the assistance of an artificial bodily aid does not negate the debt of destiny or the lesson connected with a particular ailment that an Ego is required to pay or to learn. One who is blind has brought the fact of blindness upon himself by his own contravention of natural law. No matter what external assistance may be available to help him see, he will still have to overcome the cause of blindness -- to change his attitude and conduct, in this life or another -- before he can expect to be physically whole. Pure living and selfless service ultimately determine the extent of all good health.

Scientists Cultivate, Study 'Food of Future'

On the sunny Pacific slopes north of Lima, Peru, Peruvian and West German scientists are busy with a project that will help feed a hungry world when the day comes that conventional agriculture can no longer do the job, even for the affluent....

The undertaking here is far from traditional. Essentially, it converts sunlight, a minimum of water, and a tiny fresh-water plant into a "flour" that nourishes human beings with vitamins, minerals, fatty acids and, above all, protein, the basic element of all healthy human nutrition.

The plant is a microalga with the scientific name of *Scenedesmus*. Sown in shallow plastic basins of water, it is cultivated with abundant sunshine, measured doses of carbon dioxide and a special mineral fertilizer. It produces a crop every four days.

A centrifuge harvests the crop, recycling the water back into the growing basins. Dried, the microscopic plant becomes a powdery, leaf-colored "flour" with the faint scent and flavor of fresh salad greens.

Except in appearance, and consistency, however, it's not really a flour at all. It neither thickens nor binds when combined with other foods, whose colors and flavors it easily assumes, and it boosts the nutritive value.

"The traditional food with the highest protein value is the egg, followed by milk, beef and soya," Gross, (a West German nutritionist) said. "*Scenedesmus* ranks between eggs and milk. By adding it to milk, we can give the latter a higher protein value than eggs."....

Studies at a Dortmund experimental station show that one acre devoted to producing *Scenedesmus* "flour" can yield 21,900 per cent more protein in a year than the same area assigned to milk production, 15,900 per cent more protein than an acre planted with wheat and 4,400 per cent more protein than an acre of soybeans.

"Production of new foodstuffs must take into account other considerations, notably ecology," Gross told a reporter recently. "With *Scenedesmus*, little water is needed to produce a ton of protein, and contamination is almost nonexistent."....

Gross reported "very good results" with *Scenedesmus* in correcting deficiencies of badly nourished Peruvian children and emphasized that the "flour" has important implications for the overfed as well as the underfed.

"Because of its high protein, vitamin and mineral worth and its low caloric con-

tent, *Scenedesmus* can form the basis of a healthy reducing diet," Gross declared.

As conceived here at present, the "flour" would be marketed as a "fortifying addition to food, to raise its nutritive value, but not as a separate product by itself," according to Gross. "Different foodstuffs, enriched with *Scenedesmus*, would be produced for different socio-economic classes."

The possibilities are almost unlimited, Gross said. They range from "baby foods for infants to cookies for preschool children to green noodles for pasta lovers to protein drinks for weight watchers."

—David F. Belnap in *Los Angeles Times*, Feb. 24, 1974.

This surprising form of plant life, easily grown and producing a crop every four days, seems clearly to be one potential part of a solution to the problems of obtaining abundant, protein rich food. A minimum amount of natural resources seem to be required for its production, and even the water with which it is irrigated evidently is recyclable.

It will not be surprising if other discoveries of this type are made during the next few years. Man's food is destined to become simpler and more refined as he evolves until, in the not too far distant future, he will have learned to consume only that which is essential to the maintenance of his dense vehicle.

Eventually, meals as we know them today will no longer exist. Instead, as we are told in *Questions and Answers*, Vol. 2, pp. 155-6: "In the future we shall not digest our food inside the body, but extract the chemical ether and inhale it through the nose where it comes in contact with the pituitary body. This is the general organ of assimilation and promoter of growth. Then our body will become more and more ethereal, the life process will not be hindered by clogging waste and consequently disease will gradually disappear and life be lengthened. It is significant in this connection that often cooks feel no inclination to eat because the pungent odor of cooking satisfies them to a great extent."

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OUR PATIENTS WRITE

Minnesota --- My husband remarked the other day that he felt my association with you helped me to stay healthy while everyone else had colds. I told him I knew it had, and he said I was making a convert of him. Please send a healing application for him.

Canada — Yours was received by me with great joy, and all the contents well noted. I wish to praise and congratulate you for the great help you have been giving me in your healing prayers. May the Lord bless you with long life and prosperity.

