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# THE GUIDING LIGHT

Above is the title assigned to this mystical painting by the artist. Frater Leopold de Postels. It is Number 3 in his series of paintings, entitled "The New Age Dawns." The neophyte and seeker is shown traversing a circuitous and dangerous pass, through an entanglement of vegetation which casts grotesque shadows, possible of illusions which can cause fear and confusion. The aspirant, however, leaning upon his staff of knowledge, keeps his eyes fixed upon the ethereal guiding light ahead, and thus avoids the pitfalls which bound his way.

(Courtesy of the Rosicrucian Digest.)



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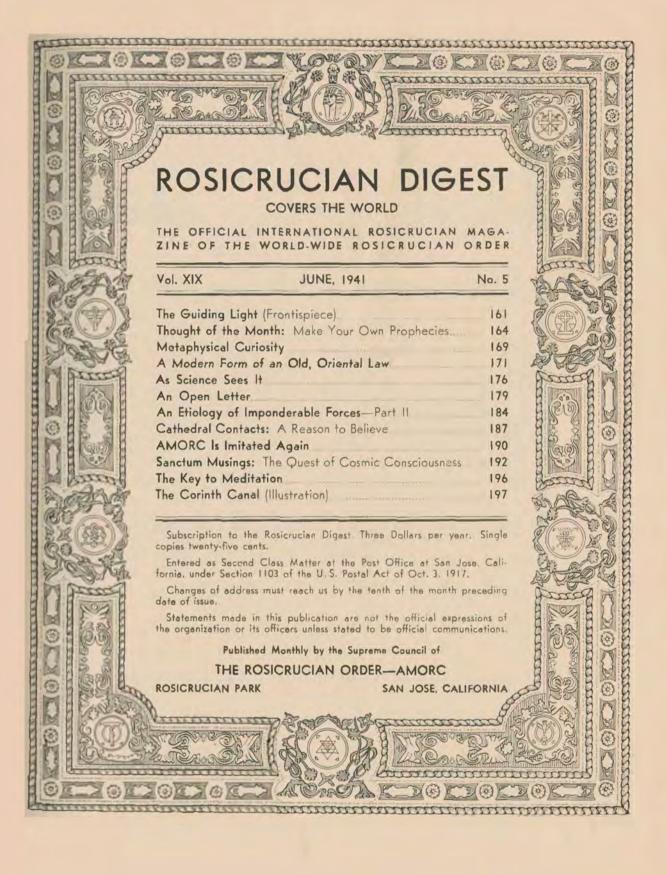
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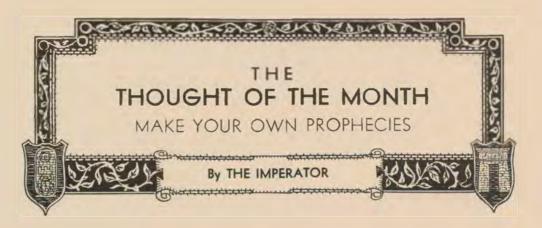
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amazing understanding of the functionings of mind and the application of the laws of life to self, have taught thousands a time-honored and private method for sanely and sensibly creating in life the things that are needed and desired.

The Rosicrucians (AMORC) SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.

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HE present is the most transient of the three actual and imagined states of our consciousness. This changing present is ever adding to the growing past, and the future is a shadow cast by it. The indistinctness of the future, to our minds, con-

fers upon it a vastness and a realism it does not actually possess. Since the past can only be revered or despised, and the present is constantly waning, men are ever drawn to the future. It is something yet unrealized, and in a strange sort of way men hope to perceive it from afar. Thus they seek to choose from it, in advance, what they want, and discard what they do not like, as a housewife selecting fruit in a market place.

