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FEBRUARY/MARCH

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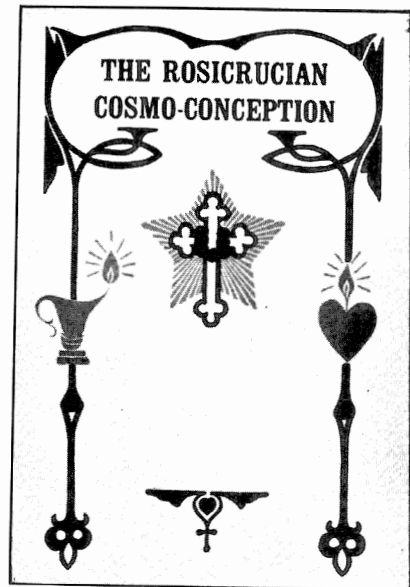
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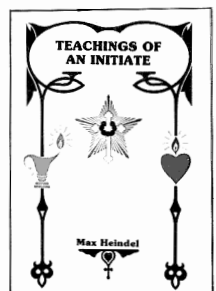
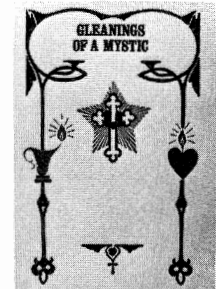
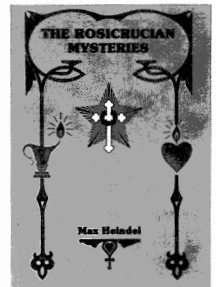
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RAYS from the ROSE CROSS

*The
Rosicrucian
Fellowship
Magazine*

*Established by
Max Heindel
June 1913*

*Volume 80
No. 2*

February/March 1988

USPS 471080

ISSN 0744-432X

Subscription in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico: one year, \$15.00; two years, \$28.00. All other countries: one year, \$17.00; two years, \$32.00. Prices are in U.S. dollars and include postage. Foreign subscribers will please check current exchange rate for proper amount. Current single copies: \$3.00, Second class postage paid at Oceanside, CA, 92054-0112, U.S.A. Postmaster: Send address change to *Rays from the Rose Cross*, P.O. Box 713, 2222 Mission Ave., Oceanside, CA, 92054-0112, U.S.A.

Writers of published articles are alone responsible for statements made. Manuscripts needed for all departments of *Rays*.

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

PRINTED AND
PUBLISHED BY
**THE
ROSICRUCIAN
FELLOWSHIP**

P.O. Box 713, 2222 Mission Ave.
Oceanside, California, 92054
U.S.A.

Cover and Back Photos by Ellis Felker

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

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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. □

Notice to Subscribers

In the July 1986 issue of Rays from the Rose Cross, the results of a prior survey of the readers was published. In this survey the question of an “expanded bi-monthly” issue was presented and 58% said they would be in favor. Therefore in order to continue bringing you Rays without increasing the subscription rate in 1988, we will start on a trial basis, bi-monthly publication with the February/March issue.

These bi-monthly issues will consist of an additional 16 pages (64 instead of 48) and will have a new “Science and Technology, Readers’ Projects, and New Age Interview” departments as they become available. Our main objective still remains the same—to present the Western Wisdom Teachings in a way that will help you to understand more fully the value of self-reliance and service to mankind.

In an effort to provide you with up-to-date information on current events and issues in the world, the News Perspectives, Astrology, Readers’ Questions, and Book Review departments will continue to draw upon the resources of our editorial staff and contributing writers. Your comments and suggestions on the forthcoming issues will be appreciated. Please write: Editor, Rays Magazine, P. O. Box 713, Oceanside, CA 92054.

We thank you for your continued support these past years!

***—The Rosicrucian Fellowship
Publications Department***

Editorial

Every Act is a Prayer

According to our thoughts and acts, so shall our days be. Few of us realize how great a power thoughts and actions are or surely we would use them more and to better advantage instead of allowing ourselves to waste our times with foolishness.

Every act is a prayer but not necessarily does every act bring the good to us. If our days are filled with acts of anger, resentment and hatred, we ruin bright lives, crush out hopes and ambitions, destroy happiness, and not only to others, but to ourselves. Emerson said: "Although your knees were never bent, To heaven your hourly prayers are sent. And be they formed for good or ill, Are registered and answered still."

In other words *every act is a prayer*, which under the Law of Cause and Effect brings to us adequate results. We get exactly what we want. Expression in words is not necessary, but sustained action along a certain line indicates what we wish even if we ourselves do not realize it. In time, longer or shorter, according to the intensity of our desires there comes that for which we have prayed. The things thus gained or achieved may not be what we really and consciously want; in fact, sometimes we may get something we would rather be without, but the prayer/act has brought them to us, and we must keep them until we can legitimately get rid of them.

If we throw a stone into the air, the act is not complete until the reaction has carried the stone back to the Earth. In that case the effect follows the cause so speedily that it is not difficult to connect the two. But if we wind the spring of an alarm clock, the power is stored up in the spring until a certain mechanism releases it, then comes the effect, the ringing of a bell.

Although we may have been sleeping the sleep of forgetfulness, the reaction or unwinding of the springs takes place just the same. Similarly, acts which we have forgotten will some time or another produce their results, regardless; and thus the prayer of action is answered.

It is not the words we speak in moments of prayer that count, but it is the life that leads up to the prayer. We cannot sow the seeds of hatred, and reap the flowers of love.

When we create our thought patterns and carry out the acts, we become the architects of our individual worlds. What power, what possibility, has God placed in our hands! We become the directors of our destiny and our little world becomes the product of our thoughts and acts. We express ourselves through our environment. Circumstance is but the mirror reflecting our mental images and acts. Whether we whittle a piece of wood or build a skyscraper, our inner thoughts and our acts are always becoming outer things. Every day we live, consciously or unconsciously, directly or indirectly, we are saying "let there be."

Certain it is that no sincere prayer leaves us where it finds us. The wish to pray is prayer; service is prayer; thinking is prayer, decision is prayer, and *every act is a prayer*.

How can we turn our every act into a positive, uplifting prayer? First, we must have a strong desire for better thoughts. We should think of all that expresses beauty in life; we should look for beauty wherever we may be; it can be found no matter where. There is a story told in one of Mr. Heindel's books of Christ walking with his disciples when they came upon a dead dog on the road. In disgust, the disciples vividly expressed their disgust at the sight. Christ said "Pearls are not whiter than his teeth!"

We must look for the beauty. Above all, we should strive to create something beautiful every day: make somebody's life a little more pleasant by a kind word or act; make our physical surrounding more attractive, not by hating that which may be ugly, but by replacing it with something better. Second, substitute good thoughts for poor ones. Don't fight the thought that you would not have. That will prolong its existence, and it is not worth the fight. Use your energy to better purpose: treat those thoughts with indifference and they will die of starvation. Be sure to replace them with better thoughts and keep busy by putting them into practice.

Desire and its opposite, indifference, furnish the key for gaining control of our thoughts. Desire will eventually attract whatever we consistently keep our minds upon. This shows the great need that our desires be pure, beautiful and beneficial to others. If we try to concentrate on one thing while desiring another, failure is assured. It is essential that we desire with all our heart and soul that upon which we concentrate. If this is backed by a strong will to do the necessary work on the material plane to materialize it nothing will ordinarily prevent success.

We have the control of our own thoughts and prayers, and we therefore have no just cause to complain about anything that may come into our lives that we do not like. We alone have been the cause of it.

Each of us came into this world to accomplish something. Before we were born, we knew in the heaven worlds just what it was, however, in the dense material world, sometimes we lose sight of this goal. Our every act plows a road to our future which may or may not be the accomplishment for which we came to birth.

We can't always know what the purpose of each of our individual lives is, but we can this very day, realize that each and every act is a prayer, and because of this strive to make every act a positive and uplifting one in order that the prayers will be beneficial to our growth and lives.

Every kind thought entertained, every harmful passion subdued, every wrong impulse checked brings us just a little nearer our goal. Our first tottering baby steps will one day become the sprightly walk of the youth, and finally the mature tread of the adult. And once in awhile, we shall gain a glimpse of the goal toward which we are traveling—that is if we start!

Let us strive this coming year to live up to the light we each have as Abraham Lincoln once said "Let us stand by our duty fearlessly and effectively. I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to the light that I have." □

—Editor

Mystic Light



Epigenesis

With reference to *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, by Max Heindel, progress is not simply unfoldment, not simply Involution and Evolution; there is a third factor, making a triad—Involution, Evolution and Epigenesis. The form was built by Evolution, the Spirit built and entered it by Involution, but the means for devising improvements is Epigenesis. This is the kernel of the occult teaching.

Involution brings the Spirit down into matter by crystallizing it into bodies; Epigenesis, the original creative activity of the Spirit, is the lever and the Mind is the fulcrum upon which Involution turns to Evolution. Evolution lifts the Spirit out of matter by spiritualizing the bodies into soul.

At the beginning of manifestation, God differentiates within Himself, Virgin Spirits, which are evolving life, becoming first man—then God. These Spirits are as sparks from a Flame, capable of being fanned into flames themselves. Evolution is the fanning process which is to accomplish that end. Within the Virgin Spirits are enfolded all the possibilities of the Father, including the germ of independent Will, which makes them capable of originating new phases not latent in them. The latent possibilities are transformed into dynamic powers, and available faculties during Evolution while the independent Will institutes new and original departures—or Epigenesis.

The Recording Angels, or Lords of Destiny, impress the reflecting ether of the Vital Body in such a way that the pictures of the coming life are reflected on it. But mark this, the returning Ego itself incorporates therein the quintessence of its former Vital Bodies, and in addition to this, also does a little original work. This is done that in the coming life there may be room for original and individual expression, not predetermined by past action.

There is too great a tendency to think that all which now exists is the result of something that previously existed; but if that were the case, there would be no margin left for new and original effort and for new causes. The chain of cause and effect is not a monotonous repeti-

tion. There is an influx of new and original causes all the time. This is Epigenesis—the freewill that consists of the freedom to inaugurate something entirely new, not merely a choice between two course of action. At each rebirth, the evolving life adds such original improvements as are necessary for its further expression. Those who do not improve by the formation of new characteristics are held back and immediately begin to degenerate.

Epigenesis makes it possible to add something which makes the child different from the parents. Where Epigenesis is inactive in the individual, family, nation or race—there Evolution ceases and degeneration commences.

The pioneers of Science are brought face-to-face with Epigenesis as a fact in all departments of Nature. As early as

“Nowadays, we are hardly justified in calling Epigenesis a hypothesis, as we have fully convinced ourselves of its being a fact and are able to demonstrate it by the help of the microscope.”

1759, Caspar Wolff published his “Theoria Generationis” in which he shows that in the human ovum there is absolutely no trace of the coming organism; that its Evolution consists of the addition of new formations; a building of something which is not latent in the ovum.

Haekel, in his “Anthropogenic” states: “Nowadays, we are hardly justified in calling Epigenesis a hypothesis, as we have fully convinced ourselves

of its being a fact and are able to demonstrate it by the help of the microscope.”

Thus while heredity is true only as regards the material of the dense body and not the soul qualities, which are entirely individual. The incoming Ego also does a certain amount of work on its dense body, incorporating in it the quintessence of its past physical qualities. No body is an exact mixture of the qualities of its parents, although the Ego is restricted to the use of the materials taken from the bodies of the father and mother.

From the point where the self-conscious individual Ego has come into being he must go on and expand his consciousness without outside help. Experience and thought are to take the place of outside teachers, and the glory, power and splendor he may attain are limitless. The period of time devoted to

the attainment of self-consciousness and to the building of the vehicles through which the Spirit in man manifests, is called Involvement. The subsequent period of existence, during which the individual human being develops self-consciousness into divine omniscience is called Evolution. The force within the evolving being makes Evolution what it is and not a mere unfolding of latent possibilities; it makes the Evolution of each in-

dividual differ from that of every other, and provides the element of originality giving a scope to the creative ability which the evolving being is to cultivate that he may become a God—That force is manifested as “Epigenesis.” □

—Beryl Hamilton

THE CHAMBERED NAUTILUS

By Oliver Wendell Holmes

*Year after year beheld the silent
toil*

*That spread his lustrous coil;
Still as the spiral grew,
He left the past year's dwelling
for the new,
Stole with soft step its shining
archway through,
Built up its idle door,
Stretched in his last found
home,
And knew the old no more.*

*Thanks for the heavenly
message brought by thee,
Child of the wandering sea,
Cast from her lap forlorn!
From thy dead lips a clearer
note is born
Than ever Triton ever blew from
wreathed horn!*

*While on my ear it rings,
Through the deep caves of
thought
I hear a voice that sings.*

*Build thee more stately man-
sions, O my soul!
As the swift seasons roll!
Leave thy low vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler
than the last,
Shut thee from heaven with a
dome more vast,
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell
By life's unresting sea!*

Mystic Light



“Senior Spectrum”

Questions and Answers on Creative Power and Aging

The following is a radio interview with a 91 1/2 year old Probationer in Michigan. The tape date was September 9, 1987; it aired on September 13, 1987. The host was Curley Bell; the interview was Bette Ellis who interviewed her mother, Marika Kussurelis.

Bette: I am proud and happy to present our special guest today, a ninety-one 1/2 year old writer, poet, philosopher, mother and grandmother who gardens and also practices her piano daily. She still cooks nutritious meals. Marika Kussurelis would like to share some of her wisdom for an active creative life after ninety. She will speak to us about Creative Power and Aging which is based on knowledge she has acquired from years of study, observation and long-life experience. Marika is my mother. Mother, please tell us where you find all this energy and inspiration.

Marika: Speaking of Creative Power, I would like to recite the first part of one of my favorite prayers. It goes like this: “Not more of

Light we ask O God, but eyes to see what is; not sweeter songs but ears to hear the present melodies, not more of strength but how to use the power that we possess, not more of love but skill to turn a frown to a caress.” In this special prayer, we can understand that we all are endowed with God’s will in positive, creative channels according to our talents within. God has given us a mind in which he can reflect His divine mind and direct us to His will. It is a matter of self-knowledge. One of the most famous of the ancient Greek philosophers Socrates used to teach his followers by repeating this meaningful phrase: “Man, know thyself.” It is understood that through knowledge of ourselves, the true nature of our being, we attain the key that leads to existing power within us.

Studying ourselves, observing our thinking, our emotional, spiritual, and physical tendencies and trying to improve them, we gradually attain knowledge of self, the *true nature* of our being. This gives reason to our faith, the key that leads to existing power, that creative power within us.

Bette: Tell us about that creative power as you have experienced it.

Marika: I have learned that all Nature is pulsating in God's creative power. Man with all his proven intellect can help himself to study self and to direct his energies into positive creative channels. This is very important for all of us—to discover the divine genius in us and to cooperate with God's perfect laws. I personally love Nature; I see Nature in the will of God. Nature is so creative and its creativity is truly scientific, artistic and beautiful. Let's take as an example a humble wild flower—the daisy. We will find that this little wild flower is perfectly made in its own species. Material science cannot reproduce its life, its perfection. Technology has its place and has developed a great deal for our convenience and pleasure, but life is the true source of science; our scientists need to become spiritualized to discover that they themselves might become creators of life as were some in biblical history. But scientists today cannot produce life as Nature does.

Bette: Nature's genius is truly inspiring now that you mention it. So, the more we become spiritualized the more creative we can become?

Marika: Yes.

Bette: What about aging and creativity; can we become more creative as the years fly by?

Marika: Aging as I have observed and experienced it, has been a valuable period of creativity, an opportunity to use my knowledge gleaned from my life experiences and by volun-

teering my service to help others. These activities helped me attain more and more knowledge about life's lesson—the meaning of love and brotherhood. Years ago, while volunteering in one of Ann Arbor's public schools, I was asked to write about my ideas concerning retirement. I wrote a short essay which I have here. It was published in two educational journals; the article gives my views on aging. Bette, will you read the essay for me? My eyes aren't helping me for an efficient reading.

Bette: I'd love to Mother. "Gerontology" by Marika Kussurelis, 1977. Retirement is a period of maturity when we are relieved of urgent duties. It is a period of creativity according to our mental calibre and experience acquired and accumulated through past years. At this time of rest we can, if we will, rediscover our talents which might have been buried throughout active, dutiful life.

Retirement, I think, can be a very healthy drugless period without stimulants if we apply self-mastery over our physical and mental jungle of habits. Through positive thinking, concentration, and meditation on any subject at hand, we can gain inspiration directed through intelligent strong will. We can keep ourselves and our houses in order, creating an atmosphere of loveliness.

I believe in the idea that man is part of God, a creator himself. He has latent inner potential, godlike powers within to be developed, faculties to be unfolded. Preserving our energies and directing them upward to their divine goal, man can create

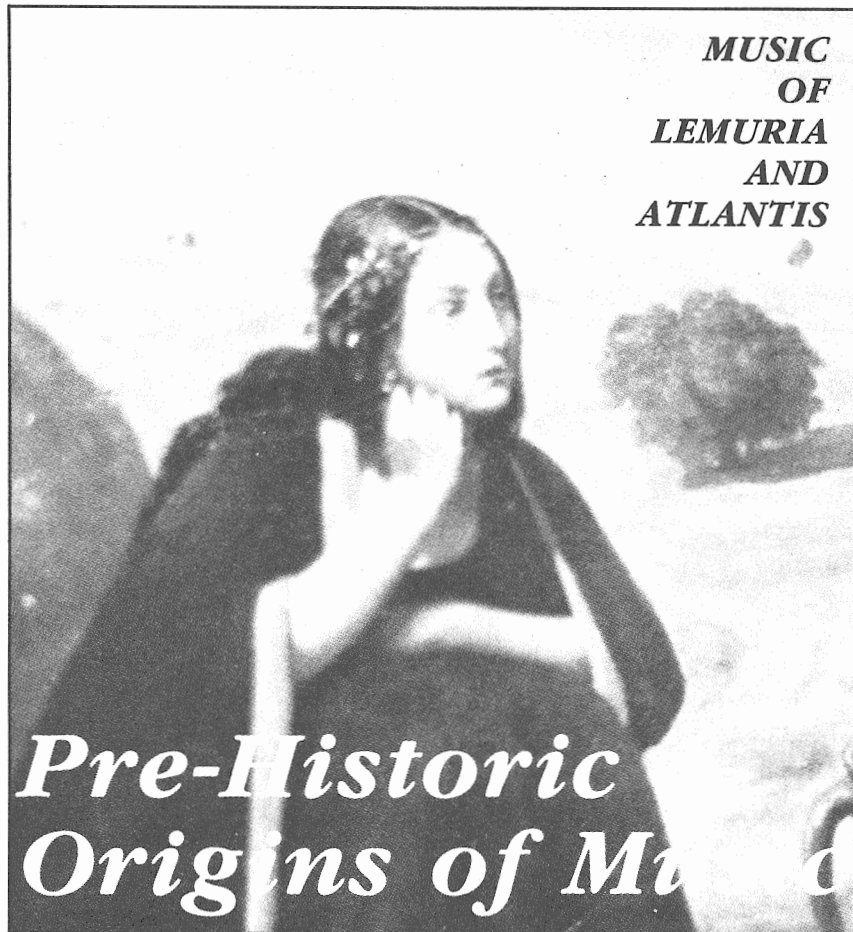
a very useful life in his later years.

Retirement indeed is a period of opportunities for a useful life of volunteer service for the common good. And as Max Heindel, a seer and author of books on philosophy and healing said: "Loving, self-forgetting service to others is the shortest, the safest, and the most joyful way to God."

Marika: The ideas expressed in my article which I wrote in 1977 when I was 81 are the same ideas today at 91. There is so much to say about aging and our well being. Among other things, the science of nutrition is, I believe, a vital factor for all of us seniors, as well as for all ages. Knowledge of the meaning of good nutrition should be a required subject in our schools just as reading and writing, and arithmetic are. There are so many facts necessary and practical for individual good health—mainly dependent on wise nutrition. Time does not permit me to go into detail today. I would be pleased to come back some other time to speak to you on the science of good nutrition. I can share my knowledge gained from 91 1/2 years of personal experience on the subject with obvious good results. And now I would like to thank the members of splendid 'Senior Spectrum.' Thank you for inviting me here to speak to you today.