Texas — Thank you for your thoughtful letter. I look forward to receiving your letters because they give me new hope to struggle in the right direction. Many times I get sidetracked -- get off the proper diet or become so emotionally involved in my problems -- but when I receive your letter and read the material enclosed my faith is renewed that some day I shall be able to handle my problems better. I pick up the letters in between times and always find something else I understand a little better. Truly God touched my heart when He helped me to find you.

California — Things are getting much better -- thanks to the Lord for that! Also my friends who used to take drugs with me got saved through the extraordinary work of God. I never thought this would be possible! Praise God!

England — Am persisting with the diet, and I know my body is becoming less acid. A ganglion that has been on my wrist for some years has completely disappeared. Thank you very much for all your wonderful goodness -- and for the little booklet "The Law and Our Needs." I have found it very helpful.





A Sound Body

We say *sound* when we mean wholeness or health, and we use the same word when we refer to something we hear. Often when someone expresses himself determinedly we say he "sounded off."

We each have our keynote, the sound to which we are expressly attuned and which can affect us as no other can. When we speak, the sound and inflections of our voice convey our feelings and meaning.

It is difficult, or perhaps impossible, to maintain a sound, healthy body if the words we speak are not *sound* in the sense of being positive and loving rather than negative and critical. The vibrations set up by our words are very real, and the habitual sound of our voice speaking negatively may cause impairment of the physical body.

In our journey toward perfection we are seeking to maintain a sound physical body. As we grow in knowledge of spiritual things we become aware that all facets of life are intertwined and each is important. If one suffers or is lacking, so does the whole. Hence the sounds we make with our voices *affect the soundness* of our bodies.

Even more subtle, and perhaps not so quickly noticed, is the quality of our thoughts. The vibrations sent out may not be audible to the physical ear, but they are there and contribute

to the *soundness* of our bodies.

"Everything is first created in terms of sound which then molds matter into the multitudinous forms which we see around us. Orderly, rhythmic sound is the builder of all that is -- the creator and sustainer of all form," stated Max Heindel. Thus we must realize that the sounds we make by thought and word truly affect our physical condition. We have, therefore, at hand a powerful tool with which to help ourselves maintain a sound body; one that may be used in service much more effectively than one struggling to overcome our own discordant sounds. - C. R.

* * *

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 P.M. and Pro-Ecclesia at 4:45 P.M., when the Moon is in a cardinal sign on the following dates:

June 6 — 13 — 20 — 26

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*.



Claude, the Cowardly Camel

DAGMAR FRAHME

Part 2

Finally Abdul called his assistants, and they all stood around prodding Claude one minute and scratching their heads in puzzlement the next. They had often seen balky camels who wouldn't get up simply because they didn't want to, but they had never seen a camel who acted so exactly as though he didn't know what was going on. They didn't know what to do with Claude either.

"We can't just leave him here, but we can't waste any more time. We can't afford to run out of water, and we certainly can't carry a camel," fretted Abdul. "Any ideas?"

His assistants solemnly shook their heads.

"We could load him onto a truck, but I don't suppose anyone knows where there is a truck out here in the middle of the desert?"

His assistants solemnly shook their heads again. Abdul sighed deeply and gazed out across the desert. "This," he said, "is one dickens of a predicament!"

Suddenly the lead camel, who had been watching the proceedings with a look that grew more disgusted every

minute (and no face can look as disgusted as a camel's!) got up, strode over to Claude, and began to snort and snarl loudly. That is, a surprised Abdul and his equally surprised assistants *thought* he was snorting and snarling. Actually he was telling Claude off and mincing no words in the process.

"Now see here, young man," the lead camel said in his roughest, gruffest manner, "we've all had enough of this nonsense. The storm is over, and there is nothing to be afraid of. There was nothing to be afraid of while it was going on, either. All you had to do, as we kept telling you, was to lie still, close your eyes, and wait it out. A bit uncomfortable, I admit, with all that sand trickling over you, but nothing to get so unnerved about. We're a lot better off than Abdul and his men. We've got a built-in water supply, and they don't."

Claude blinked once, but said nothing.

"It's high time you stopped being such a baby," went on the lead camel, who had seen the blink and felt very much encouraged. "Do any of those silly things you're so afraid of ever happen? Has a palm tree ever fallen

on you? Has a dog ever bitten you? Has your shadow ever jumped up on your back and tried to strangle you? Has anyone ever snuck up from behind and taken your dinner away from you?"

Claude blinked again, but said nothing.

"Well?" demanded the lead camel angrily.

Claude shook his head, and Abdul and his assistants, who had been watching with bated breath, said "Ahhh," very softly.

"And did the sand storm do you any harm?"

Claude shook his head again, and Abdul and his assistants said "Ahhh," once more.

"So," thundered the lead camel, "what, precisely, have you got to be afraid of?"

