

## HOROSCOPES OF FELLOWSHIP WORKERS

Some remarks of the writer in a recent Echo provoked the query: Why there have been so many failures among those who come to Mt. Ecclesia as workers, seeing we had their horoscopes, and there are some points involved which applies to all who endeavor to live the life and aspire to the acquisition of soul powers, it may be well to take this matter up for discussion.

When a ship sails the sea the same direction as the wind she sails on an even keel and goes along smoothly and beautifully. The force of the wind is not noticeable, and whatever motion may be felt will be of a pleasurable and delightful nature. But the moment that the ship turns about and head against the wind and sea there is another story to tell. She keels over with the gale, her deck becomes awash perhaps on the lee side, and the wind howls through her sails and rigging. Her timbers begin also to groan as she buffets the wind and the waves, much to the discomfort of all on board. It is similar with those who endeavor to live the life: while they are drifting with the tide in the world the motion seems unnoticeable, everything is pleasant on the ship that sails before the wind, but the moment they begin to buffet the winds of habit and indulge the senses, the struggle commences which is analogous to the buffeting of the waves upon the ship that strives to go against the wind. Where the lower nature requires indulgence and has been in the habit of having it, the higher nature decrees abstinence, and consequently there is affliction all along the line. Sometimes the aspirant imagines himself or herself to very vile indeed, they feel that it is a sacrilege for them to aspire beyond the worldly life, that they can never attain purity of life and character. In fact, that is one of the subtle arguments of the lower nature to bring them back into the path of indulgence, and the horoscopes of all probationers which we have at headquarters, are used for the purpose of giving them the help needed at certain critical points, this help is given notwithstanding the fact that the one who receives it is very often unaware that anything special was done or said in a letter, but nevertheless such is the use that is made and the purpose of having the horoscopes.

What has been said about people who remain in the world and there aspire to the higher life, applies in a much greater degree to those who come to an Esoteric Center like Mt. Ecclesia; the vibrations here are very strong and may be likened to the gale that strikes the ship; they bring out the temptations in order to test the strength of the aspirant. Of this he is always fairly warned before he comes here. "Many are called, but few are chosen," is indeed a principle that applies here where strength of character is tested to its limit, but that does not do away with the fact that people who have tried and failed are better for the experience, nor is it to be inferred that they were not good people; indeed they have been of a most estimable character, and they are not to be blamed because they could not stand the high tests that are given in an Esoteric Center. Some day they will be able to keep their balance in these vibrations and make good. People in the world who take up these studies and then drop them after a time are in an analogous position; they have also failed for the time being, and for the same reason. But as said, they must be good people or they would not have tried to live the higher life in the first place and having failed temporarily, they should be helped, not censured.

But the question is asked more from the Astrological standpoint, the querent feels that if Astrology is a true science, and if we know Astrology, then we ought to be able to pick people who are bound to make good and thus avoid having failures among the workers. This brings to mind an occasion when the writer was in a somewhat similar frame of mind with regard to those who were admitted to discipleship. One of those who were first admitted to discipleship and then failed most signally, and the writer's heart was very heavy when he asked the teacher how that was, that this person could fail after having been given discipleship teachings. The answer was about as follows: "You have, of course, noticed that in Europe the picture of the reigning head is stamped upon the postage and the coin of the realm; in America you have no reigning King, but you take the Presidents' pictures and you use them in a similar manner. There is, however, a very radical difference. In Europe it is usually the living Kings that are so honored, but in America you will find that no President who has not passed out of this life is ever pictured upon the coin or postage, and there is a reason back of this difference. In Europe they take their reigning head on faith, believing and hoping that they may turn out good and faithful servants of the people, but in America you are going to make sure that there will be no chance for blunder; therefore, no picture of any President is placed upon your coin or currency until he has passed into the beyond where it is absolutely impossible for him to smirch the name of the nation that thus honors him.

If we were to follow that policy and give the discipleship teachings only to those who we were sure would not disgrace the name of the Rosicrucian Fellowship, or misuse the information or in other ways do wrong, then we would have to wait until the aspirant was dead, for so long as he lives he is prone to err, so we follow the same method that they use in Europe with their Monarchs. We take the aspirant on Faith, supplemented by a reasonable performance such as we have outlined in the probationary career, then we leave the matter in the hands of God, praying that all may be well.

It is the same with the leaders on Mt. Ecclesia. If we were to wait until workers would come with horoscopes that indicated perfection, we might wait from now to dooms-day, not one of us are perfect, neither the leader nor anyone else, therefore we aim to be patient and believe the good will win in time. The horoscope helps us to see what are the tendencies in their lives, and how we can best help them, but we have found that even the severest afflictions are not necessarily prohibitive of a good life and an earnest aspiration; then on the other hand, we have in our possession horoscopes without one single evil aspect and they indicate lives that are so wishy-washy that nothing can be expected of such people. You remember what the Spirit said in Rev. to the churches, there was some blame and some praise attaching to each one of them but one met with unqualified disapproval, "I wish thou wert cold or hot, but because thou art neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth." Indeed it is better to have afflictions in the horoscope for they are like the obstacles that we must overcome in the world; they develop strength, and where they are lacking we may depend that we have a character which is so good that it is good for nothing. Therefore the horoscope does not debar from, neither does it secure admittance to, Mt. Ecclesia or any other true Esoteric Center.