Bette: Thank you Mother. It has been our good fortune to have you share your wisdom with us. May you and all of our audience have a long healthy creative life. □

Mystic Light



*MUSIC
 OF
 LEMURIA
 AND
 ATLANTIS*

*Pre-Historic
 Origins of Music*

The Elements of Fire, Air, Water and Earth are most important in Earth's evolutionary scheme; in fact, without these four elements life upon this planet would be impossible. Fire was first discovered and used by man in the days of Lemuria. It was, therefore, the dominant element connected with the Lemurian race and a main factor in their initiatory ceremonials. Ability to walk on red-hot coals and to hold balls of fire in one's hands is a fragmentary memory from ancient days still retained by some primitive peoples.

The music which accompanied Lemurian Fire Ceremonials was both weird and wild, for it was attuned to the rhythm of up-leaping flames. In this music, jazz so popular in the world today, had its origin. The Lemurian's desire body needed a quickening so the Great Ones used this peculiar rhythmic music to stimulate its activity. In the course of time this awakened inner fire force led to misdirected practices that reacted on the corresponding planetary fire-forces, resulting in the destruction of the Lemurian continent by volcanic action.

Human beings who inhabited ancient Lemuria had very little resemblance to those of our time. During the early part of that epoch, remote by many millions of years, their bodily form was merely em-

bryonic. Over a long evolutionary span it went through successive transformations until, in late Lemuria, it had assumed a shape somewhat similar to its present contour, although its texture was very different. Before it condensed into physical substance the vehicles of this early humanity were rather tenuous and plastic. It might, in fact, be regarded as almost a shadow form.

Hence, the body had not yet developed to the point where the ego could become indwelling. It was only magnetically linked to its body and was, therefore, in a free state that enabled it to come and go at will. Mind as we know it today had not yet come into existence for it. Infant humanity—and it was really infantile—was under the direction of superior Hierarchies, spiritual Beings whom we are wont to call *gods*.

Nevertheless, primitive Lemurians lived in close harmony with nature. Their life was intimately interwoven with, and actually an integral part of the nature forces themselves. Their inner sight was open to the myriad activities of invisible (to us) creatures that make up the life side of nature in its totality, while their inner hearing registered the sublime harmonies to which nature moves, and in and through which it carries on its manifold operations. Also, it was in accordance with the underlying laws of nature

that their original bodies were fashioned, developed and sustained.

When mankind is sufficiently spiritualized to recognize the relation of music to his evolution, he will discover how celestial harmonies emanating from the zodiacal Hierarchies, our starry guardians, exercised a formative influence on his every stage of development; and that every step has been accompanied by celestial orchestration suited to each creative process.

Man in the making was bisexual. The masculine and feminine polarities, now focused cosmically in the Sun and Moon respectively, exercised an equal influence over the plastic bodies of early humanity. But this was at a time when the Earth and the Moon were still parts of the solar orb. At a later stage when the Earth was thrown off from the Sun and, at a still later date, when the Moon was thrown off from the Earth, these two polarities ceased to have an equal and balanced expression in individual human beings. Some responded preponderantly to the positive pole centered in the Sun, while others responded to the negative pole focused in the Moon. Eventually, this resulted in the division of humanity into two separate sexes with man and woman appearing upon the scene.

Then it was that harmonies emanating from stellar Hierarchies became differentiated into two rhythms now known as *major* and *minor*. Major tones, masculine in potency and objective in character, were projected to humanity by means of the Sun force. Minor notes, feminine in quality and subjec-

tive in nature, were directed through the force of the Moon. Whereas man had hitherto evolved under the divided rhythms of a single scale, he now became subject to two. The one keyed to major tones tended to draw him into conditions of increasing density; the one keyed to minors drew his soul into more intimate contact with powers of the Spirit.

As the Lemurian Epoch was predominantly under the influence of the Moon, its music was keyed to the subtler nuances of the minor. It was strange, plaintive, unearthly music. Echoes of it persist in the music of Java and other South Sea Islands, these lands being remnants of the Lemurian continent.

The inmost nature of any

people may be divined by entering understandingly into their music. By no other means can the quality of their life and the stage of their development be so accurately determined. Unless we are able to visualize the plastic, fluidic bodies of those early Lemurians we shall never understand the influence exerted upon them by music. It literally gave outline and features to their developing vehicles. Nature's enveloping forces flowed through them unimpeded. They dwelt amid the giant trees of their land, and its mighty groves were sacred areas wherein seasonal festivals were observed. Initiatory rites of their sacred seasons were glorious events set to music, that is, to the harmony of the spheres.



Lemurian Temple dancers duplicated the movements and rhythms of heavenly orbs, their "music of motion" being audible to the dancing devotees. Certain spiritual centers or "lights" within their bodies were awakened by means of these dances per-

periodically shed their skins. A body generated under such conditions was perfectly attuned to the Ego's own particular star note. By the power of that note it was able to renew or discard its body at will. Disease had not yet become an affliction, so life

marked the differentiated phases of existence, entrance into physical manifestation was accompanied by music set to major harmonies; while entrance into inner worlds, through the gate we call death, was keyed to minor chords.

Forest Temples were to Lemurians their Holy of Holies. In these sacred shrines occurred the principal events of their lives.

formed in the highest reverence and deepest devotion. The performers were always chosen from among the most highly evolved of Temple aspirants.

Forest Temples were to Lemurians their Holy of Holies. In these sacred shrines occurred the principal events of their lives. These embraced birth, Initiation or spiritual illumination, and death—events corresponding to the three steps of unfoldment in all esoteric schools and to the first three degrees of fraternal lodges. It was in Forest Temples and under angelic guidance that propagation of the race took place at times in accord with proper stellar rhythms, the music of which was audibly absorbed and transmitted to the function of body building.

Sensitive Lemurian Egos were especially responsive to the power of love. Consciousness was unbroken as the Egos had not yet descended deeply enough into material existence to draw a veil between outer and inner planes of being. Hence, death as we know it was unknown. When bodies had served their term of usefulness they were laid aside in much the same way as some animals

was a joyous song and Earth was still a reflection of the Edenic Garden.

Since the Lemurian race was ruled by the Moon, it responded strongly to that orb's ever-changing phases. At the time of New Moons and Full Moons powerful forces were released; so then it was that they observed their mystic initiatory rites. These were not directed to inner planes as now but to the outer, since Lemurian advancement depended primarily upon developing objective functioning. Music was a potent factor in enabling them to make a necessary descent into matter. With this descent differentiation between the sexes became more marked, and was accomplished through the Major and Minor rhythms that accompany the Full Moon and the feminine forces were precipitated through celestial minors; on nights of the Full Moon the masculine forces were precipitated by means of majors.

Later, when Lemurian humanity had entered fully upon physical existence and when, through the fall into the separative sense life of the material world, birth and death

Thus we see how profoundly true it is that man is a musical being. His origin is in the spoken Word. By sound was he sustained and by music was he evolved. What he registered subconsciously in Lemuria he will one day consciously know. Then he will no longer consider music as an art more or less detached from life, nor will he think of it primarily as a subject for esthetic delight only. Instead, he will recognize music as a vital factor in the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual evolution of the whole human race.

MUSIC OF ATLANTIS

Water was the principal element associated with Atlantis, where man was being taught to control his emotions and to develop his physical faculties. In that continent psychism attained to a stage greater than ever known before or since, and Atlantean music was a factor in the development of psychic faculties. Much of this music was solemn and serious, sometimes reaching heights of imposing grandeur. Its undulating waves of melody were comparable to rhythmic music now heard in the ingoing and outflowing tides of the sea. The Sun never shone clearly in Atlantis. The atmosphere was always heavy with mist. In this mist-laden atmosphere vaporous figures from other planes were easily discernible, a condition which aided

tremendously in awakening and developing psychic faculties. The Atlantean Period came to a close when the continent was destroyed by water.

The transition from Lemurian to Atlantis was marked by increasing density of the atmosphere, more solidified physical bodies, and human consciousness focused more definitely in the material world. Humanity was now losing that beautiful and almost continuous communion with angelic Hosts which had been enjoyed by the Lemurians. Consequently, there was a corresponding loss in perception of celestial harmonies. However, at this state of its development it had not lost contact with inner worlds to such a degree as to deny or even doubt the existence of the Music of the Spheres, whether it was actually heard or not. Such denial did not come until the deep materialism of our present era. Hence, Atlantean Temple Initiates, priests and priestesses of eternal wisdom, performed their sacred rites in full accord with celestial rhythms.

Atlantean Temples were really universities where man's physical, mental and spiritual faculties were nurtured and developed. To the degree that he ceased to live in rapport with supernal worlds did his body become subject to inharmony and disease, so it was largely an Initiate-Teacher who tuned in with an individual's star note in order to replace the latter's inharmony with harmony. To this end music, the great healing panacea, was administered in these Temples.

Atlantean peoples were much more susceptible to the remedial

effects of rhythm than is humanity of the present day. They could draw upon the pulsing life forces of growing plants and appropriate them for the revitalization and renewal of their bodies. They could also transfer these energies from one plant to another, thus augmenting the strength of the weak or afflicted by that of the strong and healthy. The throbbing currents of life emitted specific tones as they surged upward. The Atlanteans could hear these sounds and transcribe them into music so perfectly attuned to the rhythms of the plants that it possessed dynamic healing efficacy. In time, therefore, musical therapy became one of the principal branches of Temple instruction.

Speech was developed by the Atlanteans, a sort of *singing*

speech. Their intoned words projected power into any object named, and by that power the object could be reshaped in accordance with an individual's will. The chants and mantrams of all ancient religions had their origin in this *singing speech*. Temple priests and their advanced disciples could also hear the musical keynotes of natural objects and were able, by means of the power this gave them, to perform miracles of transformation. Herein originated numerous myths and legends regarding the earliest civilizations of our present Fifth Root Race, the Aryan peoples. In the Golden Age of Atlantis leadership was conferred upon the most spiritually developed Temple neophytes, who were accorded honor and reverence by the laity. Kingship was a Temple



Degree to which only the worthiest might aspire, for the Initiate-King was second only to the High Priest.

It will be seen that in the Atlanteans' practically unlimited power lay the seed of ultimate decadence and destruction. The temptation to misuse that power was for them well nigh irresistible. With the unfoldment of their

The Hierarchy's service to man is to quicken his spiritual incentives and encourage his aspirations until he gains ascendancy over his lower carnal mind.

desire natures and a concomitant growth in selfish interests, abilities which originally functioned under the direction of the Hierarchies of Light were transferred to those of the Shadow. Conditions heralding chaos and disintegration—similar to those manifesting in the world today—became prevalent. Such conditions are ever indicative of the "beginning of the end." The *singing speech* of consecrated Temple-Initiates was made over to evil and destructive ends. Literally, "blasts of tone," attuned to the keynote of a person or an object, were used to ruthlessly destroy human life and property.

Man's knowledge of celestial harmonies in currents of majors and minors has been noted previously. With the increasing depravity of the Atlanteans, consonances and dissonances became more and more sharply differentiated. A strange and sinister music was the result, a music capable of producing

disease, loss of memory and even insanity. "Dark Circles" composed of Temple-neophytes working under Shadow influences were able to utter blasts of tone that could drive an Ego out of its body, frequently causing the person's permanent obsession or death. These facts are mentioned merely to bring out the far-reaching powers of sound.

Only a remnant of the Atlanteans were saved. In biblical terminology, Noah and his family survived the Flood. This remnant became the seed of the present Aryan race. Upon the new continent to which the remnant migrated the Sun shone clearly, and for the first time man came to enjoy an oxygenated atmosphere such as we have today. Humanity of this race received the supreme gift of mind, the link which will enable him to become as the gods. The great work of the Aryans is to spiritualize and develop Christed minds. As mind is correlated with the element of Air, it is by means of air that its greatest progress will be made. Should there be another destruction of this planet after its lessons have been learned, it will come about through that element.

The human race is destined to recover the celestial harmonies it lost on Atlantis. This it will do through its Christed mind, and music is the foremost factor in that attainment. Throughout the

centuries the Great Ones have sent to Earth some of their more advanced musical Initiates to aid man in spiritualizing his mind. Such was the purpose of Haydn's *Creation*, of Handel's *Messiah* and of Bach's magnificent *Passions*. This development is under the Lords of Mind who belong to the Hierarchy of Sagittarius, the sign which holds the pattern of higher mind and its spiritual mysteries. The Hierarchy's service to man is to quicken his spiritual incentives and encourage his aspirations until he gains ascendancy over his lower carnal mind.

The keynote of Sagittarius is F Major and the keynote of the Earth is also F Major. Many of nature's sounds, therefore, are set to this key. This is the reason why compositions in F Major are especially relaxing to tired nerves; also effective in restoring a fatigued body and in calming a distracted mind.

By rhythms of F Major the Lords of Mind bestowed germinal mind upon nascent humanity; and by its further use they are bringing that mind to the point where it can transmit to men's outer personality the spirit-image within themselves. Such will become pioneers of the coming Sixth Root Race, and among them will arise a type of music possessing qualities that heal and illumine. All forward-looking movements are preparatory schools for the New Age. To the extent that the minds of neophytes become spiritualized will they receive, through tone and rhythm, those higher powers which are waiting to be bestowed upon man. □

—Corinne Heline

Music: The Keynote of Human Evolution

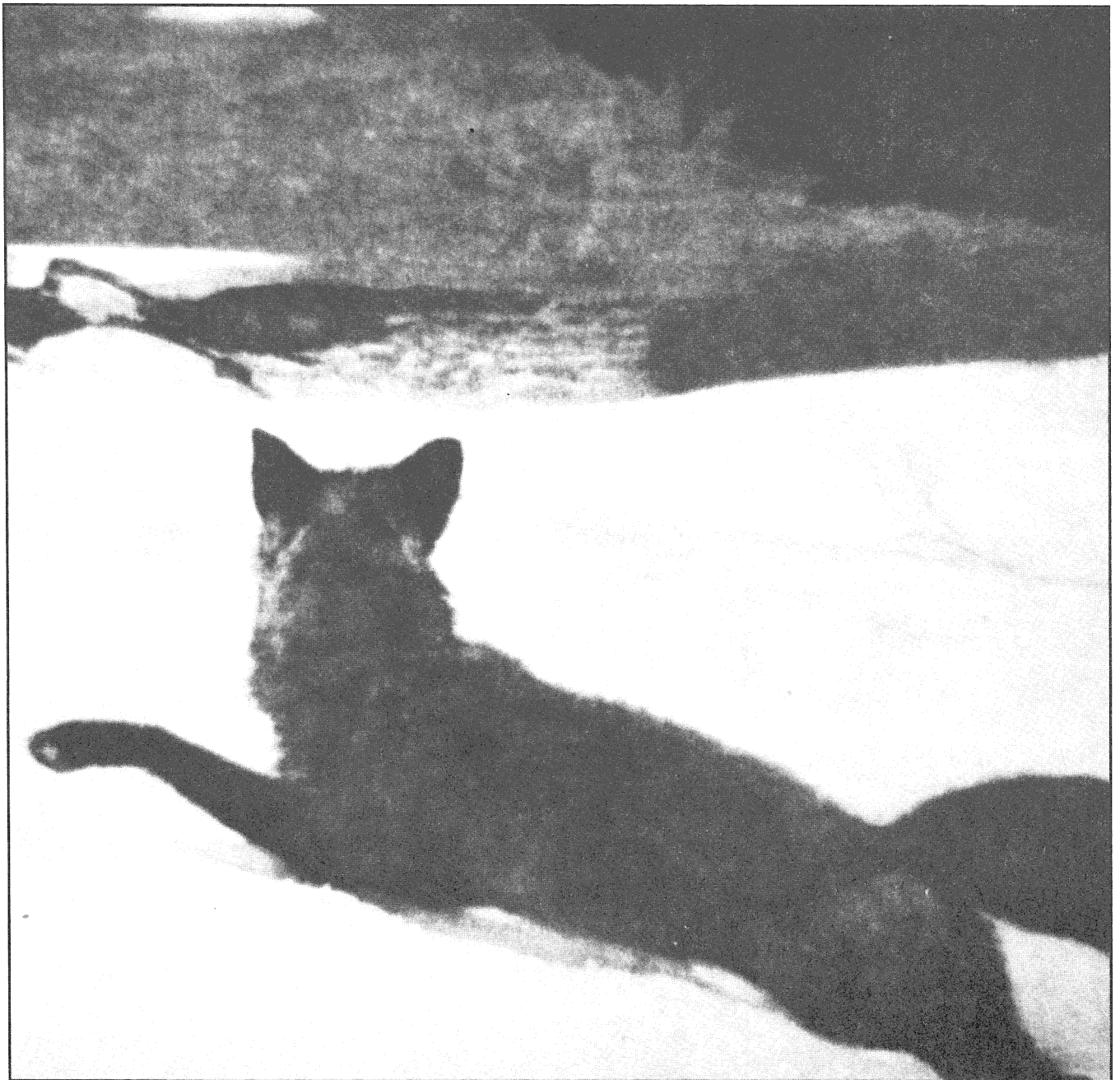
***Nature—
 Conservation,
 Animal
 Patenting
 and
 Biotechnology***

In April 1987, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ruled that all animals that have been genetically altered through various biotechnological techniques, such as gene insertion, can be patented. There are already 15 animal patents pending. And there are giant mice and sickly pigs that now possess the human growth gene in their genomes. Even Weyerhaeuser, the logging company, is developing a “super salmon” through genetic engineering.

If the ruling of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office that all genetically-engineered animal species can be patented is not rescinded by congressional legislation, the impact on wildlife will be devastating. This is because through biotechnology, farm animals will be modified genetically so that they will be able to adapt to presently unsuitable tropical, arid, wetland and other habitats. They will be made resistant to various diseases (such as sleeping sickness) to which they are presently susceptible, in the same manner in which indigenous wildlife species are now disease-resistant. The patenting of genetically modified animals will therefore escalate the rate of destruction of wildlife habitat, accelerate the decline in biodiversity, and as some predict, lead in the direction of the end of the natural world.

As a consequence of patent protection, the livestock industry will have the incentive to expand rapidly into new and hitherto unexploitable or inaccessible wildlife habitats. This final transformation of remaining wilderness areas and reduction in biodiversity worldwide by the introduction of animals genetically adapted to new habitats will be intensified further by the introduction of patented, genetically engineered plants likewise adapted to new habitats.

Peasant and native farmers who were formerly self-sufficient, as well as the farmers of developed nations, currently use dangerous pesticides, many of which are so harmful that they are banned for use in their countries of origin. Soon they will be using patented, genetically engineered bacteria, the “new generation of bacterial pesticides” that the petrochemical companies are now developing as substitute, since fossil fuel reserves are dwindling. (Petrochemicals are used in the manufacture of poisonous pesticides, which were developed from World War II poison-gas warfare.) These companies are now beginning to acknowledge



that pesticides devastate wildlife populations and threaten all terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems worldwide. We now have pesticide-laden rain and fog, drinking water, and mother's milk. The entire food-chain and chain of life have been contaminated. There would be equivalent profound environmental consequences following the release of genetically-altered microorganisms.

Patented living bacteria and viruses have already been released into the environment. They will soon be followed by genetically engineered fungi, viruses, nematodes, insects, and other plant parasites developed to protect crops from disease. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will now be in charge of "regulating" all of this transformation

(*Federal Register* 52, No. 115, 1987, pp. 22892-22915). The entire, complex ecology of Earth will be consequently transformed into an industrial "biosystem."

This next round with new pesticides and fertilizers from genetically engineered pest-killing and nitrogen-fixing bacteria, along with herbicide and disease-resistant seeds and feed-efficient, disease-resistant

livestock will cause the displacement and extinction of wild plant and animal species. Some call this progress, but the patenting of life—its privatization—is purely for profit.

The patenting of animals will be the final seal of approval for the exclusive human ownership and control of all life. The natural world is already rapidly reaching this point of global industrialization and desecration.

The U.S. Patent Office ruling over the patenting of animals is arbitrary and capricious and should be voluntarily rescinded. The ruling is surely at variance with the intent of Congress that has recognized the importance of protecting and enhancing biodiversity (as through their funding of international development agencies for such projects.)

The few tropical forests that remain in the biotech world of the future will be protected as valuable genetic “banks” for the pharmaceutical and chemical industries. It is vital that these areas be saved from the loggers, the dam builders, monoculture foresters and the cattle and sheep ranchers. Recent studies have shown that large areas of natural habitat must be preserved in order to protect and ensure maximal biodiversity.