Claude rolled his eyes upward, the better to see the lead camel, and a look of amazement slowly spread across his face. "What, indeed?" he thought. There was nothing to be afraid of. Nothing bad had ever happened to him, except for the time that he had walked into a sheik's tent, knocked it over, and suffered a severe punishment at the hands of the very angry sheik and his very angry Council of Ministers. But he had walked into the tent because he was looking behind him to see if anything was creeping up on him, and didn't watch where he was going. He hadn't even thought about being afraid of walking into a tent.

"Well?" prompted the lead camel, more gently this time.

"Nothing," said Claude with conviction. "Absolutely, positively, indubitably, nothing!"

"Right," agreed the lead camel. "So what are you going to do now?"

"I am going to get up," announced Claude, "and become a normal part of this caravan. I am going to enjoy the shade of palm trees, I am going to eat my dinners like a gourmet, I am

going to let Abdul be my friend and feed me tidbits, I am going to live peacefully with my shadow, and I feel sorry for any dog who dares to bark at me."

After making this speech -- the longest of his life -- Claude got up, took his place among the waiting camels, and snorted impatiently. Even the delighted Abdul, and his equally delighted assistants, knew that this meant, "Let's get a move on!"

That evening, to Abdul's great relief, they came to an oasis with a little town nearby. Claude looked up at the palm trees and wondered why he had never before noticed how tall and graceful they were.

"Really quite beautiful," he thought. He ate his dinner and wondered why



he had never before noticed how delicious it was. "Really quite good," he thought. He happened to look at his shadow while he was wiggling his ears and wondered why he had never before noticed how he could make shadow pictures. "Really quite amusing," he thought. He joined the other camels who were relaxing together and wondered why he had never before noticed how nice it was just to lie around and discuss the events of the day. "Really quite pleasant," he thought.

That night, Claude had the best night's sleep he could remember. He heard no noises, had no scary dreams, and didn't wake up till dawn. He ate breakfast, took his place in line, and snorted again, impatient to be off.

Just as the caravan was about to start, a big yellow dog, followed by a crowd of small yellow dogs, came

down the road from the town. The minute they saw Claude they rushed at him, barking loudly. "Coward! Coward! Coward!" they barked. Claude stood motionless, watching them disdainfully for a few minutes. Then, slowly and very deliberately, he lowered his head until he could look the big yellow dog right in the eye.

"SNARL!" snarled Claude fiercely, between clenched teeth. The big yellow dog's bark changed to a squeal. He backed away from Claude right into the crowd of small yellow dogs behind him, turned, tucked his tail between his legs, and ran back to town as fast as he could, yipping and



yapping at the top of his voice and followed by the crowd of small yellow dogs, yipping and yapping at the tops of their voices.

Claude smiled -- or, at least, he made the closest thing to a smile that a camel can make. "Well," he said, "that takes care of them."

The lead camel, who had been watching with a smile of his own, said, "Claude, I think we're going to have to find you a new name. 'Cowardly Camel' doesn't seem appropriate any more, especially not for a future lead camel."

Claude looked startled, then a far-away expression appeared in his eyes. "Why not," he said thoughtfully. "In a few years, who knows . . ."

Thoughts on Discovering that Plants Respond to the Spoken Word

Murmur softly to the melons
Dryden's verse in accents sweet.
Quote at random from Spinoza
To each radish, squash, and beet.

Read Rosetti to the cacti,
Longfellow to climbing vines;
Bobbie Burns will soothe the heather,
Goethe's prose inspire the pines.

Iceplants crave the thoughts of
Pushkin,
Philodendrons go for Scott;
Shakespeare edifies the lilies
And the primrose in its pot.

Lawns respond to Aristotle,
Plato stirs the privet hedge;
William Blake's advanced reflections
Thrill the sunflowers on the ledge.

Moss identifies with Chaucer,
Lichen loves Icelandic tales;
Corn is mad for Keats and Shelley;
For the grape, Voltaire avails.

Schiller's odes please most potatoes,
Yams are drawn to Ogden Nash;
Celery prefers Jack London,
Carrots choose the poems of Ashe.

T. S. Eliot enhances
Flavor of the pear and lime;
Emerson enthalls the peanut;
Maupessant enchants the thyme.

Bamboo shoots admire Confucious,
Olives, myths from ancient Greece;
Flaubert fascinates head lettuce,
Pope helps onions feel at peace.

Palms can master Bulwer-Lytton,
Apples comprehend Thoreau;
Ferns take in Maccaulay's message.
Thackery makes maples grow.

Pearl Buck satisfies the daisies,
Violets go for Tennyson;
Dafodils praise Mary Stewart
Dandelions like everyone.

—Dagmar Frahme

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