The more unstable and shifting are the present times and circumstances, the more men scramble to find some landing place in the future. Men cannot perceive as an actuality what as yet has no substance. Rather than admit, however, that the stuff of which the future is made is in each moment of the present, they think the vision they need is possessed by a chosen few. In their search, they turn to the vagaries of all kinds of methods of prognostication, over which seers and prophets preside, often in false majesty. That some of these prognosticators are amazing in the accuracy

of their predictions is not so much evidence of a specially endowed faculty or system to pierce the veil of tomorrow, as it is a tribute to their keen analysis of today. For analogy, the man who upon studying a barometer, announces the coming of a storm tomorrow, hasn't had a vision of the future, rather he has become aware of a cause existing in the present. Most men trample beneath their feet on earth those substantial signs of future events, for which they stretch their necks to scan the heavens.

The greatest prophet of all is the prevailing times. If you would know what the tomorrow should and will bring forth, reverse your point of observation, place self in the indeterminate future, then look back upon the present. So let us assume this position and looking upon the things about which we are familiar, let us do a kind of realistic predicting, for out of the present arises those needs which shape the future.

As a guide for our observation, let us divide our lives into four general spheres of activity. For practical purposes, we shall say there are the spiritual, political and social, educational, and economic. There are many who disclaim and who would protest an inclusion of their lives in any spiritual sphere. However, I believe our definition of this sphere will be all-inclusive enough for their views. The spiritual, as we use it here, consists of a discernment of a moral order, or an inner influence upon our character. Men define these tendencies as either: (a) The fiat of a personalized being: (b) A manifestation of the higher order of

self; and (c) The more complex configurations of their beings, about which they resort to speculation.

Upon these broad definitions of the spiritual impulses, we find established today, first, orthodox religion. It contends that its interpretations are unaffected by human opinion or thought, and that they are, in fact, the absolute flats of God. It further holds that all non-conformers are heretics and anticredists. Some are often restrained from a "devout" massacre of their opponents only by the latter's superior number and strong organization under the banner of liberty. Concomitant with this orthodox religion is the everincreasing number who proclaim that the moral sense is an amorphous God or Divine Mind dwelling within man. They further believe that an appreciation of it is quite relative to one's understanding, requiring the development of personal consciousness. This mystical conception, irreconcilable with orthodox religion, often unfortunately produces a smugness among its adherents. That group who look upon spiritual ideals as growing out of obscure sensations of the body compose the disciples of the schools and substance of psychology, and methods of physical philosophy.

What then does the future hold for religion? We predict a mystical-pantheism as the religion of tomorrow. The central doctrine of this religion will be that a Universal Intelligence as a series or concatenations of causes, creative and perfect in its whole, pervades everywhere and everything. Though it be absolutely impersonal, it provides in its perfection for a faculty in man through which he can draw upon it to prevent and remove any discordance within himself or the spheres of his life's activities. The creed of this religion will expound that all things in essence will be united with man, and of him, and he of all else. It will not alone be a faith in the brotherhood of man, but a brotherhood of being. It will also proclaim that man can be no closer to this Universal Mind than what he can come to self. It will further teach that if he finds himself in the shadows, it will not be because he has been forsaken, is being punished, or must be redeemed, but that intentionally or inadvertently he has turned from the inner light. There will not be churches, but a church. There will not be sects, but degrees and grades of comprehension. From one to another will man advance as he proves himself competent. No men will have absolute comprehension of this Universal Mind, for they would have to be aware of all of those things which it comprises. Likewise, therefore, no man will have a wrong conception of it, for each state of consciousness will be related to the individual's personal attainment.

As to the next sphere, the fundamental ailments of our present international political order are all too apparent. It is from a dispassionate survey of them we can realize the need and predict the eventual remedy. Basically by nature and physiological structure, all humanity is united as a species. The variations of human conduct and the special adjustments to social conditions should not permit one body of men to band together or organize as a political group, so as to exclude or to compel others to adopt their standards of living and form of Government. Such conduct in the future will be considered striking at the basic natural unity of humanity. Thus the multiplicity of social states. countries, or nations will cease to be. With their disappearance will go those conflicts and misunderstandings which are engendered by unnecessary rivalry for supremacy and domination. The world will be redivided, not into political districts or states, but into zones. Each zone will be determined by the physical aspects of certain areas, that is, its natural or geographical environment and prevailing social and intellectual level of the populace. The zone, for example, of what is now Sekondi, Gold Coast, South Africa, will have no lower or higher status in this new political order than the present Atlantic Seaboard of the United States.

