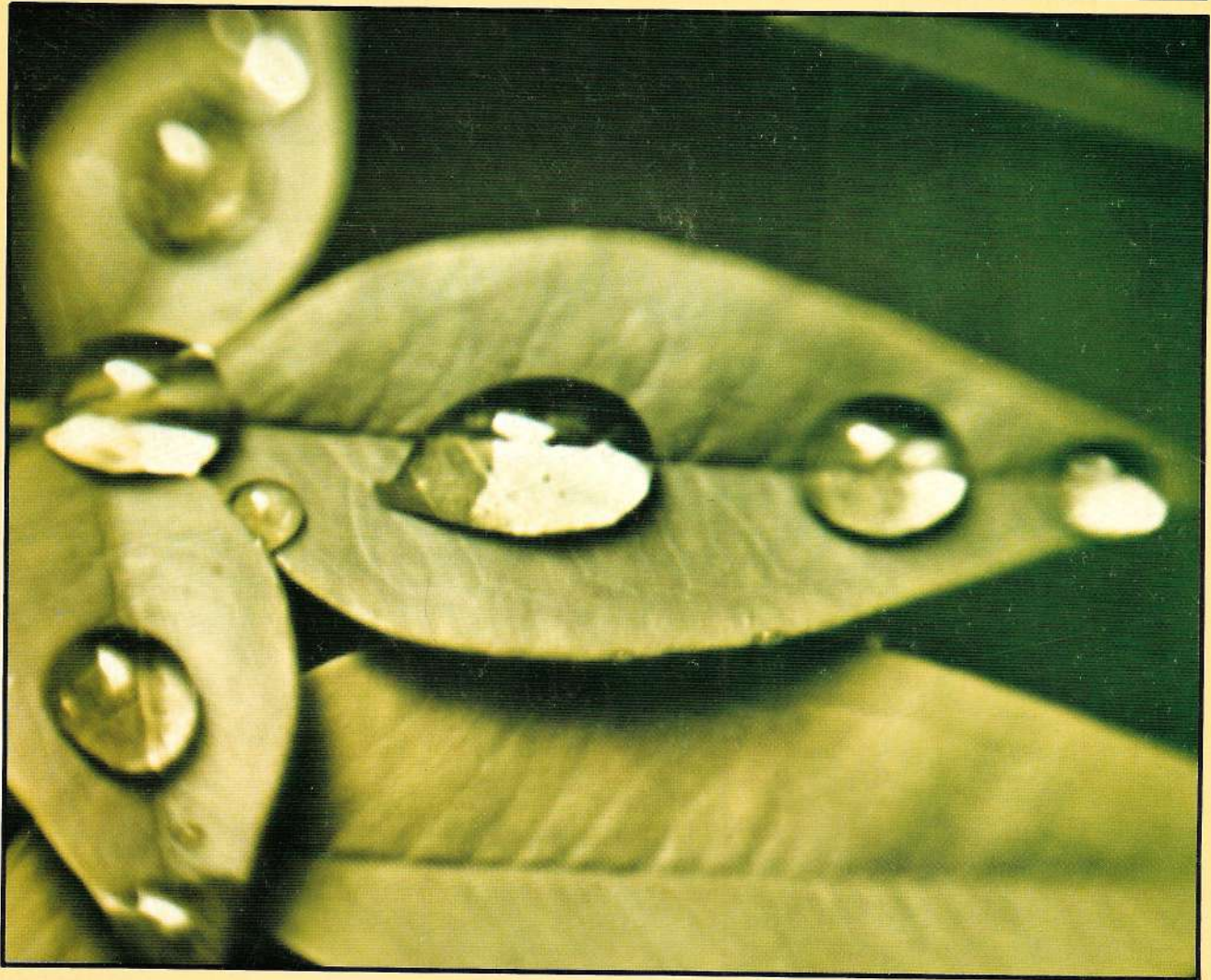


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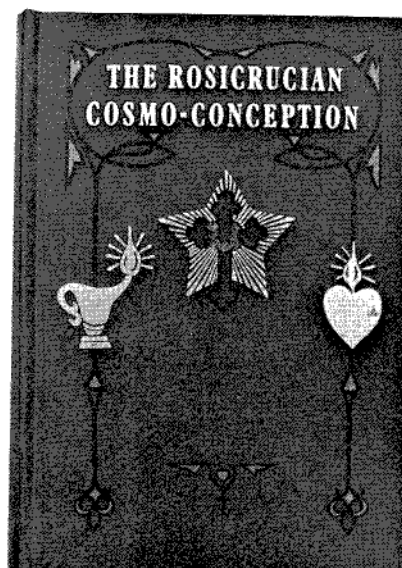
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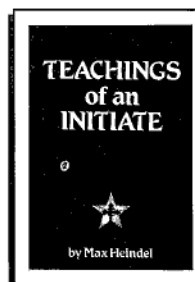
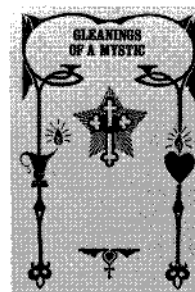
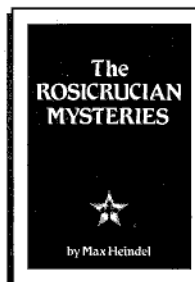
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"A Sane Mind,
A Soft Heart,
A Sound Body"



Aims and Purposes

The Rosicrucian Philosophy

The Rosicrucian Philosophy is a logical and sequential teaching concerning the origin, evolution, and future development of the world and man, showing both the spiritual and scientific aspects. It makes no statements not supported by reason and logic, satisfying the mind by giving clear explanations and neither begging nor evading questions. It holds out a reasonable solution to all mysteries, but it does not regard the intellectual understanding of God and the universe as an end in itself; far from it. The greater the intellect, the greater the danger of its misuse. Therefore this scientific Teaching is given in order that man may believe and start to live the religious life.

Invisible forces called Natural Laws govern physical substance. One by one Science is discovering and studying these forces and harnessing them in the service of the human race. The lower kingdoms are thus brought under control and developed. Man, more complicated, challenges investigation. Nevertheless, he is ruled by the spiritual laws underlying Evolution.

In presenting these Laws, it is the purpose of the Rosicrucian Philosophy to: (1) Explain the hidden springs of life—by knowing what forces are at work within himself man can make the best use of his present faculties; (2) teach the purpose of evolution—this enables man to work in harmony with God's Plan and to develop still unrecognized possibilities; (3) show why service is the most direct path to spiritual perfection.

The Rosicrucian Fellowship

The Rosicrucian Fellowship is an International Association of Christian Mystics established by Max Heindel under the direction of the Elder Brothers of the Rosicrucian Order for the purpose of giving out the Rosicrucian Teachings. World Headquarters is in Oceanside, California, U.S.A.

Affiliation with The Rosicrucian Fellowship is acquired by completing the twelve lessons of the Preliminary Philosophy Course, based on the *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception* by Max Heindel. By doing this, one becomes a "Regular Student" and receives a monthly letter and lesson from Headquarters. A receipt card is enclosed, to be signed and returned to Headquarters. This monthly course does not require written answers, for the Student is expected to live his lessons through self-improvement and service to others. During this time, he gradually raises his spiritual standard of living and prepares himself for Probationership, for which he may apply after two years as a Regular Student. Probationership creates a closer bond with the Teacher and with the Order and its great work of healing and educating mankind.

There are no dues or tuition fees. All expenses of the Organization are met by free-will offerings and the sale of books. Students have the

opportunity to help in this great Work as the heart dictates and the means permit. "As we give so shall we receive."

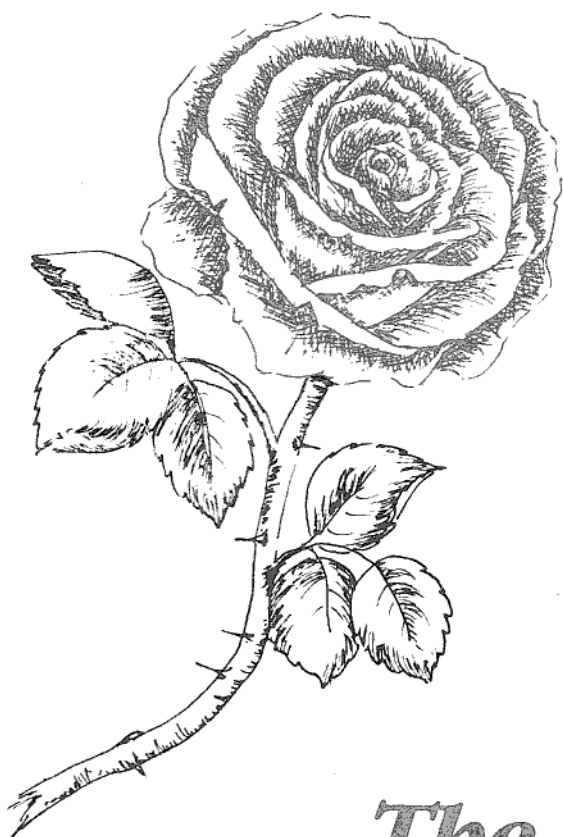
The Preliminary Philosophy Course

Length: 12 lessons. The first is sent on request. When the answer is received it is checked and sent back to the writer with two following lessons, and the time of completing the course depends upon how promptly the answers are returned to Headquarters.

Cost: The textbook, *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, by Max Heindel, may be purchased directly from Headquarters.

Object

- 1) To furnish the knowledge by which the student can consciously take his life in hand and mold it into an expression of confident, radiant power.
- 2) To provide the basic understanding of the Rosicrucian Philosophy which affiliates of the Fellowship should possess.
- 3) To prepare for further study, whether in Philosophy, Astrology, or Bible. In showing how evolution comes about, it gives the key to man's relationship to the Higher Kingdoms—the Celestial Hierarchies who have charge of and direct the great scheme of evolution which we call God's Plan, and which is explained in the second part of the textbook. □



The Sacredness of Life

There are many challenges facing mankind today: Abortion, Suicide, Animal Rights, Right to Die, and AIDS. All of these have one thing in common—"they deal with LIFE." They are all interconnected because they are concerned with this "sacredness" which we must understand if we are to find solutions to these momentous problems in the world today. It is

not good enough just to want to solve the "problems," we must understand the underlying causes. To do this, we must be able to see the Spiritual Laws in operation. We must be able to look at the problem objectively, free from personal prejudice or preference.

Man has been put on this Earth for the purpose of gaining EXPERIENCE—that means learning to live according to nature's or God's laws. It is through the process of trial and error that most of us learn the lessons of life. However, sometime in our existence on Earth we will be required to start looking for answers before we have to learn "the hard way." This means that we will need to take up the study of the Western Wisdom Teachings or something that includes these principles in its teaching. The reason for this is that we must look at life from the Western viewpoint of learning to "spiritualize" life not "escape" from it. Once we have embarked on our journey to discover the Truths contained therein, we will be able to start dealing with the myriad of problems that beset us on a daily basis!

How do you deal with problems or challenges in your personal lifestyle? Do you react as most people do or do you try to study the situation and see what is the most rational way out of it? I'm sure we probably do both, depending on what the circumstances happen to be at any particular time. For instance, if it is something that affects you personally, you might tend to react rather than try to logically and rationally work out a solution. That is because if it is personal, we are too close to the situation to see it as clearly as we would if it were a business problem that needed solving. This is important to understand when we begin to delve into the subject of the "sacredness of life" in all its many facets.

Abortion has become a very controversial topic because it affects so many people at this time of permissiveness in sexual activity. AIDS has also come into the spotlight for the very

same reason. They both deal with the "creative force" or the basic building block that God has given to mankind in order to perpetuate the race. The "creative force" is a life potential, that is, it carries the possibility of bringing about the creation of another being through sexual intercourse. As we know through studying the Western Wisdom Teachings, the Recording Angels assist in the birth of every Ego that comes into the physical plane of manifestation. They are servants of God and have no free-will of their own. They just do as they are guided to do by the Divine Law which functions through them.

Mankind at this point in its evolution is learning to create like God, but still does not have the Divine Law written within him or her as do the Recording Angels. Consequently, man tends to make mistakes by being out of harmony with the Cosmic Laws of the Universe. We are still very far down the ladder in learning to work with creation, therefore, we have to learn most of our lessons through "trial and error." This is where a knowledge of The Law of Cause and Effect becomes of great value. When we can understand the consequence of an act BEFORE we do it—it may save us a great deal of pain and misery. For instance, if you know that when you put your hand in an open fire it will be burned you will no doubt go to great lengths to avoid doing so! That is just common sense. However, if someone tells you that "abortion" is okay IF it is something you can accept regardless of the consequences, you are in danger of getting burned just like putting your hand in the fire. The results may not appear as quickly or be so obvious, but they will be there just the same.

Life is "sacred" because it is the result of the Divine intervention of God's messengers, the Recording Angels who see to it that every Ego seeking embodiment in a physical body is placed there at exactly the right time and place. There are no accidents and seeking abortion as a solution to an "unwanted child" is surely against Divine Law and will be paid for in due time. Learning about the Occult Truths involved in the birth of a child will explain much in regard to why abortion cannot be an acceptable way of dealing with this subject. It is a matter of education just like AIDS, Animal Rights and Right to Die.

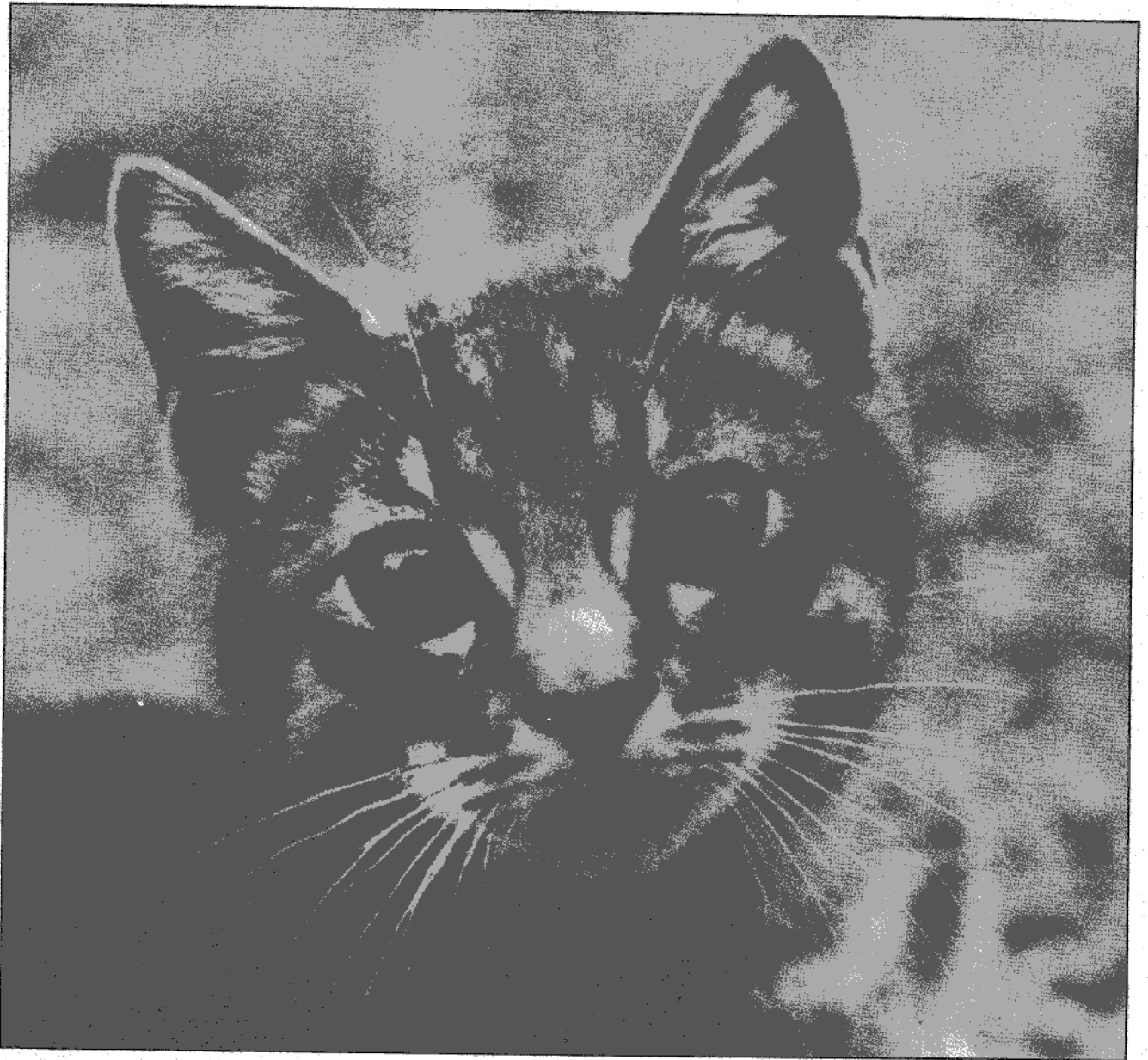
Life cannot be ended by mankind through his actions without him reaping some degree of Karma! That is a fact, whether we want to accept it or not. The killing of animals for food, torturing them in the name of research, or just keeping them in pens for our own amusement will someday require retribution from us individually or collectively. Removing "life support systems" from one whose time has not yet come is certainly a form of murder if we look at the spiritual side of that life which has been entrusted to our care. Doctors are trained to save lives and not to take them! The subject has become so controversial that it will no doubt be one of the foremost matters being considered by professionals in both the medical and legal fields in the next few years.

The solutions will not be easy—it will take an uplifting of the consciousness of man to truly begin to see the answers to these and other problems facing us in regard to the sanctity of life. Living the life of a Spiritual Aspirant will require us to stand up and be counted when these subjects are discussed. We can no longer "stick our heads in the sand" when we hear someone discussing abortion as if it were something to do as a matter of convenience. Nor can we look at AIDS as only a problem caused by homosexuals; it most certainly has to do with the "lifestyles" of many types of people in regard to the sex act. The effect is already being seen, but it may be many years before the true cause can be discovered and treated by doctors.

Living a life of purity and obedience to Divine Law will require many sacrifices on our part, but it must be done if we are to see this planet free of these abuses to the "Sacredness of Life." It will require a great deal of education among the middle class population who may accept many of these things in a "matter of fact" way while not really realizing the gravity of the situation. Life is our most cherished possession and we should not only respect it within ourselves, but within others who are also our brothers and sisters. It is our Christian duty to inform and educate mankind about the Divine Truths which are known by us so that they will be able to change their lives for the better.

□

—Editor



Animals Essential for Holiness?

Father Edward Hays, director of Shantianam, an archdiocesan house of prayer in Easton, Kansas, says, "Our association with animals, birds, and other creatures is essential for our human-ness, if not holiness." He suggests that our pets may even be considered with prayers, which lead us toward wholeness *and* holiness.

Perhaps there are many of us who might say that with all of our daily duties, it is just not practical to get wrapped up in pets. Or, maybe, because of the death of a beloved old pet companion we vow to NEVER go through that again.

Twenty-six animals die per second in the United States due to laboratory testing, most in horrible pain. No, anesthetics are NOT used in most cases! Over \$13 billion (as of 1981) of our tax dollars are spent on repetitive experiments in medical, dental, and psychological programs in colleges. Untold suffering goes on in harsh, dirty, and cruel surroundings.

Many people are not crusaders, willing to march in protests, etc., but, they can have an immense impact on animal rights by writing letters or just speaking up when they have a chance. Some examples:

1. If someone notices or questions you're being a vegetarian, explain why, kindly, without accusation. You may say it was a nutritional reason because you learned eating meat was harmful to your body, causing dis-ease. Then it became a spiritual issue. Once you learned you didn't need meat to live, you didn't feel right about causing the death of an animal just to enjoy chewing up its muscles.

2. If you see someone mistreating an animal, step in and talk to them. Don't threaten them, just get their attention off the animal, the use your intuition in a gentle way to resolve the incident.

3. If you're at a zoo and witness a cage that's too small, dirty or contains an injured animal, *say something*. If there's no water or daylight, speak up. If someone is feeding the animals junk food, report them. It could save the critters' life!

4. Complain about rodeos in your area. Those animals are *very* mistreated. Write letters to city officials.

5. Free puppies and kittens in ads...call the owners and suggest they charge a small fee and go see the new home. Many people get these free pets to sell to labs for research purposes!

6. Carriage horses, if they are lathered, ask about water; if limping, bring it to the driver's attention. If nothing is done, phone the SPCA.

7. If you see a dog or cat in a car in the summer, leave a note on the window explaining that the animal can experience brain damage and/or death in ten minutes, as the temperature rises as much as 20-30 degrees inside the car.

**We
are
taught
that
all
life
is
sacred.**

8. You can be an ARMCHAIR ACTIVIST. While watching TV keep some postcards by your chair. If you see animals being abused or programs that make light of animal suffering, jot down the program, channel, show, scene, and date. Mail this card to the station. **SPEAK UP!** Remember, surveys show that one letter is worth 1000 signatures on a petition!

Thousands of rabbits die excruciating deaths due to having cosmetics forced into their clamped open eyes, and stuffed down tubes into their stomachs, just so women can wear more "up-to-date" make-up.

In 1985, at the University of Washington, in Seattle, 1,071 dogs, 314 cats, 358 guinea pigs, 2,619 hamsters, 2,356 rabbits, 1,495 rabbits, 1,495 primates (monkeys), 26,028 rats, 32,028 mice, 41 ferrets, 188 gerbils, 30 voles, 15 lemmings, 20 prairie dogs, 8 nutrias, plus pigs, goats, and sheep lost their lives in unneeded (I know, from first hand experience about these tests from when I was in dental school. I refused to participate.) experiments. That's just ONE school! Many of these dogs and cats were former pets taken to the animal shelter or picked up on the street. Can you imagine their confusion as man/woman whom they trusted and looked to for love and comfort began to torture them?

As Students and Probationers we are taught that all life is sacred. When we take our vows as Probationers we promise not to cause the death of an animal by eating meat. How then can we continue to ignore the monumental issue of the torturing of laboratory animals? I know that most of the lab tests performed are redundant and unnecessary. They are for obtaining the almighty grant dollar! It all boils down to economics. It is big business. Russia has already performed most of them and published the results. MORE taxpayers money!

By speaking up or bringing a pet into our life we are forced to put the needs of another before our little ego. Is this not SERVICE, our ultimate goal? This is spiritual and prayerful since it is an expression of an effort to move beyond our limited selfish needs. □

—Patricia Gayle Foster

The Revelation of St. John the Divine

Chapter 6

1. *And I saw when the Lamb* (soul now freed from bondage) *opened one of the seals* (mark of office, sign of differentiation) *and I heard* (became conscious of), *as it were the noise of thunder* (Region of Concrete Thought), *One of the four beasts* (having the likeness of man) *saying, Come and see.* (Make contact with archetype of the region of Concrete Thought.)

2. *And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering and to conquer.*

During the opening of these seals, St. John, who is now functioning in the spirit world, will be shown the past and future states of man. At the time the first seal was opened, humanity in possession of germinal physical, vital and desire bodies, is shown descending into involution as indicated by the statement "and he went forth conquering and to conquer."

We see the entry of the Ego into the first great creative day, or Saturn Period, as shown in Diagram 8-A, and 8 from *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception* by Max Heindel. More specifically, we are seeing the recapitulation of the Saturn, Sun and Moon Periods, with an introduction to the Earth Period; much of which lies ahead as we enter into the evolutionary half. This "review" occurs during the first example given (the white horse) corresponds to what is known in Rosicrucian Teachings as the *Polarian Epoch*. This is in reality a recapitulation of the first great period of creation or the *Saturn Period*. (See: *Cosmo-Conception*, page 197 and 261 - 266). The second smaller cycle, or *Hyperborean Epoch*, corresponds to the Sun Period, or Globe B, with the third, or *Lemurian Epoch* correlated to the Moon Period. The fourth rider identifies the *Atlantean Epoch*, where Mind has become a "new tool" for Humanity, as the rider puts his "crown" to use. Future development will occur during the present *Aryan Epoch*, as further unfoldment of the Ego takes place. All of these stages of development are shown in Chapter 6, as the Ego is presented with all his faculties.

The Ego's physical, vital and desire bodies, along with the germinal mind are symbolized in the second verse. Identification of the physical body is implied by the rider, who is going forth to conquer. This activity, as previously stated, corresponds to the *Saturn*

Period. As the rider relates to man, the horse relates to the Vital Body. We find a similar symbolism in the New Testament where Jesus rode the donkey into Jerusalem (Higher Mind).