More and more captive animals (and plants in herbaria) will be genetically screened, experimented upon, cloned, gensepliced, artificially reproduced, and their germ plasm (seed, sperm, ova and embryos) stored for future use. This conservation may help save endangered species from extinction. However, no matter how many zoos and herbaria and aquaria we have, we will not have sufficient

resources to save many species. And if their natural habitats have been destroyed, where in the future could they be reintroduced.

Not only conservationists and environmentalists, but also those who are actively involved today in the conservation of domestic varieties of seed stock and also various breeds of domesticated animals should see the patenting of animals by the biotech industry as a major threat to the biosphere. The patenting of genetically engineered animals will herald the end of traditional breeds of domesticated animals. New patented varieties and chimeras of greater utility will result in the gradual extinction of existing animal breeds and contamination of gene pools (as by inserting human growth genes into mice to make them into “giants”). Thus a further reduction in genetic biodiversity of domesticated gene pools will be predictable. And the same will happen with wild animals—deer, musk ox, salmon and other wild species will be changed, patented and exploited for food and other by-products.

that sanctioned and promoted the wholesale application of pesticides and the development of capital intensive monoculture farming and forestry, and that now permits the release of all genetically altered plants (from grains to trees), microorganisms and invertebrate “pests.” But this is not to say that *this new technology could not be used appropriately*, as for example, to engineer plants to help halt the spread of deserts; and to develop microorganisms to synthesize essential biologics, such as insulin and antibodies, and to help in water treatment to remove pesticides, heavy metals and other industrial and agrichemical poisons.

Even so, the patenting of animals is both unnecessary and detrimental. It should therefore be a matter of great urgency for all informed and concerned citizens to decry the patenting of animals and guide the biotech industry to act responsibly and creatively for the sake and future of all life on Earth. And this entails not simply respecting the natural world or the sanctity of being, but of realizing that it is prudent economically in the

The U.S. Patent Office ruling over the patenting of animals is arbitrary and capricious and should be voluntarily rescinded.

In conclusion, the biotechnology industry is potentially one of the most serious threats to the biodiversity of planet Earth. The threat will become a reality if this technology is applied with the same perception and values toward life and the biosphere

long-term, as history has taught us, to preserve the integrity and diversity of biotic communities. Moreover, from a purely practical point of view, the U.S. does not need patenting to protect the meat, egg and dairy industries that suffer from chronic overproductivity. Patenting will

simply lead to monopolies and the end of diversified, sustainable agricultural practices.

From a cultural point of view, wild animals (if not domesticated ones) are held by the public as a common trust. The potential for the total privatization of wild animals through the patenting process, following the insertion or deletion of but one gene, is surely a violation of the democratic, cultural tradition that wild animal species cannot be "owned" exclusively by anyone.

A deer that has its genome altered to the tune of one or two genes is still a deer and would probably still be able to breed with other deer not subjected to genetic alteration. However, under its new ruling, the U.S.

Patent Office would regard it as a "new" species. While there is a precedent in wildlife law for human ownership of individual animals, there is no precedent for the ownership of entire species. If biotechnology is applied to wildlife, even altering one or two genes for utilitarian purposes will have predictable consequences and could cause great suffering and damage to the health of wildlife populations. For example, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's pigs that carry the human growth gene are lethargic, arthritic and have weakened immune systems that increase their susceptibility to diseases.

Clearly, the patenting of animals cannot be condoned. Several European countries

have ruled against any releases of genetically engineered life forms into the environment. But the U.S. has already begun. Should we not all pause for a moment and think?

It is for the above many connected reasons that The Humane Society of the United States and the Foundation of Economic Trends invite you to become part of a loose coalition effort known as the coalition against the patenting of animals (CAPA).

Congressman Charlie Rose (D-NC) has now introduced H.R. 3119 (to amend title 35 of the United States Code to prohibit the patenting of genetically altered or modified animals) that will place a two-year moratorium on the patenting of animals. Please give your support to Congressman Rose's legislation by contacting your Representatives expressing your concern over the ethical, moral and environmental ramifications of animal patenting. A similar legislative initiative is underway in the Senate under the sponsorship of Mark Hatfield. For more information, contact:

The Humane Society
of the United States
2100 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037
202/452-1100

or

The Foundation on
Economic Trends
1130 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
202/466-2823

—by **Dr. Michael W. Fox**
Scientific Director
The Humane Society of the
United States
2100 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037



Max Heindel's Message



PART II

The Evening Exercise

The evening exercise, *Retrospection*, is of greater efficiency than any other method in advancing the aspirant upon the path of attainment. It has such a far-reaching effect that it enables one to learn now, not only the lessons of this life, but lessons ordinarily reserved for future lives.

After going to bed at night the body is relaxed and the aspirant begins to review the scenes of the day in *reverse order*, starting with the events of the evening, then the occurrences of the afternoon, of the forenoon, and morning. He endeavors to picture to himself each scene as faithfully as possible, seeks to reproduce before his mind's eye all that took place in each pictured scene, with the object of judging his actions, of ascertaining if his words conveyed the meaning he intended or gave a false impression, or if he overstated or understated in relating experiences to others. He reviews his moral attitude in relation to each scene. At meals, did he eat to live, or did he live to eat, to please the palate? Let him judge himself and blame where blame is due, praise where merited.

Probationers sometimes find it difficult to remain awake till the exercise has been performed. In such cases it is permissible to sit up in bed till it is possible to follow the ordinary method.

The value of retrospection is enormous, far-reaching beyond imagination. In the first place, we perform the work of restoration of the

harmony consciously and in a shorter time than the desire body can do during sleep, leaving a larger portion of the night available for outside work than otherwise possible. In the second place, one lives his Purgatory and First Heaven each night, and builds into the Spirit as Right Feeling the essence of the day's experience. Thus he escapes Purgatory after death and also saves time spent in the First Heaven; and last, but not least, having extracted, day by day, the essence of experiences which make for soul growth, and having built them into the Spirit, he is actually living in an attitude of mind, and developing along lines that would ordinarily have been reserved for future lives. By the faithful performance of this exercise we expunge day by day undesirable occurrences from our subconscious memory so that our sins are blotted out, our auras commence to shine with spiritual gold extracted by retrospection from the experiences of each day, and thus we attract the attention of the Teacher.

The pure shall see God, said Christ, and the Teacher will quickly open our eyes when we are fit to enter into the "Hall of Learning," the Desire World, where we obtain our first experiences of conscious life without the dense body.

THE MORNING EXERCISE

Concentration, the second exercise, is performed in the morning at the very earliest moment after the aspirant awakes. He must not arise to open blinds or perform any other un-

necessary act. If the body is comfortable he should at once relax and commence to concentrate. This is very important, as the Spirit has just returned from the Desire World at the moment of waking, and at that time the conscious touch with that world is more easily regained than at any other time of the day.

If the body is uncomfortable the aspirant may rise to relieve it ere he concentrates, but much of the efficacy of the concentration is lost by the delay.

***It
is
the
object
of
this
exercise
to
still
the
dense
body...***

We remember from Lecture No. 4, that during sleep the currents of the desire body flow, and its vortices move and spin with enormous rapidity. But as soon as it enters the dense body its currents and vortices are almost stopped by the dense matter and the nerve currents of the vital body which carry messages to and from the brain. It is the object of this exercise to still the dense body to the same degree of inertia and insensibility as in sleep, although the Spirit

within is perfectly awake, alert, and conscious. Thus we make a condition where the sense centers of the desire body can begin to revolve while inside the dense body.

Concentration is a word that puzzles many and carries meaning to but few, so we will endeavor to make its significance clear. The dictionary gives several definitions, all applicable to our idea. One is "to draw to a center," another from chemistry, "to reduce to extreme purity and strength by removing valueless constituents." Applied to our problem, one of the above definitions tells us that if we draw our thoughts to a center, a point, we increase their strength on the principle that the power of the Sun's rays is increased when focused to a point by means of a magnifying glass. By eliminating from our mind for the time being all other subjects, our whole thought power is available for use in attaining the object or solving the problem on which we are concentrating; we may become so absorbed in our subject that if a cannon were fired above our heads we would not hear it. People may become so lost in a book that they are oblivious to all else, and the aspirant to spiritual sight must acquire the faculty of becoming equally absorbed in the idea he is concentrating upon, so that he may shut out the world of sense from his consciousness and give his whole attention to the spiritual world. When he learns to do that, he will see the spiritual side of an object or idea illuminated by spiritual light, and thus he will obtain a knowledge of the inner nature of things undreamt of by a worldly man.

When he has reached that

point of abstraction the sense centers of the desire body commence to revolve slowly within the dense body, and will thus make a place for themselves. This in time will become more and more defined, and it will require less and less effort to set them going.

The subject of concentration may be any high and lofty ideal, but should preferably be of such a nature that it takes the aspirant out of the ordinary things of sense, beyond time and space; and there is no better formula than the first five verses of St. John's Gospel. Taking them as subject, sentence by sentence, morning after morning, will in time give the aspirant a wonderful insight into the beginning of our universe and the method of creation—an insight far beyond any book learning.

After a time, when the aspirant has learned to unwaveringly hold before him for about five minutes the idea upon which he is concentrating, he may try to suddenly drop the idea and leave a blank. Think of nothing else, simply wait to see if anything enters the vacuum. In time the sights and scenes of the Desire World will fill the vacant space. After the aspirant has become used to that, he may demand this, that, or the other thing to come before him. It will come and then he may investigate it.

The main point, however, is that by following the above instructions the aspirant is purifying himself; his aura commences to shine and will without fail draw the attention of a teacher who will depute someone to give help when required for the next step in advancement. Even if months or years should go by

and bring no visible result, rest assured that no effort has been in vain; the Great Teachers see and appreciate our efforts. They are just as anxious to have our assistance as we are to work. They may see reasons which make it inexpedient for us to take up work for humanity in this life or at this time. Sometime the hindering conditions will

pass, and we shall be admitted to the light where we can see for ourselves.

An ancient legend says that digging for treasure must be done in the stillness of night and in perfect silence; to speak one word until the treasure is safely excavated will inevitably cause it to disappear. That is a mystic parable which has reference to



the search for spiritual illumination. If we gossip or recount to others the experiences of our concentration hour we lose them; they can not bear vocal transmission and will fade into nothingness, until by meditation we have extracted from them a full knowledge of the underlying cosmic laws. Then the experience itself will not be re-

the Elder Brothers distinguish between three classes:

First, *Students*, those who are merely studying the Philosophy.

People of various denominations enter educational institutions such as Harvard or Yale, and study mythology, psychology, and comparative religion there without prejudice to their religious affiliations. Students

as good a showing as possible, and the aspirant will thus try to do better, knowing that his work is being inspected.

When a person has been a Student of the Rosicrucian teachings for at least two years and has become so convinced of the verity thereof that he is prepared to sever his connection with all other occult or religious orders—the Christian Churches and Fraternal Orders excepted—he may assume the Obligation which admits him to the degree of Probationer.

We do not mean to insinuate by the foregoing that all other schools of occultism are of no account—far from it. Many roads lead to Rome, but we shall attain with much less effort if we follow one of them than if we zigzag from path to path. Our time and energy are limited in the first place and are still further curtailed by family and social duties not to be neglected for self-development. It is to husband the minimum of energy which we may legitimately expend upon ourselves, and to avoid waste of the scanty moments at our disposal, that resignation from all other orders is insisted upon by the leaders.

The world is an aggregate of opportunities, but to take advantage of any of them we must possess efficiency in a certain line of endeavor. Development of our spiritual powers will enable us to help or harm our weaker brothers. It is only justifiable when efficiency in service to humanity is the object.

The Rosicrucian method of attainment differs from other systems in one especial particular: It aims, even at the start, to emancipate the pupil from dependence upon others, to

The world is an aggregate of opportunities, but to take advantage of any of them we must possess efficiency in a certain line of endeavor. Development of our spiritual powers will enable us to help or harm our weaker brothers.

counted, for we shall see that it is but the husk which hides the kernel of worth. The law is of universal value, as will be at once apparent, for it will explain facts in life, teach us how to take advantage of certain conditions and to avoid others. The law may be freely stated at the discoverer's discretion for the benefit of humanity. The experience which revealed the law will then appear in its true light, as of only passing interest and unworthy of further notice. Therefore the aspirant should regard everything that happens during concentration as sacred and should keep it strictly to himself.

Finally, beware of regarding the exercises as a burdensome task. Estimate them at their true worth; they are our highest privileges. Only when thus regarded can we do them justice and reap full benefit from them.

In the Rosicrucian movement

may enroll with us on the very same basis. Anyone is eligible who is not a Hypnotist, or professionally engaged as a Medium, Palmist, or Astrologer.

Second, *Probationers*, who are Students but who aspire to firsthand knowledge to fit themselves for service. To these, the General Secretary will furnish a pledge wherein the aspirant promises himself faithfully to perform the two exercises, to keep a daily record of his performance, and send that record monthly to Headquarters. The term of probation is at least five years, and has for its purpose to test the earnestness and persistence of the aspirant, and to give him the opportunity to purify himself before taking up the more direct methods of training incident to discipleship. The report is also designed to be a help to the aspirant in the performance of the exercises. It is human nature to want to make

make him self-reliant in the very highest degree, so that he may be able to stand alone under all circumstances and cope with all conditions. Only one who is thus strongly poised can help the weak.

When a number of people meet in a class or circle for self-development among negative lines, results are usually achieved in a short time on the principle that it is easier to drift with the tide than to breast the current. The medium is not master of his actions, however, but a slave of a Spirit control. Hence such gatherings must be shunned by Probationers.

Even classes which meet in positive attitude of mind are not advised by the Elder Brothers, because the latent powers of all members are massed and visions of the inner worlds obtained by anyone there are partly due to the faculties of others. The heat of coal in the center of a fire is enhanced by that of surrounding coals, and the clairvoyant produced in a circle, be it ever so positive, is a hothouse plant, too dependent himself to be entrusted with the care of others.

Therefore each Probationer in the Rosicrucian school performs his exercises in the seclusion and privacy of his room. Results may be obtained more slowly by this system, but when they appear, they will be manifest as powers cultivated by himself, usable independently of all others. Besides, the Rosicrucian methods build character at the same time that they develop spiritual faculties, and thus safeguard the pupil against yielding to temptation to prostitute divine powers for material gain.

The foregoing does not include giving up the whole time of the candidate to spiritual endeavor. If no more time can be given, five minutes in the morning and fifteen minutes at night will suffice. In fact, to give up any time to development of spiritual faculties which should be used in legitimate material endeavor would be decidedly wrong. We must do our full duty in the material world before we may serve in the spiritual realms. Whoever is faithless to his earthly duty cannot be expected to be faithful in spiritual work.

When sixty *consecutive* reports have been sent in the candidate may apply for individual instruction, which will be given if possible.

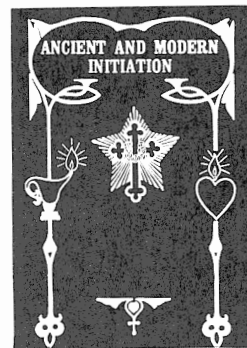
Third, are the *Disciples*, who have completed the term of probation and been accepted by the Elder Brothers.

During the years since we first began to disseminate the Rosicrucian Teachings, they have spread over the whole civilized world. They are studied with avidity from the Cape of Good Hope to the Arctic Circle and beyond; they have found response in the hearts of all classes of people. They are known in the snow-clad huts of Alaska and in government houses where a tropical wind unfurls the British Lion. In the capitals of Turkish autocracy and American democracy alike, our adherents may be found, all in lively correspondence and close touch with our movement and working for promulgation of the deeper truths concerning Life and Being which are helping them. □

—*Rosicrucian Christianity*
Lectures #11

ANCIENT AND MODERN INITIATION

By Max Heindel



Within the pages of this little volume are to be found some of the most priceless gems of Esoteric Christianity. The discussion of these facts is the result of spiritual investigations made by that inspired and illumined seer, Max Heindel. The various important steps in the life of Christ Jesus which are outlined here form the general plan of Initiation for humanity. Max Heindel, in this work, gives a deeper and more mystic insight into this alchemical process as it takes place in the body of man.

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The Second Heaven

Question: Which heaven might we think of as our "home?"

Answer: The Second Heaven is the real home of man—the Ego, the Thinker. Here he dwells for centuries.

Question: What material does he work with?

Answer: The sound or tone which pervades this Region, and is everywhere apparent as color, is his instrument, so to speak. It is this harmonious sound vibration which, as an elixir of life, builds into the threefold Spirit the quintessence of the threefold body, upon which it depends for growth.

Question: Is life here a leisurely procedure?

Answer: The life in the Second Heaven is an exceedingly active one, varied in many different ways. The Ego assimilates the fruits of the last Earth life and prepares the environment for a new physical existence.

Question: How is the new environment determined?

Answer: It is not enough to say that the new conditions will be determined by conduct and action in the life just closed. It is required that the fruits of the past be worked into the world which is to be the next scene of activity while the Ego is gaining fresh physical experiences and gathering further fruit.

Question: How is this done?

Answer: All the denizens of the Heaven World work upon the models of the Earth, all of which are in the Region of Concrete Thought. They alter the physical features of the Earth and bring about the gradual changes which vary its appearance so that on each return to physical life a different

environment has been prepared wherein new experiences may be gained.

Question: What is the extent of the changes on Earth effected here?

Answer: Climate, flora, and fauna are altered by man under the direction of Higher Beings. Thus the world is just what we ourselves, individually and collectively, have made it, and it will be what we make it.

Question: What does this reveal to the occultist?

Answer: The occult scientist sees in everything that happens a cause of a spiritual nature manifesting itself, not omitting the prevalence and alarmingly increasing frequency of seismic disturbances, which it traces to the materialistic thought of modern science.

Question: Cannot these spring from physical causes?

Answer: It is true that purely physical causes can bring about such disturbances, but can we always get the full explanation by merely recording what appears on the surface? When an angry man strikes another on the street and knocks him down one observer may say that an angry thought knocked the man down; another that he saw the arm lifted, the muscles contracting, the arm shooting out and knocking the man down. Both are true, but it is safe to say that had there not *first* been the angry thought the blow would not have been struck.

Does this idea apply to materialism?

Answer: Yes, in like manner the occultist says that if materialism had not been, seismic disturbances would not have occurred.

—Reference: Cosmo-Conception, 124-125

The Revelation of St. John The Divine

THE PATMOS VISION

I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia...

And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

His head and his hairs were white like wool, and white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voices as the sound of many waters.

And he had in his right hand seven stars; and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword; and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

—Revelation 1:9-16.

When St. John says that he “was in the isle that is called Patmos,” he gives a clue to the nature of his visions, for the word Patmos meant illumination, and in the times before Christ the expression “the isle of Patmos” was used to refer to initiation. By means of his progress on the initiatory path, “the beloved Disciple” was able to be “in the Spirit,” or in the state of consciousness required for seeing in the higher realms and functioning there in his invisible bodies.

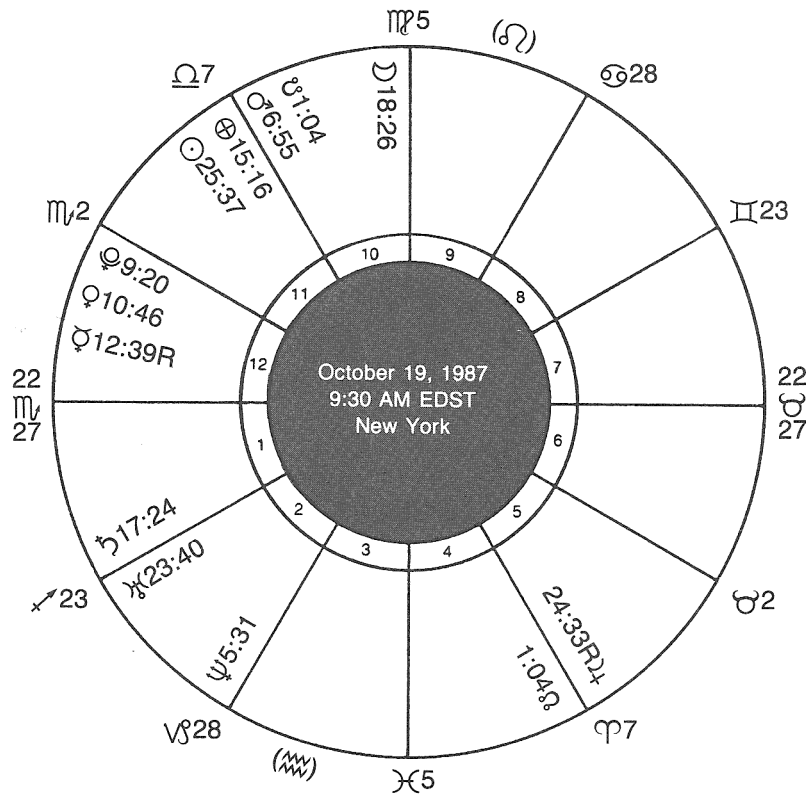
In studying the Book of Revelation we find as one of its outstanding features that it is built around the mystic number seven. John had seven visions, in which he was given messages to the seven churches; there are seven Angels before the throne, having seven lamps of

fire and seven trumpets; there are the seven candlesticks, the seven seals of the “book,” and the seven thunders. The significance of this use of the number seven is indicated by the teachings of occult science that man is sevenfold, being a threefold Spirit that possesses a threefold body and the connecting link of mind. In man's bodies there are seven spiritual centers which, when awakened and developed, express the spiritual powers of the indwelling Spirit.