The people of each zone will be vested with the right to elect a representative who by examination proves his thorough comprehension of the conditions of his zone and its people. These representatives will form a world congress, or Council. This congress will in turn elect, for prescribed terms, the executive officers of the one United World State. This world congress will



adopt a constitution which shall consist of such articles as will be for the preservation and furtherance of humanity's inalienable rights, which, of course, will not conflict with the inherent differences of the peoples of the various zones. There will be the further adoption of laws for each zone, particularly to their needs as foreseen and recommended by their respective representatives, and consistent with the spirit and purpose of the World Constitution.

The world population will be permitted to freely migrate from zone to zone, as the temperaments, social inclinations, and intellectual interests and pursuits of the people move them. Politically, wherever they reside, they will be taken and accepted as equal citizens of the United World State. This will result in a continual shifting of the world population, as we now know it, but with one important difference; whereas now we have large congregations of the people in various sections of the respective nations, in the future World State, men and women will have the whole earth as their stage and home, if they so desire, without the present political and national restrictions of their movements.

As for the social sphere, we predict that the future society will decree that since the earth is a habitat of humanity. it also is the common property of all men. No man or group of men will be permitted to lay claim to priority ownership of its rich and important areas or resources. Men will be allowed to occupy a limited extent of land for home sites, for cultivation and for industrial or manufacturing production and cultural pursuits. No one will be able to occupy land to the point of exclusive control or monopoly of any natural resources, or so as to interfere with the rights of others to also enjoy and occupy land, Men will retain their possessory right and control of those things which they create from mind, or produce, or derive from their personal labor and efforts, the restriction being that they do not conflict with the wealth and natural resources which are and remain the heritage of all humanity.

The system of jurisprudence will become completely reorganized, rather transcend the present obnoxious imperfections. Judges of the Civil and Criminal courts of zones will be selected by examination and unquestionable qualifications. Such qualifications will not merely include a knowledge of the science and philosophy of law, but as well as intellectual breadth, which comes from a freedom from any allegiances which might bias a decision. Juries will likewise be accepted by examination. The fallacy of the traditional belief of their peership will be abolished. Men must see clearly eye for eye, before they are qualified to think or judge alike. The prospective jurors' education, experience, and ability to comprehend the subject matter of the case will be determined in advance-assuring greater equity to all litigants. Further improvement in the system of jurisprudence will be the compulsory filing of a bond by a plaintiff when he institutes an action. This bond, in a substantial amount will be forfeited if certain required factual matter has not been acquired in advance of the filing of the suit as evidence of the plaintiff's good faith. This will eliminate the legal extortion now in practice, whereby suits are filed containing charges not possible of proof. under the sanction of the "information and belief" clause, and for the sole purpose of attempting to coerce the defendant to settle outside of court to prevent continued adverse publicity. Further elaboration along this line of improvement will result in compelling suits which have once been filed to be brought to trial, unless a judiciary body decides that a very good and sufficient reason for not doing so has been established. This will discourage actions which are now filed solely for intimidation without merit and without the intent to bring them to trial.

The entire theory of what constitutes the "freedom" of the press and its agencies will be revised. The present perfidious freedom of the press will be restricted insofar as it amounts to an abuse, or is conceived as a mandate to exploit the reputations of peoples and institutions to advance its circulation for pecuniary interests. The so-called free speech of the press will be further curtailed where under the guise of stating factual matters, unwarranted inuendoes are added, expressing the bias of the press, and given as "opinion" or

"news comments." This reformation of the American Press, in particular, will begin within the next decade.