In an effort to gain better understanding, let us recall how up to and including the present Epoch, everything has been prepared in advance. Such a concept is in complete accord with the New Testament meaning of the word or Logos of John 1:1. We discover that in all cases we have first the thought (Word) and then the creation. Furthermore, this explains the white horse of the Saturn Period, since preparations were at that time being made for the Vital Body, which appeared in the *Sun Period*. Likewise have we been told that preparations are presently underway for our entry into the *Jupiter Period*. (the next Period.)

3. *And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, come and see.*

4. *And there went out another horse that was red* (development of desire): *and power was given to him that sat thereon to*



take peace from the earth (body), and that they should kill one another (go into sensuality): and there was given unto him a great sword (outgoing energy of the lower mind, indicating conflict between the true and false.)

Since the Epochs are recapitulations of the Periods, such symbolism does not change. Hence, with the above symbolism we have identified the Sun Period. A check of Diagram 8, page 197 of *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, will reveal Globe D, the Nadir of this Period is in the Desire World. With the Desire World prominent during this time we have ample reason why the horse is red. This is testimony of rash action and power (desires) that will appear during the following Period. They symbol of the "great sword" is an indication of a future great conflict between the true and false. When

coupled with the Law of Cause and Effect, it will compel the necessary development of mind.

5. *And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.*

6. *And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny; and three measures of barley for a penny; and see that thou hurt not the oil and the wine.*

This seal relates to the Moon Period, with the Ego's developing, or germinal Physical, Vital and Desire Bodies. Also, mind is now being readied for the Earth Period, and in this manner is shown the Ego becoming accountable for his actions in the physical world, through contact with the Law of Cause and Effect. The statement "A measure

of wheat for a penny; and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine" is a very appropriate introduction to these new lessons, for as we shall see in Chapters 13 to 20, there will be a time of reckoning. Furthermore, the wheat and barley symbolism refers to germinal principles that, with our efforts and devotion, will eventually be made into spiritual bread, the staff of the higher life, or food for the Soul. The monetary stipend reminds us of our physical responsibilities, or the four elements upon which this activity rests. In short, this (germinal) wheat and barley, to be most beneficial, requires our physical care with the result that at the proper time it will become a beneficial (spiritual) soul food.

The above symbolism gives a clear picture of our own future accomplishments, since the bread that is to be made from wheat suggests ultimate Truth. In this manner the promise "And ye shall know the truth" becomes reality.

Number 6 being the keynote of this chapter, and also the number of the manifesting Christ, all changes wrought by the creation of this spiritual bread will prove most desirable. Appropriately, the directive to "hurt not the oil and wine" carries significant symbolic meaning, since any pressing of our more bitter experiences of life will soon demand our attention, and thereby create the oil. In this manner oil becomes a necessary ingredient for adequate nourishment of our spiritual life, with our (spiritual) wine directly related to our understanding of these difficult experiences. Such symbolism now

becomes a potent revealer of the wisdom to be gained, as any use of this symbolic wine results in an intoxication, or paralysis of the lower nature as it brings great joy and satisfaction to the higher nature.

The above examples are but the result of the Law of Cause and Effect, as shown by the balances in the hand of the rider of verse 5. The black horse is representative of the materiality through which humanity is presently passing and the lesson to be learned is discrimination. This symbolism has revealed that violation of Nature's Laws will always have a price-tag attached. And it does appear that many of us are committed to learn this lesson the hard way! 7. *And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.*

8. *And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.*

The number 4 of this fourth seal relates again to the four physical elements that we must overcome before progress can be made into the spiritual worlds. The "black horse" of the previous symbol plainly indicates extreme materiality. Hence, the "pale horse" would indicate the possibility of change for the better; that the Law of Cause and Effect (as symbolized by the balances) has been designed to accomplish its purpose! This desired change has been represented as death, and it is a fact that when we die to

something we do indeed undergo change. To kill (change) with the sword represents an outgoing of positive energy as the conflict increases between the true and the false. To kill with hunger the beasts of the Earth, etc., is to starve them out of existence and direct our attention to the higher spiritual side of our natures.

When we can effectively use the "Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God" we rely on spiritual energy from within, which is the Divine expression of Truth outwardly manifested.

9. *And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain (had changed) for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:*

10. *And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?*

The fifth seal (5), a Divine number, places man at the midpoint in the scales of evolution—half way between the 1 and 10. There is, nevertheless, insight and understand-



ing being developed concerning things of the higher life, and it is from this germinal inception, as previously indicated, that the Christ Soul emerges. At this point John is being shown the past and future details of creation and is observing how souls, at this stage of development, are beginning to manifest the qualities within; souls that have to this point been slain, or dormant.

Quite appropriately, the question is "How long, oh Lord" as these souls, who are pioneers and have died to the physical restraints begin to realize that progress depends upon how much we apply ourselves to the killing out of the unwanted hindrances. Now, from this viewpoint, can this time of trouble be shortened?

11. *And white robes were given to every one of them; and it was said unto them that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed (changed) as they were, should be fulfilled (takes time).*

**Blood
in the
spiritual
sense
signified
the
divine truth
of the
Lord.**

We have previously mentioned that there are three numerical divisions within the Hebrew alphabet and that this interpretation is to be an effort

to show that the significance of the 22 letters match the symbolism of the 22 chapters of Revelation. Therefore, let us keep in mind that until we come to Chapter 13, we are dealing with the physical side of humanity. The white robe of verse 11, refers to our potential vital body that we are presently just beginning to be aware of. In other words, it is in germinal form. Before we can realize its true potential, we need to have the assistance of mind to operate it. Note that trouble does not really begin and the "pot start to boil" until mind comes into the picture, during Chapters 13 to 20. Also, it would seem that all the weird creatures (dragon, etc., etc.) are but creations of a mind wrongly used. Finally, after we have been practically forced to use the mind correctly (and it looks like this is going to apply to most of us), death and hell (creations of our minds) are cast into the "lake of fire."

It would seem, then, that the suggested rest "for a little season" anticipates that it will take time to perfect the mind. The "fellow servants and their brethren" are other faculties that also must be developed. But the bottom line of all this is that during this *Earth Period* we are to be actively engaged in the building of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness (vital body) in preparation for the *Jupiter Period*. In this chapter (6), we see the first awareness to the Christ within. That is part of the significance of the number 6. Even this implies change and could that be the reason why some people do not like it?

12. *And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal (the*

emergence, or first activity of the Christ within), and, lo, there was a great earthquake (shaking of the body when the seven centers begin activity); and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair (Spirit activity beginning), and the moon became as blood; (Blood in the spiritual sense signifies the divine truth of the Lord.)

John records Jesus as saying "...he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." Another way of stating the significance of all this is that as the physical sun reflects off the moon so does the spiritual sun reflect from the personality.

13. *And the stars of heaven fell into the earth (we are no longer dependent upon light from the lower mind,) even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.*

"Untimely figs" is that fruit not produced by regeneration, and the time comes when it will wither away; for "By their fruits ye shall know them." The "mighty wind" is the great turbulence symbolized by the River Jordan that we shall soon begin to cross. The significance of the Israelites, that were being led by Moses is that they represented physical qualities that must be conditioned before entrance can be accomplished into the promised land. In other words, during this time our physical aspirations will no longer produce much fruit since it is likely to be blown off the tree!

14. *And the heavens departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.*

Have you noticed an amazing correlation of numbers here?

Number 13 brings enlightenment to the mind. The verse just quoted is number 14, which is the 10 cycle and the squaring of the mental faculties of the mind, and this caused great reaction. Chapter 14 states (and this is where we find mental accomplishments) that the Father's name is "written in their foreheads." Also, they "sung as it were a new song."

15. *And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondmen, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;*

16. *And said to the mountains and the rocks, fall on us and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:*

17. *For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?*

Let us continue with the significance of numbers. Again, 15 is composed of 10 and 5 (man the creator — the awakening-man). Here we have in Chapter 6, the first recognition of the Christ within. The mighty men, the bondmen, etc., could not make it. This means that our physical faculties are insufficient. When we turn to Chapter 15, we read "And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened...And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God."

Number 16 is referring to the voice of the Christ within—the coming perfection. In Chapter 16 we read "And I heard a great voice out of the temple...And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there

was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the Earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great." When we consider that these great events record our awakened spiritual faculties in contrast to verse 16, where the physical faculties are insufficient and are requesting the rocks and mountains to fall on them, isn't that something to consider?

**We
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perfect.**

Number 17 is again the 10 and 7 (perfection). In Chapter 17 we read: "So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw..." Are not we beginning to get the picture of who shall be able to stand (v. 17)?

The time has now come when those desirous of reaping the benefits of spirituality are going to have to live the life to attain it. Remember, we are at this time preparing for the Jupiter Period where we can only function in a completed Temple (vital body).

SYMBOLY OF NUMBER 6

Vau (6)	Simple Letter
Feminine	Taurus (♉)

Internal powers are revealed through the letter Vau and number 6; yet there are those who maintain they are unfortunate because of tendency to change. On the other hand, when viewed with the understanding that change must come if we should ever expect to advance; would not this ultimately prove to be most fortunate?

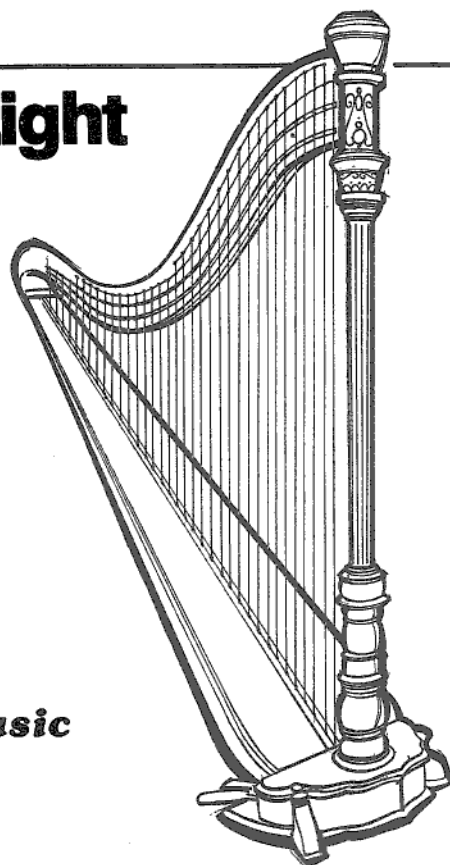
The lesson to be learned is that mastery of these powers will identify the Christ force in Nature, as it ever strives and changes in order to manifest more perfectly. Since 6 is the number that ushers in 7, the perfect number, and is an inherent urge to perfection in every living thing; adaptation to environment is the result. As stated in the Scriptures, "I go to prepare a place for you." (John 14:2-3)

Let us recognize that we are not preparing some far-off place in the sky, where we shall suddenly become perfect. This change occurs within. It is true that the Christ has prepared the place, but it is up to each of us to finish and equip this temple within and make it a fit dwelling place. During this time we become conscious of *Divine Love* bringing us up out of the darkness and planting our feet firmly upon the Foundation Stone.

Number six is "A symbol of accomplishment of growth or purpose; the number which limits and serves to usher in the seventh, that of perfection. It signifies completion of a period of activity, as six days, six hours, six signs, six months, six seasons, six years." (Gaskell, *Dictionary of Scriptures and Myths*, p. 695.) □

—Evans Waterman

Mystic Light



Part I

Cosmic Music

Music in Relation to Human Evolution

The Evolution of man and of the planet on which he dwells may be traced musically as well as spiritually. In so doing it is discovered that both tracings proceed simultaneously and along parallel paths. As a matter of fact, the two stand apart only to our limited perception. In their essence they are inseparably united, and in higher realms of being it is recognized that musical understanding and spiritual realization are identical.

"In the beginning was the Word." Both the universe and man were created by tone. The musical formula for this creative act is contained in the very first chapter of Genesis, the book of Eternal Beginnings, and also in the first chapter of the supreme Book of the New Testament, the Gospel of St. John.

Throughout the entire universe there sounds a threefold Song which is the Song of the Absolute. The Song is One but it possesses three aspects: Power, or harmony; the Word, or melody; and Motion, or rhythm. This universal song is literally the primordial energy by which God manifests Himself. It is truly a music, although human sensitivity is not yet such that it can be heard physically; but whether he hears it or not, man does in actual fact live, move, and have his being in a universe of tonal harmony.

The divine energies emitted by God's Song are rayed out into our universe by the twelve zodiacal Hierarchies which surround our solar system. Each of the twelve Hierarchies sounds forth a distinctive note of its own, which registers in earthly music as a note of the chromatic scale. The twelve signs belonging to the twelve Hierarchies falls into four groups according to the element to which they are related. Those belonging to the Fire and Air Triplicities sing in Majors; those related to Water and Earth sing in Minors. Together they form the "Music of the Spheres." A specific creative task is performed by each of the zodiacal Hierarchies. While the tasks are different, all are manifestations of the One Universal Tone, which is the source of their energy, fount from which all music springs.

This stupendous cosmic chorus, being beyond man's perceptive capacity, is stepped down into lesser potencies by the Logos of our solar system, who is its Creator, and becomes known to this Earth as Will (harmony), Wisdom (melody), and Activity (rhythm).

Hearing the music of the spheres is a transcendent initiatory experience for the spiritually illumined. As celestial tones are registered by "blessed ears that hear," so "blessed sight" registers a rainbow of colors that accompany the sounding of those tones. Plato was among the illumined ones who heard and saw

these supernal glories. They are described with initiatory understanding by Shakespeare, and St. John refers to them repeatedly in recounting the revelation he received on the Isle of Patmos.

Since the tone-powered creative Fiat of the Absolute is threefold in its nature, the numbers *one*, *two*, and *three* are the basis of all manifestation. Confucius, the Chinese Initiate-Teacher, declared that "from One proceeds Two; from Two comes Three; and from Three come all things." Christian theology refers to this threefold power as the Holy Trinity and rightly teaches that from it all things seen and unseen come into manifestation.

One represents the point at which the true Man, Virgin Spirit, takes upon himself the first veil as he descends toward manifestation. *Two*, being dual and separative, relates to the transient or manifested state of the *One*. It is the dominant force in the present stage of human evolution. *Three* represents the Activity of the Godhead within manifested duality. It is the force that moves toward the perfection of completion under the power of *seven*, the number making up the diatonic scale.

Within physical manifestation the *Three* (triangle) rests upon the *Four* (cube), interpreted as the Three Principles manifesting in the Four Elements; or again as the threefold Spirit ruling over the fourfold personality.

Astronomically the first three signs of the Zodiac, Aries, Taurus and Gemini represent the primordial three forces which unfold progressively in the signs that follow.

When the Zodiac is taken in three groups of four each, every group starts with a Fire sign, followed by an Earth sign, then by Air and Water.

Aries	Leo	Sagittarius
Taurus	Virgo	Capricorn
Gemini	Libra	Aquarius
Cancer	Scorpio	Pisces

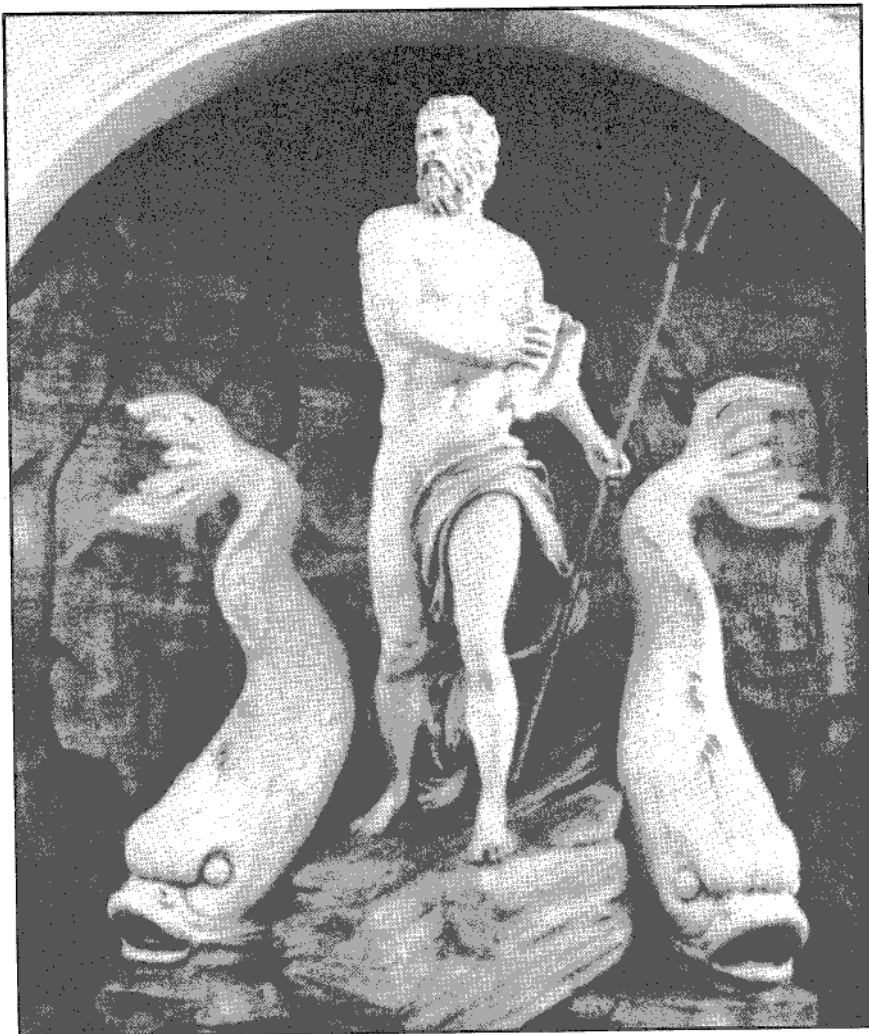
***The
Masonic
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admonishes
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depend.***

Reading horizontally we then find the zodiacal triplicities men-

tioned previously as denoting the triune cosmic force. Aries projects the seed-force into Taurus, this dual impress is then projected into Gemini; and the threefold impress repeats itself in every one of the remaining nine signs of the Zodiac.

As Aries shows the point at which the Spirit enters upon its involuntary cycle, descending into the labyrinth of manifestation, so its opposite polarity, Libra, the seventh sign of the Zodiac, is the point, or gate, through which man passes when he exchanges human concepts and the veil of flesh for cosmic knowing and the immortal raiment of the soul, whereby he can "go in and go out" at will between the spiritual realms and the physical which are their reflection. Here let us say that the Masonic fraternity admonishes its members to study music, mathematics and astronomy, these being the three fundamental sciences upon which all other studies depend.

All creations of the solar system are formed through tone emanations from the twelve Hierarchies. The alchemical basis of all things is *Fire* and *Water* in conjunction with their complementary elements of *Earth* and *Air*. These make up the zodiacal symphony to which the heavenly chorus sounds forth in the supreme chant: "And the Spirit of God (Fire) moved upon the face of the waters (Water)." This sublime chant echoes and re-echoes through the antiphonal chords of St. John's mighty song of planetary rhythm: "The Word was with God." In it the blessed Disciple transmitted for humanity something of the ecstasy voiced



by the celestial Hierarchies of Aries and Taurus at creation's very beginning.

To repeat, in the combined forces of Fire, Water, Air and Earth are the Alpha and Omega of all things. This combination of powers is expressed in certain mantram cyphers, familiar examples of which are INRI, JHVH, AMEN and the WORD. The power of the spoken word lies concealed in these cyphers, also the mystery connected with the Lost Word of Masonry. The tones carried by these letters, when properly sounded and sustained by an Initiate of the rank of St. John, become the means of effecting miraculous transmutations.

Something of their power is imparted to the Gospel of St. John, in a sublimity, a majesty unsurpassed in all the Bible. The language is sonorous, symphonic, exalted. In this connection it is interesting to note the repeated use of the numbers *three* and *seven* throughout this Gospel. By virtue of this fact, its vibrating values continue to sing their divine song down through the centuries. As the first chapter of Genesis makes plain in its recital covering the seven days of creation, our evolutionary scheme is septenary in nature. The most casual reader of the Bible does not fail to note the repetition of this number from Genesis to Revelation.

In the first of the seven creative days the fourfold power is potentially present. In the succeeding days it becomes progressively active until it reaches complete expression on the last or seventh creative day. The dominantly operative power in each of the seven days or periods is attuned to the musical keynote of one of the planets of our solar system. Thus each day adds its particular note to the grand ensemble as the innate powers of spirit become increasingly manifest. When the final or seventh note has been struck, the power of the Word that is God, the All Good, sounds forth in a glorious octave, the completed and perfect whole.

Man—A Son of God

Sometime in the future there will be a certain type of music written for the purpose of assisting mankind to resurrect memories of past lives from out the subconscious mind. This will be highly individualized music, bearing, as it were, a tonal recapitulation of past events. The basis for this assertion is the fact that human life had its beginning in music, as did the manifested universe.

As previously stated, it is through a proper blending of the Fire (masculine) and Water (feminine) principles that human life comes into manifestation. It is also through the establishment of equilibrium between these same principles that a new spiritual birth through Initiation is accomplished.

For the occult scientist birth is a threefold event. The first is physical birth, an event experienced by humanity as a whole. The second is new birth through spiritual regeneration or

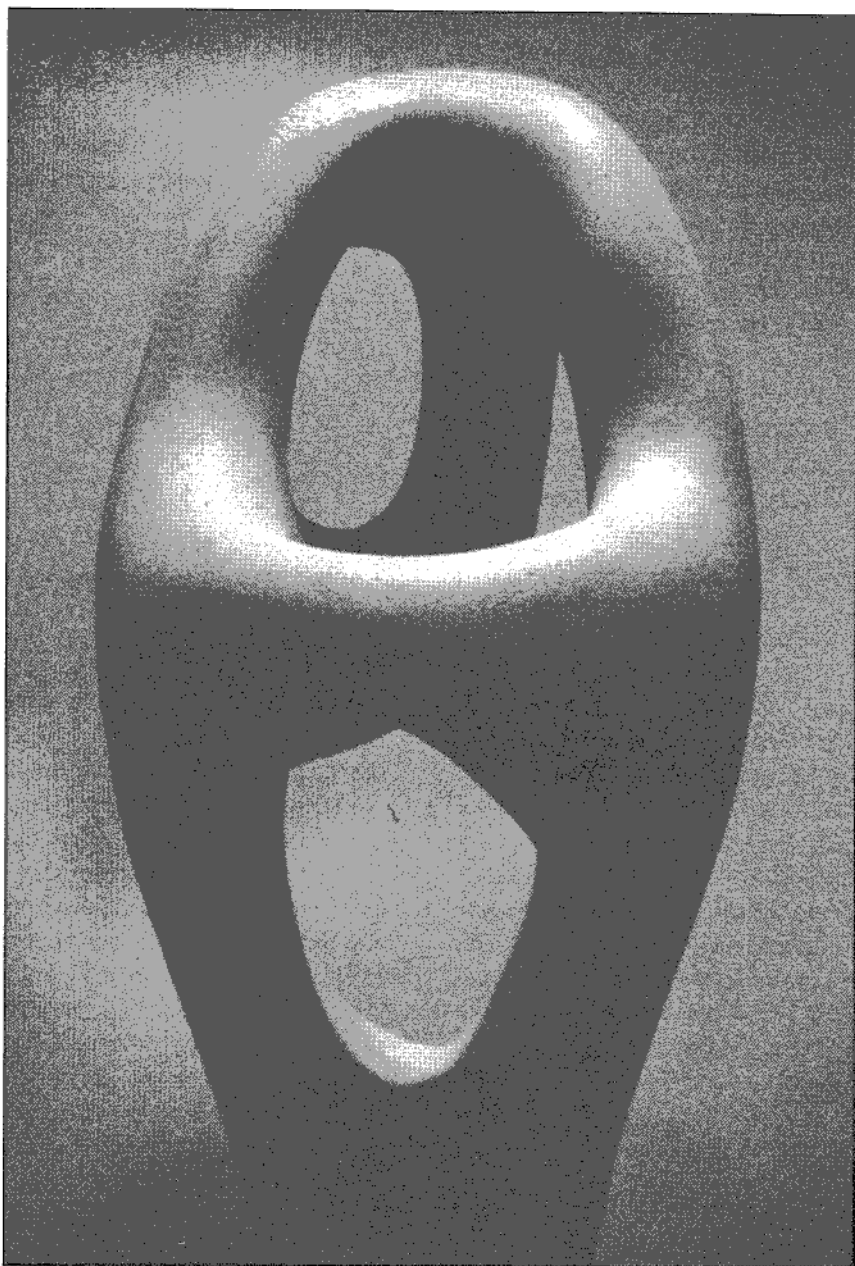
Initiation, an experience which has so far been attained by only the most advanced pioneers of the race. The third birth is entrance into cosmic knowing, which establishes direct contact with the activities of celestial Hierarchies. This is the stage of advancement of Masters and of Lords of Compassion, those who are assisting our planetary evolution and progression. By virtue of his having passed through this threefold birth, the great Egyptian Teacher, the God Thoth, was called by the Greeks the Thrice Great Hermes, or Hermes Trismegistus. Dante's *Divine Comedy* contains a veiled allusion to his personal experiences with stellar Hierarchies which became possible to him after he had achieved the triple birth. What one has done, another can do. The same sublime attainment awaits all who make themselves worthy.