Since man is sevenfold, and since he is the “unit” of this particular field of evolution—to whom St. John's message would logically be directed—we may suppose that the message to be written in the “book” by John and sent “unto the seven churches” involves information concerning man himself. In other words, the seven churches are used in a symbolical way to refer to the seven centers in man which have to be unfolded in the process of spiritual development. Every human being is a God-in-the-making and will eventually attain his destiny of Godhood.

The description given of one who spoke to John with “a great voice,” “as of a trumpet,” suggests a mighty Being of the arch-angelic life wave. The tremendous vibrations emanating from such a Being would constitute “a garment down to the foot,” while the hair, “white as snow,” and the eyes, “as a flame of fire,” indicate the purity and spiritual power of such an exalted Being. The “sharp two-edged sword” suggests the positive-negative power of the Spirit unfolded to a very high degree. □

Astrology



The Day That Shook the World!

“The whole world is still in shock,” said one commentator two days later. (CBS Radio, October 21, 1987.) No wonder; because of Wall Street’s “Bloody Monday” and its raucous repercussions, a trillion dollars in stocks was wiped out—\$200 for every person on Earth. (Some 38 of the 400 richest men in America lost their standing (ABC Radio November 2, 1987) One man alone lost \$2 1/2 billion (National Public Radio’s Morning Edition, November 3, 1987) “It will take eight to ten years to recover fully,” claimed Robert Solow, Prof. of Economics at MIT and recipient of the year’s Nobel prize in that field. (ABC Radio, October 21, 1987)

The stars reflect and illumine the situation. Venus and Mars in detriment, Sun and Neptune in fall; Pluto, the ruler, is dignified but in the twelfth house of ripe destiny along with Venus and Mercury retrograde adds to the negative potential. But the limelight belongs to Jupiter, apex of this Bucket formation, hence directly influencing all the other orbs. It is in easily impulsive Aries, in opposition to the Sun, ruler of the house it occupies, that of speculation and risk-taking; it is retrograde; its solstice point is conjunct the important M.C. Jupiter thus posited projects bad

judgment based on “ebullient self-assurance.”¹ Incidentally, it was a Jupiter hour when the New York Stock Exchange opened that dismal day!

There had been warning voices for months;² one observer likened America to a man who after a buying binge would need to mortgage the family jewels! It was sensed that sooner or later the chickens would come home to roost; that produced loss of confidence; that helped plunge the market 508 points in one day. (The event came 58 years after the crash of 1929 and 58 months since the record bull market started; astrologically, the stock market is ruled by the fifth house and regeneration—and death—by the eighth; could there be a message in this? We note the twelfth house cusp’s Sabian symbol, which sheds light on problems: “A broken bottle and spilled perfume.”³ Why do women use perfume? To make themselves attractive. What makes the stock market thus? Confidence. But alas, there was a situation of “spilled perfume,” evaporated confidence. This is corroborated elsewhere in the chart, dominated by the Moon (it was a Moon-ruled day!) in Virgo, given to worry, especially in the fearful Saturn decan and afflicted by a close square from Saturn of fear.

No one will dispute that fear caused the 1929 crash; many have called attention to the similarities between conditions in the late 1920’s and mid-1980’s;⁴ we also find an astounding affinity between the charts of Oct. 29, 1929 and October 19, 1987. Especially significant is the fact that the area tenanted by Saturn in late

October 1929 was held on October 19, 1987, by Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune’s solstice point. The fateful Dragon’s Tail on October 29, 1929, was exactly on Mercury of mental focus on October 1987’s “Massacre Monday.” In addition, the 1929 Venus was conjunct the 1987 Mars, Mercury, the Part of Fortune, Jupiter opposite Saturn, Mars conjunct Mercury, Neptune over the M.C. This was no mere “minor mid-course

In the esoteric, heights denote the spiritual, which of course is the very opposite of the material.

correction”; it will long be remembered; the chart contains no less than eight sextiles of negative fate. (M.C./Sun, Sun/Saturn, Part of Fortune Lilith, Moon/Pluto, the Dragon’s Tail/Ascendant, I.C./Jupiter, Mercury/Neptune, twelfth cusp/Uranus.)

There is also a definite tie to the U.S. map, the most powerful being Jupiter square Mercury, ruler of the U.S. natus. It is also exactly on its twelfth cusp

of ripe destiny! A lunar eclipse will touch the I.C. in 1988; a solar and lunar eclipse will fall on M.C. and I.C. respectively in 1989. In 1990 the U.S. Dragon’s Tail and M.C. will be eclipsed. Unless there is compliance with cosmic law, there will be consequences! Too, the Part of Fortune on the October 1987 chart is conjunct the American Saturn of Karma. This orb is also the Cosmic Instructor; is there some lesson in all this? If we superimpose the chart of October 19, 1987, on the U.S. chart, we get a Cardinal Cross (Sun, Mercury, Jupiter, Pluto). Its message: Depart from materialism! This admonition is confirmed by the Sabian symbol of the eighth cusp, which points to regeneration: “Three fledglings in a nest high in a tree.”⁵ In the esoteric, heights denote the spiritual,⁶ which of course is the very opposite of the material.

We discover a surprising reason why America needs to renounce materialism. The Ascendant of a chart deals with attitudes; its Sabian symbol: “A bunny metamorphosed into a fairy.”⁷ There’s something very much unreal about this! It is astoundingly similar to the Sabian symbol of the vital M.C.: “A man dreaming of fairies.”⁸

Also, the quintessential planet of the unreal, Neptune, is tied by aspect to both Pluto and Mars, ruler and co-ruler; also to the M.C., and its solstice point to the Sun and Jupiter. Noteworthy as well is the degree of the Sun of vital interests: “An eagle and a large white dove turning into the other.”⁹ Not exactly a realistic picture! And it may not be without significance that as the closing bell rang on

Wall Street that day, the transiting Moon had moved exactly conjunct Neptune of the U.S. chart!

What does all this mean? Simply this: Somehow the notion has taken hold that materialists are realists, and spiritual students are visionaries, dreamers, etc. Not according to the stars! By the celestial script, it's the other way round—the materialists are the ones removed from reality! How? The greatest reality of the universe is God! God is love, and love is giving. But the materialist constantly strives to get. As part of his lifestyle, he risks his resources to play the stock market, frantically watching its unpredictable ups and downs, sacrificing serenity and then some.

But that's no way to live! The spiritual aspirant by contrast, lives not to get but to give. And even if the recipient of his love responds repulsively, he hasn't really lost anything; he has himself been blessed by the joy of giving. So nothing is wasted! Truly, love "never faileth."¹⁰ And that which never fails, that surely is success!

As those who've been there know, Wall Street, the matrix of materialism, actually leads to and ends at a cemetery! How eloquent a picture of materialism eventually coming to a dead end! That memorable day when "the Dow said 'ow'" surely shook the world of the materialist, but, thank God, we have "a kingdom that cannot be shaken!"¹¹ □

—A Probationer

¹ *Astrology, the Divine Science*, Moore and Douglas, p. 319.

² See "Dance of Debt Isn't Over Yet," *U.S. News & World Report*, August 31, 1987, p. 39; "Living Beyond Our Means," Alfred C. Malabre, Jr., *Readers Digest*, November, 1987, p. 123.

³ *The Sabian Symbols in Astrology*, Marc Edmund Jones, p. 181.

⁴ See "From Boom to Doom?" *Time*, August 24, 1987, p. 38.

⁵ Marc Edmund Jones, *oc. cit.*, p. 232.

⁶ *Esoteric Bible Dictionary*, John P. Scott, p. 49.

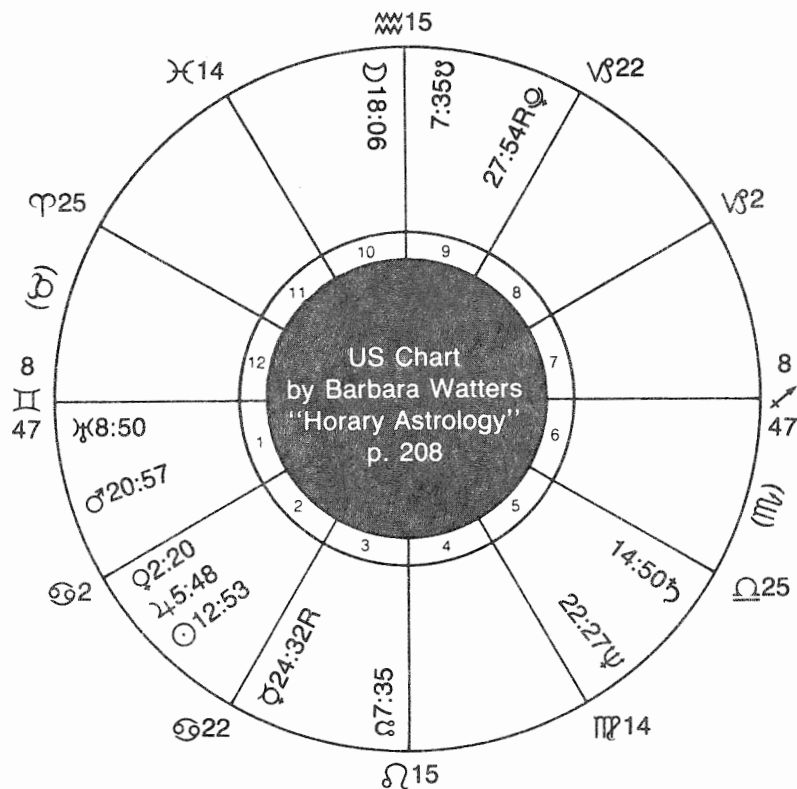
⁷ Marc Edmund Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 203.

⁸ Marc Edmund Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 304.

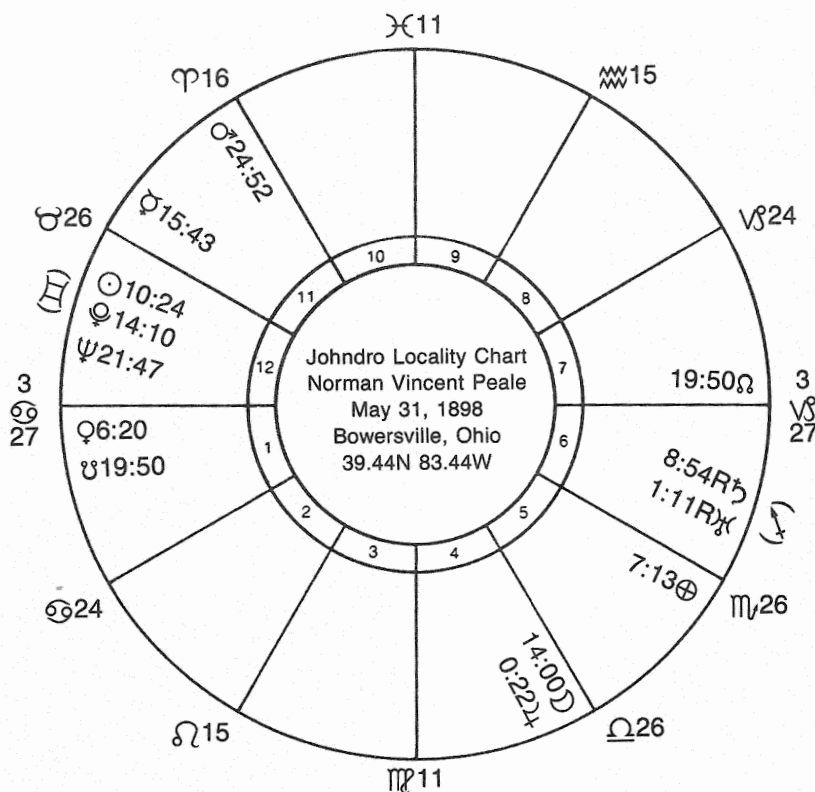
⁹ Marc Edmund Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 175.

¹⁰ I Corinthians 13:8.

¹¹ Hebrews 12:28, Good News Bible.



At 90 and Still Going Strong



The “Father” of Positive Thinking

Everyone knows of *The Power of Positive Thinking*, inspiring best seller of the 1950’s and still making an impact today. New its ideas are not; they are found in the Bible and Western Wisdom literature.¹ At the turn of this century Philosopher William James had predicted that its great discovery would be that one could alter one’s life by changing one’s thinking; who wouldn’t love to do just that? So it might well be asked, What does it take to be a positive thinker, and would the chart of Dr. Norman Vincent Peale hold some helpful hints?

It is not the celestial collage of one born with a silver spoon in the mouth! Far from it! The Sun is opposite Saturn, intercepted in the twelfth

house along with Neptune and Pluto; Saturn and Uranus are intercepted in the sixth house and also retrograde; fully half the planets are in the weakest houses. Another indication that life wouldn’t be handed to him on a silver platter is the febleness of the cardinal houses. Venus is on the Ascendant, though afflicted; the Moon and Jupiter are in the fourth, but being in the sign of the fifth, some of their influence is also there. The mutual reception of the lunar orb and Venus helps somewhat.

No, circumstances did not drop fame and success in Dr. Peale’s lap. He has eight planets in positive signs; including Mars, in his own sign, in a critical degree, most elevated. He’s a self-starter! “The happiest people don’t always *have* the best; they *make* the best of what they have.” But that’s but part of the story! Many selfstarters have yet to make any kind of start at all! We note again that the Sun is opposite (*positively*, awareness) Saturn of destiny; the twelfth house is a sector of destiny; along with the Sun there are in it two planets of destiny: this man is profoundly persuaded of a mission in life!

We also know that the nodes deal with destiny; in Dr. Peale’s chart we find the Sun’s solstice point conjunct Pluto’s node² and both in the same degree with the lunar South Node of destiny. Thus in this chart Sun and Pluto have twice come together—in the house of

destiny and with the node of destiny!

Too, Pluto of destiny trines the Moon in the closest aspect of the chart. Moreover, the Moon—by mutual reception transposed into the first house—is closely conjunct Pluto's solstice point. Pluto also squares the M.C. and I.C.; so do the solstice points of the nodes! Can language be clearer! Incidentally, a powerful Pluto also helps one influence the masses,³ as Dr. Peale has done; no wonder: the world makes room for the man who knows where he's going!

No, real positive thinking is not learned by memorizing formulas or studying self-help books. It is the natural outgrowth of positive living.

The Sabian symbols support all this. Of the I.C.: "A boy molded in his mother's aspiration for him." Of the M.C.: "Self-dedication." Of the twelfth house cusp, in positive charts the source of sustainment: "Power of well-defined desire." Of the eighth cusp of regeneration: "Consecration."⁴ Aspiration, self-dedication, well-defined desire, consecration—an overwhelming sense of destiny!

A lad once was to take his birth certificate to school but forgot. He nervously stammered, "I forgot my excuse for being born!" Millions might well admit the same! That's why they turn to drink and drugs; not having found life's purpose, they can't handle it! It is also an observable fact that those who pursue pleasure most passionately have the least purpose; those

propelled by a strong purpose don't seek pleasure for its own sake; they've found its most satisfying form—fulfillment!

Or, it might be asked, what makes dictators, Pluto-ruled, so popular? They put people into uniforms, march them on parades, set national goals, thereby giving them what humans crave most, as famed Psychologist Alfred Adler taught last century—a sense of purpose! What can one do with a car, radio, TV etc., unless one understands their purpose? Similarly, how can one possibly utilize life to the fullest unless

one knows and fulfills its divine design? No wind is any good wind for the ship without destination; a man without an aim can never make a hit!

No, real positive thinking is not learned by memorizing formulas or studying self-help books. It is the natural outgrowth of positive living—which is, with a purpose! The greater the purpose, the better. And the greatest purpose is God! Genuine positive thinking is nothing less than genuine Christianity! As Dr. Peale put it, We've translated the Bible into hundreds of languages, Chinese, Japanese, etc.; it's time we put it into *Americanese*, into terms understood by and appealing to this nation, which has ever been so much success-oriented!

Positive thinking is nothing less than fulfilling one's purpose

in God, and He has one for all!⁵ The Sabian symbol for the Moon, Peale's ruler, is interpreted as "proper adjustment to the rhythm of nature."⁶ This is only possible by being in a vibrant relationship with Nature's Creator, attuned to His purpose. According to St. Augustine, "Our wills are ours to make them Thine; and will and purpose are inseparable."

The Sabian symbol for Peale's Sun, planet of "conscious aim,"⁷ is interpreted as "Nature's call for the pioneer Spirit."⁸ This is all the more interesting since in his *The Positive Principle Today*, p. 179, he has admitted his great debt of illumination to a certain New Age group, one of which Max Heindel has spoken well.⁹ So in wishing him many happy returns, we are doing so to a great pioneer of New Age teaching! □

—A Probationer

¹Proverbs 23:7; *Occult Principles of Health and Healing*, ch. 14; *Letters to Students*, ch. 97; *The Law and Our Needs*; *The Power of Thought*, etc.

²*Here and There in Astrology*, Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson, pp. 51-57.

³*The Combination of Stellar Influences*, Reinhold Ebertin, p. 52; *The Modern Textbook of Astrology*, Margaret Hone, p. 36.

⁴In order: *The Sabian Symbols in Astrology*, Marc Edmund Jones, p. 310; *The Astrology of Personality*, Dane Rudhyar, p. 377; Dane Rudhyar, *op. cit.*, p. 348; Marc Edmund Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 263; italics supplied for emphasis.

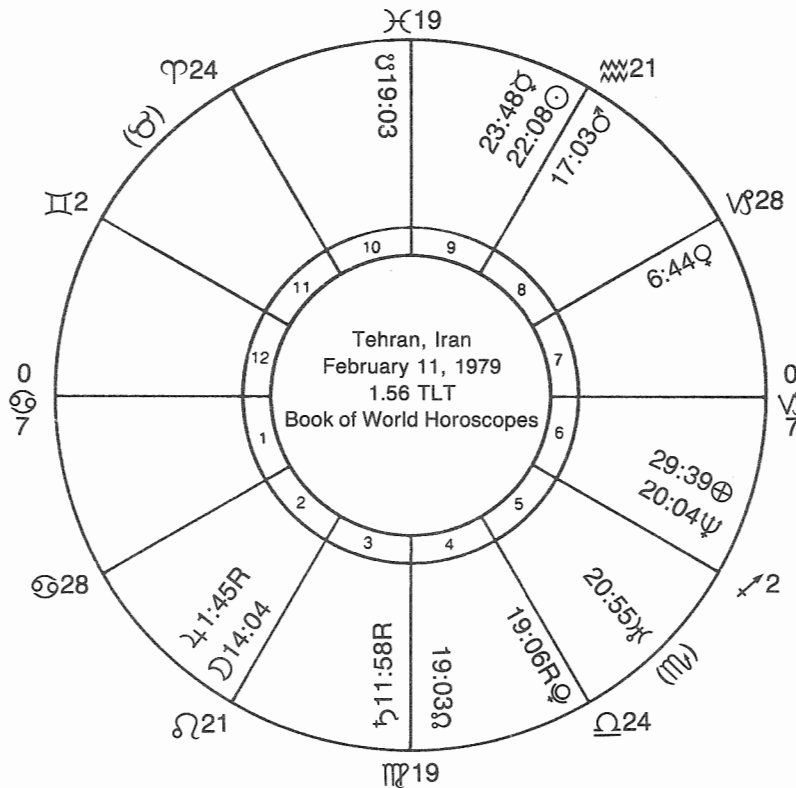
⁵Romans 8:28-32.

⁶Dane Rudhyar, *op. cit.*, p. 362.