The World State will provide and maintain community hospitals, sanitariums, and clinics for the care of the sick and injured. These hospitals will be provided with capable staffs of physicians and technicians. Taxation will be adequate to meet the expense. Physicians of all approved schools of therapeutics will be paid by the state and their entire professional services will be absorbed by the state. A graduated scale of salaries will be paid them in accordance with their experience and ability. Periodic tests of their efficiency will be made, compelling them to keep abreast of the latest findings of their particular system or school of therapeutics. Genius or outstanding ability in the healing professions, where one is capable of contributing particularly to the advancement of human welfare and the alleviation of suffering and the combatting of disease will be compensated for by bonuses and appointments to special research staffs of the World State. Every citizen will enjoy these health benefits and guarantees, just as he now does elementary public school education in the United States, without direct cost or expense to him.

In the sphere of education, we will not see the cessation of private universities or colleges. Public universities and colleges will, however, be increased throughout the World State. for which no fees for attendance will be required of the student. Strict entry examinations, a rigid curriculum and study requirements will eliminate overcrowding in the fields of specialization. The World State Council or Congress will compel vocational analysis, which will be a highly developed and dependable science, instead of the maladroit system now in use. No individual will be permitted to study for a profession. who is not intellectually or temperamentally suited to it. To prevent overcrowding and consequent corruption, for which certain of our professions today are noted, quotas will be placed upon all professions in each of the zones of the World State. Educational and vocational councils will continually develop and formulate new professions to

compensate for the control and restriction of others. Personal failures in society will be reduced by the ingenius method of free analysis of the psychological disposition, inclinations and aptitudes of the person, which will result in "finding him," when he cannot find himself. When the cause of the individual's failure is found to be pathological, treatment will be conferred upon him at the expense of the state, to convert him into an asset rather than a social liability.

For science, we predict that the astronomical scale of distances will become completely revolutionized, revealing errors in our present theory as glaring as those in the long since abandoned Ptolemaic cosmogony. The great telescopes with their costly, stupendous lenses now used in astronomical observations will come to appear as crude instruments, particularly because the entire principle upon which they are constructed will be discarded. The magnification of objects by the use of lenses in astronomical telescopes in the great observatories will give way to a startling device employing electromagnetic principles. This device will electrically polarize wave bands of light, so that they have an electrical property and can thus be magnified as tremendously as we now amplify the electrical impulses produced by sound waves through present-day instruments. Vast stellar spaces will be reduced to the capacity of human perception-a universe now undreamed of, in comparison to what we now can visually perceive will be disclosed to the knowledge

There will be instruments developed which will discover for man another natural, yet an almost dormant faculty which will cause him to enjoy a perception of existence not now imagined possible for the human consciousness. This new faculty of perception will reveal intelligences existing elsewhere in the universe, which now we have no means of discerning. If this seems fantastic, conceive our present human race without the faculty of hearing trying to become cognizant of a reality which would exist only as sound. Suddenly given hearing, would not their realization of the new realities be startling to them?



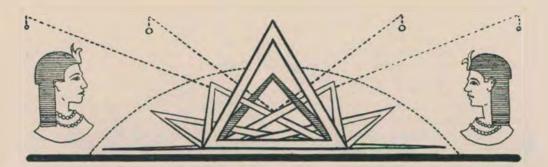
Our present method of obtaining energy by the process of combustion or the transmuting of a bulk material into another manifestation will become obsolete. Man will not continue with the masses of oil and coal as fuel to produce energy, but will have harnessed the energy in its formative or atomic state, with which he is now experimenting, using the initial Cosmic energy rather than that which escapes through combustion as we now know it. This, of course, will eliminate many of the present problems of which fuel is the principal cause.