Musical instruments embody certain tones and tonal values which pertain to celestial happenings of man's past evolution. Their origin may be traced to man's unconscious memories of truths belonging to musical evolution and the soul's sojourn in heaven between incarnations. Thus the high notes of a violin give the nearest objective approach to the tone of spirit as it is differentiated in universal consciousness. The lyre and harp are objectified concepts of certain inner powers whereby man once knew himself as a celestial instrument in tune with the Music of the Spheres. For this reason these instruments were sacred to Mystery Temples of ancient Egypt and Greece. Though now latent, the spiritual organs to which they corres-

pond but await revivification as man reclaims his temporarily lost divine estate. The music of these instruments is such that it tends to resurrect from his subconscious mind memories of his former exalted status.

In the earliest stages of human embodiment, music was used by celestial Hierarchies to mould human bodies. In the present materialistic age music is used to awaken men's souls. Ancient music was always highly spiritual in origin and effect. With man's

fall into materiality and subservience to his physical senses, it became less and less so. But the race will reawaken its neglected and sleeping spiritual powers; then music will regain the influence it once exercised over the evolving human soul. Mankind is destined to recognize and use "magic music" whereby the blind shall see, the lame shall walk, and veils of materialism will be drawn aside as communion with invisible Hosts is re-established.



Spiritual science has discovered evidence of four great periods in which human evolution has proceeded, together with the evolution of our universe and solar system. Three are in the past, and mankind now labors for liberation from materiality in the present fourth Creative Day, usually referred to as the Earth Period. Three more periods, or Days of God, are to follow, during which the personality will be transmuted into spirit and the spirit re-united with God in conscious awareness of its source and nature in Deity.

During the past three Days of God and on into the present fourth Day, cosmic Hierarchs have guided our evolution, and their work for mankind is shown in the starry heavens.

But those spiritual powers which we see today externally as stars in the heavens were in remote evolutionary epochs simply vast radiations of intelligence and power, including not merely the powers which worked upon the root of matter but also the cosmic energies which are individualized and concentrated in human emotions. The great Powers of the universe are not feelingless or emotionless beings. They differ from mankind in that their emotions are universal in scope, "weaving from star to star"; while at the same time they are intensely aware of every tiniest atom within the universe. Space and time do not hinder the workings of these mighty universal Powers. Their projected emanations created nebulae and evolved solar systems; and even when some far-off star is but a shadow of the real star which has moved onward in its orbit or

perhaps disappeared from space, the spiritual emanations continue to work.

In the first great day of mankind's evolution space was dark; yet *Heat* was present in cosmic form. This period is called the Saturn Period. The Hierarchy of celestial Intelligences which had special charge of this period—for space was and is full of these Intelligences of all the Hierarchies—was a host of beings associated with what is today the constellation Leo. They are called in Christian esotericism the Lords of Flame, which is a descriptive title, "because of the brilliant luminosity of their auras and their great spiritual powers," as

***The
work
on the
first
Day,
therefore,
produced
"Fire Music."***

Max Heindel, a Rosicrucian mystic, has said: The Bible term for them is "Thrones." These beings projected into the human consciousness the seed-pattern, or archetype, of the physical body, which we possess today. This seed-pattern is rooted in a particular atom in the heart, called the "seed-atom," and man will carry this atom with him until evolution is wholly completed. The sign Leo rules the heart, where the seed-atom is "enthroned."

The Lords of Flame sounded the tone which awoke the highest power of the Virgin

Spirit (primordial mankind) into activity.

In the second cosmic Day of God the element of Air was added to the evolutionary picture and Heat became Light. In this Period the seed-pattern of the "vital body," of life-force body, was given to the Virgin Spirit. This is the "body" or principle which makes growth possible, and which also bestows freedom of movement and the power of propagation. The pattern for this body was given by the Hierarchy of Virgo. In the third Creative Day Moisture was added to Heat and Light of the two earlier Periods. The material condition resulting from this was similar to a "fire-fog," a condition belonging to nebulae in the very earliest dawn of creation.

In the third cosmic Day another Hierarchy, that of Libra, emanated from itself the seed-pattern of man's astral or emotional body.

With the dawning of the present fourth Creative Day the principle of Mind was added to the preceding three principles, namely those from which developed the physical, etheric and astral bodies. This Mind principle was activated by the Hierarchy of Sagittarius, the Lords of Mind.

In each of the four Creative Days one of the four elements came into manifestation under the power of the zodiacal triplicity to which it belongs. In the first Day, the element of Fire manifested under the combined impulses of Aries, Leo and Sagittarius, the Fire Hierarchies. The work of the first Day, therefore, produced "Fire Music." The second Day, introduced the Air element through the concerted work of

the Hierarchies of that element, namely Gemini, Libra and Aquarius. Theirs was "Air Music." The third Day, introduced the Water element under the three Water Hierarchies: Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces. Evolution then continued under the rhythm of "Water Music." The fourth Day, our present Earth Period, received the impulses of the three Earth Hierarchies, Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn, which brought the Earth element into manifestation to the accompaniment of "Earth Music."

Truly man originates in the music of the spheres!

Due to the materialism of the present age, comparatively few realize the spiritual potential of music or the high uses to which it can be directed by those who know how to tune in to celestial harmonies. The magic attributed by legend to the music of Orpheus is destined to become an actuality for the masses.

Music is often described as the voice of Spirit. This poetical expression has its foundation in reality. Virgin Spirits composing the present human race were first differentiated within the heart of God through the power of the Word, which sounds the musical keyword of the universe. Each of the seven cosmic planes to which the planetary life of Earth is related is sounding continuously its own keynote in harmony with the sevenfold tonal symphony of the evolutionary scheme to which we belong. Thus, as the human ego descends from the highest heaven toward physical birth it is literally bathed in music. It is projected into being by a Song of God; and the several bodies the ego builds for

itself, in and through which to function, are fashioned by the music of the heavens.

For this reason it may be said that an individual's star map or horoscope showing the positions of the planetary bodies at the moment of birth is a musical score done in planetary symbols of the heavenly harmonies and dissonances as these are played into the life of the incarnating ego. A horoscope thus becomes the musical signature of a person.

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song.**

Primarily, each Ego is attuned to the keynote of one of the planets. Through meditation and inner work it is possible for one to discover his particular planetary keynote. As one grows spiritually this basic note increases in volume and intensity until it becomes a victorious chant that overcomes the dis-

sonances of the squaring or opposing configurations in his stellar chart, and merges the whole into a triumphant chorale.

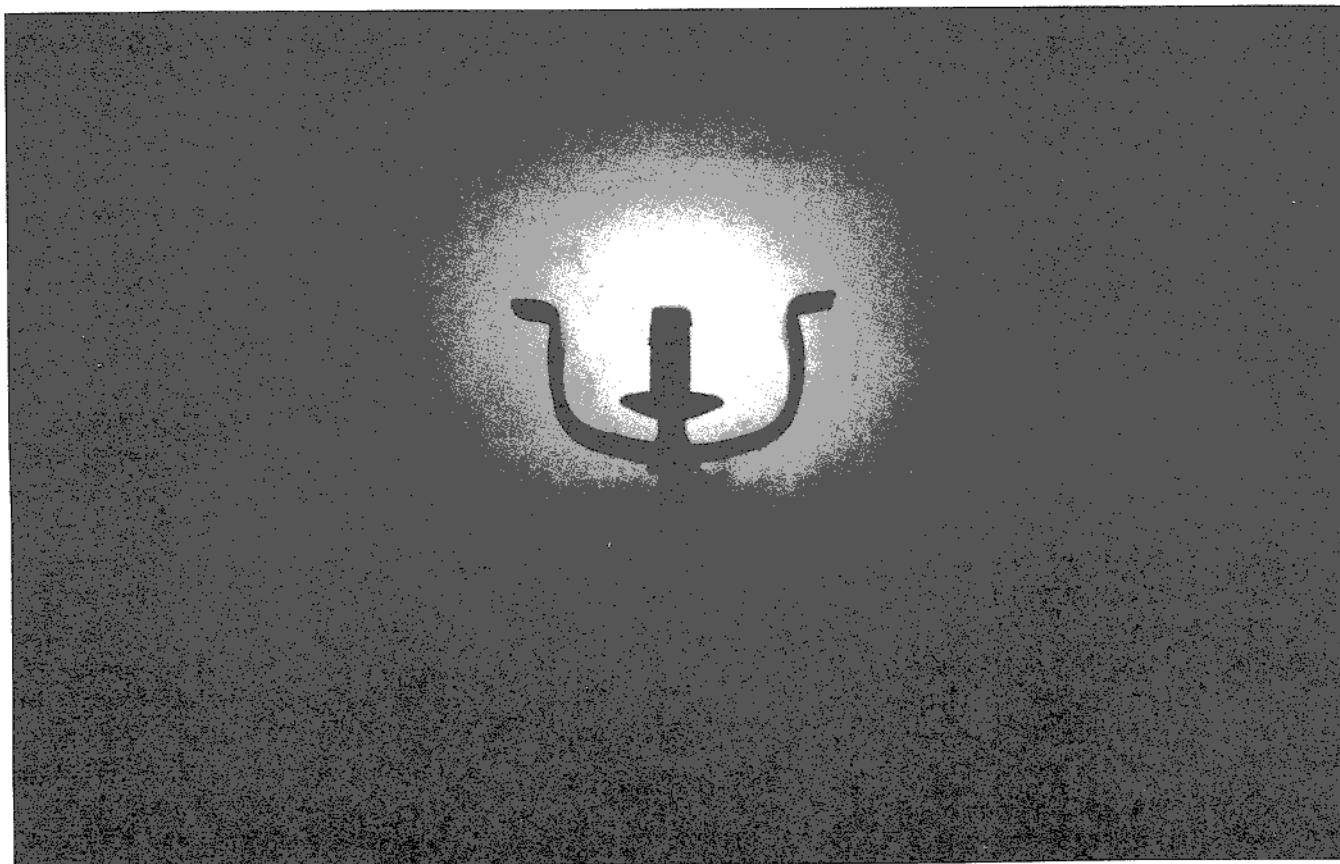
At all times the heavens are resonant with music sent forth by countless interweaving tones of heavenly bodies. The mystic wheel of life which shows star positions at birth records only the tones to which a particular Ego responds. A "silent note" occurs in a chart when the musical emanation is too rarified for the Ego's individual response.

Again, there are mighty tonal powers being rayed out through the universe from certain fixed stars, notably Sirius, Alcyone and the Pleiades, to which this earthy planet cannot as yet respond. Almost inconceivable developments await both man and the planet in the course of the atomic age that has now dawned. St. Paul made reference to these undeciphered wonders mid the stars when he declared, "There is one glory of the Sun, and another glory of the Moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory (I Cor. 15:41).

Occult science teaches that in the highest realms music is the principal motivating factor of all being. By music flowers bloom and plant life is sustained. By music celestial Beings communicate with one another; their speech is song. And by harmony all phenomena are formed and sustained. Although humanity has largely lost contact with these lofty realms, an echoing from them remains with it. □

—Corrine Heline
**Music: The Keynote
of Human Evolution**

Max Heindel's Message



The Sacrament of Communion

PART I

To obtain a thorough understanding of the deep and far-reaching significance of the manner in which the Sacrament of Communion was instituted, it is necessary to consider the evolution of our planet and of composite man, also the chemistry of foods and their influence on humanity. For the sake of lucidity we will briefly recapitulate the Rosicrucian Teachings on the various points involved. They have been given at length in *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception* and our other works.

The Virgin Spirits, which are now mankind, commenced their pilgrimage through matter in the dawn of time, that by the friction of concrete existence their latent powers might be transmuted to kinetic energy as usable soul power. Three successive veils of increasingly dense matter were acquired by the involving Spirits during the Saturn, Sun, and Moon Periods. Thus each Spirit was separated from all other Spirits, and the consciousness which could not penetrate the prison wall of matter and communicate with others was forced to turn inwards, and in so doing it discovered—itself. Thus self-consciousness was attained.

A further crystallization of the before mentioned veils took place in the Earth Period during the Polarian, Hyperborean, and Lemurian Epochs. In the Atlantean Epoch, mind was added as a focusing point between Spirit and body, completing the constitution of composite man, who was then equipped to conquer

the world and generate soul power by endeavor and experience, each having free will and choice except as limited by the laws of nature and his own previous acts.

During the time man-in-the-making was thus evolving, great creative Hierarchies guided his every step. Absolutely nothing was left to chance. Even the food he ate was chosen for him so that he might obtain the appropriate material wherewith to build the various vehicles of consciousness necessary to accomplish the process of soul growth. The Bible mentions the various stages, though it misplaces Nimrod, making him to symbolize the Atlantean kings who lived *before* the Flood.

In the Polarian Epoch pure mineral matter became a constituent part of man; thus Adam was made of earth, that is, so far as his dense body was concerned.

In the Hyperborean Epoch the vital body was added, and thus his constitution became plantlike, and *Cain*, the man of that time, lived on the fruits of the soil.

The Lemurian Epoch saw the evolution of a desire body, which made man like the present animals. Then milk, the product of living animals, was added to human diet. *Abel* was a shepherd, but it is nowhere stated that he killed an animal.

At that time mankind lived innocently and peacefully in the misty atmosphere which enveloped the Earth during the latter part of the Lemurian Epoch, as described in the chapter on "Baptism." Men were then like children under the care of a common father, until the mind was given to all in the begin-

ning of Atlantis. Thought activity breaks down tissue which must be replaced; the lower and more material the thought, the greater the havoc and the more pressing the need for albumen wherewith to make quick repairs. Hence necessity, the mother of invention, inaugurated the

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The change
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come
from within.**

loathsome practice of flesh eating, and so long as we continue to think along purely business or material lines we shall have to go on using our stomachs as receptacles for the decaying corpses of our murdered animal victims. Yet we shall see later that flesh food has enabled us to make the wonderful material progress achieved in the Western World. It seems sad

to contemplate that they will be forced to follow in our steps and shed the blood of our fellow creatures when we shall have outgrown the barbarous practice as we have ceased cannibalism.

The more spiritual we grow, the more our thoughts will harmonize with the rhythm of our body, and the less albumen will be needed to build tissue. Consequently, a vegetable diet will suffice our needs. Pythagoras advised abstinence from legumes to *advanced* scholars because they are rich in albumen and apt to revive lower appetites. Let not every student who reads this rashly conclude to eliminate legumes from his diet. Most of us are not yet ready for such extremes; we would not even advise all students to abstain entirely from meat. The change should come from within. It may be safely stated, however, that most people eat entirely too much meat for their good; but this is in a certain sense a digression, so we will revert to the further evolution of humanity in so far as it has a bearing upon the Sacrament of Communion.

In due time the dense mist which enveloped the Earth cooled, condensed, and flooded the various basins. The atmosphere cleared, and concurrently with this atmospheric change a physiological adaptation in man took place. The gill clefts which had enabled him to breathe in the dense water-laden air (and which are seen in the human foetus to this day) gradually atrophied, and their function was taken over by the lungs, the pure air passing to and from them through the larynx. This allowed the Spirit, hitherto penned up within the

veil of flesh, to express itself in word and act.

There in the middle of Atlantis the Sun first shone upon MAN as we know him; there he was first born into the world. Until then he had been under the absolute control of great spiritual Hierarchies, mute, without voice or choice in matters pertaining to his education, as a child is now under the control of its parents.

But on the day when he finally emerged from the dense atmosphere of Atlantis; when he first beheld the mountains silhouetted in clear, sharp contours against the azure vault of heaven; when he first saw the beauties of moor and meadow, the moving creatures, birds in the air, and his fellow man; when his vision was undimmed by the partial obscuration of the mist which had previously hampered perception; above all, when he perceived HIMSELF as separate and apart from all others, there burst from his lips the glorious, triumphant cry, "I Am."

At that point he had acquired faculties which equipped him to enter the school of experience, the phenomenal world, as a free agent to learn the lesson of life, untrammelled save by the laws of nature, which are his safeguards, and the reaction of his own previous acts, which become destiny.

The diet containing an excess of albumen from the flesh wherewith he gorged himself, taxed his liver beyond capacity and clogged the system, making him morose, sullen, and brutish. He was fast losing the spiritual sight which revealed to him the guardian angels whom he trusted, and he saw only forms

of animals and men. The Spirits with whom he had lived in love and brotherhood during early Atlantis were obscured by the veil of flesh. It was all so strange, and he feared them.

Therefore it became necessary to give him a new food that could aid his Spirit to overpower the highly individualized molecules of flesh (as explained in *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, chapter on Assimilation, p. 457) brace it for battle with the world, and spur it on to self-assertion.

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phenomenon
of
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requires
that
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Sun
be
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horizon,
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the
better.**

As our visible bodies composed of chemical compounds can thrive only upon chemical ailment, so it requires Spirit to act upon Spirit to aid in breaking up the heavy proteid and in stimulating the drooping human Spirit.

The emergence from flooded Atlantis, the liberation of humanity from the absolute rulership of visible superhuman

guardians, their placement under the Law of Consequence and the laws of nature, and the gift of WINE are different accounts of the same event.

Both Noah and Moses led their followers through the water. Moses calls Heaven and Earth to witness that he has placed before them the blessing and the curse, exhorts them to choose the good or take the consequence of their actions; then he leaves them.

The phenomenon of the rainbow requires that the Sun be near the horizon, the nearer the better; also a clear atmosphere, and a dark rain cloud in the opposite quarter of the heavens. When under such conditions an observer stands with his back to the Sun, he may see the Sun's rays refracted through the rain drops as a rainbow. In early Atlantean times when there had been no rain as yet and the atmosphere was a warm, moist fog through which the Sun appeared as one of our arc lamps on a foggy day, the phenomenon of the rainbow was an impossibility. It could not have made its appearance until the mist had condensed to rain, flooded the basins of the Earth, and left the atmosphere clear as described in the story of Noah, which thus points to the law of alternating cycles that brings day and night, summer and winter, in unvarying sequence, and to which man is subject in the present age.

Noah cultivated the vine and provided a spirit to stimulate man. Thus, equipped with a composite constitution, a composite diet appropriate thereto, and divine laws to guide them, mankind was left to their own devices in the battle of life. □

THE FIRST HEAVEN

Question: What is the state of children in the First Heaven?

Answer: The children lead a particularly beautiful life there. If we could but see them we would quickly cease our grief.

Question: Does a child go to Purgatory?

Answer: When a child dies before the birth of the desire body, which takes place about the fourteenth year, it does not go any higher than the First Heaven, because it is not responsible for its actions. Therefore the child has no purgatorial existence.

Question: What becomes of the child's desire body?

Answer: That which is not quickened cannot die, hence the desire body of a child together with the mind, will persist until a new birth, and for that reason such children are very apt to remember their previous life.

Question: How long do children remain in heaven?

Answer: For such children the First Heaven is a waiting-place where they dwell from one to twenty years, until an opportunity for a new birth is offered. Yet it is more than simply a waiting-place, because there is much progress made during this interim.

Question: Who takes care of these children?

Answer: When a child dies there is always some relative awaiting it, or, failing that, there are people who loved to "mother" children in Earth life who find delight in taking care of a little waif.

Question: Is their life there all play?

Answer: The extreme plasticity of the desire stuff makes it easy to form the most exquisite *living* toys for the children and their life is one beautiful play; nevertheless their instruction is not neglected.

Question: How is the instruction carried on?

Answer: They are formed into classes according to their temperaments but quite regardless of age. In the Desire World it is easy to give object-lessons on the influence of good and evil passions on conduct and happiness.

Question: How permanent are the impressions these make?

Answer: These lessons are indelibly imprinted upon the child's sensitive and emotional desire body and remain with it after rebirth so that many a one living a noble life owes much of it to the fact that he was given this training.

Question: When is such training especially valuable?

Answer: Often when a weak Spirit is born, the Compassionate Ones (the invisible Leaders who guide our evolution) cause it to die in early life that it may have this extra training to fit it for what may be perhaps a hard life.

Question: What might cause such weakness?

Answer: This seems to be the case particularly where the etching on the desire body was weak in consequence of a dying person's having been disturbed by the lamentations of his relatives or because he met death by accident or on the battlefield. □

**—Reference: Cosmo-Conception,
pp. 117, 118.**

The Christ Principle

And when he had thus spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.

And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes; and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go. John 11:43,44.

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

—John 12:32.

Which of the above aspects of the Christ is the real one? We see Him here with the power to give life to a man who had lain in the grave four days already. The Christ had pronounced him dead, and not in a coma, as had been the case in the other healings. We read of the Christ controlling the elements of nature and of actively "disappearing" from amongst the multitude.

On the other hand we read passages describing His great compassion and attracting ability in drawing people to him. "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest," "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not," "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself."

These illustrations of two opposite poles of the Spirit, the one positive, outgoing and vital, emanating power; and the other negative, absorbing and transmuting, attracting sympathy and love. They are united in the personality of Jesus, the highest initiate of the human race. This may be thought of as a personification of the mystic marriage spoken of by all esoteric teachers and authors. In the Book of Revelation we are told about the mystic marriage of the Bride and the Lamb. This marriage comes in the experience of every questing soul.

Max Heindel, in describing the various initiations in the *Cosmo-Conception* says of the ninth that it is the material expression of the Earth Spirit. Here are found lemniscate currents of the positive and negative qualities, and we are told that it corresponds to the World of God. It is this center of the Earth that receives the great Christ Spirit from Christmas to Easter, and which vivifies the Earth for the coming solar year.

Before we can be released from our earthly school in incarnating bodies we must all have consummated the mystic marriage within our own personality. It is toward this end that all Rosicrucian Teachings lead. Truly, the Christ who said, "I am the way the truth and the life," testified to the World of God, "I and my Father are one," (John 10:30). It was a glimpse of this world that blinded Paul on the road to Damascus and that so completely repaid Job for all his sufferings.

The record of these glimpses into cosmic consciousness are becoming increasingly numerous. Once having been bathed in this ineffable light, mortal life can never after be the same. Those who treasure one infinitesimal flash of the Father's world, given after a particularly fervent prayer, should remember that the gates to this other world are ever ajar to the Adept. He can enter at will, being equally at home there, or here on Earth. Sometime in the distant future, if we plan on keeping up with our evolution, we shall also have those privileges. Then we shall know the truth and it shall, indeed, make us free. □

Capitalism in the Kremlin?

How else would one explain that on May Day, 1987, a law went into effect in the U.S.S.R. encouraging free enterprise! Farmers already had been allowed for years to work their own plots after fulfilling allotted government quotas, and though only 2% of Russian farmland is being privately cultivated, it provides 30% of agricultural produce. Now the Kremlin extended Russia's free economy, after having financially helped start on an experimental basis, a restaurant in Moscow several months before. People have been lining up there for hours, even though the city has many and less expensive government-run eating places; some patrons actually have been paying up to twice the amount charged in hopes of getting a special invitation to return! Successful? That might be an understatement! What are we to make of this—private capitalism flourishing in the very shadow of the Kremlin?