⁷*Astrology*, Ronald C. Davison, p. 35.

⁸Dane Rudhyar, *op. cit.*, p. 350.

⁹*Letters to Students*, Max Heindel, p. 132.



A Look at Iran

In November, 1979, it thrust itself into the spotlight by seizing the U.S. Embassy and holding its staff hostage for 444 days; in November, 1986, it again began to monopolize the media as a result of the U.S. arms deal flap. Most of the world is wondering about that strategically located oil-rich nation, for a possible victory over Iraq plus the support of millions in Muslim lands could make it the Mideast's superpower. Astrology offers some insights.

The pattern of the chart can be classified two ways.

1. With three sextiles, two trines, and an opposition, it could be called a cradle,¹ symbol of immaturity. For in the sense that Iran seeks a return to 7th-century Mideast mores, it can most certainly be said to be immature, refusing to "join" the 20th century. Confirming testimony of Iran's ultrareactionary outlook is the Sabian symbol for the degree of its Venus (values), which is interpreted as "avatarship,"² which implies a throwback to the past.

2. A Bucket. There is a stellium in the ninth house; all other planets are in the bottom hemisphere. This means that the energy of the other

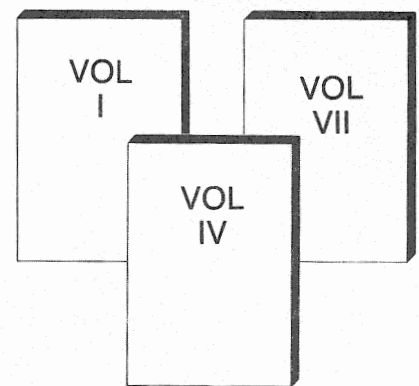
seven planets is channelled through this Sun-Mercury-Mars conjunction, in the sign of revolution. Mars is reinforced by a conjunction with the Part of Spirit (Ascendant plus Sun minus Moon); the dispositor, Uranus, the only planet in exaltation (there are none in dignity); we also note an opposition from the Moon. Obviously there is a desire to further the revolution; Jupiter in Leo retrograde adds pride; the Full Moon confers optimism, and Saturn retrograde in Virgo and co-ruler of the ninth house adds rigidity!

What exactly is Iran trying to disseminate? For Iran's idea of Islam, we look at Neptune, planet of idealism:³ in a critical degree, conjunct the Vertex, Part of Disaster, (Ascendant plus eighth cusp minus Moon) Part of War, (Ascendant plus Jupiter minus Mars) opposite is square the Part of Bigotry; (Ascendant plus Uranus minus Sun) its ruler the Moon is square the Part of Delusion (Ascendant plus Neptune minus Moon). In evaluating the Gospel according to the Ayatollah, one is reminded of what some of the Biblical "sons of the prophets" once said concerning a certain concoction, "There is death in the pot (2 Kings 4:40).

But there is nothing moribund behind the effort to propagate this religion. Six planets, including the chart's ruler, are in fixed signs, extra strong by forming a T-Square. That configura-

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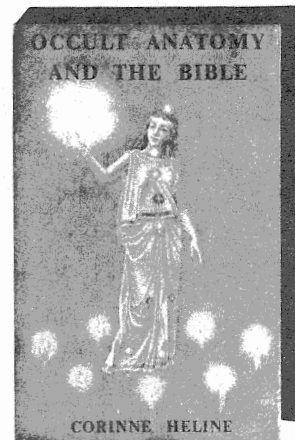
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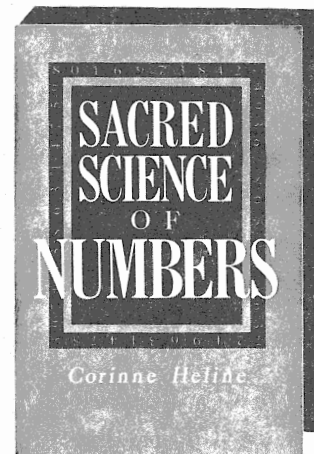
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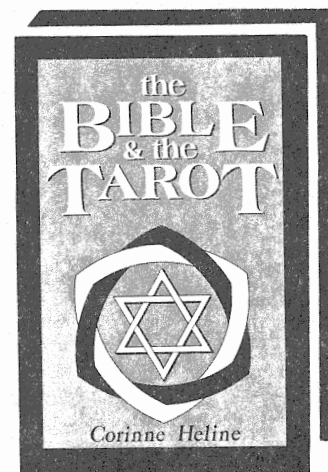
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tion also indicates Iran's great need, as shown by the degree opposite the apex: "Spiritual discrimination" is given as the meaning of the actual symbol, "A finger pointing in an open book."⁴

When Astrology students think of a finger, their minds turn to the "Finger of God"—that fateful configuration found in some charts. It is absent from this one, but it nevertheless very strongly conveys the idea that revolutionary Iran is not just another ordinary state, but a definite pawn of destiny. The M.C., occupied by the "ripe of destiny" sign, Pisces, is closely conjunct the karmic Dragon's Tail, conjunct a critical degree. Pluto is in the exact degree of the nodes, and as for the karmic planets—Uranus is trine the M.C., Neptune in square, and Saturn almost conjunct the I.C. The chart's ruler is in a karmic middle degree of a fixed sign,

Change, it has been said, is the only thing permanent; for Iran it is inevitable in the near future! Pluto is the planet of change, and its Sabian symbol degree in Iran's chart is interpreted as "interest in permanent rather than transient values.

and the Part of Fortune and Lilith are in "fated" degrees!

In light of the above and recent world events, we're not surprised to find a definite karmic tie between the Ayatollah's Iran and America. The U.S. Ascendant, Mars, and Uranus fall in Iran's twelfth house; Iran's Mars is conjunct the U.S. M.C.; its Ascendant is in the degree of the U.S. nodes!

This does not necessarily mean that the U.S./Iran relationship must always be a negative nature. None will deny the U.S. involvement in Vietnam was fateful, but it need not have happened! The late Ho Chi Minh, leader of the anti-U.S. forces, had tried to get American support a few days after World War II ended in 1945. But he was brushed off, turned to "the other side," and the rest is history. Similarly, the U.S. could have remained on good terms with Tehran after 1979.

We need to bear in mind that the symbol of Pisces, the sign on Iran's M.C. of destiny, is two fishes. They are tied together at a knot, Alpha Piscium; one faces east, the other west, but it has been shown that the philosophies "East" and "West" are not really as different as they appear;⁵ Iran may eventually embrace either. Its Mars con-

conjunct the U.S. Moon and M.C. are aspects of friction, but America's Sun, Venus, Jupiter closely hug Iran's Ascendant; Washington could re-establish harmonious relations with Tehran. By one official count earlier this decade, more foreign students in the U.S. hailed from Iran than any other nation; these will provide future leaders; might they not tilt toward this

nation, also a product of an Aquarian revolution?

This much is sure: change is ahead for Iran! Neptune's '87 and '88 transit over its Venus will produce subtle value mutations; also in '88 its Part of Fortune and Lilith will enter new signs by primary progression—the latter an intercepted one, Taurus, which is also more cautious than fiery Aries. That same year Jupiter, co-ruler of the M.C., enters Taurus and will then pass into the restrictive twelfth house, further weakening belligerence. In '89 the M.C. by primary progression will reach a difficult degree of expiation. In '90 Pluto will transit Uranus; in '91 Saturn begins his transit of the sign holding the ninth house stellium; and in '92 a powerful Uranus-Neptune conjunction will square Iran's Pluto and be halfway between its Uranus and M.C.

Change, it has been said, is the only thing permanent; for Iran it is inevitable in the near future! Pluto is the planet of change, and its Sabian symbol degree in Iran's chart is interpreted as "interest in permanent rather than transient values."⁶ It is to be hoped that when change does come, Iran will manifest this kind of attitude; only thus will it fulfill its true destiny! □

—A Probationer

¹*Horoscope Interpretation Outlined*, Jayne, p. 12.

²*The Astrology of Personality*, Rudhyar, p. 370.

³*Astrological Rulerships*, Doane, p. 29.

⁴*The Sabian Symbols*, Jones, p. 200; Rudhyar, *op. cit.*, p. 348.

⁵*Essays on Astrology*, Hand, chapter 13.

⁶Rudhyar, *op. cit.*, p. 362.

Why Americans Attend Church

According to a survey by the Gordon S. Black Corporation, 45% go because "it's good for you"; 26% "for pleasure"; but the most important benefit sought by all is "peace of mind." (*The Christian Century*), September 30, 1987, p. 817.

In a post-World-War-II best seller, Joshua L. Liebman's *Peace of Mind*, mental tranquility is indeed held up as life's *summum bonum*, chief good. But is the pursuit of this elixir what worship should really be all about? The Bible lists inner "peace" as one of the fruits of the Spirit. (*Galations 5:22*) It is preceded by love and joy. If one truly loves God with all one's heart, one's neighbor as oneself, and has experienced the joy of serving both, one's spiritual state quite naturally is such that one will sense a deep, abiding peace which even transcends all adversity. But one might fill a church pew every day of the week, yet unless one is filled with the Spirit of the Prince of Peace, the peace that passes understanding will pass one by.

Not only is one mistaken in expecting "peace of mind" to spring spontaneously from church attendance, this emphasis can also become idolatry. "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." (*Exodus 20:3, Deuteronomy 5:7*) Anything one puts ahead of God, regardless how benefic, is out of place there. We read of some "whose god is their belly" (*Phillipians 3:19*); other parts of the body can become false deities too—including the mind.

During a phase of the French Revolution, the worship of Reason was made the national religion, to usher in a "Reign of Virtue." The amoral actress who "played" Goddess of Reason eventually lost her own sanity; the supposed reign of virtue turned into the "Reign of Terror"; and Robespierre, architect of the whole scheme, ended his brief life at the guillotine. Reason and virtue are certainly desirable, but when made chief ends turn sour, as does peace of mind when placed on too high a pedestal. It is only a tool for living and serving God. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (*Matthew 6:33*) "Peace of mind" is not even necessarily evidence of a living relationship with Heaven; it might easily be confused

with the self-satisfaction derived from a "conscience seared with a hot iron." (*I Timothy 4:2*) Moreover, many of God's genuine jewels hardly had the kind of "peace of mind" presently in vogue: "They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented." (*Hebrews 11:37*)

Why worship? "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise." (*Psalms 100:4,5*) Elsewhere we find that worship should also do something to us, for us. In *Isaiah 6* is found a prophet's worship experience, which caused him to cry out, "Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts." (Verse 5) As the result of a similar encounter, Job exclaimed, "I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes." (*Job 42:5,6*) And after Jacob, that subtle schemer, encountered the Lord at Bethel, he was moved to make a vow. (*Genesis 28:12-20*) When the woman at the well met the Master, he challenged her to exchange the sordid for the sublime. (*John 4:10,14,17,18,23*) At a later occasion he said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." (*John 12:32*) That means they too would be raised—inspired to reach up for a higher, nobler plane. This is worship—a challenge to be and do and give the very best.

It is not passively hearing a soporific sermon that reassures listeners how good they are, and then they in turn compliment the preacher on how good his sermon was! "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion!" (*Amos 6:1*) No! True worship is the soul-stirring summons to growth, to service, to what life is all about and worship *should* be! A significant trend in Protestant church architecture has been developing. Fewer and fewer churches are building steeples, symbolic of reaching up to God for worship; more and more are adding facilities for recreation and entertainment. And the altar, also symbolic of worship, has been pushed aside or even removed altogether.

Plastic Surgery— A New Trend

Plastic surgery was once the realm of wealthy matrons and aging screen stars, but now middle-class Americans in their 30's and 40's are heading for the doctor's offices in droves! "Last year some half a million Americans were snipped, suctioned, stretched, and trussed compared with 300,000 in 1981." What is the reason for this "new trend" in looking to plastic surgery as a solution to physical imperfections?

Many of the men and women who are spending thousands of dollars on cosmetic surgery say that their professional image and their job marketability is the main reason for smoothing creases or trimming the jowls. These are the 40-year olds who are in competition with 20-30 year olds who still have that "youthful look" so prized by many Americans in the world of business competition. Some are also fitness buffs who feel that a little surgery is just the final touch on their efforts at the local health and fitness club. They are the ones who are in great shape from watching their diet, but have older-looking faces due to sun exposure.

"Improving one's looks surgically has never been easier. A number of quick procedures can be done on an outpatient basis and require a short recovery period. Tops on the list for women, is suction lipectomy, an operation developed in France and introduced in the U.S. in 1982. Also called liposuction, it entails the insertion of a hollow, blunt-ended tube that is attached to a high-powered suction machine that vacuums out the fat. The procedure can take 30 minutes to three hours, depending on how many problem areas are worked on. Removal of saddlebag thighs runs about \$2,000; love handles, \$1,500; saggy jowls, \$1,300; and baggy knees, \$1,200. Observes Dr. Jack D. Norman, a Miami plastic surgeon: Twenty years ago, it was the nose job. In the 1970's, it was silicone implants. Now the rage is lipectomy." There is also another process called "lipofilling" which makes use of the fat just removed by liposuction in building up areas in the cheek or face as well as redefining jawlines.

Also, and injection of protein collagen can be used to smooth scars and wrinkles. Cost: in the range of \$750 to \$1,000.

With this overwhelming interest in plastic surgery it has become almost a casual thing to have some of the procedures tried by thousands who would not have even thought of "such a thing" five or ten years ago. However, there is still a danger so the best protection one can get is in the selection of the right doctor who is board-certified and has admitting privileges at a reputable hospital. Whether or not plastic surgery is right or wrong is certainly not the issue! Our bodies are our temples and we must seek to maintain them in good shape so they will be better channels for service to humanity. The forms of plastic surgery mentioned previously refer primarily to "vanity" rather than to necessary reconstruction due to an accident or childhood deformity. In this time of wanting to look and feel good it is certainly not unusual that "plastic surgery" techniques could become "a new trend" in the eternal quest for youth! *Time Magazine*, "Snip, Suction, Stretch, and Truss," September 14, 1987.

Where There's Smoke

There's double danger if it comes from incense. Students of the Western Wisdom already know of its potential spiritual peril, for it could attract evil entities able to "incite them to acts of debauchery and sensualism."¹ But now comes evidence that even if no evil spirits are attracted, incense burning can be harmful from a health standpoint.²

According to a publication of the International Agency for Research on Cancer, nitrosamines and phenodes, which are carcinogens, have been found in incense smoke. "It contains aldehydes, which irritate the eyes." "Free radicals," "the great white sharks of the biochemical sea," are also found in incense smoke, and they are carcinogenic and "a cause of aging." Studies on incense smoke further found links to childhood brain tumors; expectant mothers especially are urged to be "cautious about using it... The fetus is fifty times more sensitive to carcinogens than adults."

According to the article, "aromatic herbs and spices, such as cedar chips and dried flowers, that give off a nice scent without benefit of flame," are safe. "Connoisseurs maintain, however, that incense is not incense unless it is burned!"

Every incense containing wood, which gives off carcinogens and toxins, is hazardous. Too, "the fact that an incense is made from natural substances does not insure its safety."

What does? Max Heindel tells us that "when a reputable occultist, who has evolved spiritual sight and is able to see the various entities in the invisible world, has compounded an incense which he finds offers a vehicle only for Spirits of a helpful nature who incline to raise the vibrations of those who breathe the incense and the Spirits with it, then it may be an aid during periods of prayer to raise the consciousness of the devotees to a union with the Divine." Otherwise, "the practice of burning incense is very dangerous, and ought to be strenuously discouraged."³

¹*The Rosicrucian Philosophy in Questions and Answers*, Volume II, Max Heindel, p. 474.

²*EastWest*, September, 1987, pp. 51-56.

³Max Heindel, *loc. cit.*

P.A.T. Success' Simple Secret?

Why do some students consistently excel? According to a study conducted at Lubbock's Texas Tech University, it is all because of P.A.T.—Peak Activation Time. Participants were divided into those who achieved maximum alert in the morning, afternoon, and evening, and those who "peaked" at the start of the day scored superior.¹

This should come as no surprise. Back in Colonial America, Ben Franklin in his *Poor Richard's Almanac* had counselled, Early to bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise. A German proverb promises, *Morgen Stunde hat Gold im Munde* (morning hour has gold in its mouth); there are numerous other versions of the same.

This not only helps confirm Astrology—the idea that certain times are better for activity than

others—it also harmonizes with the celestial science itself. It teaches that it is generally best to start projects after a New Moon, when the lunar orb is waxing.² It would be consistent, therefore, to also believe it is more advantageous to work with a waxing Sun, which is in the morning, at which time also the solar ball is in the eastern and "more fortunate" half of a diurnal chart.

In the writings of the mystics, Thomas A. Kempis, William Law, etc., we find earnest exhortations to be up and about early in the day. The prophets of old were early risers, as is stated no less than ten times in one Book of the Bible alone! (*Jeremiah* 7:13, 25; 11:7; 25:4; 26:5; 29:19; 32:33; 35:14, 15; 44:4) We read regarding our Lord, "And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed." (*Mark* 1:35)

In numerous hymns the theme of prayer and worship in the morning is sounded. "Lord, in the morning Thou shalt hear, my voice ascending high"; "Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee," Perhaps the best known is, "I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses." We may never know why C. Austin Miles used those particular words; they may be worth pondering. Of course we know of the deep spiritual significance of the rose—"chaste, pure and Christ-like."³ And the dew is symbolic in the Bible of a "special blessing from God."⁴ Surely the "dew" received during one's tryst with the Heavenly Father can water, or encourage, the unfolding of the "rose principle" in our lives. And the dew always and only descends in the morning. By contrast, nightfall, or sunset, is symbolic of the ebbing away of life, the onset of darkness, death! We are reminded of Tennyson's famous hymn, "Sunset and Evening Star," often sung at funerals.

We are admonished to "pray without ceasing," (*I Thessalonians* 5:17) but because the morning hours are superior is precisely why we should then especially commune with our God. In the Bible we read not only that the children of Israel had to give Jehovah portions of their substance, their offerings had to be the first fruits and the best. (*Exodus* 23:19; *Numbers* 18:29)

A preacher once told of a man who, after a dissolute life, turned to the Lord in his old age. "He had burned the candle from both ends, and when it was about to go out he blew the smoke in God's

face and surrendered.” Giving God only the last, languid portion of the day is hardly doing any better.

You must meet God in the morning
When the day is at its best;
If you want His Presence with you
As you face its every test.

¹*Psychology Today*, October 1987, p. 22.

²*Astrology: A Cosmic Science*, Isabel M. Hickey, pp. 205, 254.

³*The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, Max Heindel, p. 538.

⁴Hosea 14:5; *Cruden's Complete Concordance*, Alexander Cruden, p. 147.

Prescription for Prosperity?

Wars? Yes, wars! according to *Present Tense*,¹ many governments believe this is the new, proven method, based on “the conviction that the Second World War ended the Depression.” As a result, “in forty or so separate wars around the world at least 1,000 soldiers and 5,000 civilians are being killed every day.”

Actually, this notion isn't new. The ancient Ammonites made children pass through the fire to appease their god Moloch. In the hope he might prosper them. (*Leviticus 18:21*) Moloch worship required the lives of the first-born; wars devour those first in fitness, the very cream of a nation's youth—and future! The conflicts raging at present certainly are a “passing through the fire” for its hapless conscripts; experiencing military action has been referred to as a “baptism of fire.”

Too, it is erroneous to opine World War II ended the Depression. It cut unemployment, but by means of deficit spending, the results of which are still painfully present. Not only that, wars also trigger economic tragedies. After the American Revolution, the economic dislocation almost produced anarchy. After the wars of 1812-15 and 1846-48 (against England and Mexico) came the panics of 1819 and 1857. The Civil War was followed by the recession of 1873; the Spanish-American War of 1898 preceded the 1907 squeeze; World War I definitely precipitated the crash of 1919; World War II and the Korean conflict helped produce the

1957 recession; after Vietnam came double digit inflation and the agony of '82.

The belief that wars create prosperity is actually just one more symptom of the times: the low value placed on human life, as seen in the spread of abortion, drugs, euthanasia,² teen suicides and general violence. An American statesman once averred that the moral and spiritual index of a society is its attitude toward the very young, the old, the infirm—the helpless; surely conscripts forced to face death because of erroneous economics espoused by their elders must be added to society's victims—and guilt. Never before has so much been said and written in behalf of human and civil rights, yet the most basic and precious—life—seems to be under attack.