We predict that personal transportation will not need to increase vastly beyond what is now the maximum speed of air travel. A greater speed of personal transportation will come to be rivalled by a method which even in prediction appears weird. A place or destination will become possible of projection to man, instead of man being transported to it. The combination of the physical aspects of a place or its environment will be so projected as to engender in man's consciousness the same sensations which arise from those perceptual qualities when he experiences what he actually looks upon or hears in his immediate surroundings. In other words man will be put en rapport with a place in space, without moving from his armchair. He will enjoy as complete emotional and psychic response to the projected impressions he receives as if his immediate surroundings had been transformed into them. Not just one or two of his objective senses will be engaged, but all may be simultaneously, or at least the number necessary for the complete realization of the place or thing. This will not be done in a psychical or Divine sense, but by the means of employing material instruments of science. What we now experience as radio and added to it what the imagination can conceive as accurate color television pictures can only provide us with a very crude idea of this future miracle we now predict.

The Rosicrucian Digest June 1941 In the economic sphere, we predict unemployment held at a constant proportionately low level. This will be effected principally by the fact that men will be able to gravitate to work of their own ability and experience, anywhere throughout the World State. Men will not be huddled behind nationalistic barriers or frontiers as now, if some plight befall a particular zone or region in which they live. We further predict that prices will be graduated to meet the purchasing capacity of the peoples of each zone of the World State. This will be accomplished in the following manner. The people of a more affluent zone will proportionately pay more for the same commodities. The greater differ-ence as profit will be used to make up the variation in increased production cost of the same articles in different sections of the World State. Consequently, the average production cost of a commodity, taking into consideration its cost wherever it is produced, will be the one that will be established, eliminating the possibility that a producer whose costs, because of matters beyond his control, would not, as now, be able to compete with his product.

Working conditions will be established by a council of the World State, upon the recommendations of the representatives of the peoples of each zone, these recommendations to be founded upon the varying conditions of the topography and geographical factors and temperaments of the peoples of each zone. There will be no limit placed upon the personal acquisition of wealth; there will be, however, a supervision of its control and the manner of its application. Wealth, as we have heretofore predicted, will be prohibited from purchasing the control of sources of natural resources, large tracts of land, and from holding in any manner what the World State and its citizenry need. The power of wealth will consist only in its being put into circulation again through proper and permitted purchases.

Begin today; look around you at the world, and then with your impressions and experiences in mind, resort to introversion. Look inwardly upon the mirror of your own mind and see if you do not find reflected there, from your experiences, the vision of tomorrow. Be your own prophet — make your own prophecies.



# Metaphysical Curiosity

By RUSSELL MERRILL



HEOLOGIANS and philosophers have for centuries attempted to construe positive proofs for the existence of a Supreme Being, but only four or five such arguments have received wide acceptance. and there is hardly a layman who

will not accept them as logical in reasoning and true in conclusion. Even a child will advance the existence of God by pointing to a tree and asking whom it was that created it. That would be the argument from causality, or cause and effect: for if there is a cause, there must be an effect, and vice versa. And the arguments from history and revelation, from teleology, and from universal arrangement and order, are equally cogent and comprehensible. The reason for this wide acceptance lies in one fact: these proofs appeal to man's experience and reason combined. Each of them is established on the basis of objective facts with which man is familiar through experience, for they point to the evidence and reason to the conclusion on the basis of the evidence.

However, there is one argument which has neither wide acquaintance nor has it wide acceptance in the circles where it has been introduced. Some have regarded it as utterly absurd, and others have rejected it merely because it is unintelligible to them. It is centuries old and it has been heatedly debated in Scholastic spheres ever since Augustine introduced it. Yet, as an experiment in mental gymnastics, it has few equals; and, as an example of what men have attempted to do to establish positive proof of a Supreme Being's existence, there is no argument to exceed its brilliance, subtlety of thought and approach, and amazing appeal to the mind alone. It is an excellent illustration of Aristotelian thinking, for it is wholly metaphysical in both attack and conclusion.

The "Argument" follows:
(1) While it may appear arbitrary to begin with definitions, the definitions given are those necessary to an understanding of the argument, and they are implied not only in Scholastic philosophy but in many philosophic works whenever the terms are employed.