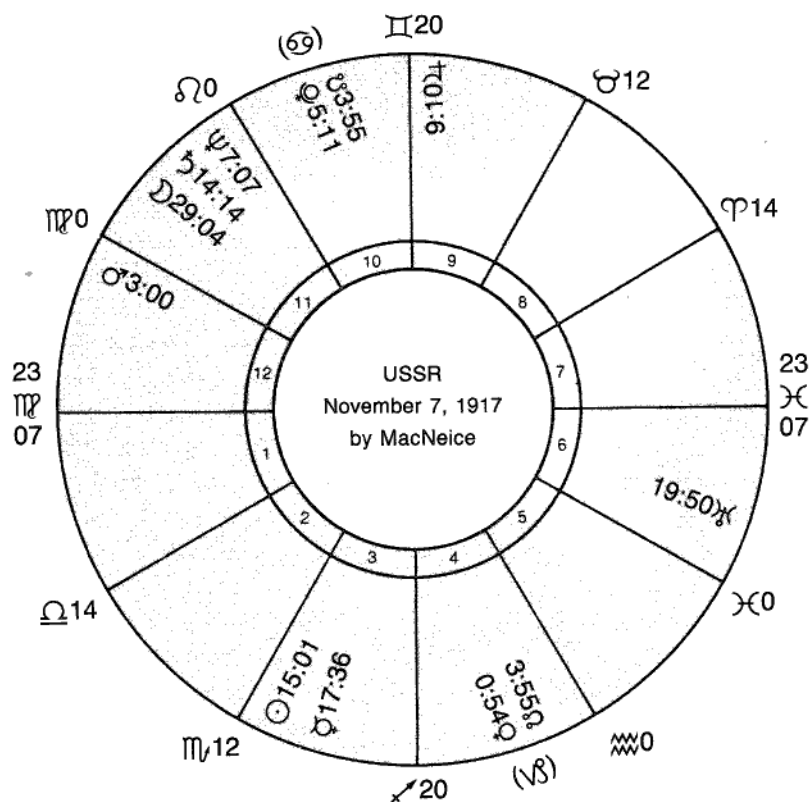
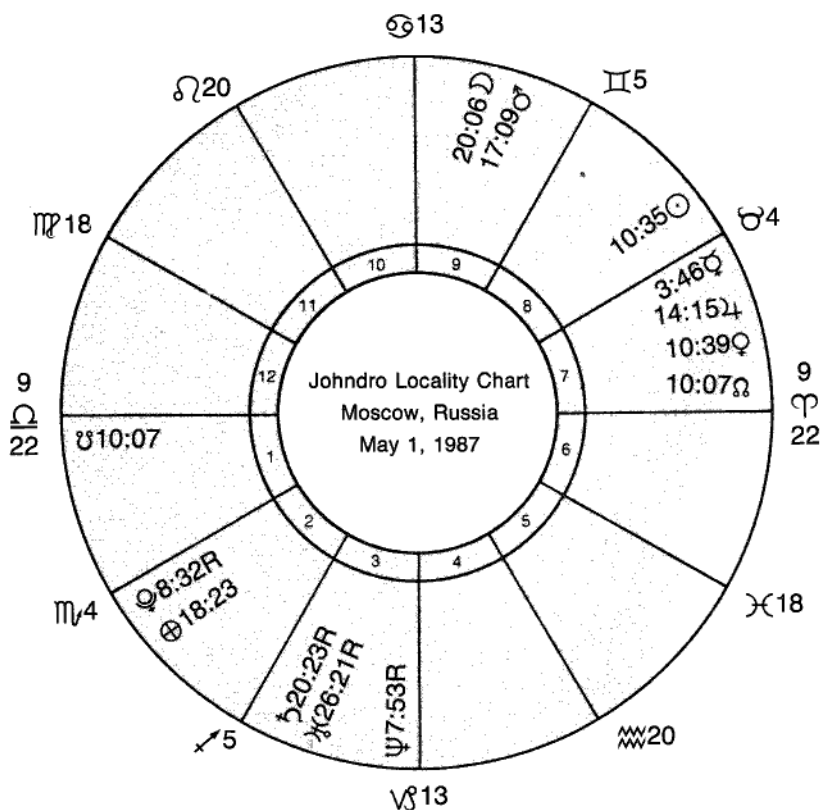
The stars' message is unequivocal: economic change is under way in Russia! In a chart set for Moscow on May Day, 1987, Pluto, planet of regeneration, is in the second house of material resources. The Part of Fortune—technically here the Part of Misfortune—and Saturn indicate by closest aspect where the emphasis is—here on the Moon, which also represents change. Change produced by Pluto is basic, gradual, deep-rooted, extensive; that brought about

by the Moon is more rapid and obvious. When both planets are involved, it is bound to be extremely thorough! Also, the lunar orb is ruler of the M.C. of direction, destiny: that of the Soviet economy is being altered.

There is more. The Sun (vital interests) and Mercury (mental focus) are in the eighth house of regeneration. Venus (values), ruler of this sector as well as of the chart itself, has a quincunx (reorganization) from Pluto. Venus is also conjunct expansive Jupiter and the Jupiterian North Node—this is not going to be some small limited undertaking!

Some questions present themselves. Will this trend continue? Most certainly! The strongest tie between the May 1, 1987 chart and that of the Soviet Union is the Moon of the former exactly conjunct the M.C. of the latter! Moreover, Pluto by transit is hastening toward the Sun and Mercury in the U.S.S.R.'s chart—more regeneration ahead! And Uranus and Neptune by transit will remain in Russia's fourth house for several years—that nation's very foundations are being shaken! During 1989, both of these planets will oppose Pluto in the Soviet state's tenth house of government—more, not less change ahead!

How should one evaluate all this? The location of Jupiter indicates where things are being



improved. In the 1987 May Day map, Jupiter is in the seventh house of relations with others and ruler of the third house of

neighbors. Too, the M.C. of this chart is conjunct the all-important Sun in the United States chart: of course many

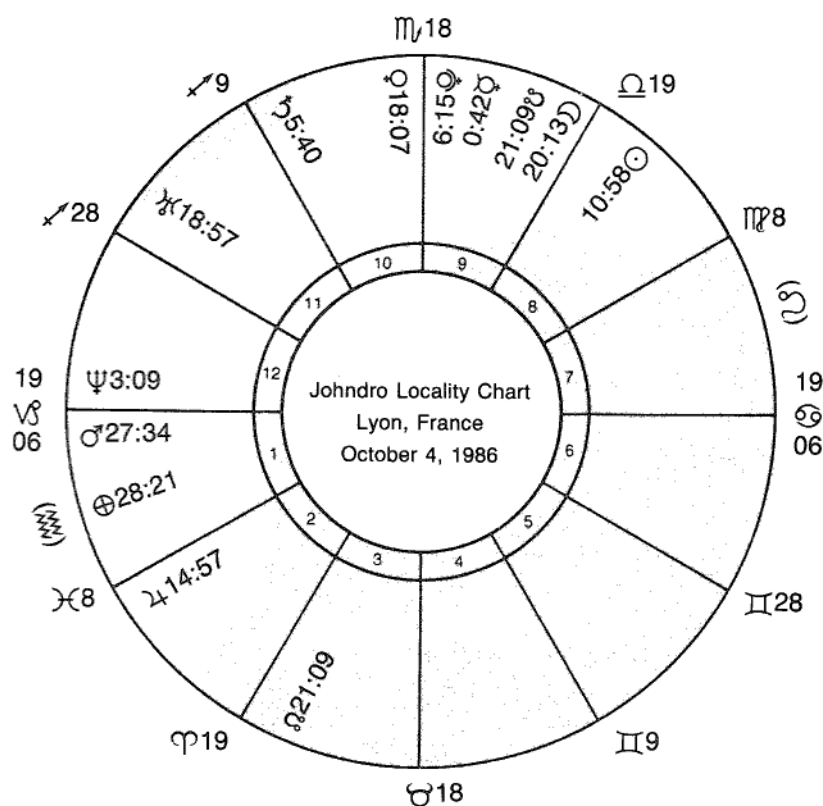
more astrological factors need to be considered, but an eventual improvement in superpower relations should not be ruled out!

Big bodies are said to move slowly, and Russia is huge—Eleven time zones and one sixth of the Earth's land mass. One should not expect drastic changes overnight; the longest journey starts with one step. What happened May 1, 1987, may be no more than a small start—but assuredly in the right direction! For we find that the Moon's decanate is Aquarius; decanates reveal hidden clues; what Russia is doing has potential New Age overtones!

Years ago, the late Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen, Catholicism's foremost 20th-century spokesman in the United States, suggested that while "Christian" America could teach the officially atheistic U.S.S.R. about man's duty to God, Russia could instruct the United States about man's relation to his fellow humans. America has traditionally emphasized individualism; Russia, collectivism, cooperation with others, though regrettably by force. But because Soviet society is collectivistic, private capitalism in Russia will tend to be less self-centered than has been the case here in the States—and it is that very selfish greed that has hurt, causing record debts, deficits, and other debacles. America has recently been learning a great deal from Japan; why not in the future also from Russia? Stranger things have occurred in history! Certainly before the advent of Aquaria, something like this is bound to happen, America will have to learn a great many New Age lessons from somewhere! □

—A Probationer

Pope John Paul II



He has already covered many more miles than any of his predecessors, even though he has reigned only since 1978. There was a time when popes rarely took to the road; with John Paul II, it has become regular routine. Why? On October 4, 1986, he began a four-day "Pilgrimage for Peace" to France, starting in Lyon. A Johndro Locality chart for that date and place will furnish some interesting insights.

The Sabian symbol for the Ascendant's degree is "A hidden choir singing."¹ This hints at a hidden motive, that more than revulsion

*Why
Travel
So
Much?*

against war and terrorism motivates the many papal excursions. We note that the pattern of the chart is a Bowl; a look at the cutting and trailing planets should divulge what this undertaking is all about. The Sun symbolizes power, especially as here in the eighth house, analogous to Scorpio, the eighth sign and that of power. Jupiter is the planet of betterment, increase, here in the second house of gain. Clearly, the pope wishes to augment his power!

The two signs most closely identified with power are Scorpio and Capricorn; in this chart they're the signs with the most occupants! The eighth house also deals with psychological motivation. Its ruler, Mercury, also symbol of mental focus, is in Scorpio conjunct Pluto, planet of power. Venus (values) is in Scorpio, closely conjunct the M.C. and also ruler of the fourth house of bases, foundations. Saturn's location in a chart points to where the emphasis is; here, in the tenth house of power. Fortuna also is an indicator of the same; here, conjunct Mars ruler of the tenth house and strong, being closest to the Ascendant, in exaltation, conjunct a critical degree.

The two major planets of power, Saturn and Pluto, are in midpoint configuration with Neptune: "The decline of one's powers...with time." That's what the Pope is seeking to counteract! They are also on either side of—besieging—Venus, planet of peace, the overt reason for the papal journey: even as Saturn and Pluto overshadow Venus, interest in power exceeds that in peace!

Explanations of the Sabian symbols of some key degrees reinforce this bent: Libra 11, the Sun: "mastery of events"; "hierarchy of allegiances"; Sagittarius 6, Saturn: "competency in crisis"; Scorpio 18, M.C.: "high success in every area of true self-interest."²

The decline of the Roman Catholic Church began in the 1960's, when Pope John XXIII (1958-63) started his *Aggiornamento* (updating, modernization), or, as he put it, opening the windows to let fresh air in. But some of what blew in proved detrimental to the Church; the present pope is trying to close the windows!

**We're
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What specifically was there about *Aggiornamento* that weakened Catholicism? Max Heindel tells us³ that the amazing power exercised for so long by the Church was largely due

to the uniformity of the worship service; the Latin mass was being celebrated in all the congregations. But in the 1960's the use of this ancient language ceased to be obligatory; the mass could be celebrated in the vernacular. And lo and behold, papal power took a plunge!

Will Vatican strength be revived? John Paul II, energetic and charismatic, may achieve some successes; yet in the long run, the incoming Aquarian breezes cannot be reversed. We're moving toward a New Age in which brotherhood will replace monarchy, royalty; nowhere in the world is old-style government—in the pope's case technically called Caesaro-papism⁴—more absolute than the Holy See. We remind ourselves that the Vatican II Council of 1962, the high tide of the Church's modernization, coincided with a major conjunction in Aquarius, which loosened the foundations of other powers of the Piscean Age.

We wish the pope well on his future forays; may there be no more attempts on his life; as he continues to cross oceans and glances down from his plane may he recall Shakespeare's famous lines that there are tides in the affairs of men; at this time, they're Aquarian! □

—A Probationer

¹ *The Sabian Symbols*, Marc Edmund Jones, p. 259.

² Marc Edmund Jones, *op. cit.*, pp. 161, 199, 315, 215, 197.

³ *The Rosicrucian Philosophy in Questions and Answers*, Vol. II, Question No. 161. For additional occult illumination on this, the reader is referred to *Freemasonry and Catholicism* by the same author.

⁴ The union of temporal and spiritual power in one person responsible to no one else.

Tower Commission's "Irangate" Report

DOCUMENT OF DESTINY

On February 26, 1987, 11 A.M., the eagerly awaited volume was released to the public in a White House press conference. Though its impact is impaired by the fact that the event occurred a mere thirty-three hours before a New Moon, yet a comparison with the United States chart indicates this is indeed a document of destiny!

Half the cusps, the Moon, Venus, Pluto and the nodes are in critical degrees. Both charts have an identical Ascendant; both Moons are in the very same sign and degree; the Sun and Neptune of the February 26, 1987 chart are in the eighth degree of a sign, as are the nodes of ties-of-destiny in the United States chart. Mars of the February 26, 1987 map, ruler of its twelfth cusp—in a critical degree—is in the twelfth house of destiny of both charts; Venus of the Tower Commission chart is conjunct Pluto in the national natus.

The February 26, 1987 chart's Ascendant's lord, Mercury, is retrograde, in detriment and fall, square the Rising Sign, combust, and in the *non-vocal* sign of the Fish, Pisces. It has a sextile from Neptune and a trine from Pluto, but aspects from the high-octave orbs are not helpful in mundane matters; neither is the sextile from Mars, being in the twelfth house, in detriment, intercepted. What does all this mean? The report is not revealing everything! This is confirmed by the Sabian symbol of the I.C. of bases, foundations: "A *nonvested* church choir." Something obviously is missing!

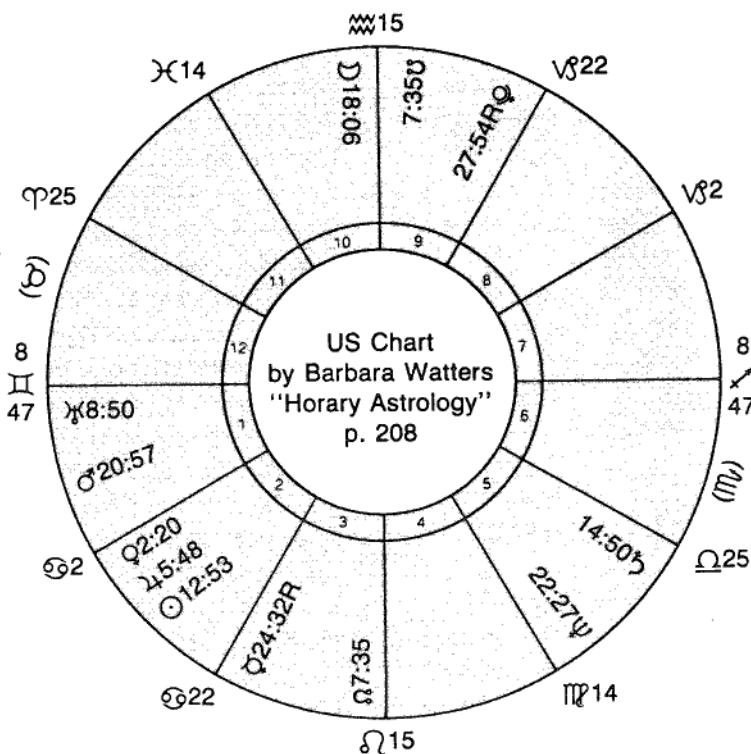
The stars tell us what! The closest aspects of Saturn, the Part of Fortune, and Vertex¹ indicate where the emphasis is; here, the Moon! She is also closest the MC., thus permeating the whole chart; too, the only planet conjunct its own natal position in the United States chart.

The lunar orb rules people; here all the more so with its solstice point in the sixth house of people. Since the Moon is in Aquarius, these could be Americans. The Earth satellite is conjunct Pluto's solstice point; Pluto is the planet of terrorists; note the negative meaning of its Sabian symbol: "Exaltation of naive animality." There is a nonagen (bondage, restraint) to Jupiter and Neptune—the latter is "reinforced" by a conjunct from Lilith's solstice point. So, these people are in restraint—for they are the United States hostages! Had they heeded the warnings to get out of their lethal location, this whole episode wouldn't have

happened! The Tower Commission zeroed in on the *activity* of certain people in our nation's capital; undeniably, wrongs were committed here. But it should also have focused on the *inactivity*—refusal to leave—on the part of other individuals in another nation's capital—Beirut, Lebanon!

This may sound like a hard saying. Here in the United States we're extremely protective of victims and underdogs; but too much and the wrong kind of sympathy crowds out objectivity. A famous case in point: Just before his assassination, the United States media mercilessly villified President Kennedy; after he was struck down, he was apotheosized! Our hearts go out to the hostages and their families; we wish a speedy end to their ordeal; but facts are facts!

Any lessons here? Indeed, and this brings us to the strongest tie of destiny between the two charts: the Saturnian Dragon's Tail of the February 26, 1987 chart is conjunct Saturn of the United States. The location of the Dragon's Tail shows where lessons need to be learned; the conjunction here with Saturn, the Great Cosmic Teacher, underscores the importance of this one. The Sabian symbol's message here—and the Dragon's Tail is in the fifth house of risks: "Injudicious



RAYS 87

Your Life- Assignment

The verb to assign is defined as "to mark out," "to point out specifically," "to set apart, as for a special person or purpose." These definitions imply that "to assign" is an action of selectivity by which a "something" is indicated to be appropriate or necessary for someone to undertake, to work with, to work on, or to fulfill. The act of assignment is made by someone for someone else or it is self-assumed; in either case, that which is to be dealt with is cognized or recognized to be a legitimate factor of endeavor or experience, a necessary part of an over-all plan or objective.

Whether imposed or assumed, the acceptance of assignment is always a decision to move from a state of relative inertia or relative equilibrium. This acceptance proceeds from a cognition or a recognition that something more or something new, actual or recapitulative, is to be done. All action or

"doing" is an extension from that which already has been done or achieved. The evolution of a human during the span of an incarnation is externalized as a sequence of actions proceeding from decisions qualified by reactions to the effects of previous decisions and consequent actions. The regeneration of residual reaction brought into the present life from the past is the basic assignment of any human for any life. The archetypal assignment for all individualized beings through the entire span of sequential incarnations is the conscious re-attainment of perfect equilibrium, the state from which we were sent forth, or creatively projected, as innocent Spirits. This projection was made possible by a creative decision of God—in Him we move and have our Being, through us He moves and has Externalization; we are filled-full of Him. He fulfills through us.

Macrocosm is externalized by myriads of microcosms which have correspondent similarity to it. This truth of creativity and manifestation is conveyed by the Hermetic axiom "as above, so below; as below, so above." In geometry this axiom is illustrated by such figures as circles, squares, and equilateral triangles. The size of corresponding figures may vary infinitely but their nature, general appearance, and plan of construction are identical. Circles, squares, and equilateral triangles are graphic microcosms of the macrocosmic structural ideas circle, square, and equilateral triangle, respectively.

All assignments are microcosms of the essential, or macrocosmic, idea assignment, which refers basically to the acceptance, by cognition or recognition, of that which is necessary to be done for complete fulfillment. Human life-assignments are revealed and perceived in an infinite variety of relative significance, in terms of immediate need, immediate objective, relationship-factors, ideals, etc. However, there is a two-fold equation which applies to all: degree of difficulty in fulfillment is directly proportionate to degree of needed regeneracy; degree of ease in fulfillment is directly proportionate to degree of consciously-



attained equilibrium. To the degree that a human is removed from equilibrium is he removed from the consciousness of capacity to fulfill his assignments with efficiency, inspiration, and enjoyment; to the degree that he is aware of equilibrium within himself is he able to enforce or recharge his endeavors with the powers of his Spirit. The recharging by Spirit-power brings about the revealment of equilibrium in body, mind, emotion, relationship, and endeavors. Since a human is a composite of many faculties, bodies, inclinations, abilities, and objectives it is necessary, through a given incarnation, that he or she specialize on that phase, or on those phases, of unfoldment that are most directly consistent with karmic requirements; incarnation is made by vibratory law in terms of time, place, paren-

tage, and environment that are appropriate to the inception of self-imposed, self-assumed assignments.

Planetary aspects alone do not picture "life-assignment." Each aspect pictures an inter-relationship between basic qualities and powers of consciousness and thus portrays a mode by which assignments are to be fulfilled. The tabulation of aspects in a given chart gives a summary of how the person has used the powers of consciousness in the past, how he tends to use them in this life and how he may tend to use them in future. The fulfillment of an assignment necessitates equipment as well as objective and, in the incarnated state, environment is an inevitable and as important a factor of equipment as is consciousness. All environmental and relationship factors

correspond to individual human experience as the Earth itself corresponds to the evolution of Humanity. Therefore, the correlation of the house-position of aspects with the vibratory factors represented by the planets and signs is necessary to the evaluation of life-activities as "assignments."

Since there are twelve houses which indicate the environmental patterning for the aspects made by the ten planetary points (Sun, Moon, and planets) there will be, in every chart, some unoccupied houses. The houses symbolize the externalization of the signs, just as the planetary points represent the focalization of the signs as expressive powers. Those houses which do contain the planetary points represent the exterior patterning in terms of relationships and places of the life-activities.

Part of the "over-all evolutionary assignment" of all humans is to learn to relate the self wisely to environment so that environment be rightly understood and rightly used as a "tool," but is never allowed to become a bondage to the person or an impediment of unfoldment. Each relationship and environment externalizes particular principles of consciousness and spiritual responsibility and the objective to be gained by experience in a relationship or environment is the apperception of a Truth of Life. All factors of Principle, Powers, and Externalization must be co-related for evaluation.

Since regenerative transcendence of the past is the assignment assumed by each human for each incarnation, it is a practical idea to begin your study of the planetary aspect of a chart by relative evaluation. This is done by computing the orb of each aspect and tabulating the various types of aspects, starting with the one that is closest to exact in each aspect and tabulating the various types of aspects, that is closest to ninety degrees by orb. Avoid concentrating on this aspect as being "the most evil aspect in the chart." Rather, study it from the standpoint of what it tells about the person's consciousness and tendencies: it is the pattern that indicates the greatest need for regeneration of consciousness, it indicates the point of minimum internal equilibrium and maximum tendency to resist evolution. Therefore, it pictures those experiences—or that general type of experience—in which the person will have to make his maximum internal effort to learn his spiritual and evolutionary lesson.

Your enlightening the person regarding the meaning and significance of his closest-to-exact square aspect is a paramount service, because to the degree that he understands how to handle the stimulations to the aspect will he realize power and wisdom to handle the other "less constricted" aspects in his chart. Your study of the aspect requires concentrated meditation because it is necessary for you to realize the evolutionary implications of it as representing phases of power, love, and truth yet-to-be-admitted into the person's consciousness. A square or opposition of wider orb will be activated for a relatively longer time, but the timing of the wider orb permits alleviating

conditions (trines and sextiles to the natal made by transits, new Moons, etc.) to act at the same time. The timing of stimulus to a close-to-exact square focalizes and concentrates the "pain-potential" as well as the timing element. The pain we experience through stimulus of our squares is proportionate to an inherent tendency to resist evolutionary requirements. Remember always that a square aspect in a horoscope is evidence of the person's consciousness being grounded in a specialized way in this life in order to learn an urgent lesson; it is evidence of neglect of that lesson, or mis-used opportunity, in the past and it pictures the present opportunity to remedy



that neglect in this life.

All manifestation is projected from ordered plan or pattern and since all human life-assignments, in degree of fulfillment, manifest evolution of consciousness and refinement of nature it is necessary to give special attention to certain other factors that have many important things to tell the reader and the subject of the chart. One of these is the Moon, symbol of the instinctual nature. The Moon-aspects and position in a chart give us the most direct clues to that which, in consciousness, is brought into this life from the past experiences. It indicates the most pronounced habit-tendencies from the past which, when emphasized in the present life, externalize chaotic conditions. The faculty of feeling-reaction (which represents an aspect of the feminine polarity of consciousness) is forever seeking to deliver to our conscious awareness those modes and qualities of thought which we have planted in it. In this way the instinctual mind is recognized to be a production mechanism and a reproduction mechanism. If, by recognition, we do not like what the instinctual mind produces through our faculty of feeling-reaction—to events, environments, and people—then we have to change the quality of our reaction-faculty; this can be done only by improving and refining the quality of our reactions. This process makes use of the regenerative or spiritual essences of all the planetary points, and especially those which are “unregeneratively” aspected to the Moon in the natal chart. As we regenerate those “planetary essences” we

plant in the instinctual mind an improved vibratory quality, more ordered and refined.