Astrology helps explain all this. Presently, Pluto is the most powerful planet in the solar system as far as influencing trends and attitudes: the only high-octave planet in its own sign, also in its own decan, and in perihelion. *Negatively*, it is the planet of death; it is also the high-octave planet of the war lord, Mars. The masses cannot respond to it positively, hence so much manifestation of its sinister side.

But there is hope! At the recent Conference on the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development, held at the United Nations headquarters, word went out that “the world can either continue to pursue the arms race with characteristic vigor or move consciously and with deliberate speed towards a more stable and balanced social and economic development within a more sustainable international economic and political order; *it cannot do both.*”³ This may still be a minority view today, but with the approach of the New Age, it is bound to gather momentum. When Pluto was “discovered” in 1930, Uranus, the New Age planet, was in a square (challenging) aspect; it is also square Pluto “natural rulership” (Pluto rules Scorpio, Uranus rules Aquarius, which are “square” each other); in other words, the New Age will challenge Pluto's noxious negatives. For that is precisely what the New Age is all about, the acceptance of new Uranian ideas. □

¹“There's No Business Like War Business,” By John Ralston Saul, *Present Tense*, September/October, 1987, p. 16.

²For a report on the spread of euthanasia, see *The Wall Street Journal*, August 21, 1987, p. 1. For occult illumination on this practice, see *The Rosicrucian Philosophy in Questions and Answers*, Max Heindel, Volume II, p. 484.

OPTICAL DATA STORAGE PRODUCTS

By 1990 the market for optical data storage products is expected to mushroom and *High Technology* magazine even predicts that the sales of optical disk drives may reach \$1.5 billion, not including the sales of the disks themselves. Also, competition is getting hot between optical technology and "hard magnetic disks" as the storage capacities of these magnetic counterparts is being increased in order to keep pace with storage that is available on optical media. The sales of "erasable optical disk drives" are expected to be around \$140 million in 1990 and the first generation of erasable disks, which are due out next year, are expected to use "magneto-optic" technology which is a hybrid having more in common with magnetic drives than with optical technology.

INFORMATION AND IMAGE MANAGEMENT

Even though computers seem to be everywhere and electronics has become a standard way of life for most businesses, it is estimated that 99% of all existing information is still being stored and managed on paper and film! However, this situation is rapidly beginning to change and "soon data processing, office automation, and communications will make way for the rapid growth of a fourth industry: information and image management (I & IM). A study released this year by Coopers & Lybrand predicts that I & IM will emerge in the coming decade as the major growth industry in electronics. In short, I & IM is the rising star of electronic information technology." Currently, most I & IM equipment is found in very obscure roles in library science, administrative systems, and document management.

It is projected that I & IM will begin to emerge on the same level as data processing and office automation now that technology has allowed the

"digitization of images so that images that were once captured, stored, and managed on film can now be digitized, conveyed over communications networks, and otherwise manipulated electronically." Soon I & IM will be more practical and will be present in all fields of doing business on a day-to-day basis. Some of the things which have assisted the growth of I & IM are: optical digital mass storage, microprocessors, optical character recognition, image scanning, laser output to microforms, laser plain-paper printing, and improvements in the telecommunications field. An increase of approximately 8% in the use of I & IM equipment is expected in the next 2-3 years.

THE COMPUTER MUSEUM

"The Computer Museum opened in Boston on Nov. 14, 1984. Since then, it has logged more than 200,000 visitors. It has the largest collection of historically significant computer technology ever assembled. In fact, it's the world's only museum devoted to the past, present, and future computers." This museum virtually encompasses the entire history of computers and includes the following exhibits: a) The first vacuum-tube, real-time computer, the Whirlwind; b) The first commercial computer, UNIVAC I; The largest computer ever build, the SAGE system; c) The best-selling transistor computer used in business in the 1960's, the IBM 1401; d) A theater in which you can watch computer animation films in glowing phosphorescent colors, with various animated characters and scenes, all created electronically; e) Three-dimensional holographic images that look like objects floating in a large cylinder of clear fluid; e) Exhibits showing how enhanced digital images are used in such diverse areas as dental work and the analysis of the Shroud of Turin.

The Computer Museum is located at 300 Congress Street, Boston, Massachusetts (02210) and holds a series of informal and informative talks on Sunday afternoons with subjects ranging from com-

puter animation to artificial intelligence. Group rates are available by advance registration for groups of ten or more. "The museum was founded in 1979 by Digital Equipment Corp. in Marlboro, Massachusetts. It became an independent, nonprofit institution with its own board of directors in 1982, two years before it opened at its present, more spacious quarters in downtown Boston. Its exhibits cover more than half an acre of floor space. In June, the museum opened a new exhibit on artificial intelligence and robotics. The machines assembled here were designed to replicate various aspects of human behavior."

HI-TECHNOLOGY CAR RACING!

"Indy car racing, the most technologically advanced style of auto racing in North America and arguably the world's most competitive motor sport, has become more complex and more demanding than ever before. For drivers, engineers, designers, and mechanics, finding ways to shave fractions of seconds off lap times very often means the difference between winning and losing." Enter the computer! With these 200 mph-plus race cars many of the Indy car teams have begun to look to "computer technology" for assistance in monitoring RPMs, turbo boost, wheel speed, fuel consumption, g-force, ride height and any number of other vital data that will help them to understand the performance of their autos.

A division of Emerson Electric, Computer Power Systems, has developed the EDGE 1000 Performance Monitor which consists of a vehicle module, a host computer with a front-end processor module, and associated software. Here is how it works: During the test, the onboard computer (vehicle module) monitors readings from a number of sensors such as transducers, potentiometers, and accelerometers, and then stores this data in the memory of the computer. After the car has returned to the pit, a keyboard command is given to the host computer activating data transfer of information from the vehicle module. This data is usually saved on a 3.5-inch floppy disk and may then be plotted on the computer screen or on a portable printer. This system costs upwards to \$30,000 and can monitor up to 15 functions of the car, depending on how and where the sensors are placed. These computer systems are generally used during tests and practice sessions prior to the main event, however they do provide the driver

and pit crew with valuable information that can help them to give "more scientific understanding of the car and its relationship to track conditions, weather, and a number of other critical factors." However, the use of computers in racing isn't limited to these Indy cars. One of the newest trends on the international Formula One racing circuit is the use of computer-controlled "active" suspension systems which will read track surfaces and then make automatic adjustments to the suspensions and ride heights. The actual design of race cars is another big area of computer involvement. The same CAD (Computer aided design) that is now commonly being used in industry can be applied to the design of components such as the chassis, engine, gear box, and the suspension systems of racing cars. These CAD systems have helped car builders to cut the design time significantly, which is an advantage in any form of racing because of the tight deadlines which are worked with in order to produce new cars or modify the existing ones in order to conform to yearly rule changes. "Pit crews also use computers to calculate fuel consumption and record lap times. Track personnel use them for administrative functions, budget calculations, and to produce race updates and results for the news media. Sanctioning organizations even use computers to keep track of which drivers are endorsing which products."

Thus, it appears that computer technology in racing is here to stay! Being of such a competitive nature, racing seeks to look to every resource to gain the slightest advantage over the competition, and if the use of this computer technology continues, it is likely that engineers and manufacturers will eventually design and build the "ultimate" race car, one that has every possible feature making it faster, more durable, and more contoured to the individual driver. One national driving champion has said that "From day one, technology has been part of motor sports. You either adapt, or you become a dinosaur."

NEW AIDS TEST BEING DEVELOPED

Most AIDS tests in use at this time detect the AIDS antibodies rather than the virus itself. However, "Kodak plans to market an AIDS test in early 1989 that will detect the virus rather than the antibody. It is being developed in cooperation with Cetus Corp., a California biotechnology company. The test is based on technology for multiply-



**Computer/Photo Typesetter
Rays Magazine Editorial Department**

ing a portion of the genetic material of the AIDS virus, rather than growing a culture of the virus itself. Some of the factors that make this new test of greater advantage are: a) It multiplies a portion of the genetic code of the virus, not the virus itself, which makes this type of test safe for lab workers; b) The results from this test are available in hours, not days.

This new process is based on the action of a "heat-resistant enzyme" discovered by Cetus researchers which allows a test solution to be heated until the double-stranded DNA is caused to unwind to two single strands. When the solution is cooled, the strand duplicates itself and when it is heated and cooled over and over again, the amount of DNA present is doubled each time. When the final solution is mixed with another reagent a color will be seen if the AIDS-virus DNA

is present. Kodak is now developing the instrument that will be able to perform this test in a hospital, blood bank, or plasmapheresis center. This particular test will be especially valuable if a vaccine for AIDS is developed in the future since vaccines produce antibodies and thus their presence in the blood of a vaccinated patient would be irrelevant, indicating nothing related to a disease state. A quick, convenient test for the presence of the virus itself would, in this case, become the standard for detection of AIDS. □

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Panorama - A new vision of technology, December 1987. Published by Eastman Kodak Company. *Developments* p. 2; *Information technology's rising star* p. 6; *Come see history as it happens* p. 10; *Gentlemen, start your computers* p. 14; *New AIDS test underway* p. 28.

Book Reviews

Vitamin B 17—Forbidden Weapon against Cancer,
Michael L. Culbert, Arlington House, New Rochelle, NY, 1974, 212 pages.

You've heard about it, most likely under the name laetrile, the substance the U.S. has banned as "a weapon against cancer" that thousands of Americans have obtained abroad, primarily Tijuana, Mexico, and which makes news when someone is caught using or dispensing it within this country.

Paradoxically, it is not entirely outlawed here. It may be used as part of megavitamin therapy! This has given its advocates a "legal opening." Too, it seems to confirm their scientific position: the government gives as reason for its stance the claim that laetrile is poisonous; it most certainly seems that if this were the case, it should not be permitted as part of megavitamin therapy either!

Why does the government take the position it does? Because B 17 contains cyanide. The pro-laetrile forces concur, explaining that it is due to B 17 being derived from apricot pits. Albeit, they cite that in many areas of the world, primary famed Hunzaland, these are eaten in considerable quantity, with no deleterious effect, for apricot pits are a *natural* source of cyanide; it is the *artificial*, or *synthetic* kind, that kills! Thousands of healthy Hunzas are living evidence.

Also living evidence seems to be the many people who've been helped by laetrile; the most famous case cited by Culbert being the wife of comedian Red Buttons, who publicly announced that her once-terminal cancer was "controlled" by

laetrile. No, she didn't say "cured." The use of laetrile is not offered as a "cure" by its advocates. They compare it to insulin, which cannot cure but only control diabetes.

Yet the author does present cases where, after the laetrile treatment, cancers completely vanished! He bemoans the fact that most sufferers do not turn to laetrile until they've given up all hope in orthodox methods, by which time their bodies may be saturated with tumors and beyond relief. He draws an interesting comparison: abortion is legal; mothers are given the choice of killing the defenseless, their unborn. Yet victims of cancer are denied the same freedom of choice between life and death for themselves. He suspects it is due to the influence of the "establishment": surgery, chemo-therapy, and other "orthodox" cancer treatments are extremely profitable; if there were a wholesale turning to laetrile, this bonanza would burst.

Culbert inveighs against "orthodoxy" in other ways. He discounts the virus theory, ascribing cancer to a missing factor in the American diet. Because a vitamin—B 17—seems to be effective, and since the laetrile treatment also includes a diet abundant in fresh fruits and vegetables, it seems to him that the absence of vitamins, the "vital factor" in foods, must be responsible for cancer in the first place. He points to the fact that Africans rarely contract sickle-cell anemia except in the U.S., and Orientals don't fall prey to certain degenerative

diseases until they reach these shores; he indicts the devitalized American diet!

This argument is expanded by his list of an amazingly wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables containing Vitamin B 17. High on the list are sprouts; watching TV is criticized for its emission of harmful radiation. He even points to the Eskimos, not exactly vegetarians, who consume an abundance of a fruit known variously as salmon-berry, cloud-berry, buffalo-berry, said to be "extraordinarily rich" in laetrile, and are free of cancer until they adopt the "civilized diet." For additional proof he refers to the monumental *Cancer: Disease of Civilization? An Anthropological and Historical Study* by Vilhalmur Stefansson (Hill & Wang, New York, 1960).

Though strenuously opposed to orthodoxy, Culbert is not vindictive; he ascribes its negative attitude to plain ignorance, quoting an M.D.: "Medical schools simply do not teach nutrition. I had no nutrition in four years of medical school—oh, I guess one lecture, but I was out delivering a baby at that time."

The basic approach of the laetrile treatment is in line with Western Wisdom Teaching, that violation of Nature's laws brings disease and cooperation with her precepts restores wellness. One might wish that the recommended dietary program were somewhat stricter. But it most definitely is a vast improvement on the conventional pattern, pointing in the right direction. For a Western Wisdom "cure for this dread disease...when in its first stages," see *Astro-Diagnosis: A Guide to Healing*, Max Heindel and Augusta Foss Heindel, p. 435.

The Aquarian Age, by Elsa M. Glover, Vantage Press, 1987, 67 pages, \$8.95

On a recent Sunday afternoon, the bright, yellow cover and stark, black lettering of Elsa Glover's book, *The Aquarian Age*, which was on a table in my living room, had caught the eye of a friend of mine. She was curious to know what it had to say about the "New Age" coming. I hadn't read all of the book, so we decided to read it together.

She picked up the book and scanned the contents and read a few of the chapter headings aloud. We chose to read Chapter 2, entitled, "The Aquarian Age." We both had been hearing of the "New Age," but were uncertain as to what exactly was going to happen insofar as the Earth's par-

ticipation in the solar system was concerned. The author gives a clear view to the reader of what is happening, what will happen, and how it happens as time progresses into the Age of Aquarius, and what are the influences of this sign of the zodiac.

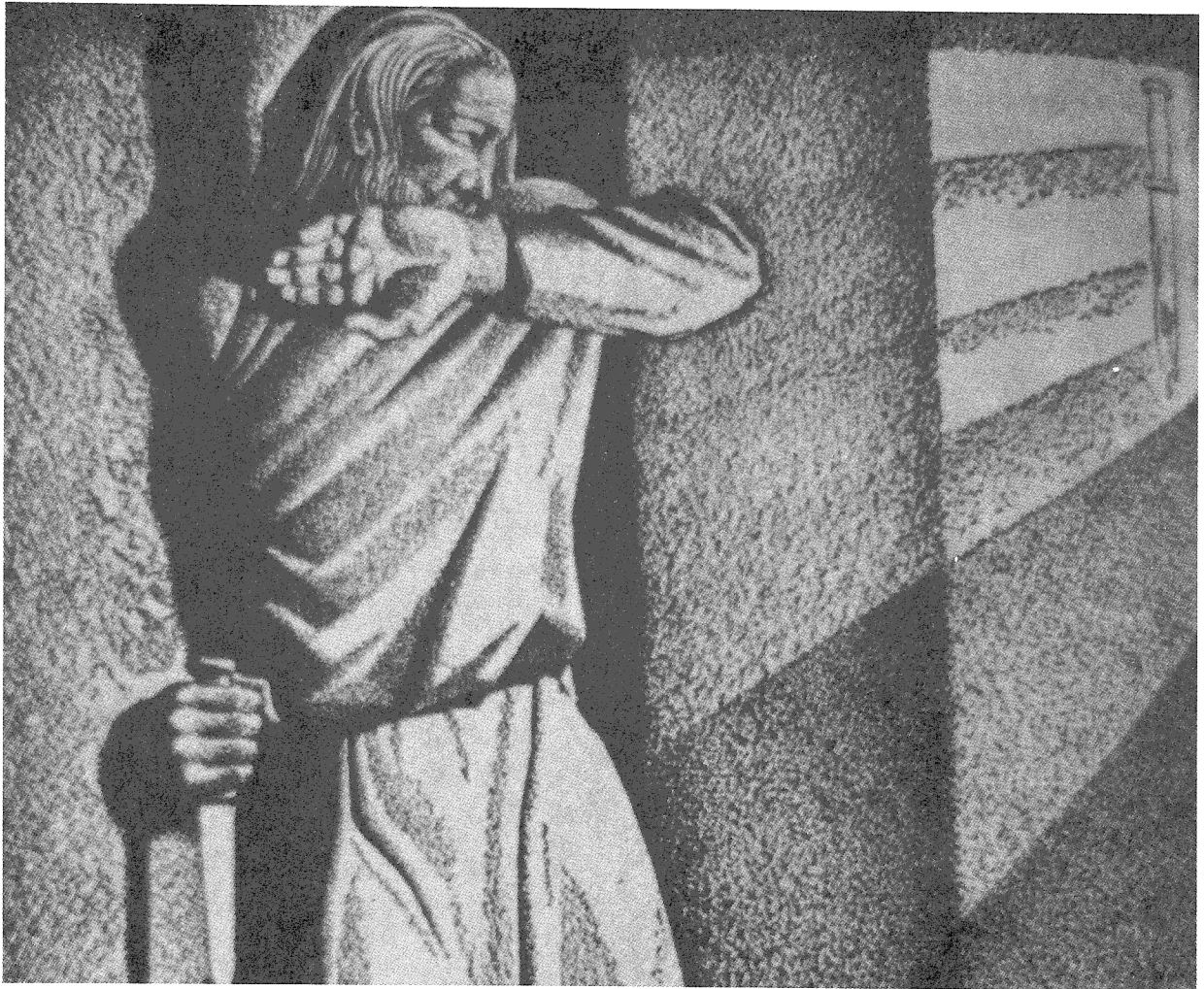
We went back to the contents and decided we wanted to know, "The Aquarian View of Self," and how the author would explain what we as individuals would experience and how we will be affected, and what we will be feeling from the changes that are in store. Chapter 4 states, "Once we realize our own potential, we want to be free to develop this potential.....as we want freedom to make our own decisions, we must likewise allow others to run their own lives." We found these statements aroused many questions in our minds and we discussed them at length. We wanted to know how we could cope with problems that could be approaching, and to get the most benefits from the Aquarian influences in solving these problems. The answers are in this book.

This led us into Chapter 8 which considers creativity. "The creative person is flexible in his thinking." We believed this to be true in our own experiences and were intrigued to continue reading. The book expands to educate the reader and includes the Aquarian influences on government, politics, justice, science, religion, as well as, personal initiatives, etheric vision, healing and mental exercises. We like what Elsa Glover had to say and how she explained clearly, concisely, and provoked us to think and inquire further. We had many questions that we asked each other and tried to resolve, so the chapter on conflict resolution was especially meaningful. My friend made written notes on this chapter to take with her.

The afternoon passed quickly and I must say that sharing the book in this manner was an enjoyable way of gleaning much more from it. We were about ready to leave the book when we decided to take one last look at the allegories in the last chapter. How pleasantly surprised we were! My friend had to leave and expressed her desire to come back to read the allegories again; they were very appealing, contributing to insights, spiritual and abstract, and convinced me that any reader would be glad to have turned to this slim volume. Elsa Glover's ability to present the overall meaning of Aquarian Age dynamics is written with a great deal of insight and knowledge and research and is sure to bring the reader enlightenment from many sources. □

—Francesca Carpenter

Readers' Questions



Paying our Karmic Debts

Question: Do people who kill in warfare suffer as do ordinary murderers?

Answer: Suffering in purgatory is due to conditions within the desire body. The murderer, that is, an individual who kills intentionally, proves by his desire to murder, that coarse elements exist in his desire body. It is these elements that are responsible for his excessive suffering in purgatory.

Where killing is not done through a desire to kill, the same suffering would not occur, since the desire body may be relatively pure and clean, with but little of the coarser elements in it. It is always the *motive* or *incentive*, furnished by the desire body which determines the suffering due to killing.

However, although the purgatory suffering varies, one condition holds good in all cases of killing—restitution must be made to the victim or victims. Thus in lives to come the debt to the victim must be met and paid in full. This may entail sacrifice and sorrow, or it may be paid by loving self-forgetting service, according to the temperament of the individual who is paying the debt.

CAUSE OF CHRONIC DISEASE

Question: Are not chronic diseases the result of causes generated in a previous life?

Answer: Disease is the inevitable result of wrong living, whether it be through overindulgence in liquor, tobacco, food, or sex. Disease may also be caused by intense anger or thoughts of revenge and hate. There are many things in life which cause man to respond to what we term disease. Man is a divine spark from God, made in the image of God. If he lived as God destined that he should live there would be no disease, but sin and selfishness have made him debtor to disease and suffering. Through the discomfort and pain which result man is to a great extent shortening his path, for only because of distress will he try to become better. If his life were one song of happiness and free from misery he would make little effort to rise above the things which hold him in bondage; he would forget to strive to learn his lessons in life's great school. The greatest lessons are learned through adversity and through physical pain, and only the man who has suffered can sympathize with the one who is in trouble.