Being-that which either exists or is

apt to exist.

Existence—the actual presence of a

thing in the physical order.

(2) Since the argument is construed to establish the existence of a Supreme Being, there is nothing more inevitable here than a clarification of what a Supreme Being is. A definition purports to distinguish a subject from every other subject, and it cannot be denied that the definition of a Supreme Being given in this argument does not fulfill that qualification. A Supreme Being is an uncreated and uncreatable subject. There is only one subject of which man would acknowledge such attributes, and that subject is God. If God were creatable, then the creature who was His creator



would be more powerful than He, and He would not be God. If the Supreme Being were uncreated, He would not exist, the reader will reason. But if the Supreme Being were created, then, as was stated, He would not be God and He would not be Supreme. For that reason God has been termed eternal, and uncreated, and uncreatable.

- (3) Form the idea of an uncreated and uncreatable being in your mind. It is most essential to the argument's clarity that this idea be firmly established in the mind before proceeding to the next step.
- (4) By forming this idea of a being in your mind you have in mind an object which either exists or is apt to exist, for that is what a being is.
- (5) With this idea of a being in mind, therefore, one note in your mind with respect to this being is the note of

existence, for an idea of a being in your mind necessarily predicates the existence of an idea of that being in your mind. The moment the idea of a being enters your mind you have conceived of a thing which either exists or is apt to exist.

- (6) But the being under discussion here is either creatable or not creatable. That which is apt to exist is creatable, but the being aforementioned is not creatable. Therefore it is not apt to exist.
  - (7) Yet it is a being.
- (8) Not being apt to exist, it must exist. Since the being must be either of these two classifications, and since it is not of the class "apt to exist" because it is not creatable, then it must belong to the class "existence."
- (9) Ergo, an uncreated and uncreatable Being exists. That Being is God.

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# ROSICRUCIAN RADIO PROGRAMS

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# Personal Magnetism

A MODERN FORM OF AN OLD, ORIENTAL LAW

By Frater Royle Thurston, F. R. C. (Dr. H. Spencer Lewis, F. R. C.)
The Rosicrucian Digest, January, 1930

Many of the articles written by our late Imperator, Dr. H. Spencer Lewis, are as deathless as time. That is, they are concerned with those laws and principles of life and living which are eternal, and thus never lose their efficacy or their import, and are as helpful and as inspiring when read today as they were when they were written five, ten, fifteen, twenty or more years ago, and likewise will continue to be as helpful and as instructive in the future. For this reason, and for the reason that thousands of readers of the "Rosicrucian Digest" have not read many of the earlier articles of our late Imperator, we are going to adopt the editorial policy of publishing in the "Rosicrucian Digest" each month one of his outstanding articles so that his thoughts will continue to reside within the pages of this publication.



OME years ago, the subject of personal magnetism was given considerable thought and attention. Magazines and newspapers speculated upon the subject, with various articles, by various writers; many books and pamphlets were put on

the market, claiming to deal with the subject in a learned way, and instruct the aspiring student in its laws and principles.

Little understood, and seeming to refer to some strange quality, possessed by a "chosen" few, and mysterious in its potent ability to influence and attract others who came within range of its subtle power, personal magnetism became the tool of the charlatan, and the envy of all who failed in life's struggles.

Some of the more advanced thought writers and lecturers claimed to know, and teach, the secret of the manner of how this silent Niagara of Power could be used to bring prosperity, health, and happiness, but what little they did know about it was quickly realized, without revealing any real laws and principles, and the seeker was left to decipher many strange terms and phrases, and practice foolish mental exercises; which left him stranded with blasted hopes.

But, in spite of the fact that very little was known of personal magnetism in those days, there is such a subtle force radiating from the human body. This force may be truly termed "Personal Magnetism," because the modern mystic, in his scientific laboratory, has proven that there is a magnetic field surrounding the body, and that it exists within the body and emanates therefrom. It is in the human body because of the law which reveals itself in the examination and study of any physical



mass which contains a magnetic qual-

ity, or magnetism.