Those factors of the life-assignment which concern the Saturn-vibration are those which have as their evolutionary goal the consciousness of true security. Saturn is the principle of responsibility-fulfillment and it is only by the fulfillment of all assumed assignments and responsibilities that the form of equilibrium we identify as “security” is realized. It is very important, due to the influence which the astrologer’s words and interpretations have on the client’s consciousness, that a constructive philosophical-psychological understanding of

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Saturn be attained. Saturn is the symbol of dense form which serves as the vehicle for evolving consciousness; it is the tendency by which humans

identify “security” as being a certain kind of material state—without which the human experiences what he identifies as “fear,” “insecurity,” and “uncertainty.” If Saturn—in the cosmic sense—symbolizes dense form, then its correspondence in evolving human consciousness is either “trouble and sorrow from having wrongly used form in the past” or “the realization of true inner security from having rightly and fulfillingly used form as a tool or vehicle of the Spirit.” Saturn is the cosmic Principle of Gravity; its vibration in our consciousness tends to “bring us down to the root and essence of our as-yet-unfulfilled states” in order that our evolutionary ascent may be made thorough and complete. Some charts register Saturn in several square and opposition aspects—what some readers call “terribly afflicted charts.” If there is, in truth, any “affliction” represented it is only by the indication that the person in this life needs to recapitulate a great deal from the past, redeem, and fulfill it with Love and Intelligence before he can progress. The aspects themselves are not “evil”—they are simply astrological indications of a certain kind of evolutionary need. The Spiritual qualities implied by the Saturn vibration are thoroughness, accuracy, patience (the use of Time as a building-substance), and concentrated devotion to right action (Saturn’s sign Capricorn is the exaltation-sign of Mars, the principle of energy and action).

It is becoming increasingly evident that the life-assignments of progressively-minded, aspiring people include degrees of participation in those measures

having to do with the establishment of the New Age. As a humanity, we are being synthesized in this age more than ever before in our history, and those persons who are welcoming opportunities in study, activity, work, and recreation to expand their fraternal recognition of fellow-humans are signifying their spiritual and evolutionary alignment with the principles of the New Age. This evolutionary tendency is astrologically indicated by the planet Uranus, ruler of Aquarius and planetary polarization of the Sun's sign Leo. The establishment of the New Age is an inevitable result of spiritual progression in Human—individual or collective—consciousness; the study and intuitive realization of the Uranus-factor in charts has become a vital portion of the astrological reader's service. Many people in this age are finding their greatest difficulties in adjusting to the rapid expansion of thought, knowledge, and understanding which is now being promulgated. The internal resistance to that which is new or as-yet-not-understood can be an indication of much residual fear, inflexibility of mind, prejudice, or tendency-to-inertia. Some people cannot seem to "forgive Life" for "shaking them up," "taking things away from them," "upsetting their routines" or "making them so uncertain" and the astrological reader is often called upon to help these persons by spiritual and philosophical enlightenment. Regeneration of consciousness is made possible only through decrystallization and redistribution of internal energies, and adjustability of mind is the key to all expanding comprehension. As a

reader, you will seek to understand the Uranus-factor in a chart to help the person concerned make a better fulfillment

**In
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of his this-life's assignments through clearer understanding of the great evolutionary currents now prevailing and their reason for being. Uranus acts always to shatter and decrystallize the no-longer-needed so that the fullness of progress on all planes may be revealed and realized.

Every living thing is composed of a hierarchy of parts and functions by which the organic experience of the thing is perpetuated. A human horoscope is a picture of a living consciousness, and all of its parts (signs, planetary points, houses, positions, aspects, activations by transit and progression) comprise a hierarchy of indications pertaining to the life-assignment. If one factor is to be designated as the most important in any chart or in all charts, that factor is certainly the Sun and its co-relative sign Leo. We are told that the Sun, by precession, was

in Leo at the time of the inception of the present manifestation; as a planetary point the Sun represents pure creativity and pure apperception of the divine will, to which the "personal will" of the individual must eventually be brought in alignment. Therefore, any and all "separate life-assignments" are parts of a Hierarchy of evolutionary assignments, the apex of which, indicated by the Sun, is the conscious attainment of realization of divine will, love, and wisdom, conscious attainment of complete equilibrium, and conscious attainment of realized unity with divine source.

In the study of any horoscope regarding "determining the life-assignment" remember that "know thy self" is the inherent objective throughout. The Sun as a planetary factor can be squared or opposed by all other points, except Mercury and Venus; but, as a planetary factor, the Sun represents the individual's relative non-attainment or relative attainment of realized Spirit-ual identity, purpose, and function. Aspects involving the planetary Sun indicate relative inability or ability to externalize autonomy (self-rule); in the fullest sense, and as the apex of hierarchy of evolutionary assignments, the Sun represents, by conscious alignment with and realization of the Divine, the "rule of self by self." The self of a human is his divine essence and it is by ascending degrees, through evolution, of exercising the realization of divine nature that most effectively fulfills each "life-assignment."

**—Elman Bacher
Studies in Astrology
Volume 8**

News Perspectives



Near Death Experiences (NDEs)

The subject is fascinating and I'm sure you have read about it somewhere, sometime. It may be called an "out of body" or a "near death experience"; either way it has to do with a mysterious phenomenon that is currently baffling medical science. To the Occult or Mystical spiritual aspirant, it is merely an accepted fact and is not really such a mystery after all. That is certainly not the case with many professional people who are looking for explanations in all the wrong places!

"Again and again, people with no previous knowledge of the phenomenon describe essentially the same events. And Kenneth Ring, a professor of psychology at the University of Connecticut, has talked to hundreds of persons who have reported such experiences. Ring has broken down their accounts into five stages: sensing of peace and well being, separating from the body, traveling through a dark tunnel or funnel, seeing a light, and entering the world of light. In addition to this 'core' experience, a person may see the events of one's life pass before his or her eyes, encounter friends and relatives who have died, meet a 'being of light,' come to a border such as a road or river, be given the choice of staying or returning, or be commanded to return."

Even though the details of these NDEs seem to vary slightly from one person to another, they always seem to describe their experience as a very beautiful or peaceful journey. They also state emphatically that it was very real and could not have been a dream or some type of hallucination. These people have not actually returned from the dead, but have gone to the brink of death and lived to tell others

about their "near-death experience" or NDE as they are now called. "There is no absolute proof that these persons go somewhere as one would go to Chicago," says Nancy Bush, executive director of the Institute for the Advancement of Near Death studies. "But certainly they have encountered something that is immensely real. They speak about it with intensity and sincerity. Their voices quaver and crack, they cry."

For the student of the Western Wisdom Teachings, this is something right out of *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, one of the finest works on how these experiences actually occur through the "spiritual vehicles" of man. It is no mystery to the Occult student for he knows that we are made up of not one, but four bodies: 1) the Physical or Dense Body; 2) the Desire Body; 3) the Vital Body; and 4) the Link of Mind. It is through the interaction of these four vehicles that mankind is able to bridge the gulf between the seen and unseen worlds.

"In numerous cases, hospital patients who were comatose later have described in precise detail what went on during attempts to revive them. They correctly recalled which doctor stood where, who said what to whom, and what their exact blood pressure and pulse readings were. Frequently, those undergoing an NDE describe the hospital or accident scene as viewed from above. One woman even complained that a doctor who rushed into the operating room after she had 'died' left his dirty overshoes in a corner of the room. Another woman recalled after her recovery from a near-death experience: 'From where I was, I could look down upon this enormous fluorescent light, and it was dirty on top. It was filthy, and I remember thinking that I had to tell the nurses about it.' "

Some of the critics of NDEs explain them away as being drug-induced hallucinations caused by anesthetics or narcotics while others blame it on the wanderings of oxygen-starved brains of the patients! "Why should millions of human minds cloak the trauma of death in the same sugar-coated hallucination? Also, there is some evidence that drugs inhibit, rather than stimulate, an NDE. In many cases, no drugs or anesthetic are present, and the blood supply to the brain is not interrupted." Thus, it appears that even among the medical people there may be a small, but perceptible disagreement as to what causes a near-death experience! So much the better for the spiritual

aspirant. This will just assist him or her in an effort to reach those who are so steeped in scientific and materialistic dogma that a small ray of "light" is now beginning to break through.

Even the results of NDEs reported by experts in the field sounds very promising when it comes to giving us reason for the whole experience. "Noting that people who have had an NDE tend to become more loving and compassionate, Kenneth Ring speculates that the phenomenon might be 'jump-stepping' humanity toward a 'higher consciousness.' Perhaps. It already is clear, however, that an NDE can change a person's life. Some persons report the sudden existence of psychic abilities following an NDE. Others find themselves inexplicably driven to study a specific discipline—physics or archeology, for example. And many do indeed have a new outlook." So it appears that God does still move in very predictable ways to teach us the lessons we need to learn, even if we have to experience a near-death situation to find out! *KIWANIS MAGAZINE*, "Visions at the Brink of Death," April 1987.

Alternatives to Prison

Is there a solution to crime? Where will the prison system house all of these prisoners after they are sentenced? "The dismal result is evident almost everywhere. Throughout the country, convicts have been crammed into existing facilities until their numbers have pressed against the outer limits of constitutional tolerance. Currently in 38 states the courts have stepped in to insist on, at the least, more acceptable levels of overcrowding." However, is this really the final solution to the problem, or just a temporary measure to control the effects of crime?

At present, there are a number of "alternatives" to incarceration which may or may not be a solution to overcrowding. "In courts across the nation, people convicted of nonviolent crimes, from drunken driving and mail fraud to car theft and burglary, are being told in effect to go to their rooms. Judges are sentencing them to confinement at home or in dormitory halfway houses, with per-

mission to go to and from work but often no more—not even to stop on the way home for milk. The sentences may also include stiff fines, community service and a brief, bracing taste of prison.” The feeling at present is that until the “alternatives” are viewed by the public as tough, they won’t receive the necessary support. This is especially the case with “white collar” crimes where the criminals have the necessary contacts and money to get a lighter sentence in a plush halfway house or something to that effect.

At present, it costs from \$7,000 to \$30,000 per year to keep a criminal in jail or prison for one year! That is pretty expensive when you start to multiply this times the number of persons convicted of crimes and sent to prison. “Most alternative programs their backers argue, allow lawbreakers to live at home, saving tax dollars while keeping families intact and off welfare. Since the detainees can get or keep jobs, part of their salaries can be paid out as fines or as compensation to victims. And alternatives give judges a sentencing option halfway between locking up offenders and turning them loose.” There is even a method called “electronic house arrest” where the person is required to wear a small radio transmitter attached to the ankle that has tamperproof plastic straps. A signal is broadcast to a receiver hooked up to the wearer’s home phone and if he or she strays more than 100 feet, the computer at the probation office prints out a note for the probation officer! This program only costs the county about \$10.00 per day for each person wearing the transmitter device.

There are also “work-release” centers where prisoners live out their sentences while allowing them to work, often at jobs which have been found by the local government offices. This system still provides confinement in the form of dormitory life and security checks, but at a cost far less than incarceration in the state prison or county jail. “Do alternatives work? That depends on what they are asked to accomplish. If the goal is cost efficiency, the answer is a qualified yes. They often seem cheap enough, but there are concerns that they may actually add to the bill for corrections because judges will use them as a halfway measure to keep rein on people who would otherwise go free in plea bargains.” Prison does, in effect, keep criminals off the street. However, as to whether it teaches them a valuable lesson or deters them from future crimes, it is not so obvious. *Time Magazine*, Considering the Alternatives, February 2, 1987.

The Right to Die

The controversy over “feeding tubes” has become one of ethics and spirituality as well. “An estimated 10,000 comatose Americans who cannot swallow are now kept alive by feeding tubes, usually inserted into the stomach directly or through the nose. The claim that such patients — or proxies acting on their behalf — have the right to halt nutrition was endorsed a year ago by both the American Medical Association and the American Bar Association. Seriously debilitated but conscious patients who are unable to swallow are claiming the same right. Last month a Colorado court granted a no-feeding request from a patient who was conscious but paralyzed from the neck down. He died two weeks ago.”

Perhaps, the most important issue here is whether or not this “right to die” has actually endorsed mercy killing and suicide? For the student of the Occult Teachings the answer is not always clear on this subject. However, we must look to the Law of Cause and Effect to see how this is playing a part in the life of a patient. With the latest medical advances and scientific break-throughs, it is possible to prevent a death which would have normally occurred 10 to 20 years ago. Does this mean that we have actually interfered with God’s Divine Law? It is a question that must be answered if we are to come to a safe and sane solution to the current dilemma being faced by clergy and medical professionals as well.

With these latest medical advances it is now necessary to require a distinction between the traditional conception of “death” and a death in which the body lives in some fashion but the brain does not. Here again, is man trying to play God and say when a person is actually considered ‘dead?’ According to the Western Wisdom Teachings, death comes when the Silver Cord is broken. The heart has stopped beating and the Ego has left the body and is hovering over it a short distance away. This is certainly a far cry from what is now called “brain dead” where the patient still lives and breathes but is not capable of motion, speech or anything normally connected with life as we know it.

There is also the question which was raised that "acceptance of the idea that lives judged to be of poor quality are better off not being lived." Now, this is certainly playing God when WE are then determining when a person's life is no longer useful! Faced with the possibility of a loved one who can no longer respond to feelings and stimulus around him or her, we would perhaps be in total agreement with the above statement, especially when confinement in the hospital is proving to be very costly.

What then, is the difference between starving someone to death by removing the feeding tube and giving them an injection of some chemical that would provide a quick, painless death? Maybe this is all going to be an individual decision made by those who are put in the position to choose between life and death of a loved one. No matter what the situation it seems that it is taking the matter out of God's hands and putting it in our own! What the right choice will be cannot be determined unless we can actually know if that person's life on Earth has indeed come to an end. Maybe the coming age of "Aquarius" will hold the key with the opening of spiritual sight to those who are faced with this ordeal. *Time Magazine*, "Is it Wrong to Cut Off Feeding?," February 23, 1987.

Fetal-Cell Surgery

The implantation of "fetal cells" into adults for a variety of reasons has become of great interest to doctors and scientists alike. The greatest advantage of fetal cells is that they are not usually mature enough to cause a "graft-vs-host" disease which sometimes occurs when tissues of a transplant recipient are then attacked by implanted adult cells. "Also, fetal nerve cells, unlike adult cells, can regenerate and thus have the potential to repair a damaged brain or spinal cord."

Fetal cells are therefore "immunonologically naive" for during the early stages of pregnancy, fetal cells have not yet developed all the surface proteins or "antigens" that allow the recipient's im-

mune system to identify and reject them. Perhaps, the biggest opposition to fetal cell surgery is not that they are obtained from fetuses that have aborted spontaneously, but the Catholic Church and right-to-life groups are drawing a firm line when it comes to "intentional abortions" and use of the fetuses thus obtained.

The most widespread use of fetal-cell surgery comes in the treatment of Type 1 diabetes which is insulin-dependent. "Indeed, surgeons at Shanghai People's Hospital have been treating diabetics with fetal islet cells since 1982. Of thirty nine patients monitored for more than two years, three no longer need insulin shots and the others have reduced their insulin requirements anywhere from 30% to nearly 100%. In some of these diabetics, the progress of related kidney and eye disease has been either halted or reversed."

What are the ultimate possibilities of "fetal-cell surgery in the treatment of diseases such as Parkinson's disease and thalassemia, a disease in which the red blood cells carry defective hemoglobin molecules? Experiments are proceeding in both of these areas, but at present, no firm success has been reported. It was in the aftermath of the nuclear-plant disaster in Chernobyl last spring that Dr. Robert Gayle used fetal-cell surgery on six of the most severely affected workers in an effort to reconstitute the blood-forming tissues of these victims. However, all six of the patients died within a week of the accident. This effort did demonstrate the growing confidence that many doctors held in regard to fetal-cell surgery as an important medical tool." *Time Magazine*, "Help from the Unborn," January 12, 1987.

The Dilemma of Surrogate Motherhood

It appears that the most sacred act of woman, conception, has now become the subject of court battles! "One after another, life's most intimate and

privileged matters—sexual relations, conception, birth and death—have been delivered to the unsanctified ground of science and commerce.”

In a New Jersey courtroom there is a landmark case involving the custody of a 9 1/2-month-old infant being heard concerning the surrogate motherhood of Mary Beth Whitehead. In 1985 she contracted to bear a child for Elizabeth and William Stern. After the birth of the child, she calls Sara and the Sterns call Melissa. Whitehead told the court that the experience of childbearing had overpowered her and now she is seeking custody of the infant.

“In deciding the case, New Jersey Superior Court Judge Harvey Sorkow becomes the first judge in the United States asked to enforce a surrogate agreement. He could treat the case mainly as a contract dispute, rule that the contract is valid and award the child to the Sterns. Or he could opt to treat it basically as a custody battle; then the best interests of the child would be the guiding principle. Custody is often awarded to mothers, but since Baby M. has been living with the Sterns at the judge’s order for most of the time since she was born, that approach may favor them too.”

Whichever way the case goes, it will certainly be an important decision in the history of mankind! No doubt, any decision will probably be appealed. It also brings forth several vital questions that must be ultimately answered. “If society legitimates surrogacy, what has it done? Has it imperiled its most venerable notions of kinship and the bond between mother and child? Has it opened the way to a dismal baby industry, in which well-to-do couples rent out the wombs of less affluent women, sometimes just to spare themselves the inconvenience of pregnancy?

At present, statistics on the subject of “surrogacy” are very sketchy, but it is estimated that approximately 500 children have been born to surrogate parents in recent years. This number may begin to grow when it is realized that around 15% of the married couples in the United States meet the current medical definition of being “infertile.” Is this good for the country to begin an explosion of “surrogate” mothers just to please the infertile couples who must remain childless otherwise?

The Western Wisdom Teachings explain that the birth of a child is overseen by the Angelic kingdom (the Recording Angels) and would not occur by

accident. Thus, in spite of the potential legal arguments involved, these beings are making sure that waiting Egos are brought to birth at the appropriate time, no matter who is the real mother and who is to be the stepmother.

Perhaps, the real struggle lies not in the morality or ethics of it all, but in the fact that a mother who gives birth to a child does have a definite spiritual bonding that may be difficult or nearly impossible to break without a certain amount of anxiety and pain. She is no doubt working in harmony with the Cosmic Law if the Ego indeed, has been drawn to her through the need of a birth on the physical plane.

“One argument for legalization is that forbidding surrogacy will simply drive it underground, ensuring that an unregulated blackmarket trade will flourish. But if the practice is to be permitted, in what form should it survive? Fearing that conception the most intimate of functions, might become one more branch of private enterprise, some experts want surrogacy to be conducted like adoption, the most intimate of functions, might become one more branch of private enterprise, some ex-motherhood” don’t provide the mother with many rights, but puts many restraints on her such as abstaining from smoking, alcohol and drugs as well as any sexual intercourse during the insemination period. This brings up another important question. “What are the ethical dilemmas of a surrogate mother who delivers her child into a home she knows little about?” There seem to be some unsurmountable problems facing mankind in this area. *Time Magazine*, “Whose Child Is This?,” January 19, 1987.

How Popular are the TV Evangelists?

Not very, according to the recent poll on National Radio’s “Early Edition” (March 22, 1987). By 69% to 25%, the general public voiced

the view that they do more harm than good. Of their own followers, only 51% versus 41% believed their good works exceed the bad. Eighty percent thought they were overly concerned about money!

Figures, we're told, never lie. But they can obscure and pervert the perception of truth. For instance, some years ago it was reported that the Swiss unemployment rate had risen 100% in a year. Bad news? not really; it was still under 50%!

Polls, statistics, and much else in life need interpretation. The perception of reality often is misleading. As someone remarked at a concert, This music isn't really as bad as it sounds! We have no axe to grind for or against the pollsters or pulpsters; we can't endorse all the methods of the former nor messages of the latter. Our only concern is in behalf of truth, and it can best be safeguarded by injecting some points of perspective.

Polls are not infallible. In 1936, a poll of eleven million voters predicted a certain presidential candidate would win over-whelmingly. He carried two small states! In 1948, all the *scientific* polls were wrong; the only one accurate was a much-maligned popcorn poll—based on the preferences indicated by those who purchased this snack at certain movie theaters!

Polls can be manipulated by *how* a question is asked. In one poll, those interviewed strongly opted for compensating victims of discrimination. On being asked if they endorsed preferential treatment for minorities, these very same people strenuously objected—yet that was the method by which victims of injustice were to be offered relief! There is also the fact that on getting responses contrary to their own views, pollsters have been known to make comments like, "Is that really what you wish to say?"

Polls can be manipulated by *when* they are taken. One cannot help wonder why this particular inquiry probed into the public's confidence of these men so shortly after some, a very few, were held guilty of questionable conduct. Why wasn't such a poll done after some of them had announced what had been achieved in helping unwed mothers, alcoholics, drug addicts, etc.? And why is the public never questioned on its trust in entertainers, athletes, financiers, etc., who stray from the straight and narrow way more often than media ministers?

Public opinion is a very fallible judge of character. Harding, rated our worst president, swept into of-

fice with 60.3% of the popular vote; Nixon, forced to resign in 1974, began his second term the year before with a mandate of 60.6%; yet Lincoln, considered the best, took his first oath of office after drawing but 39.8% of the votes cast!

Public opinion is extremely fickle. On that first Palm Sunday, Jerusalem reverberated to the refrain, "Hosanna to the Son of David." A few days later, the air was filled with cries of "Crucify him!"

People seem to enjoy putting others down, maybe it makes them feel better by comparison. A teacher held up an almost blank sheet of paper and asked her students what they saw. The reply, Ink spots. Inquired the instructor, Don't you see all the white space? Of course they did; but there is that human tendency to look for "ink spots"—the negative, the bad! This is especially the case when most people look at the lives of those professing a higher ethic—being able to find fault provides a convenient excuse for rejecting the better way!

The message should not be judged by the messenger, though that of course does not condone misconduct. Some 40% of those polled indicated they were seriously thinking about giving up their faith after hearing of these instances of ministerial misbehavior. It has been said that no movement should be judged by its lunatic fringe, nor should a whole group be indicted because of a few transgressors; it isn't logical.

Where is it written that TV evangelists, or any clergy for that matter, should strive for popularity and acceptance? The greatest Preacher who walked this Earth was called a glutton, winebibber, blasphemer, devil-possessed and ended up on the cross; Peter the same way, head down; St. Paul was beheaded; the Old Testament prophets fared no better. No success or popularity, but faithfulness is to be the aim of all who seek to serve the Lord. And only Heaven can judge how well that criterion has been reached.

When people's characters are being scrutinized, it is well to remember Peter's last conversation with the Risen Christ. Concerning another disciple, one more faithful than himself, he asked—almost like a pollster—"Lord, what about this man?" After an evasive reply, the Saviour said, "What is that to you? Follow me." "Follow me." That command is for us. It forbids faulting others and encourages us to seek the path to higher awareness instead. □

Book Reviews

***Science and Religion*, by Elsa M. Glover, Vantage Press, New York, 1987.**

The series of articles which comprise this book first appeared in "Rays From the Rose Cross." The author, long a Member of and teacher at The Rosicrucian Fellowship, now has compiled this significant information about both the universe as verified by the five senses and the world of psychic phenomena into a scholarly volume that deserves a place in the libraries of schools, colleges, and all serious readers.

Elsa Glover's penetrating insight into the experimental sciences (she holds a degree in physics, a subject which she teaches at Stillman College in Alabama) and spiritual Truths (she has studied Christian mysticism for many years) have enabled her to express a holistic view of creation that should be meaningful to the thoughtful, open-minded reader. Her writing is clear and concise and, although dealing with profound and even awesome subject-matter, she presents her material in a lucid, easily-intelligible manner.

Her observations include topics ranging from "Mass, Energy, and Spirit," "Machines versus People," animal behavior, weather, and miracles to birth defects, problems associated with the consumption of flesh food and alcohol, and much else. Concerning the roles of science and religion in the search for Truth she writes: "In time, each person will develop his own clairvoyant powers. What is now known through religion will then become part of science. Until that time, however, religion and science will complement one another. Both are needed for a complete picture of Truth." We recommend this book to everyone interested in the interaction of the material and the spiritual and in the ultimate resolution into a harmonious whole of these two areas of investigation that still appear to be widely divergent in many peoples' minds.

***The Aquarian Conspiracy*, by Marilyn Ferguson. J. P. Tarcher, Inc., Los Angeles, 1980, 448 pages.**

What does "Aquaria" mean to you? Astrology, reincarnation, vegetarianism, the Tarot, Numerology, and perhaps a few other similar interests? If so, you've only touched the proverbial tip of the iceberg. Fact is, New Age ideas have infiltrated every significant sphere of human activity, especially in the United States, which the author calls the "matrix for transformation" and where, quoting Historian William McLoughlin, she notes that beginning in the '60's and stretching to the '90's, the fourth "Great Awakening" is being witnessed, "headed toward a rejection of unregulated exploitation of humankind and of nature and toward conservation and optimal use of the world's resources."

She further confirms America's pivotal place in Aquaria by discussing the "original dream" of the founders, quoting Historian Charles Ferguson's description of Washington's army as a "Masonic convention," and referring to the esoteric vision of the Founding Fathers as depicted on the reverse side of the Great Seal and the dollar bill.¹

In view of The Rosicrucian Fellowship's inception and location in California, her singling out of the Golden State is noteworthy: "There broods over this state a strong sense of greater universal forces...something is struggling to be born here."