DISEASE CORRELATED TO KARMIC DEBTS

Question: You say, "No one need be concerned lest an individual be healed of disease before the lesson is learned which the affliction was intended to teach." Do you also support the natural corollary that no disease will continue after the lesson is learned? If so, what purpose can outside healing work serve?

Answer: It is true, as we have stated many places in our literature, that whenever a person is ill there is a lesson to be learned by that particular individual. When the lesson has been learned, under ordinary circumstances, the health improves. However, there are cases where one who is ill is not able to rally and throw off the debilitating condition left by the disease. In such cases extra help is necessary and this is given by our Invisible Helpers. During the illness of the individual it is also possible for the Invisible Helpers to alleviate much pain which would otherwise be suffered. It is a fact too that in our present stage of evolution we seldom know whether or not the individual who is ill has paid his karmic debt; therefore it behooves us to be of all assistance possible to all who come to us

for help. It is well to remember that all illness is not the result of karma brought over from past lives. Often this is occasioned by causes set up in this life and in such cases would be more amenable to outside healing work.

EFFECT OF A MALFORMED BODY

Question: Is it possible for a normal, intelligent person to occupy a permanently diseased or malformed body?

Answer: Certainly it is possible for an individual with both intelligence and ability to occupy a diseased or malformed body. Some of the most intellectual and advanced people in the world have done so; but as the expression of the individual to a considerable extent depends upon the efficiency of the vehicle, its activities may be greatly hampered by a physical deformity. It is interesting to note that a Spirit brave enough to accomplish results despite such a handicap is making rapid strides in evolution and in his next Earth life will doubtless come back into a well-formed, perfect body readily amenable to the control of the will.

THE EFFECT OF COLOR

Question: What do you think about the effect of color? Some people claim that certain colors depress them and others have a happy, exhilarating effect.

Answer: There is no doubt that color has a decided effect upon individuals. All colors are exhilarating and harmonious until their vibrations are lowered by mixing them with brown, gray, or black. Brown is a decaying color. Gray is fear producing, and black carries death vibration. Mix any of these with the other colors and at once the vibration of that color is lowered.

WIPING OUT PAST DESTINY

Question: In this life can a person change a terrible destiny entirely, that is, blot it out by being repentant, good, and deliberately correcting his or her defects of character, living from now on a pure life devoted to unselfish service to humanity?

Answer: It is not the aim of God or Nature to "get even." It is natural law that man develops his poten-

tial powers into dynamic forces through the medium of experiences. These experiences come to mankind not only in the physical world but in the higher realms as well. Each individual has free will to act as he so desires when these experiences come to him. If they are met with reason, judgment, understanding and a desire to learn the most possible from each encounter, the individual is greatly benefited. If, on the other hand, he rebels, develops hatred, anger, a desire for revenge, et cetera, then he has not learned his lesson, and when he passes into purgatory after death, he reaps through the action of the Law of Cause and Effect the result of the evil he has sown and suffers accordingly until he learns the lesson that evil in any form is always a hindrance to development. Thus he learns the lesson in purgatory which he refused to learn during Earth life.

However, all of life's lessons must be proved consciously on Earth, and so when the individual returns to Earth again, lessons similar to those met and not learned until purgatory are again presented to see whether the purgatorial experience fully taught them. If so, there is no temptation to yield again to wrong-doing; the lesson has been consciously learned. Thus by right action now, as mentioned in the question, the past evil destiny may be entirely wiped out, and the individual is free to go forward better equipped to meet the vicissitudes of his present life.

DREAMING TRUE

Question: I have at times dreams which are very different from the ordinary dream. They seem to me to be true and many times I find that they check up with actual conditions around me. Would such dreams be a help or a hindrance, and should they be cultivated?

Answer: Dreams are in many cases the remembrance of actual happenings and experiences which we have on the astral plane, or Desire World, while out of the body in sleep. It is possible to check up on dreams to some extent and find out whether they represent actual experiences, or whether they are merely fantasies of the subconscious mind. If the events of the dream follow logical, sequential order and are logical in themselves, that is something of an indication that the dreamer is dreaming true. Very often one dreams of being in familiar places with which he is acquainted while

he is awake. An excellent way to check on the reality of a dream is to recall some outstanding feature of it relative to the environment in which the dream seems to be taking place. Then if it is possible, go on the following day to the place where the dream seems to have occurred, and check up on it. If the actual features agree with those seen in the dream, it indicates that the dreamer was very likely there the night before while out of the body.

As to cultivating the faculty of dreaming, there isn't very much that can be done about it. True dreaming depends upon waking consciousness in the Desire World during sleep, and this is a matter of the evolutionary development of the person in question. Right living will in time bring everybody to the point where he has this waking consciousness on the invisible planes, and the ability to bring back a memory of his activities there.

On the other hand, confused dreams which are impossible in character are usually the result of the Ego being only partially out of the dense body during sleep, and as a result the sense centers of the higher and lower vehicles are askew.

BENEFITS DERIVED FROM PRAYER

Question: Do you believe that one derives any real benefits through prayer? If so, will you explain how prayer works to bring about these benefits?

Answer: Prayer is analogous to an electric switch which connects one with a powerhouse. The spiritual realms constitute a powerhouse, and when one has attuned himself to their vibration through prayer, he is able automatically to draw down strength from them. Furthermore, he spiritualizes the lower vehicles so that they may come more under the control of the Spirit, and thereby the mystic marriage between the higher and the lower self is eventually made possible; in other words, the union of the sublimated personality with the Spirit.

Prayers for healing are usually answered by the Invisible Helpers, working under the direction of the higher Beings, and healing results if one's destiny is such as to permit it. Again, there are the Planetary Spirits whose aid may be invoked by prayer when one has some high object in view which will be of benefit to the race, provided the supplicant knows and complies with the conditions necessary to attract the attention of one of these exalted Beings.



ACTUALITY OF DREAMS

Question: I dream often of being with my husband, who passed on five years ago. Am I really with him in Spirit?

Answer: It is quite possible and probable that you are, for your husband is (according to the general rule) still in the Desire World, that invisible realm to which you (the Ego) go in sleep. Your interest in each other would cause you to meet and associate in much the same manner as if you were both in the physical body, except during the time when he is going through the experiences necessary to his new phase of existence. We might add that it is much better for those who have passed on if we, who remain, seek them during our sleep rather than encourage them to come to us during our waking hours. The latter may hinder them seriously in their progress. However, to understand thoroughly the nature of dreams, let us review the fundamental facts involved in activities during sleep.

First of all, we must realize that "In the waking state the different vehicles of the Ego, the mind, the desire body, the vital body, and the dense body are all concentric. They occupy the same space,

and the Ego functions outwardly in the Physical World."

However, "By their activities during waking hours the desire body and the mind are constantly destroying the dense vehicle. Every thought and movement breaks down tissue. On the other hand, the vital body faithfully endeavors to restore harmony and build up what the other vehicles are tearing down. It is not able, though, entirely to withstand the powerful onslaughts of the impulses and thoughts. It gradually loses ground and at last there comes a time when it collapses."

"The Ego and the mind, clothed in the desire body, now draw out from the vital body and the dense body, the two latter remaining on the bed, while the higher vehicles hover above or near the sleeping body, there being no connection between the higher and lower vehicles save a thin, glistening thread called the silver cord.... When the desire body withdraws from the sleeping body it enters that sea of force and harmony called the Desire World. Here it lives over the scenes of the day, but in *reverse order*, from effects to causes, straightening out the tangles of the day, forming true pictures to replace wrong impressions due to the limitations of the life in the dense body, and as the harmonies of the Desire World pervade it, and wisdom and truth replace error, it regains its

rhythm and its tone, the time required to restore it varying according to how illusive, impulsive, and strenuous had been the life of the day.

“Then, and then only, does the work of restoring the vehicles left on the bed commence, and the restored desire body starts to revive the vital body, pumping rhythmic energy into it, and that in turn starts to work upon the dense body, eliminating the products of decay, principally by means of the sympathetic nervous system, with the result that the dense body is restored and overflowing with life when the desire body, mind and Ego enter in the morning and cause it to wake.

“It happens, however, that at times the Ego has been working so interestedly in the Physical World and the desire body has become so stirred up that it refuses to leave the lower vehicles and is only half withdrawn. Then the connection between the sense centers of the desire body and the sense centers of the physical brain are partly ruptured. The Ego sees the sights and scenes of the Desire World which, in themselves, are extremely fantastic and illusory, and they are transmitted to the brain centers without being connected by reason.... That is why even the most grotesque and absurd things seem perfectly natural to the dreamer, who accepts them without question.... The sounds and sights of the Desire World are mixed with the happenings of daily life in the most grotesque and impossible way.

“At times, when something in the daily life has particularly agitated the desire body, it happens that when it has severed connection with the lower vehicles and is engaged in the work of restoration, if a trying incident of the day appears, and the desire body sees the solution, it will rush back into the dense body in order to impress the ideas on the brain, thereby causing the dense body to wake with a start. It is only in the fewest cases that it is able to bring back the solution that was so clear in the Desire World. Even if it does succeed in impressing the solution on the brain, it is usually forgotten in the morning.

“The knowledge of this fact has caused many people to keep paper, pencil, and a light by the bedside, and often they are rewarded by finding solutions to their problems written in the morning, without even having a recollection of writing. It is a good idea to follow.

“Under such a condition, where there is no complete separation of the vehicles, it is evident that waste is still going on and that restoration is im-

peded, the dense body tossing on the bed in extreme cases. In consequence there is a tired feeling left in the morning, due to the imperfect separation of the vehicles, which causes dreams and makes sleep restless.

“However, not all dreams are confused. It happens at times that when the Ego is altogether outside the dense body, as in dreamless sleep, it sees an event concerning itself about to materialize, for coming events cast their shadows before, and ere anything happens in the material world, it has already happened in the spiritual worlds. If, upon awaking from such an experience, the Ego succeeds in impressing the brain with what it has seen, we have a prophetic dream, which in due time will come true or, which the Ego, if its fate permits, may modify by a new action. For instance, if warned of an accident, it may take steps to counteract the impending calamity.

“As civilization progresses and egoism becomes superseded by altruism, a different division of the vehicles is made. A part of the vital body composed of the two higher ethers, which are vehicles of sense perception and memory, is taken along during the night. Then the illusory stage of dreamland ceases, and man becomes, as it were, a creature of two existences—one lived out of the body in dreamland, where he comports himself in a reasonable manner, using judgment concerning his own actions, and those of other people whom he may meet. As he has not learned to focus his own consciousness when leaving or entering the body, he is not able at all times to accomplish the proper separation of his vehicles, nor to bring back a reliable memory picture of what has occurred. Initiation into the inner spheres alone supplies the necessary knowledge.”

“DOWSING”

Question: What is the faculty of dowsing? How is it that a dowser can detect everything, everywhere in the world?

Answer: Perhaps a more commonly used word for this faculty is “divining,” which means using a “divining rod.” It is a negative faculty, in which the operator, a sensitive, allows himself to be influenced by superphysical forces to indicate the position of metals, water, etc., in the earth. Like all negative practices, it is dangerous and should be avoided. □

*Conquering
 America's
 #1
 Killer*



Of course it's heart disease, striking 1.5 million a year,¹ responsible for more deaths than all forms of cancer, but its power may soon be broken. Scientists are rejoicing over preliminary results from testing the "regression diet" of "vegetables, wholegrain foods, fruits and legumes": "this is one of the greatest landmark studies in medical history"; "this new study and future studies like it will rock the medical profession on its heels." The cause of their elation: "hard evidence" that a low-fat diet not only prevents hardening of the arteries, but actually is capable of "reversing atherosclerosis" and "undoing the damage."² Result: These "new findings have forced a reexamination of dietary recommendations designed to reduce harmful cholesterol levels in the blood."³

It is gratifying to find additional evidence that Nature's laws bless those who embrace them; too, that science continues to confirm the Western Wisdom Teachings. It is to be hoped that this "regression diet" will receive wide acceptance, for America may have more candidates for cardiac and other complications than previously surmised. According to a survey by the University of Arizona, the general public has been lying about its eating habits: the long-term project compared what was reported with what was actually found in garbage cans in Green Valley, Az, and Marin County, Ca, finding junk food consumption greatly underestimated and that of healthful items very much exaggerated by participants of an investigation into U.S. dietary habits.⁴

It's been said every cloud has a silver lining; that being so, every silver lining has its cloud, and that of the "regression diet" might already be in view: a scientist at a prestigious state university is working on a "butter" with 95% less cholesterol,⁵ and a giant commercial company is readying SPE—sucrose polyester—a calorie-and-cholesterol-free fat.⁶ With people loathe to change food habits but anxious to avoid health problems, these "fake fats" and similar substances are liable to become extremely popular, with regrettable results:

1. Synthetics cannot begin to match the nutritional benefits of that which has been formed in Nature's laboratory; only the Creator can put *life* into food! Man-made meals deprive one of vitamins, enzymes, assimilable minerals, etc. According to an ancient adage, Let food be your medicine and medicine your food. Asked the prophet, "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread?"⁷

these newfangled fats also spring surprises after a certain length of time? Might they be like saccharin, which is 500 times as sweet as sugar, without calories, a coal tar derivative, which is twelve times as deadly as carbonic acid and giving "rise to the predisposition to the cancer known as pitch and sweep's cancer?"⁸

3. Children under the age of two require a high intake of "fat" foods.⁹ It takes little imagination to conjure up a situation like this: the parents don't buy "fattening" foods because of their problems, hence none are in the house; so the children are fed only that which is available, which is fat-free, and their development is impaired.

4. Much attention is being focused on the great harm of too much cholesterol; in fact, there is "a national campaign to measure cholesterol levels in every American adult."¹⁰ That may be well and good, but there always lurks the danger of a tangential truth becoming the

tests can be as much as 300% off!¹¹

5. The belief that certain tasty morsels are neither fattening nor cause of cardiac complications may invite overindulgence. That, even of the best of foods, puts a burden on the digestive system, with inevitable after effects.

What's the bottom line of all this? The same that it's always been: just as drug addicts need to know that fulfillment isn't found in a "fix," so health seekers must remember that fitness isn't furnished by fads or factories. Said the Master, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his *righteousness*; and all these things shall be added unto you."¹² Righteousness means right doing and right living; that demands conformity to the precepts of Nature which are the laws of God. And their Author has bountifully provided the foods needed for maximum health, if selection is based not on whim but wisdom. □

—A Probationer

Righteousness means right doing and right living; that demands conformity to the precepts of Nature which are the laws of God.

2. These "phony fats" may actually be health hazards themselves. Already, the manufacturer of SPE has admitted that it removes Vitamin E and fat-soluble substances from the body; of how much else does it deprive the system? What might result after several years' use? AIDS viruses are said to remain dormant many years; might

central concern, to major in a minor! Thus, thinking that all one has to do to avoid heart disease is to keep one's cholesterol low, one may feel smugly satisfied if a test indicates that one's level of this substance is in the "acceptable" range. But this could be risky: according to a scientific report aired on a national radio network, cholesterol

¹ *Newsweek*, October 19, 1987, p. 94.

² *Men's Health*, October 1987, p. 1. Italics in the text.

³ Jane Brody, science writer for the *New York Times*, in *Vibrant Life*, September/October 1987, p. 14.

⁴ *American Health*, November 1987, p. 30.

⁵ *EastWest*, November 1987, p. 10.

⁶ *Health*, October 1987, p. 8.

⁷ Isaiah 55:2.

⁸ *The Health Finder*, edited by J.I. Rodale, Volume I, pp. 697-702; Volume II, pp. 749-751.

⁹ *Newsweek*, October 19, 1987, p. 97.

¹⁰ Jane Brody, *loc. cit.*

¹¹ *Focus*, The ABC Radio Network, October 18, 1987, monitored over WZNS/FM, Carolina Beach, N.C.

¹² Matthew 6:33.

Murder, Medicine, and Morality

Students of the Western Wisdom already know that abortion is contrary to Cosmic Law, but it might be wondered whether a recent development may not have produced a possible “exception.” Medical researchers, it is reported, “are making breakthroughs (*The Progressive*, October 1987, p. 9) in the treatment of various diseases—nervous disorders, cancer, diabetes, etc.—by the use of tissues from aborted fetuses. So the question arises, If abortion has become a means of healing and thereby saving life, would this not justify it, at least for that purpose?

It is well to bear in mind at all times that anything morally “wrong” cannot be right in any other way. The answer to the question, “Let us do evil that good may come? (*Romans* 3:8) is a resounding No! That must include using the remains of the aborted unborn for purposes of healing. And for a very basic reason. Nothing—repeat, *nothing*—that man can do produces healing. Only God heals: “I am the Lord that healeth thee.” (*Exodus* 15:26) And the Rosicrucian Philosophy teaches the same: “All healing force comes from God, our Heavenly Father, the Great Physician of the Universe.¹ All man can do is to cooperate with the Divine Healer by coming in harmony with His laws, the laws of life. For the fact that they were

broken, either in this or a previous life, is the true cause of illness and disease.

A simple, observable situation confirms human inability to heal: there exist many “philosophies of healing,” all for which claim successes! Allopathy and homeopathy, for instance, both insist having cured disease, yet they use opposite methods! the former says, *contraria contrariis curantur* (contraries cure contraries); the latter, *similia similibus curantur* (like cures like). Witch doctors with their spells consider themselves to be successful healers, also those who dispense drugs, and faith healers who teach that mentally denying the reality of disease is the way to restore health. Can they all be right? Are any of them right? Of course not; only God heals, and His sustaining, curative power is so strongly and constantly at work in all of His creation that sometimes semblances of healing are achieved despite procedures that actually inflict harm.

For instance, drugs cannot heal; they are inert, dead, hence injurious to the body; they can only produce certain *reactions*. Thus they can deaden nerves, so that pain is not felt, but that is not healing, for the cause of the problem has not been removed, only the symptom!² Or, a faith healer may convince a sufferer that he is well, and for a while Spirit may triumph over

flesh—but unless God was in the healing, eventually the sick body will reassert itself!

A little boy once was ordered to take a certain prescription for a problem in one of his feet. “How does the pill know to go to the right foot?” he asked. He got no answer, for there is none! Pills don’t know how to head for the source of trouble, and even if they did, it wouldn’t help, for pills don’t heal. Healing comes from God’s power working within us unless it has been obstructed by too much contrary action. Like when someone has cut himself; the wound is simply washed to remove dirt, a bandage is applied, and after a time the laceration heals, without any human “assist” whatsoever.

In the Bible, healing of disease and forgiveness of sin are linked, (*Psalms* 103:3) for there can be no healing without a departure from sin, which is the violation of law. One must work with law, God’s law of health and healing.³

The injection of fetal tissue cannot possibly do that, for abortion is one of the greatest violations of a most basic law of God, the preservation of human life. Abortionists may, in doctrinaire fashion, refer to fetuses as something less than human, but the Bible describes the unborn with the exact same word as the newly born—“babe.” (*Luke* 1:41, 2:16) That makes abortion murder! That means



there is a price to pay! Not only do the women involved suffer from pangs of self-torment much of the time: 70% find their subsequent relationship with their husbands more difficult.⁴

Society also pays a price. A professor in a medical school asked his students this question: "Here is the family history: the father has syphilis. The mother has TB. They already have had four children. The first is blind. The second has died, the third is deaf. The fourth has TB. The mother is pregnant. The parents

are willing to have an abortion if you decide they should. What do you think?

Most students favored an abortion.

"Congratulations," said the professor, "You have just murdered Beethoven!"

Who knows how many potential luminaries, because of abortion, were unable to bless humanity with their genius?

"We have wisely chosen to ban the sale of human organs, but we unwisely permit the sale for renewable body tissue....If we allow it to become a multi-

million dollar business, our society will have taken one more plunge into the moral gutter."⁵

□

—A Probationer

¹*Astro-Diagnosis: A Guide to Healing*, Max and Augusta Foss Heindel, p. 442, italics supplied for emphasis.

²*The Rosicrucian Philosophy in Questions and Answers, Volume I*, Max Heindel, pp. 74-78.

³Max and Augusta Heindel, *op. cit.*, p. 443.