It is a well-known fact, and proven through scientific experiments, that a blind person, walking along the street, or moving about in his home, does not depend solely upon his touch to guide him when approaching a wall, or other obstacle, and he will also keenly appreciate the fact when in the presence of another. It has been found, and scientifically proven, that the magnetic aura extends so far in front of their physical bodies, that the blind, whose delicate senses are strongly developed, can actually feel their magnetic auras touching an obstacle long before they reach and contact that obstacle with their physical bodies and senses. Delicate instruments have shown that the aura, emanating from the human body, extends as far as ten feet and radiates at least five feet in all directions.

Just think of it from each human being there emanates radiations of a certain force or energy, which extends at least five feet, and as much as ten feet from the body. The question to be considered is: "What is this aura, how does it manifest, attract, repulse, and how may it be controlled?" Before we may answer this question, it is necessary that we know something of the magnetic field in all things. Therefore, let us take the electron-that as yet invisible particle which science tells us composes the atom, but of which they know so little, and may only speculate upon, so far as they have gone. The mystic. however, in his laboratory, has gone farther than outside science and knows a few things regarding the electron.

Let us say, then, that an electron is the smallest particle entering into the composition of matter; in the electron we find that there are dual forces at work, and these forces are the positive and negative forces, the same as in any creative cell. Now the vibrations which emanate from any mass of matter, convey the quality of radiation according to the nature of the predominating force within the mass. Thus, whatever quality is sent out from the mass, either positive or negative, that quality becomes what is known as "polarity" and the mass is said to be of a positive polarity or of a negative polarity. Now, any mass of matter radiates either a

positive or negative force and thus is one or the other of the two polarities. The vibrations emanating from matter are positive or negative vibrations and are governed in their polarity by the governing nature, or quality, of the forces within the combined electrons which make up the atoms in any mass of gross matter. Thus, do we see that the positive or negative forces within the electrons are not equal, but that one or the other predominates and determines the polarity. And so, the vibrations, emanating from any form of matter, have a magnetic influence upon all other forms of matter, and will be attracted to, or repulsed by other matter, in accordance with the law of polarities, the positive attracting the negative and repulsing the positive and vice versa.

In the ordinary horse-shoe, or other permanent magnet, we also find a good illustration of the attractive force, or magnetism which emanates from the vibrations of a piece of iron. Extending from such magnets, for a short distance, is that field or area wherein magnetic attraction will occur. You have probably tried experiments with magnets yourself and have seen how the magnet will cause a needle or other pieces of iron, or steel, to jump up and become attached to one of the poles of the magnet as soon as the magnet is brought near enough to the needle to affect it with the magnetic aura; as soon as the needle enters the zone, or field of attraction, it cannot resist the force and will immediately be attracted to the magnet's pole and remain there until pulled away.

Now the magnetism which emanates from the human body is truly magnetic in the same sense as is the magnetism of the ordinary magnet, but the term magnetism" as applied to the human body, is used in connection with physical forces or energies within the body that are dual, in nature, consisting of the two opposites of energy, or vitalism. blended by their attraction for each other. This energy, or vitalism, or magnetism, surrounds the human body because it emanates from the two opposite energies in the human body and thus derives its essence. And so, the vital force, that is to say, the life force, which is associated with, and controlled by the mind of the soul in man, blends with the physical, material, bodily energies to

create this magnetic aura, and this aura is of a positive or negative polarity, according to the nature of the predominating polarity causing its make-up. Thus is a person said to be positive or

negative.

Under certain circumstances, the aura may be perceived with the naked eve. Those who see it most readily are clairvoyants, but when certain physical conditions are brought into use, either through natural or scientific causes or conditions, most anyone may perceive the human aura. Thus it is that "personal magnetism" is no longer the unseen, mysterious force - the intangible thing it was some years ago, for it may now be seen, measured, felt, deflected, reflected, weighed, neutralized, increased, decreased, and otherwise affected mechanically and by use of the human Will.