Ferguson traces the roots of the "Aquarian Conspiracy" back to medieval mystics, beginning with the 14th century—Meister Eckhart, Pico della Mirandola, Jacob Boehme, and Emanuel Swedenborg. She offers a quasi-apology for the book's title, admitting that "conspiracy" denotes something malevolent, but informs us that the late French scientist-priest Pierre Teilhard de Chardin spoke of a "conspiracy of love"; in that sense she uses the term.

The actual American origins of the Aquarian Conspiracy she places in 1836, at Harvard's Bicentennial, when some intellectuals present discovered their mutual interests and founded the American Transcendentalist Movement, attracting such luminaries as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Thoreau, Bronson Alcott, Margaret Fuller, etc., taking their direction from the German romantics, English Metaphysical thinkers, and mystics like the Quakers. In turn, they "affected literature, education, politics, and economics for generations"—Nathaniel Hawthorne, Emily Dickinson, Herman Melville, Walt Whitman, Ghandi, etc. Little wonder—during the mid 1830's, Uranus was just moving out of and Neptune into Aquarius, sign of truth. Hence too, "perhaps for the first time in the history of the world," according to Psychologist Carl Rogers, "people are being really open, expressing their feelings without fear of being judged."

It is also the sign of universality; consequently Aquarian ideas have invaded all types of human endeavor. Take politics. There is less emphasis on rigid programs; change is brought about less by authority and more by consensus; decentralization is in vogue; experimentation is encouraged; emphasis on "left" and "right" is transcended by new syntheses; government seeks less to keep people in line and more to foster growth, creativity; plurality is replacing conformity; there is less of aggressive leaders and passive followers and more interaction between the two.

Education is seen less as a product, or destination, and more as a process, journey; instruction is no longer a one-way street with the teacher doing the imparting and the pupils all the imbibing—the former are learning now too, from the latter; there is less emphasis on theoretical, abstract "book knowledge" and more on the experimental, derived from outside the classroom; less stress on analytical, linear "left-brain" thinking and more on the whole man.

In medicine, human values are replacing efficiency as a top priority; the profession is becoming less a dogmatic authority and more a therapeutic partner; the body is seen as a dynamic system rather than as a rigid machine; we witness a de-emphasis on technological invasion of the body by surgery and drugs and more on non-invasive methods like psychotherapy, exercise; prevention no longer is limited to environmental factors like vitamins, rest, immunization, no smoking, but also takes in work, relationships, "wholeness."

This, of course, ties in with Holism, the famous fundamental synthesis formulated by Jan Smuts, which the author quotes the famous South African describing as having "an ever deepening, inward spiritual character." This marks one of the very few instances where Mrs. Ferguson refers to things spiritual, and that is the basis of our main criticism of her work, the result of three years research with hundreds participating. Most certainly it deserves a respected place in New Age literature, but she writes very much as an outsider. She admits, "I am unacquainted with astrological lore," and adds, "Whether or not it was written in the stars, a different age seems to be upon us." No doubt this is why she is nebulous on some negatives that have wafted into Aquaria.

There may be a plus side to Ferguson's ambivalent agnosticism: she cannot be accused of straining to prove personal convictions, which should reinforce the conclusion of this reviewer: This is the Dawning of the Age of Aquarius, but after reading this book, one has little doubt that it is closer to "high noon!"

¹ All this is described in detail in *America's Destiny: A New Order of the Ages*, by Theodore Heline.

***The Essene Gospel of Peace,
Edmond Bordeaux Szekely, Publisher:
I.B.S. Internacional, Apartado 372,
Cartago, Costa Rica, Central America
(Also available in Spanish)***

The Essenes were a mysterious group of people who lived in a communal society in the Palestine area and formed an esoteric Brotherhood which had charge of the Mystery Teachings. They obeyed the authorities and recognized the sacred books of the Jews, but they themselves were far more advanced than the ordinary humanity of that time. They lived to bring forth advanced humans and especially the Promised One—Jesus of Nazareth. After the death and resurrection of Jesus, the Essenes seemed to have disappeared from the desert and nothing is known as to what became of them.

They left behind many manuscripts which were later discovered and became known as the Dead Sea Scrolls. Some of these are still being discovered and Biblical scholars are working on the translating of these texts. Apparently, some of the Essene



brotherhood followed Jesus and wrote down His words. They are written in a poetic and lyrical fashion in contrast to the books of the New Testament.

These works of the Essenes were not only left in the desert but some of them found their way into the hands of the Nestorian priests who were driven from Asia into Europe by the advancing hordes of Ghenghis Khan. How these priests got these texts and how they ended up in the Vatican is still a mystery, but it was the Aramaic texts and Slavonic Texts, which are found in the Royal Archives of the Hapsburgs, that the author translated and printed. He not only translated the Aramaic, but the Slavonic as well, comparing, editing and finally making ready for the printing press.

So moved was he by the words that he found in the text, that he completely changed his life, going on to translate further texts, starting the Biogenic Society, traveling and lecturing around the world. The Biogenic Society (biogenic means life generating) promotes the simple, yet regenerative way of eating, living and growing foods as well as meditation practices that were used by the Essenes so many centuries ago. Besides the Essene Gospel of Peace, there are three additional volumes as well as numerous works which are related to the Essenes and can be obtained from the publisher.

But what about the work itself? What did Jesus say? How and why is it different than the better known versions of His words? These are questions which the reader will find answered by reading the

work and making comparisons. Certainly the parables will sound familiar, but, there are some surprises!

Though Jesus had the power of the spoken Word to heal people, in this text, he gives the tenets for pure living so that the sick could *heal themselves*! They came to Him and asked what they could do to rid themselves of diseases and evil spirits. He begins by telling them to purify their lives, their thoughts and actions. He asks them to fast and pray in the beginning to cleanse the body so that it may be made into a living temple through which the angels may work in harmony.

He also gives principles for diet! What do you suppose the Master would recommend? A vegetarian diet! But not only a vegetarian diet, but a diet that is raw-food oriented. What about bread? Sprout it in the Sun, grind it and then bake it in the Sun so the angels of air and sunlight can work with it. He also recommends eating at noon and sunset and fasting completely Sundays that it may be a holy day set aside for the Father.

Some of the other surprises contained in this little volume are the homage that is paid and asked to be paid to Angels and to the Divine Mother! Much is mentioned here of the work of angels and the life-giving forces of Mother Earth. Perhaps another surprise was finding the entire text of I Corinthians 14 printed here! Did Paul read the Essene work first? Did he know some of the Essenes or those who had this text? Perhaps these questions cannot be answered except through meditation.

The reader will discover this book to be treasure and may find the appetite whetted to read more of the Essene works on the Essene way of life. This text is only one-third of the material which was in the Vatican and represents only a part of what was translated. The author felt so certain that the Essene Gospel of Peace has such an important message for humanity, that for the last 50 years, the cost has remained at \$1.00! He surely must believe in the simplified message of these works for his society promotes this way of life as a method to ease the pains and miseries of the modern world. □

—Karen Mendoza

Please note: In the June, 1987 issue of the Rays Magazine, we gave an incorrect address to obtain "The Twelve Healers of the Zodiac, The Astrology Handbook of the Bach Flower Remedies, by Peter Damian. The correct address for the publisher is: Samuel Weiser, P. O. Box 612, York Beach, ME 03910.

CONCERNING THE U.S.A. RACE SPIRIT

Question: Is the United States to go backward in acquiring a Race Spirit? Will those of us who are here now be reborn in some area where there is no Race Spirit—would we not have evolved beyond it? Are the members of the new race to be backwards in physical characteristics?

Answer: No, the United States is not going to move “backwards” in acquiring a Race Spirit. It will be led forward by one of the most advanced of the Archangels. The trend of evolution is always forward.

On page 315 of the *Cosmo-Conception* you will find the following: “...the object of the new Race of the Sixth Epoch will be the unification of all the Races. The United States is becoming the ‘melting pot’ where all the nations of Earth are being amalgamated, and from this amalgamation will the next chosen people, the nucleus, be chiefly derived.” Again on pages 304-305: “At the end of our Epoch the highest Initiate will appear publicly, when a sufficient number of ordinary humanity desire, and will voluntarily subject themselves to such a Leader. They will thus form the nucleus for the last Race, which will appear at the beginning of the Sixth Epoch. After that time races and nations will cease to exist. Humanity will form one spiritual Fellowship as before the end of the Lemurian Epoch....From the mixture of the different nations now taking place in the United States will come the ‘seed’ for the last race, in the beginning of the Sixth Epoch.”

Since the nucleus of this ultimate race is to be derived from the ethnologically diversified population of the United States, and since this race is to be the last evolutionary stepping-stone before humanity attains universal Fellowship and Brotherhood, it does not seem to us that the United States will be moving backwards. On the contrary, the members of any race who voluntarily subject themselves to the exalted leadership of such an advanced human being as the highest Initiate of our life wave would necessarily be capable of leading exemplary lives—mentally, morally, and spiritually.

In consequence, the activities of such a race would be considerably more lofty, humanitarian, and spiritually elevated than those of any previous race. It certainly appears as though the selfishness and separatism characteristic of all former races are to be done away within the ultimate race. As the last stage before the achievement of universal fellowship, the ultimate race, and particularly its leadership, will be striving for perfection. This can hardly be considered a step “backwards.”

Those of us who are here now will be reborn in places and conditions where the lessons we must learn are offered, wherever that may be on the Earth. If we strive to live helpfully and lovingly, we will be reborn among the more advanced individuals.

Max Heindel states in *Letters to Students*, No. 59, that: “This new race is beginning to appear. You may know them by their long arms and limbs, their lithe body, their long and somewhat narrow head, high crown, and almost rectangular forehead.” Needless to say the manner of dress is no indication of person’s spiritual status.

GLAND TRANSPLANTING

Question: I am enclosing a newspaper article asking for donations of the pituitary gland to the National Pituitary Agency to help in preventing dwarfism in children. I am sympathetic with the request, but I understand that this must be done immediately after death. I would like to know how this co-ordinates with your teaching on the three-day period. In some forms of embalming the body is more or less crystallized or mummified so it will not disintegrate for probably hundreds of years. Does this mean that the vital spirit is explained in your books be earth or body bound until such time as the body has disintegrated?

Answer: Max Heindel has made it emphatic in his writings that the deceased should be disturbed as little as possible during the three and one-half days immediately following the rupture of the silver cord. This is, of course, so that the panoramic process may proceed without interference. Just how much the panoramic process would be interfered with by the removal of a gland or other part of the body would depend to some extent upon how soon after death the removal takes place, the age of the person, circumstances of death, etc. An older person usually completes the panorama sooner than a young person, and the awareness of the Ego immediately after death varies with the individual. It might be considered, too, that the consciousness of the Ego after the rupture of the silver cord is not likely to be as keen to physical pain as it was while fully in the body. Nevertheless, in view of the extreme importance of a clear etching of the experiences of the life upon the desire body, all precautions possible should be taken to see that the dying person is undisturbed.

Embalming and mummification are of course to be avoided, but mummification alone is not likely to keep an Ego earthbound. A strong attachment to the mummified body, or the hypnotic attachment to it by a curse pronounced by a priest-magician, or a religious belief that will eventually be raised from the dead in this body, may keep the Ego hovering around the mummy for centuries, until it realizes its mistake, gives up, and yields itself to reincarnation.

The term "earthbound" applies only to the Ego itself, which chooses or is impelled to remain around the Earth after death. Such earthbound Egos are not "bound" to the corpse. The body

disintegrates in the grave unless it is cremated, in which case it disappears very quickly. However, an earthbound Ego (because of its *mental attachment* to the things of the Earth) will remain near the Earth regardless of what has happened to its body. The attachment is actually in the mind of the Ego.

Perhaps you are confusing the "vital spirit" and "Ego." the "vital spirit" spoken of is the etheric portion of the dense body, and of course if the physical body is preserved, the vital body is also preserved, and does not disintegrate but remains floating near the dense body. It is merely part of the corpse. We do not say that it is "earthbound," because its destiny is to disintegrate synchronously with the physical body to which it is attached by the lower part of the silver cord.

You will find additional information concerning the philosophy of gland transplanting in the January 1962, issue of this magazine. The motive of the donor in allowing transplanting of a gland, organ, etc., of course is all to his credit, spiritually speaking. Nevertheless, unless the recipient has learned the lesson he was supposed to learn because of his need, there is no permanent benefit.

WHY LIVE ON THROUGH SENILITY?

Question: Why are some of our elderly people held to the physical body when senile and apparently not progressing or regressing? My mother is one of these. She lives on almost totally in bed, almost like a vegetable—not really ill in any way. The mind somehow doesn't seem to "connect." Apparently she is happy enough, though it is sad for the "living" to watch!

Answer: There is a karmic tie between the afflicted individual and his relatives and friends or those appointed to care for him in all such cases. In some instances of senility, if the body is otherwise normal, the Ego has simply withdrawn from contact with the outer world, and exists in a trance condition. Sometimes there is a degree of awareness of the inner planes, where the Ego feels happy, knowing that the body is meanwhile safe in the care of its friends. Again it may happen that such an Ego is frightened of the transition and by refusing to think at all, it comes to believe that death will never come.

However, in most cases there is a perfectly objective, physical cause for such conditions. A disease of long standing may attack the brain and

nervous system; or there may be an anemic condition of the body generally which affects the brain; or there may be disorders in the endocrine system; or pressure of bone upon the brain or upon some important nerve.

Where some elderly people are concerned, there has been a lack of intellectual activity throughout the lifetime, and it is a law of nature that what we do not use, we lose. Hence there is a progressive deterioration of the brain.

Modern electrobiological science has determined that there is a "direct current" of electricity which seems to be generated largely in the brain. There is also a current of vital energy which enters through the spleen. This biological electricity is necessary to the proper functioning of the brain and nervous system. In all passive or negative conditions, where the Ego does not properly control or make use of its powers, these vital forces may be drawn off by outside conditions, by other people, or by discarnate entities. The body then becomes will-less, vegetable-like, or like a machine in which the needed electrical energy has been cut off.

If an effort is made to work with this Ego on the inner planes at night, during the hours of sleep, it may be that it can be awakened to some degree; but if it is seriously in rebellion either against life in the body as it knows it, or against the transition which it fears, there is not likely to be very much change.

At any rate, every possible physical cure should be used, as well as the mental and spiritual. Those who care for the senile person are laying up treasure in heaven, as well as very probably paying off some debt owed in past lives to this person, while the senile person is also learning valuable lessons, even though this may not be apparent on the surface of things.

EFFECT OF INTERMENT IMMEDIATELY AFTER DEATH

Question: We are told that is best to wait until 3 1/2 days after physical death before cremation or burial, so that the Ego can view its panorama in peace. What happens in the case of Egos in tropical countries, where burial often takes place on the day of death?

Answer: Tropical countries do not generally have the use of "cold rooms" to preserve the body for 3 1/2 days, and as heat decomposes the body

quickly, disposition must be made without delay. If the body is not burned and there are no loud lamentations to distract the Ego, being placed in the earth soon after death should not prevent the Ego from viewing the panorama. The vital body, however, is strongest right after death, and its strength diminishes fairly quickly. If the panorama is not etched clearly, then the person concerned will have to be reborn soon, die as a child, and thereupon receive the special instruction in the desire world which is given to those who had been unable to view clearly their post-mortem panoramas.

REBIRTH AND REINCARNATION NOT SYNONYMOUS TERMS

Question: I notice that the term "rebirth" rather than "reincarnation" is used in Rosicrucian Fellowship literature. Is there any special reason for this?

Answer: Yes, there is a very good reason why the term "rebirth" is preferred to "reincarnation." The two words are not synonymous. It is quite possible, for instance, for a disembodied Spirit to oust an Ego from its physical body and incarnate in or take possession of it. Such a Spirit has then reincarnated in the stolen vehicle. This is what is usually called obsession. Use the term "reincarnate" might also mean that an Ego has been born in the regular way. "Reincarnate," therefore, has two meanings, and its use might at times prove quite confusing.

The term "rebirth," however, has no such double meaning. "Re" when used as a prefix denotes *again, or back to a former state*. "Birth" means the act of bringing forth. Hence the word "rebirth" has only one meaning, and that is to return to a former state through the avenue called birth.

ASPECTS AT JESUS' BIRTH

Question: I have heard that Jesus' actual time of birth is known, and that his rising sign is Libra. Is this correct, and is it possible to see his chart?

Answer: If Jesus was indeed born at midnight on December 25, then it is very likely that he had Libra rising. The Sun would be at the nadir in the chart, in Capricorn, and if there were no interceptions, Libra would probably be on the Ascendant.

We have, however, no definite information on this subject. We are told (*Cosmo-Conception*, p. 379) that Jesus was born "at about the time stated," but no more precise birth data is given in the esoteric writings. In the absence of this information, it is not possible to erect an exact natal chart for Jesus of Nazareth.

A cardinal point of the esoteric astrology teachings is that the one thing a person's horoscope does not show is the extent to which he will exercise his will. The man Jesus was the most highly evolved member of the human race; otherwise, of course, he would not have been chosen as the vehicle for the Christ Spirit at the Baptism thirty years later. As such an individual, there is no question but that the temptations and pitfalls which plague ordinary humanity had no appeal for him, and that he well knew how to live in accordance with natural law. Therefore, although it might be of some academic interest to know the aspects under which he was born, we can be certain that he "lived above his stars" and was well able to rule them.

PROTECTION

Question: It is frightening to hear and read about inimical forces evidently at loose in the world which can harm a person. Is there any way in which to protect ourselves from these influences?

Answer: Yes, there is. "When we live lives of purity, when our days are filled with service to God and to our fellowmen, and with thoughts and actions of the highest nobility, then we create for ourselves the Golden Wedding Garment, which is a radiant force for good. No evil is able to penetrate this armor for the evil then acts as a boomerang and recoils on the one who sent it, bringing to him the evil he wished us."

This, essentially, is the basis for all the protection we need either in the physical or the etheric realm. If our lives, our thoughts, and our actions are elevated, pure, and directed toward service and spiritual advancement, we automatically draw to us the forces of Light and, at the same time, build our own Golden Wedding Garments—the Light from within that surrounds us and gives perfect protection.

The Higher Powers are always at hand to give guidance and encouragement to a sincere seeker

upon the Path. If we pray for guidance and help along the way, it will be vouchsafed us. The primary admonition given to each Aspirant under the Western Wisdom Teachings, however, is that he dedicate himself to a life of selfless service to humanity. If he does this, earnestly and with love in his heart, "all other things will be added unto him."

CAMPUS UNREST AND DISSENT

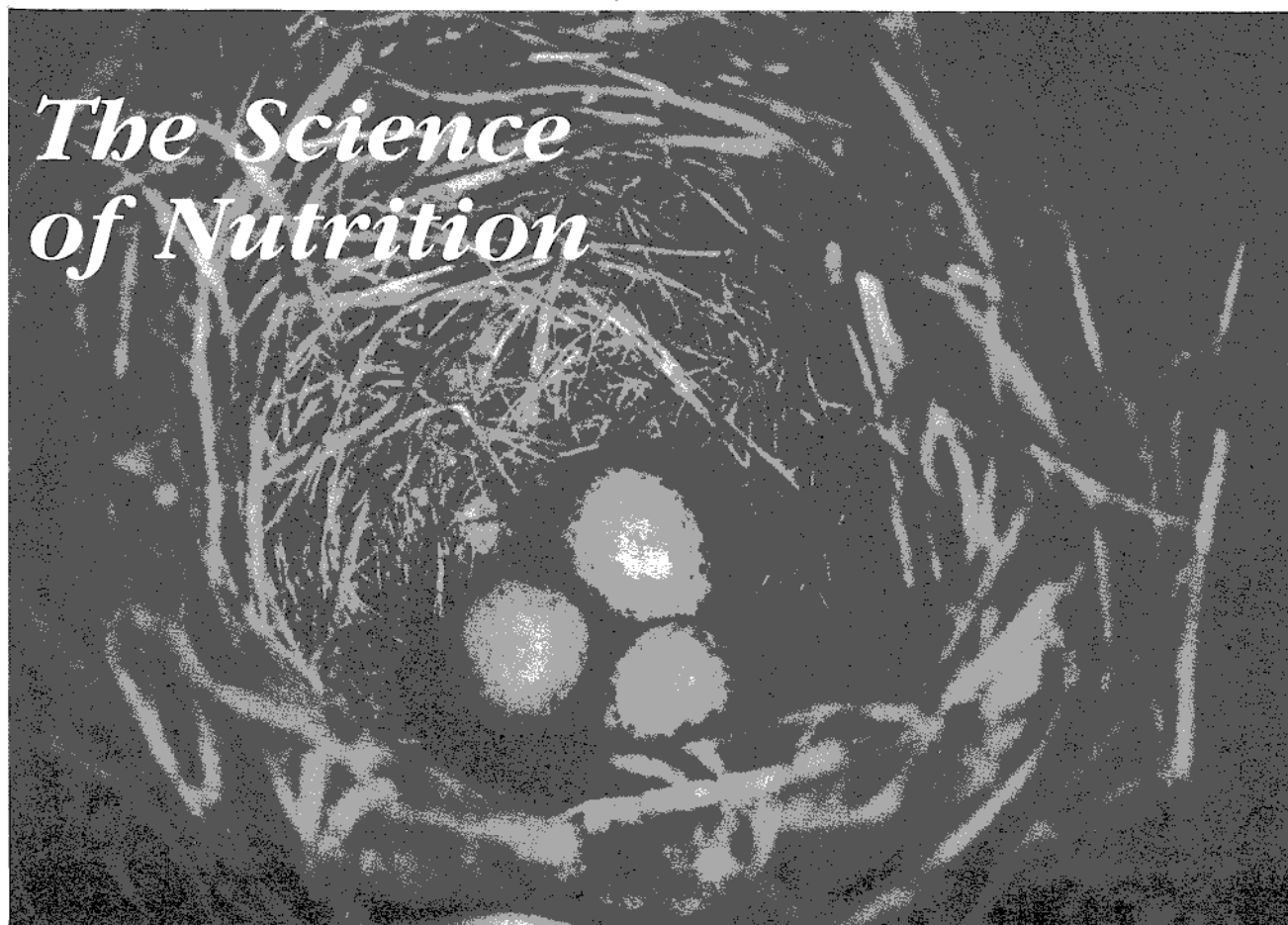
Question: I would appreciate hearing the Fellowship's viewpoint on campus unrest and lawful dissent.

Answer: The Western Wisdom Teachings emphasize the importance of the individual, initiative, and self-reliance. At the same time they also emphasize service to others, unselfishness, and cooperation. With these as a background we can assess very well the real value of current movements and conditions.

As for campus unrest, so long as it is based on youthful desire to explore, search for truth, and weigh values, and is carried on in a manner that considers the welfare of all people involved, it can be productive of both material and spiritual progress. It is when a selfish, uncooperative attitude prevails, involving distress and violence that it becomes destructive and intolerable.

"Lawful dissent," carried on in an amicable manner, is certainly permissible. However, here again, the welfare of all concerned needs to be considered. Each one of us has a perfect right to think as we wish, and so long as we do not disturb others, to act according to our beliefs. But no one has the right to perpetrate a selfish trend of action that results in unhappiness and suffering for others. It is all too true that violence begets violence; kindness begets kindness.

It should be remembered in all these trends and conditions where violence is involved that there are definitely forces of destruction active in this world, as well as forces that work for spiritual progress. Each one of us has to choose what kind of forces we will align ourselves with, and how we are going to help accomplish the goals we have before us. We are free agents, but at the same time progress on the evolutionary path can be made only when we overcome selfishness and strive for the upliftment of all our brothers and sisters. □



The Science of Nutrition

**Fasting
as
a
Means
of
Healing
and
a
Factor
in
Soul
Growth**

We may readily conceive that there are more people in the West who die from overeating than from getting too little food. Under certain conditions fasting for a day or two is undoubtedly beneficial, but just as there are gourmands and gluttons, so there are others who go to the opposite extreme and fast to excess. There lies a great danger. The best way is to eat in moderation and to eat the proper kinds of food; then it will not be necessary to fast at all.

If we study the chemistry of food we shall find that certain foods have properties of value to the system under certain conditions of disorder, and taken properly food is really medicine. All the citrus fruits, for instance, are splendid antiseptics. Thus they prevent disease. All the cereals, particularly rice, are antitoxins; they will kill disease and the germs of putrefaction. Thus, by knowing these medicinal properties of the different foods, we may very readily secure a supply of that which we need to cure our ordinary ailments by food instead of by fasting.