⁴*Constitution in Conflict*, Dr. D.J. Kennedy, WBTW (Florence, S.C.), September 20, 1987.

⁵*The Progressive*, *op. cit.*, p. 10.

**“Come
 Ye
 Apart”**

In our busy lives we become so immersed in the little noises and sounds of our limited environment that we are in danger of forgetting the priceless value of periods of silence in our daily activities. In less strenuous ages, when life was lived less intensely than it is now, many realized the incalculable value of being alone and silent for a space of time each day. They knew well that it is necessary for the human Ego to stand face to face with itself and for a short time to shut out all else.

Today, more than ever, we need rest periods from the noise and clamor of the outside world in order to take note of our thoughts. We can accomplish this only when alone and silent. In thought the individual Human Spirit becomes one with the Nature Forces and its creative activity begins. Today, more than ever before, when our minds and hearts are troubled with problems, either mental or physical, it would be well to remember the experience of Elijah who did not receive an answer to his problem while the storm was raging; nor was it in evidence during the turbulence of the earthquake, nor in the crackling and roaring fire, but when the destructive and inharmonious sounds of the world had melted into silence, “the still small voice” issued its commands to save Elijah’s life. We, too, must withdraw, now and then, from the everyday busy life which wrecks our nerves without any compensating spiritual gain.

The Bible gives us many stories telling us of the seers and prophets who retreated from the sounds and activities of their worlds and hunted for silent and solitary places for meditation and prayer. Modern men and women need such privacy and absolute quiet more than the ancient ones for our world has developed a much faster and noisier pace than of old and exacts greater tribute from us in tensions and stresses.

For those persons on the healing list the need for solitude and privacy becomes much greater. It is really a fundamental and physiological demand. It is as necessary as the need for rest. When we have asked for healing and are conscientiously trying to live up to our part in the healing process, the daily meditation period is a must. When we are in continual contact with other people it is next to impossible to do any mental work. Nietzsche writes, “Man cannot think in a herd,” and we agree. Quietness is really an essential condition for creative thought and while on the healing list it is very important to seek communion with the Christ Spirit hidden within ourselves which is the source of our creativeness. There is no creativeness in our lower, or animal natures and when we wish to solve problems of health, either mental or physical, we must seek the creative, or higher, side of our natures.

It is highly improbable that we will produce creative thoughts if we are constantly interrupted by outside noises and distracted by conversation which makes a consecutive train of thought impossible. We must wrap the protective cloaks of silence and solitude about ourselves at intervals if we expect to find and hold "eternal perspectives."

It is not easy for anyone in present day busy life and crowded conditions to make room in the daily schedule for a period of silence and solitude that one may meditate upon life and seek for communion with Christ within, but we urge you who are on the healing list to make every effort to do so. Seriously consider the activities of your day and see if there is not some activity you could very well do without and in its place make room for the richly rewarding practice of spending that time in quiet meditation and prayer in communion with your spiritual nature within.

We are told by Mr. Heindel that when man has quieted his desire nature in meditation he is conscious that he is standing in the "the Great Forever"; of standing utterly alone, yet unafraid;

and his soul is filled with wonderful peace "which passeth all understanding."

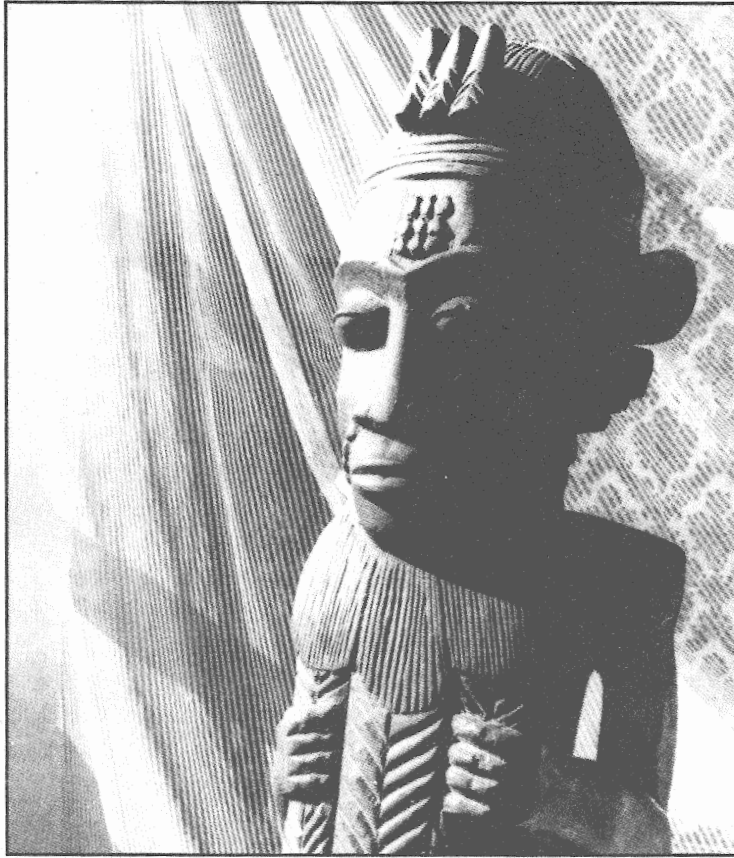
HEALING DATES

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 afternoon at 4:15 PM in the Pro-Ecclesia and every evening in the Temple at 6:30 PM when the Moon is in a cardinal sign on the following dates:

February.....7—14—20—27
March.....5—12—18—25
April.....2—9—15—21—29

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





*The
Myth
of
Uwolowu:*

**WHY
DEATH
CAME
TO
THE
WORLD**

ong ago in ages past, all the people of the world lived together in a place called Ava. It was a place of indescribable joy where people heard Nature's voice and understood life's purpose. In Ava, neither sorrows nor worries existed, and people never died.

For all the centuries that mysterious city existed, people lived without dying. Countless were those who lived for hundreds of years but remained perpetually young, strong and healthy. The men were giants, tall, hefty and strong, while the women most graceful and beautiful.

Here in Ava, there was no death. Yet those men and women who attained the age of two thousand and one hundred years went into a trance. The guardians of life, a priestly caste, reanimated and rejuvenated those who, because of old age, became weakened. Occasionally, there were those who by accident, or weak constitution, fell into the trance of inactivity. They too were taken for reanimation.

The Guardians of Life were priests of Uwolowu, the Most High God and Giver of Life. A custom whose origin nobody knew demanded that those in trance be taken to the shrine of Uwolowu, where the God of Life himself reinfused new breath into them.

Only the Guardians of Life, wise men of sane mind, soft heart, and sound body knew where the shrine of Uwolowu was. And it was these wise men who carried the entranced bodies beyond a big river to the divine abode.

For the twenty-six thousand years or so the city of Ava ex-

So when the man was about to go, she secretly made a hole in the sac, poured ash into it, and followed them with three types of fruits and two eggs tied in her cloth.

Early that morning, all the Guardians of Life upon whom the lot to carry the king's son to the shrine fell, including the

back home and followed the Guardians of Life who carried the entranced body of the king's son.

When they came to the banks of a big river across which there was no bridge, the rain, thunder, and lightening, all stopped. Then each of the Guardians of Life threw one of the fruits they were carrying in their sacs into the river. A huge monstrous python swam out of the river. Each of the Guardians of Life threw one of the eggs they had on them into the snarling mouth of the python. Whereupon the gigantic beast returned into the river swimming across it. The Guardians of Life moved briskly into the river walking on the spine of the python.

The frightened woman then watched the monstrous python with anxiety. Fear gripped her from head to toe. She was shivering, but she could not return for fear the python would come back and swallow her. She followed the Guardians of Life holding one of the eggs in her hand as she walked softly on tip-toe on the back of the python. The soles of her feet felt the scales on the back of the python, while the vibrations in the beast passed through her body like mild electric shock.

When the last of the Guardians of Life at the end of the queue walked down from the python's back on the other side of the river, Osi still had some metres more to cross. The python turned, and she fell into the river. She was near its banks and the water was only knee-deep.

The python turned about to swallow Osi. It opened its mouth and she felt the hot breath coming out from its mouth. She

The soles of her feet felt the scales on the back of the python, while the vibrations in the beast passed through her body like mild electric shock.

isted, the inhabitants never bothered to know how the entranced bodies were reanimated. For one thing, the Guardians of Life were very secretive who guarded jealously the long and winding path leading to the shrine. Even the Guardians of Life only deposited the bodies of the old people in a dark cave and went away. They would return to meet a reanimated person, whom they initiated to become one of them.

One Day the king's son, at a very tender age of seventy-two years, by accident and by weak constitution, fell into the trance of inactivity. The king called the Guardians of Life and they decided to take the young man to the shrine of Uwolowu for reanimation.

Meanwhile, a wife of one of the Guardians of Life had decided to probe the secret of the God of Life. Osi, for that was her name, discovered that her husband always put into his sac three types of fruits and two eggs before going to the shrine.

woman's husband, set out to the cave of Uwolowu, the God of Life.

Osi followed the trail of the ash. She kept a distance of about twenty metres behind them throughout the long and tortuous journey. She heard them, saw them, but they failed to see her because they were forbidden to look back.

While they were going clouds began to form and within a short moment a heavy rain started to fall in the middle of frightening thunder and lightening. The Guardians of Life stopped, and Osi stopped too. The wise men traced a circle in the air with their forefingers and pronounced a secret word. Immediately the rain continued to fall around them but they were unbeaten and undrenched.

Osi, ignorant of the secret word, only traced the circle in the air. The rain continued to beat her. The thundering and lightening worsened. Tree branches nearly fell on her, thunder almost struck her to death, but she refused to go

smelled the odor of dead and rotten animals from the stomach of the beast. The horror stricken woman mustered up courage, threw the egg into the python's mouth and it swam sluggishly back into the river.

When Osi came out of the river the Guardian's of Life had gone. But she looked for their footprints and the trail left behind by the ash in her husband's sac. She ran hopelessly to follow them.

Now the Guardians of Life were near the cave guarded by fierce lions. They stopped and each of the Guardians of Life broke his egg, smeared it over his body and entered the cave. Osi did the same and followed them into the cave unattacked.

On entering the cave, they dropped the king's son on the floor and they went back home. The inquisitive woman remained in the dark cave to see what would happen next. Some minutes later the whole cave shook and the inside brightened up. Out of the interior of the cave the resplendent God of Life, Uwolowu, was caught up and surrounded by a smoke of rainbow, invisible. The splendid cloud of rainbow moved towards the king's son, covered him, and reanimated him. The king's son began to move his body, while the God of Life was returning into the interior tunnel of the cave.

At this moment the woman betrayed herself with a cough. The smoke of rainbow colours turned red, as Uwolowu became furious, his secret having been uncovered. The angry diety took back the life of the king's son, and he remained stiff as stone. The God of Life cursed the woman and she became

blind and barren. She could not come out from the cave.

When the Guardians of Life came back later, the weather was fine, the river dried and the python was dead. The lions guarding the entrance of the gates disappeared. To their surprise, the king's son was still entranced, and therefore dead while they found the blind and accursed woman groping in tears in the cave.

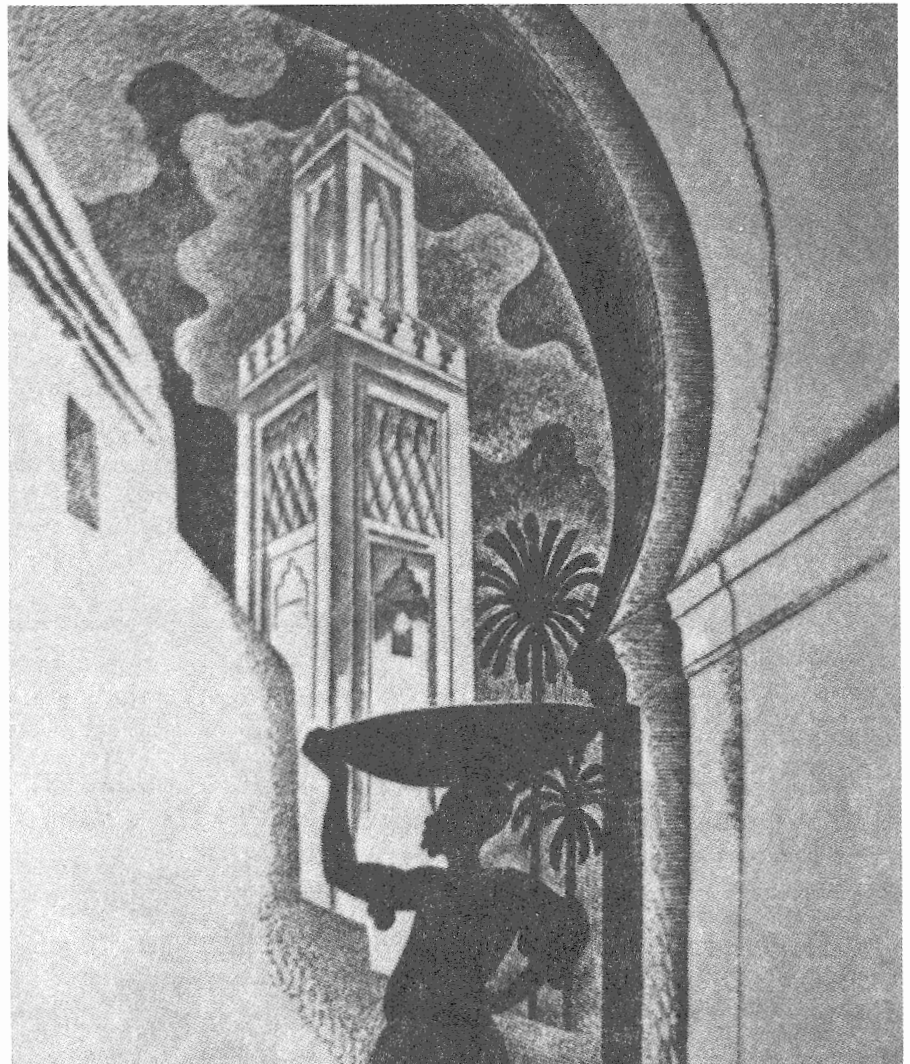
The wise and patient Guardians of Life carried the body of the king's son and blind Osi to the king's palace. The king summoned all the people living in the city of Ava to his palace. The blind and ill-fated woman confessed and said all that she did

and witnessed.

The people of Ava for the first time experienced the emotion of anger. They became furious and wanted to stone the woman to death. But the illumined Guardians of Life protected her against all harm.

Ava was deserted, and its inhabitants, now mortal men, our great ancestors, founded other cities and kingdoms all over the face of the Earth. Unfortunately, the curse of the God of Life was upon them wherever they went. And so today people have to die and priests of the highest orders never marry. □

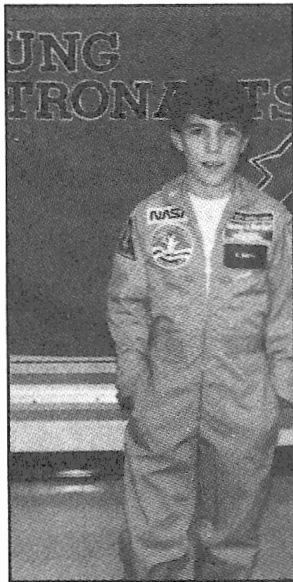
**—John Kwami Esseboe
Port Harcourt, Nigeria**



For Children

“Thoughts and Feelings”

of the Engel Children



Tripp Engel, Co-Pilot
Skymaker Pilots, Chapter 5194
Young Astronaut Program
P.O. Box 101
Long Beach, North Carolina 28461

Young Cosmonaut
C/O Young Astronaut Council
P.O. Box 65432
Washington, D.C.

Dear Young Cosmonaut,

The United States space program is not doing well. In the last six months there have been spacecraft failures: The Challenger Space Shuttle,

two triton Rockets, and one vanguard rocket. The U.S. felt sad when the Challenger and its crew blew up. The Challenger crew were smart and good people, When other rockets blew up, the U.S. felt frustrated and down. Some people in the U.S. feel that we should send unmanned spacecraft into space. I think we should send manned and unmanned spacecraft in the future. I think this because humans can understand things in space. Humans have feelings; they can tell us what it felt like. The U.S. space program has been strong in the past, inspired by all the successful manned space flights, such as the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo programs.

It is possible for your country and my country to get along through space exploration. The first two letters in U.S.S.R. and U.S. spells 'US'. Which means together.

Mr. Spock is a fiction hero on U.S. Television. He is from a planet called Vulcan. Mr. Spock has a lot of knowledge which he shared with others. Mr. Spock said to his captain, who is from Earth, "You are my friend."

The Young Astronauts is fun, and a good learning experience. In the future I think the Young Astronauts and Cosmonauts will help us become better people.

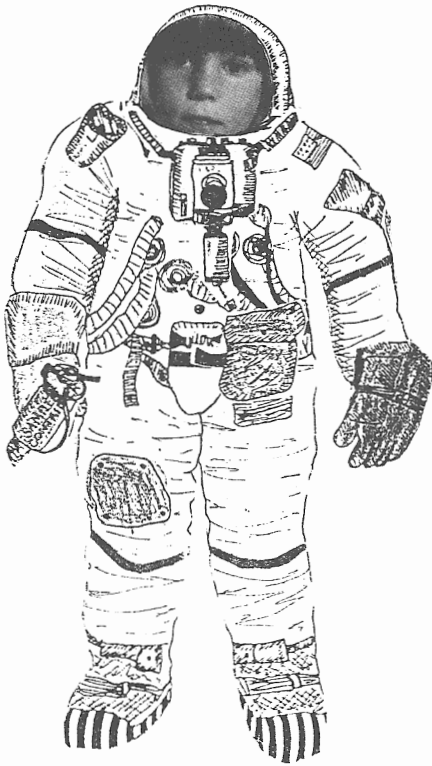
Towards New Frontiers in Friendship,

Tripp Engle, Young Astronaut

The letter, written by Tripp to a young cosmonaut, was submitted last year in a Young Astronaut Contest sponsored by the Council in Washington, D.C. He was a national finalist in the competition.

Editor Note: The Engel children, Tripp (12), Katy (10), Shelly (9), Hillary Jaye (8), and Airy (5), study each week in The Rosicrucian Sunday School Series. They are members of the SkyMaker Chapter of the Young Astronaut Program.

**Hillary's Poem, STARS, was written for her local
Young Astronaut Chapter.**



*Stars Are Nice
And God Is A Star
And We Are If God Is.....*

*When We Are Not Stars
Do You Know Why We Are Not Stars?
Because We Do Not Fly.....*

*Stars Are Light
Just Like Us
We Need Light.....*

—Hillary Jaye

Shelly (Beans) Poetry has been composed specifically for the Rays Magazine.

DREAM

Have a Dream
Soft, and Quiet,
Eagles Fly....
Never Die.....
Down To The River
Drink, Never Shiver.

THE SEA

The Sea Goes,
As It Flows,
As It Flows,
It Has A Simple Touch,
That Never Needs Too Much.

SLEEPY

As Soft As The Falling Rain....
Dump Your Mind Into The Drain....
Let It Explore The Adventures Plain.

FISH

Fish....
Mush-Mish Into A Wish....



BEANS

I Have Some Little Beans,
And They Wear Little Jeans,
They Always Come Around,
Whenever They Hear A Sound.

—Shelly Bean

FEBRUARY 1988

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MARCH 1988

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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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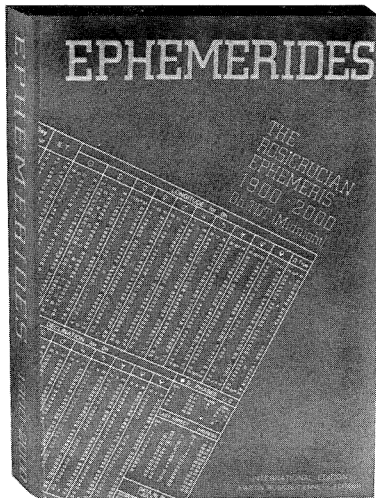
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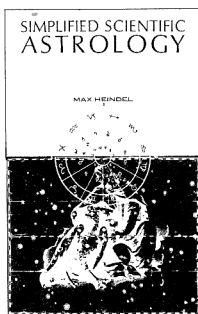
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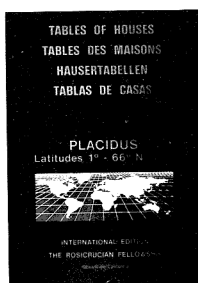
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