Under the ancient dispensations it was required that sacrifices of bulls and goats should be made as atonement for sin, for man then treasured his material possessions even higher than today, and felt keenly their loss when forced to give them up for such a purpose. Upon the altar

of sacrifice men were forced to offer their cherished possessions for every transgression, God appearing to them as a hard task-master whose displeasure it was dangerous to incur. But there has always been an esoteric teaching, which is being promulgated exoterically today, and this teaching does not accept the sacrifice of an animal, money, or other possessions, but demands that each one make a sacrifice of himself. This was taught to the aspirants in the ancient Mystery School when they were prepared for the mystic rite of Initiation.

To them were explained the mysteries of the vital body, how it is composed of four ethers, etc. The aspirant was thoroughly instructed in the functions of the two lower ethers as compared with the two higher. He knew that all the purely animal functions of the body depended upon the density of the lower ethers, and that the two upper ethers composed the soul body which was the vehicle of service. He aspired, naturally, to cultivate this glorious garment by self-abnegation, and by curbing the propensities of the lower nature, just as we do today.

These facts were kept secret from the masses, as said, or rather they should have been, but some neophytes who were over zealous to attain, no matter how, forgot that it is only by service and unselfishness that the Golden Wedding Garment composed of the two higher ethers is grown. They thought that the occult maxim: "Gold in the crucible, Wrought in the fire; Light as the winds, Higher and higher" meant only that so long as the lower nature, the dross, was expelled, it did not matter

how, and if they could find an easy method, they would have left only the gold composed of the two higher ethers, the soul body, in which they could enter the invisible world without let or hindrance. They reasoned that as the chemical ether is the agent of assimilation, it could be eliminated from the vital body by starving the physical vehicle.

**Right living
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nor feasting,
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of the
Spirit.**

But the result obtained by these misguided people and their followers was far from being what was intended by the training in the Mystery School. The candidate was there taught first and foremost that the body is the temple of God, and that to defile, destroy, or mutilate it in any manner is a great sin. Indulgence of the appetite is a sin, a defiling practice which brings with it certain retribution, but it

is no more to be reprehended than the practice of fasting for soul growth. Right living is neither fasting nor feasting, but giving the body those elements which are necessary to maintain it in the proper form of health, strength, and efficiency as an instrument of the Spirit. Therefore fasting for soul growth is a pseudo-method which has exactly the opposite effect to that which it was designed to accomplish by its shortsighted originators.

The Health Value of Indigestible Foods

It may seem absurd to say that the more indigestible our foods are the better the health will be; nevertheless, when the statement is slightly qualified, it is true. Foods which are usually regarded as indigestible because we feel distress after eating them, really cause trouble because they have been too thoroughly digested, while other foods which are nearly totally indigestible, and therefore in a sense not foods at all, leave us with all the feelings of health and well-being.

Lack of proper appreciation of these essential facts is at the bottom of the difficulties which many people experience when they adopt what they are pleased to call a vegetarian diet. They have in most cases suffered from digestive troubles before ceasing to eat flesh, and have in many cases adopted a fleshless diet with the expectation that that would work a miracle in restoring their health. They are therefore often bitterly disappointed that they feel no better, and in a number of cases they may even feel worse, because they continue their

dietetic errors in all other respects, so that in many cases their reformed diet is from a standpoint of health, a thousand times worse than the usual mixed diet of the average person, and goodness knows, that is bad enough. In fact, instead of wondering that the body breaks down under the strain of dietetic indiscretion, it is really wonderful that it can stand up as well as it does in spite of the abuse and ill treatment to which it is subjected.

It happens not infrequently that people who apply to us for healing admit the most atrocious dietetic blunders, perfectly oblivious to the fact that they are doing wrong. They will eat four to five meals a day, composed of hot cakes, coffee, eggs, beefsteak, white bread, potatoes, pie, cheese, etc., etc., and then they honestly wonder why they do not feel well. This class of people will claim that they have no bad habits. They smoke a few cigars, drink a few glasses of beer, or perhaps they have a cocktail or two; they live on what they call a "natural diet," go to bed at ten or eleven, and pat themselves on the back with the feeling that they are models. As a rule when it is first brought to their attention that they are committing serious blunders they stare in utter amazement and incredulity; they seem to doubt their senses when told that they are killing themselves with food; actually and in truth digging their graves with their teeth.

Nevertheless, that is absolutely true and it is not so much because their food is indigestible, either, as because of the lack of indigestible materials to mix among the highly concen-

trated foods which form the chief elements of such a diet. But in that respect that class of people are no worse than people who live on a diet of such concentrated foods as prunes, nuts, raisins, etc.

They also eat highly concentrated food; they get both protein from the nuts and carbohydrates from the raisins, but lack the indispensable though indigestible cellulose to give the necessary amount of bulk and cause irritation in the digestive tract which is absolutely essential to induce peristalsis and secretion of the necessary digestive ferments.

**We
do
not
assimilate
all
the
protein
and
mineral
salts
which
are
contained
in the
coursest
portions
of the
whole
wheat.**

There is no question that whole wheat is much more nutritious, palatable, and healthful than white flour which

is composed only of the starchy portions of the grain, but its health value is not particularly great because it is more easily digested than white bread, for as a matter of fact it is not, nor is the great benefit derived from whole wheat bread due to the mineral salts necessary to body building which it contains and which are absent in white bread. For it should be remembered that just as a portion of the protein contained in meat and the phosphorus contained in fish remain undigested, so also with the protein and phosphorus which abound in the whole meal bread. We do not assimilate all the protein and mineral salts which are contained in the coarsest portions of the whole wheat. But while the white bread is almost entirely digested and leaves but little ash, provided of course that it is well made, the courser particles of the whole wheat flour pass through the intestinal tract undigested; they massage them, so to speak, irritate them and induce a flow of blood which keeps the intestines sweet and healthy. They do not pack as closely as the little residue left from highly concentrated foods, and therefore they take with them in the air spaces noxious gases, leaving the digestive tract pure and clean.

Compare the action on the bowels of such foods as eggs, and meat and cheese, which are almost totally assimilated and leave no coarse bulk to cleanse the bowels after a meal has been digested, with such vegetables as legumes (used sparingly), turnips, carrots, celery, onions, etc., which contain every element found in flesh and in addition, to health, the indispen-



sable bulk composed of coarse fibrous matter which alone can sweep the intestinal tract, clear off all deleterious products of waste and leave the system in a healthy condition.

The archetype determines the form and figure of a person and this will be his normal stature in health, but by our dietetic disorder we often change this, so that the energy of the body is used in the process of eliminating an enormous amount of food which we cannot assimilate and therefore we grow thinner. The reverse happens when the eliminative powers are poor; then surplus flesh, or adipose tissue, is put on because of an unnatural diet. When a scientifically prepared diet is adopted, the people who have been too thin because of a previous wrong diet, take on flesh, and conversely those who have put on unnatural flesh cease to do so and therefore their weight is reduced.

Results of Eating Too Frequently

Another fruitful cause of digestive disorders is the habit of eating every few hours. People who are in the habit of eating five or six times a day frequently assert that they are hungry and must have food or they are sick. As a matter of fact, the craving is due to a diseased condition of the stomach, and the relief results from the weight of food which deadens the stomach.

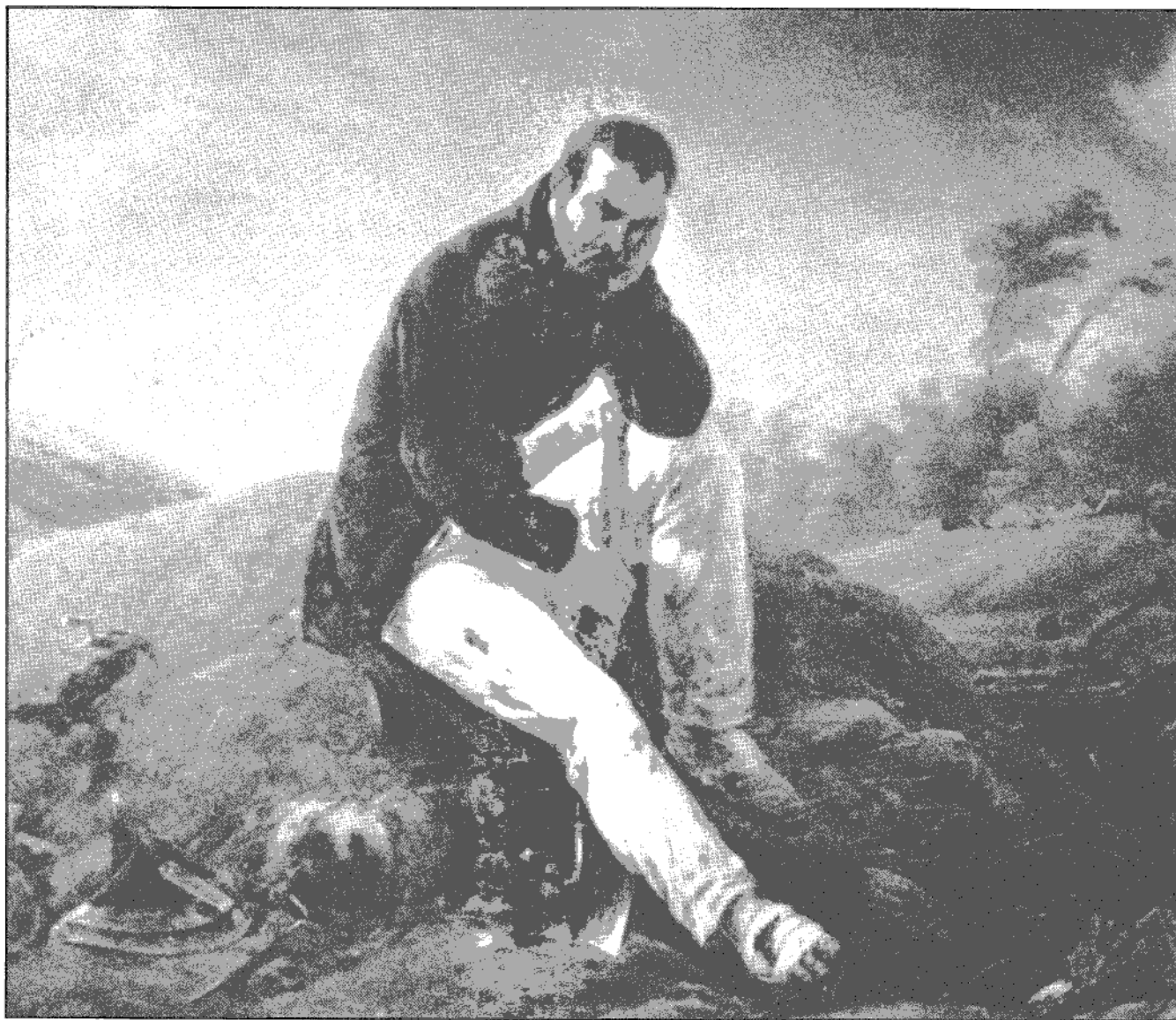
We call it criminal to give to a person addicted to the morphine habit more just because he craves it, and it would give temporary relief from suffering, and we should apply the same logic and philosophy to people who are poisoned by an excess of food. This is not theory, either, but the result of investigation which cannot be matched by experiments on animals or human beings, where the suffering incident to tabulating the

results of investigations causes an unnatural digestive condition. There are no such barriers to one whose spiritual sight is opened and who can see the peristaltic action of the stomach and intestines when the system has been burdened. Then there exudes from the food a black poisonous gas which is thrown outward through the periphery of the aura by the man's vital body so long as he is in good health. But when his vitality becomes enfeebled and the flow of the solar force through the spleen is not as strong as usual, this poisonous gas remains around the abdominal region as a broad black band which poisons all organic activities of the body while it is there. When a person eats three meals a day there is a slight chance for the dissolution of the poison band generated by one meal before the next is taken. But where meals are eaten at intervals of only a few hours there is absolutely no chance for the person to rid himself of this poison cloud, and as a consequence he grows worse and worse, shortening the span of his natural life in a manner that would be a shocking surprise to most of these people could they realize it.

For these reasons anyone who wishes to obtain and maintain health should make it a point to eat only two or three times a day and sparingly, taking care to secure an abundance of bulk rather than nutriment, for it is an actual fact that many, many more people die of too much nourishment than of too little. □

—Max Heindel
Occult Principles of
Health and Healing

Nutrition and Health



“One Stop Doc”

That is what *Newsweek*¹ called a presently pervasive practice of creating controversy: physicians now are themselves supplying patients with drugs for which they formerly sent them to pharmacists. The latter contend that the M.D.'s tend to overprescribe, overcharge, and give priority to drugs already on hand; too, that new drugs are coming out so fast that busy physicians lack the time to keep abreast of their uses and dangers. The medical profession replies by pointing to greater convenience for the patient, that this is a way of making sure the prescriptions will be less expensive and hence more readily taken. A table accompanying the article indicates that some Los Angeles doctors are able to undersell some local pharmacists; but, obviously, a study of just a few doctors and pharmacists in one area cannot be conclusive.

What is conclusive about drugs is this: to various degrees, they are all poisons and had better be left alone! There is a Law of Action that states: "Whenever action occurs in the living organism, as the result of extraneous influences, the action must be ascribed to the living that which has the power of action, and not to the dead thing whose leading characteristic is inertia."²

Obviously, the drugs are dead and the body is alive, so it initiates the action, in direct reaction to the drug that has been introduced. This truth is confirmed by the fact that people with strong vitality react powerfully against drugs, those with weak vitality very little, and the dead not at all! When there is insufficient vitality to react against the drug, it is absorbed by the body, deposited, and interferes with the normal functioning of physiological processes.

Anything introduced into the body for the production of heat, growth, or repair of worn-out tissue is nourishment; everything else is poison—and that takes in all drugs, illegal or not. Just because a legislative body approves a substance does not make it automatically safe for human use, any more than gambling, once legalized, thereby becomes morally acceptable, or legalized liquor becomes less intoxicating than the product of an illegal still.

Astrology tells us that all drugs are ruled by Neptune. Negatively, Neptune is addictive, and so are drugs! They work on the principle of diminishing returns—one needs ever bigger dosages for the same results. This is not the case with food! The same portions will do day

after day, unless there are major changes in temperature or activity.

Pharmakeus, the origin of our English word pharmacy, in ancient Greece meant witchcraft!

Negatively, Neptune is also deceptive, and so are drugs. Consider the law of Dual Effect: "The secondary effect upon the human organism of any act, habit, indulgence or agent is the exact opposite and equal of the primary effect."³

For instance, opium and other barbiturates and tranquilizers may at first induce sleep and calm the nerves, but in the end insomnia and nervousness result. Coffee may temporarily relieve headache, but in the long run tends to make this complaint permanent; tonics at first strengthen, but they do so by increasing body activity to expel the poison they have introduced into the system, which is a drain on the vital force—enervation.

Users of prescription drugs might ask themselves some questions: How do their producers decide which is the correct dosage? How can they be sure that the amounts "needed" are the same for all? How can one be certain there are no

unexpected side effects? These may not always be as drastic as in the case of the "thalidomide" babies of a generation ago, born with limbs missing, but it is a fact that a great many drugs are known to interfere with the activity in the body of certain nutrients. There is no way all of them can be fully checked out regarding this.

As Astrology students know, spiritual aspirants have an additional reason for avoiding the pharmacists' products: Drugs, negative Neptune, are antithetical to positive Neptune, which in its most sublime manifestation is the planet of Divinity! Drugs, illegal and legal, are detrimental to spiritual development. No wonder *pharmakeus*, the origin of our English word pharmacy, in ancient Greece meant witchcraft! Max Heindel tells of one who in a previous life had "possessed the spiritual sight," but in this incarnation due to "drink, drugs, and cigarettes" had lost it.⁴ In his lecture on "Spiritual Sight and Insight" he states, "Drugs have a fearfully destructive effect on the different vehicles of man."⁵ The "drink" and "cigarettes" referred to above certainly could be called legalized drugs. Nowhere does Max Heindel differentiate between those permitted by law and those not. Neither should we! □

—A Probationer

¹May 25, 1987. (pp. 3, 32-33)

²*Psycho-Physiopathy*, Book One, T. de la Torre. (pp. 57-58)

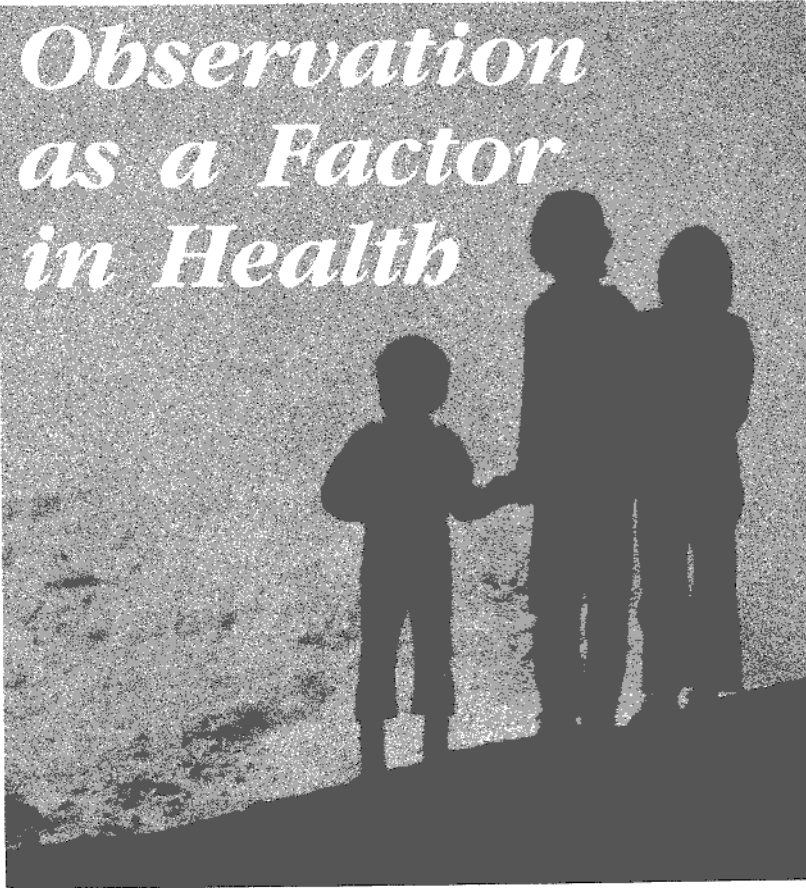
³T. de la Torre, *op. cit.* (p. 65)

⁴*The Rosicrucian Philosophy in Questions and Answers*, Vol. II, Max Heindel. (pp. 75-76)

⁵*The Rosicrucian Christianity Lectures*, Max Heindel. (p. 174)

Healing

Observation as a Factor in Health



To those interested in improving and maintaining health, as well as in making spiritual progress, it is of prime importance to form the habit of careful and accurate observation. The reason for this is to be found in the fact that the welfare of the physical body is definitely affected by the degree to which the pictures of the conscious mind coincide with the records of the subconscious mind.

The subconscious memory or mind is made by the air we inspire carrying records of every thought and emotion we feel into the lungs, and thence to the blood and negative atoms of the vital body. Unless we observe the sights and sounds around us accurately, the pictures in the conscious mind do not coincide with the automatic subconscious records, and the rhythm of the dense body is disturbed in proportion to the inaccuracy of our observation.

During sleep the Ego and the mind, clothed in the desire body, draw out from the vital body and dense body, the two latter remaining on the bed, while the higher vehicles hover above or near the sleeping body. As the harmonies of the Desire World pervade the desire body, wisdom and truth replace error. The desire body regains its rhythm and tone, the time required to restore it varying according to how illusive, impulsive, and strenuous the life has been during the day.

Thus our activities during sleep partially restore harmony, but the warring vibrations from day to day and year to year are one of the causes which gradually harden and destroy our organism until it becomes unfit for the use of the Spirit and must be abandoned to give the Spirit another opportunity for growth in a new and better body. In proportion as we learn to observe accurately we shall gain in health and longevity, and we shall need less rest and sleep.

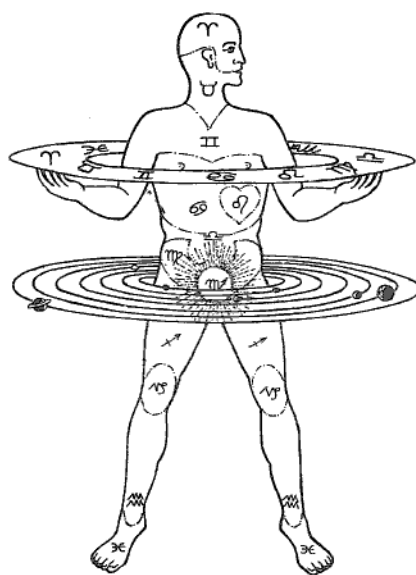
HEALING DATES

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 Pro-Ecclesia at 4:15 P.M. and in the Temple at 6:30 P.M. when the Moon is in a cardinal sign on the following dates:

September.....3-9-16-23-30
October.....6-13-21-27
November.....3-10-17-24-30

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

Astrology as an Aid to Healing



PART 1

Astrological Basis for Healing

It is well known to the modern physician that the condition of the blood, and therefore the condition of the whole body, changes in sympathy with the state of mind of the patient, and the more the physician uses suggestion as an adjunct to medicine the more successful he is. Few perhaps would credit the further fact that both our mental and physical condition is influenced by planetary rays which change as the planets move. In these days since the principle of radioactivity has been established we know that everybody projects into space numberless little particles. Wireless telegraphy has taught us that etheric waves travel swiftly and surely through space and operate a key according to our will. We also know that the rays of the Sun affect us differently in the morning when they strike us horizontally than at noon when they are perpendicular. If the light rays from the swift-moving Sun produce physical and mental changes, may not the persistent rays of slower planets also have an effect? If they have, they are factors in health not to be overlooked by a thoroughly scientific healer, and we therefore maintain that results may be obtained more easily at certain times when the stellar rays are propitious for the healing of a particular disease or for treatment with remedies previously prepared under auspicious conditions.

If physicians would study the science of astrology, they would thus with a very slight effort be able to diagnose their patient's condition in a manner altogether impossible from the ordinary diagnostician's point of view. Some physicians are waking up to the fact and have discovered by their experiences that the heavenly bodies do have an influence upon the human frame. For instance, when the writer was in Portland, Oregon, a physician mentioned as his observation that whenever it was possible for him to perform an operation while the Moon was increasing in light, that is to say, going from the new to the full, the operation was always successful and no complications would set in. On the other hand, he had found that when circumstances compelled him to perform an operation when the Moon was going from the full to the dark there was a great danger of trouble, and that such operations were never as satisfactory as those performed while the light of Moon was increasing.

The way to find out the peculiarities of the Spirit that dwells in the patient's body is to cast his horoscope to see when the times are propitious for the administration of drugs, giving the appropriate herbs at the proper time. Paracelsus did that, and therefore he was always successful with his patients; he never made a mistake. There are some who use astrology for that purpose today; the writer, for instance, has thus used it in diagnosis in many cases. He has then always been able to see the crises in the patient's condition, the past, present, and future; and thus has been able to afford

much relief to persons suffering from various illnesses. It is to such uses that astrology should be put, and not degraded into fortunetelling for the sake of gold, for, like all spiritual sciences, it ought to be used for the benefit of humanity, regardless of mercenary considerations.

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There are seven spheres, the planets of our solar system. Each has its own keynote and emits a sound varying from that of every other planet. One or more among them vibrates in particular synchrony with the seed atom of the Ego then seeking embodiment. This planet then corresponds to the "tonic" in the musical scale; and though the tones from all the planets are necessary to build up an organism completely, each is modified and made to conform to the basic impact given by the most harmonious planet, which is therefore the ruler of that life. As in terrestrial music so also in the celestial there are harmonies

and discords, and these all impinge upon the seed atom and aid in building the archetype. Vibratory lines of force are thus formed, which later attract and arrange physical particles as spores of sand are marshaled into geometrical figures by bowing a brass plate with a violin bow.

Along these archetypal lines of vibration the physical body is later built, and thus it expresses accurately the harmony of the spheres as it was played during the period of construction. This period, however, is much longer than the actual period of gestation, and varies according to the complexity of the structure required by the life seeking physical manifestation. Nor is the process of construction of the archetype continuous, for under aspects of the planets which produce notes to which vibratory powers of the seed atom cannot respond it simply hums over those which it has already learned, and thus engaged it waits for a new sound which it can use to build more of the organism which it desires in order to express itself.

Thus, seeing that the terrestrial organism which each of us inhabits is molded along vibratory lines produced by the song of the spheres, we may realize that the inharmonies which express themselves as disease are produced in the first place by the spiritual inharmony within. It is further evident that if we obtain accurate knowledge concerning the direct cause of the inharmony and remedy it, the physical manifestation of disease will shortly disappear. It is this information which is given by the horoscope of birth, for there each planet in its house and sign expresses harmony or



discord, health or disease. Therefore, all methods of healing are adequate only in proportion as they take into consideration the stellar harmonies and discords expressed in the wheel of life—the horoscope.

While the laws of Nature that govern in the lower realms are all-powerful under ordinary circumstances, there are higher laws which pertain to the spiritual realms and which may under certain circumstances be made to supersede the former. For instance, the forgiveness of sins upon recognition thereof and true repentance is made to supersede the law which demands an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. When Christ walked upon this Earth and healed the sick, He, being the Lord of the Sun, embodied within Himself the synthesis of the stellar vibrations as the oc-

tave embodies all the tones of the scale, and He could therefore emit from Himself the true corrective planetary influence required in each case. He sensed the inharmony and knew at once wherewith to offset it by virtue of His exalted development. He had no need of any further preparation, but obtained results at once by substituting harmony for the planetary discord which caused the disease wherewith He was dealing. Only in one case did He take refuge in the higher law and say, "Arise, thy sins are forgiven."

Likewise with the ordinary methods employed in the Rosicrucian system of Healing, they depend upon a knowledge of the planetary inharmonies which cause disease and the correcting influence which will remedy the same. This has suf-

ficed in all the instances which have come under our notice to date. However, there is a more powerful method available under a higher law which may accelerate recovery in cases of long standing, and under certain circumstances where the sincere and heartfelt recognition of wrong exists, may even obliterate the effects of disease before destiny, cold and hard, would otherwise so decree.

When we look with spiritual vision upon one who is diseased, whether the physical body be emaciated or not, it is plainly evident to the Seer that the finer vehicles are much more tenuous than during health. Thus they do not transmit to the physical body a proper quota of vitality, and as a consequence that instrument becomes more or less disrupted. But whatever may be the state of emaciation of the rest of the physical body, certain centers which are tenuous during health in a degree varying with the spiritual development of the man, become clogged in an increasing degree according to the seriousness of the disease. This is particularly true of the main center between the eyebrows. Therein the Spirit is immured, sometimes to such an extent that it loses touch with the outer world and its progress and becomes so thoroughly centered upon its own condition that only complete rupture of the physical body can set it free. This may be a process of long years, and in the meantime the planetary inharmony which caused the initial disease may have passed by, but the sufferer is unable to take advantage of the improved conditions. In such cases a spiritual outpouring of a special kind is necessary

to bring to the soul its message, "Thy sins are forgiven." When that has been heard, it may respond to the command, "Take up thy bed and walk."

None among our present humanity can measure anywhere near the stature of the Christ, consequently none can exercise His power in such extreme cases; but the need of that power in active manifestation exists today as much as it did two thousand years ago. Spirit pervades everything in and upon our planet, but in a varying measure. It has more affinity for some substances than for others. Being an emanation from the Christ Principle, it is the Universal Spirit composing the World of Life Spirit that restores the synthetic harmony of the body.

The Laws of Compatibility and Systemic Receptibility

There are two basic laws in the science of Astro-therapy or healing by use of the stellar ray; one is the Law of Compatibility, the other, the Law of Systemic Receptibility. By knowledge and intelligent application of these laws the sick regain health much more rapidly than otherwise and with minimum effort on the part of the health adjuster.

At the time of conception the Moon was in the degree which ascends at birth (or its opposite); the vital body was then placed in the mother's womb as a matrix into which the chemical elements forming our dense body are built. The vital body emits a sound similar to the buzz of a bumblebee. During life these etheric sound waves attract and place the chemical

elements of our food so that they are formed into organs and tissues. So long as the etheric sound waves in our vital body are in harmony with the keynote of the archetype, the chemical elements wherewith we nourish our dense body are properly disposed of and assimilated, and health prevails no matter whether we are stout or thin, of rosy complexion or sallow, or whatever the outward appearance. But the moment the sound waves in the vital body vary from the archetypal keynote, this dissonance places the chemical elements of our food in a manner incongruous with the lines of force in the archetype.

Then imperfect elimination of waste, accumulation of poison in the system, and abnormal

growths and other conditions become manifest in the dense body, and disease continues until harmony has been restored to the vital body. When the invisible cause has been removed, the visible effects disappear, and health is restored. Thus we see that incipient disease manifests in the vital body before the dense body begins to show signs of disability, and recovery of the vital body also precedes convalescence.

When a healthy person meets with an accident, his vital body is unimpaired; therefore he may not feel the full extent of the injury until several days afterwards. If he survives the shock of the maximum dissonance between the vital body and the archetype, the chances are good for recovery.



The pitch of the etheric vibration in the vital body is determined by the rising sign, for the reason given. Each of the twelve signs imparts a sound different from that of all the other signs, as each of the twelve signs in the chromatic scale varies from the rest. Some notes blend harmoniously and with a pleasing effect; others are basically discordant and grate upon our sensibilities. Similarly, the harmony of their rising signs makes some people agreeable and capable of helping and healing each other when necessary, while people whose rising signs are in dissonance can neither give each other help nor receive it from each other.

The first consideration, when about to undertake a case, is to discover the basic spiritual relationship between the healer and patient. If the Law of Compatibility shows harmony, the outlook is good for a speedy recovery; but where inharmony appears, the patient should be turned over to a doctor or healer with whom he is in accord.

This is the method which the Elder Brothers use in apportioning patients among Invisible Helpers, and it is the key to the success we have had in benefiting all who have applied to Headquarters for help.

Astrologically, there are four elements: Fire, Air, Earth, and Water. The planets are so many foci through which the influences of the signs are projected upon the newborn babe and give tone to the body, particularly if located in the Ascendant. The success of the healer varies in proportion as his constitution agrees with that of the patient's ascending sign,

whether fiery, earthy, airy, or watery.

***But the
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When Saturn in the horoscope of one person occupies any degree of the zodiac included in the first or sixth house of another, those people are mutually incompatible and incapable of conferring benefit upon each other. Mars and Uranus also have an evil effect, but their force is quickly spent; it may be compared to the snap of a terrier. But the influence of Saturn is like the locked jaws of a bulldog, a strangle hold, a death grip, from which there is no release.

The Sun is the great reservoir of Life, the very opposite of Saturn; we may therefore readily see that its position would mark one as particularly bene-

ficial to a certain class and in certain diseases. This influence is determined by its position according to triplicity. Thus, those who have the Sun in one of the fiery signs have great healing power with respect to people suffering from diseases ruled by these signs; those with the Sun in airy signs have power over diseases usual to airy signs, etc. Those born under the cardinal sign of a certain triplicity are most successful in treating acute cases of disease pertaining to those three signs; one who has the Sun in a fixed sign is apt in the cure of chronic diseases of that triplicity. Those born with the Sun in common signs make the least successful healers, but have more power to soothe the sick, and often bring recovery by their quieting influence on the patient's nerves. Therefore, they make the best nurses for patients under their triplicity, especially where there is mental trouble or where physical illness is the result of mental unrest.

Thus people born when the Sun was in one of the fiery signs, Aries, Leo, or Sagittarius, are particularly successful in the treatment of the head, heart, spinal cord, femoral region, fevers, etc. Those born in April with the Sun in Aries, would be best for the treatment of acute cases of those ailments. Those born in August, with the Sun in Leo, would succeed in chronic cases where others would fail, and if these healers secure a nurse having the Sun in Sagittarius, he or she will aid them in all their cases as no one else could. The same holds good of the other triplicities. □

Max Heindel
Occult Principles of
Health and Healing



Music constitutes an integral part of the moral content of man's character. The moral force of music rests on the correspondences existing between its tonal patterns and those of the ideal world. It sounds forth a superior order, it enunciates man's highest law.

Pythagoras held that man's nature experienced a purification when hearing solemn songs sung to the accompaniment of the lyre. The influence of music as a cure for crime has been used with marked effectiveness in France. So successful has been the response of hitherto incorrigible children to the influence of high and lofty music that concert artists were engaged to give regularly scheduled performances in the reform schools in and around Paris.

The healing and building qualities of music were utilized extensively in the early Mysteries. Chants, mantrams, and invocations used in the Temple services were musically constructed in the light of spiritual science and were, therefore, deeply occult and productive of important spiritual results.

The keynotes of the seven planetary spirits before the throne of God were intoned in the sacred temples of Egypt. In Greece the seven vowels of the Grecian language were used as a channel for the inpouring of these planetary sounds that worked so powerfully in their regenerative effect upon the Temple neophytes.

Since every human being is keyed to one of the planets, it was possible for the Temple Priest in the ancient Mystery Schools to determine the keynote of a pupil and to teach him how to attune himself to the planet of a like note, his parent star, and thereby draw on spiritual power of transcendent degree. This wisdom was part of the Mysteries, the light of which, having been allowed to go out, leaves our priesthood lacking much of this deeper wisdom possessed by the Templars of ancient days.

The Persians celebrated the entry of the Sun into each zodiacal sign with appropriate music stressing the vibratory keynote of the presiding Hierarchy at the time. The more advanced celebrants were able to place themselves in harmony with the music of their own particular sign and planet and receive benefits accordingly.

At certain times in the course of history a "magical music" has been brought to Earth by some high Initiate. The beautiful legends of Greece tell of Orpheus as being such a musical messenger and that by his rare skill troubled minds were stilled, flowers bloomed, waters became calm, and winds ceased. The Old Testament carries this same truth in the story of David, the sweet and illumined singer of Israel, who by the power of his magic harp soothed the madness of Saul.

The most profound truths connected with the teachings concealed in that supreme and sacred ceremonial, The Last Supper, as was performed by the Lord Christ, are based upon the use of vibratory power.

These truths He imparted at that time to His Chosen Twelve.

The rhythms of certain high and noble music raise the pitch and accelerate the motion of every atom in the body; they also activate dynamically certain vital centers hitherto latent and work, moreover, upon the mind, tending to lift it from its confinement in the concrete to freedom in the abstract.

**As
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There are seven centers, or "musical lights," to be awakened in man's body. These centers lie along the spinal cord and correspond with the seven notes of the octave. They are not physical, but etheric, and serve as conductors of specialized vital essences to the physical centers. These centers receive this force through corresponding etheric plexes which not only contact the physical centers, but interpenetrate them completely.

The first of these vital points is situated at the base of the

spine; its color is red. Here the serpentine Kundalini sleeps. When this slumbering fire first awakens, its dark color begins to lighten in hue, and as the regenerative process continues through the gradual rising of the spinal spirit fire it becomes a pure, luminous, ruby red. The stimulation of this center produces the beginnings of psychic abilities.

The next, or second center, is the solar plexus, also called the epigastric plexus. Its corresponding etheric center is known as "the sun of the stomach." Its color is reddish orange. As the work of transmutation goes on, those colors are modified by radiations of a soft green light. With the awakening of this center comes the first trace of clairvoyance.

The third, or hypogastric plexus, is correlated to the spleen. When this becomes active it radiates with all the golden splendor of a miniature sun. This center, when awakened, bestows the gift of healing. In the early stages of its development there is a blend of green light with gold, which later takes on the effulgence of pure gold.

The fourth, or cardiac plexus, is over the heart. This is a vital point of peculiar sensitiveness and emits a luminous, soft, yellow radiance which in the higher stages of transmutation becomes tinged with ethereal blue. The development of this center brings memories of past life cycles. This is the power referred to in occult parlance as "heart memory."

The fifth center is the pharyngeal plexus located in the throat just over the larynx. Its color is azure blue and the refining processes of the body cause

it to sparkle and glow with silver lights. The development of this center brings a recovery of the Lost Word. The creative power of speech is its high function. "My words shall accomplish that whereunto they are sent," proclaimed the Master of Masters who possessed the power belonging to this center.

The sixth, or cavernous plexus, is situated in the head at a point between the eyebrows. When fully developed there ray forth from this point kaleidoscopic color patterns of indescribable beauty of splendor, their primary tones being rose, yellow, blue and purple. When this center functions fully, consciousness is continuous, neither sleep or death interrupting it henceforth.

The seventh, or chorioid plexus, is in the top of the head. When the body has been fully regenerated this center emits a pure white effulgent light, blessing all who come under its luminous, healing rays. Its development brings liberation from the wheel of birth and death. "He that overcometh, I will make a pillar in the Temple of my God, and he shall go out thence no more," is a statement referring to One who has attained to this high state.

Thus we see that the several etheric centers in the vital body unfold their powers progressively from the lowest to the highest as regeneration takes place, and that the seven-toned musical scale to which these centers correspond sound forth their respective notes in accordance with man's development. The lifting of the spinal spirit fire is in perfect accompaniment to the tones of the musical scale. The expanding consciousness re-

leases one note after another in an ever ascending series. In this way the body of man becomes more and more closely attuned to that larger body known as the Grand Man of the Universe, both sounding forth the music of the spheres. Rudolph Steiner, the eminent Rosicrucian occultist, refers to this development as "the wonder of the octave experience." Dr. George S. Arundale, Theosophical writer and teacher, describes this same scientific truth with a poet's imagination when he declares: "The Kundalini is music as it is color. It is a rainbow as it is a perfect song."

The single string of the monochord has its counter part in the spinal cord of man, the lower part of which is connected

with the generative organs (Earth) and the upper part with the head (heaven).

On the monochord, the interval between Heaven and Earth is conceived as being spanned by the double octave. Similarly, when man has harmoniously developed the double octave of the physical and the etheric, he, too, will have an instrument that will make him a conscious citizen even here and now of two worlds. To sound the upper or heavenly notes of the monochord is to know liberation from the cycle of recurrent birth. To sound the lower note is to establish an understanding accord with humanity at large that has not yet risen above the deadening toils of transitory physical existence. To sound the



two is "To walk with kings (Master-Initiates), nor lose the common touch."

The diapason of struggle for supremacy is sounding continuously upon the human monochord between the Luciferian spirits on the one hand and the Angels on the other. Therefore, as the Luciferians are endeavoring to keep this channel charged with the fiery forces of Mars, the Angels strive to suffuse it with ethereal lunar radiations.

As regeneration supersedes generation in the life of the individual, the spirit fire in the spinal column, the human monochord, is awakened, and the tonal pitch is gradually raised as the sacred creative fire ascends toward the head. By this process the natural man is at length transformed into the celestial man.

In the cosmic monochord, the Earth, the Sun, and the Heavens all sound the same identical note, the difference being one of octave only. Man, a creature innately divine, is being worked upon by Neptune, the planet of divinity, in a manner calculated to arouse and lift the inner, sacred fires of his being so that the key to his soul will harmonize with the heavenly chord instead of that of the Earth.

The call of man, in the words of one of the greatest of all biblical seers, is to "Put off the old man and put on the new." It was the ecstatic realization of this unity with the divine selfhood within, that brought forth from that illumined medieval seer, Angelus Silesius, his victorious chant: In all eternity there is no tone so sweet As when man's heart with God's doth beat.

Rudolph Steiner states that when man can steep himself sufficiently in the consciousness of the Saturn Period he will

**There
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seven cavities
or
ventricles
within the
brain,
each
sounding
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note
and
emanating
its own
individual
color.**

know again the lost secret of architecture; when he can enter into the direct consciousness of the Sun Period he will know the full mystery of sculpture; and that with the full consciousness of the Moon Period he will enter into the mystery of painting. To the present Earth Period belongs the mystery of the music, the last of the arts to be developed, as it is the highest of them all.

During what may be spoken of as the "Cathedral Age" in Europe, master workmen were in incarnation whose labors indicated that they were qualified to receive the wages permitting them "to travel in foreign countries." The Greeks of the Golden Age of Pericles were masters of the art of sculpture. The 15th and 16th centuries produced the masters of color and also the towering geniuses of the

literature and drama of the Elizabethan Era. Music, of all the arts, remains yet in its infancy.

The first real school of music is said to have been founded by the prophet Samuel among the Levite choristers, with David as its music master and the Psalms as its hymnal. These Psalms are an Initiate's musically poetic description of the awakening of the seven centers previously mentioned and the successive steps in their unfoldment.

The seven-stringed harp of David was within himself. It was by means of his own spiritually awakened powers that he soothed the madness of Saul. It was by the magic of this same seven-stringed harp that David built for himself that spiritual armor that protected him from Saul at the time when Saul would have taken David's life. This celestial harp is also the seven-stringed lyre of Orpheus with which he calmed the waters and caused the tempest to cease.

Consider further the nature of this seven-stringed harp as it exists within the body of man. There are seven cavities or ventricles within the brain, each sounding its own note and emanating its own individual color. This sevenfold tone is a miniature choral of the celestial song intoned by the seven Planetary Spirits before the throne of God, namely, Uranus, Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, Earth, Venus and Mercury.

The brain cavities are filled with a subtle life essence, now dormant in most people, but which begin to glow or sparkle with inconceivable brilliance as man develops his spiritual nature. Physiologically, these seven centers bear the following

names: Olfactory, Lateral, Third, Fourth, the Cavernous Ventricles, and the Pineal and Pituitary Glands.

The lyre, or the harp of seven strings, has always borne much esoteric symbolism. Hargrave Jennings in *The Rites and Mysteries of the Rosicrucians* thus describes it: The seven strings of the magic harp sound the music of the spheres. They mean also the seven tones of pure music and stand again for the seven prismatic colors which again describe the seven vowels by which speech first came to man. They represent also the seven rulers of the seven planets which have their seven spirits or Celestial Flames which are the seven Angels or Spirits of God who keep the way round about the Throne of the Ancient of Days.

Music in its highest spiritual aspects is on the way toward a recovery of much that has been lost, and also to a further development of this, the youngest and the highest of all the arts. As this phase develops, music will become an increasingly important factor in the work of groups devoted to healing by the power of the spoken word, and to the work involved in the attainment of spiritual illumination.

The Grail music of Richard Wagner is literally a transcription of the music of angelic choirs and was given to Earth for the specific purpose of furthering man's spiritual evolution. It possesses the highest vibratory rate of any music yet heard upon the Earth and will be used increasingly by New Age groups, for the further emancipation of Spirit from the bondage of fleshly limitations.

The sacred consecrational music-drama, *Parsifal*, is attuned to the same rhythmic harmonies as was the Last Supper observed by the Christ, and is a direct channel for contacting the Christian Mysteries on the higher planes of true spiritual illumination.

Wagner, an Initiate of the "Musical Ray," qualified himself as a messenger to help prepare others "to partake of redemption in advance" as he expressed it, or in the biblical phrase, to "take the kingdom of heaven by storm," both statements referring to the attainment of the Hidden Wisdom and the triumphant passage through the mystic portal of Initiation.

**Much
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rhythm.**

The Temple of the Grail, wherein this sublime music is performed, is not a poetical phantasy about which poets dream, but an actuality within the spiritual realms. Tennyson describes it as being "built to the

music of fairy harps," and Wagner says it is "located on a high and inaccessible mountain, and that the path leading thereto no human foot has ever trod."

In this Temple, Illumined Ones are working with music in relation to the further process of man's development. There are upon the Earth persons who have learned to attune themselves with the musical Ray of this Temple and consciously partake of its instruction. Richard Wagner was one of these.

Many musicians are being unconsciously influenced through its rhythms. The finer and purer the life of the musician, the more sensitive does he become to the influences emanating from this Holy Place.

The knights and maidens of the Grail are those who have been initiated into the sacred meanings and purposes of this Temple and have brought to man some phases of its truths for his betterment and ultimate regeneration. Much knowledge will be given to the world in the near future in connection with the spiritual forces of rhythm.

The early Church received and used most effectually for a time much of this inner knowledge in the melodic rhythms of the Masses. Some of these were composed by the great Masters under the direct inspiration of the musical Ray of the Temple. Music has been aptly termed the handmaid of religion. Plato declared that so exalted an art was no invention of man, but a gift of the gods and was first taught to man by divine instructors. □

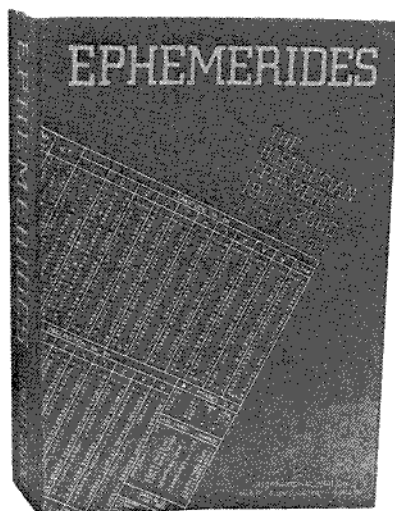
**—Corinne Heline
Healing and Regeneration
Through Color and Music**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT MOUNT ECCLESIA 1988

- JANUARY:** FELLOWSHIP DAY, Wednesday, January 6. Annual observance of Max Heindel's transition.
PHILOSOPHY SEMINAR, Saturday, January 16, 9:30 AM to 3:45 PM, Guest House, Room II.
- FEBRUARY:** WINTER SCHOOL, Monday, February 15 through Friday, February 26.
- MARCH:** VERNAL EQUINOX, Saturday, March 19.
6:30 to 7:30 PM: Presentation, Guest House, Room II.
8:00 PM: Vernal Equinox Service in Temple* and Chapel.
PALM SUNDAY SERVICE in Chapel on March 27 at 11:00 AM.
- APRIL:** GOOD FRIDAY OBSERVANCE, in Chapel, Friday, April 1st, from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM. Music and Prayer.
EASTER OBSERVANCE, Sunday, April 3.
Easter Sunrise Service at the Cross.
Continuation of Sunrise Service in Chapel.
Breakfast in Cafeteria immediately following Service.
Easter Sunday Service in Chapel at 11:00 AM
Easter Dinner in the Cafeteria at 12:00 NOON.
- MAY** ASTROLOGICAL SEMINAR, Saturday, May 21, 9:30 AM to 3:45 PM, Guest House, Room II.
- JUNE:** SUMMER SOLSTICE, Monday, June 19.
6:30 to 7:30 PM: Presentation, Guest House, Room II.
8:00 PM: Summer Solstice Service in Temple* and Chapel.
- JULY:** MEMBERSHIP PICNIC, Saturday, July 16, 12:00 NOON.
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING*, Saturday, July 16 at 2:00 PM; announcement of Board of Trustees election results; Guest House, Room I.
SUMMER SCHOOL, Monday, July 18 through Friday, August 5.
- AUGUST:** ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Monday, August 8 through Friday, August 12.
- SEPTEMBER:** AUTUMNAL EQUINOX, Wednesday, September 21.
6:30 to 7:30 PM: Presentation, Guest House, Room II.
8:00 PM: Autumnal Equinox Service in Temple* and Chapel.
- OCTOBER:** NOMINATION DAY, Sunday, October 2nd. Guest House, Room I, 2:00 PM
BIBLE SEMINAR, Saturday, October 22nd from 9:30 AM to 3:45 PM; Guest House, Room II.
OPEN HOUSE, Sunday October 23, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Cafeteria.
FOUNDER'S DAY OBSERVANCE, Friday, October 28, 12:40 PM at the Founder's Cross; an annual event commemorating the groundbreaking ceremony in 1911.
- NOVEMBER:** HEALING SEMINAR, Saturday, November 19, 9:30 AM to 3:45 PM, Guest House, Room II.
THANKSGIVING OBSERVANCE, Thursday, November 24.
Thanksgiving Service in Chapel at 11:00 AM.
Thanksgiving Dinner in the Cafeteria at 12:00 NOON.
- DECEMBER:** WINTER SOLSTICE, Tuesday, December 20.
6:30 to 7:30 PM: Presentation in Guest House, Room II.
8:00 PM: Winter Solstice Service in Temple* and Chapel.
CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM, Saturday, December 24 at 7:30 PM in the Cafeteria.
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE, Saturday, December 24 at 10:30 PM in the Chapel.
HOLY NIGHT OBSERVANCE, Saturday, December 24 at Midnight in the Temple.*
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE, Sunday, December 25 at 11:00 AM in the Chapel.
CHRISTMAS DINNER, Sunday, December 25 at NOON in the Cafeteria.

*Indicates Probationers Only.

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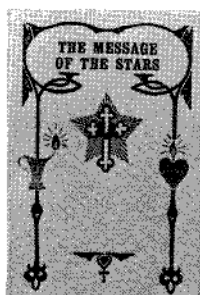
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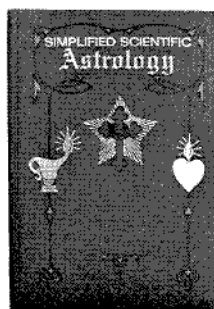
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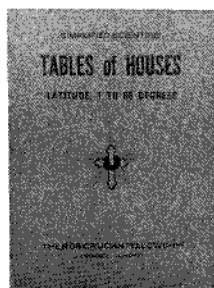
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