And here we come to find is the great secret which so many teachers and investigators failed to discover, in the earlier days of the history of "personal magnetism." It is that the HUMAN WILL—that strange, directive, controlling, determining power—always at the command of the human intellect—CAN ACTUALLY—not theoretically—CONTROL AND EFFECT THE RADIATING VIBRATIONS CALLED PERSONAL MAGNETISM.

What then is this personal magnetism? It must be associated directly with, or be under the supervision of the mind, or intellect. It must also be associated with the vital energy of the human body, for we find the magnetic radiations from the human body (the aura) affected by the standard or strength of the vital force in the body, fluctuating and vascillating as the vitality of the body changes.

In simple words, we must look to the mind, which is an attribute of the soul, for the secret of and key to personal magnetism, because the mind and vital life force are related, and life is under the direct control of the mind, so far as "life" itself, and not the body, is

concerned.

And how does the aura of a person look, when seen under proper conditions? The aura RADIATES and manifests in color vibrations. If you could see the emanations of the vibrations constituting the aura surrounding the

human body, you would see various colors, in different shades and blends, each one of which signifies a certain physical or mental condition ar expressed inwardly and reflected outwardly, and this reflection, reflecting outwardly through vibrations, form the aura, and this aura is really the outer expression of the personality of the soul's development, making up what is commonly termed "personality."

And there you have it: A Magnetic Personality, or Personal Magnetism.

Let us now make an examination and analysis of magnetic personality, so that we may arrive at a conclusion regarding the qualities, conditions, or nature of it. If we can note any distinction from such observation, or comparison, let us do so, and analyze it thoroughly.

The first observation we make is to be found in the child. Why is it that children are so wonderfully attractive to every human being? What qualities or expressions do we find in the child? Upon going into these questions we find: a, simplicity; b, innocence; c, purity of mind; d, sincerity; e, enthusiasm; f, trust; g, absolute faith; h, appreciation; i, imagination; j, lack of doubt; k, joyousness of living; l, vitality; m, ready forgiveness; n, love of all things.

Now then: If the mind directly affects, or controls, the vital life force, and the magnetic aura, what do you suppose would be the nature, or expression of a child possessing the qualities named above? And nearly every child between the age of two and six possesses all of them. Can you not see then the cause for the attraction of all kinds of people to the personality of the child? There we find certain states of CONSCIOUS-NESS which produce definite effects so far as the auras are concerned. This is so because the child has not as yet contacted the world sufficiently to affect its outlook upon life and things, in general. As the child grows older, it contacts more and more of world life and conditions with the effect that it grows accustomed to conventionalities, and opinions, and so forth. Such things as these affect the simple child-consciousness and changes it; doubt creeps in, worry begins to make itself felt; fear of certain people and things is brought about, and in view of all this, the child no longer expresses in and through simplicity of



mind, but is influenced and affected by

its surroundings.

Let us refer to another type. There are many people who are very beautiful in features, but whose personality, or magnetism, is limited, or lacking, so to speak. D. W. Griffith, the motion picture director, stated in an interview that the manner in which he chose people for his stars, on the screen, was by looking for the inner light of the applicant. By this he meant that he looked for a certain expression, or manifestation, of personality which indicated that, through experience, development or unfoldment, a real soul personality was expressing before him; this he called the inner light, and it is his supreme test to determine whether or not the applicant would be able to fill the part.

Let us now consider two distinct and different types of personality. In the first we will say the person possesses great energy and this means health. strength, power, enthusiasm, activity, and love of life. He desires nothing but happiness out of life and strives to do everything that will make for a continued existence of happiness. By thinking properly he raises his degree of magnetism in positive polarity and thus radiates a powerful positive aura. If such a person were to stand ten or fifteen feet away from you, you would be unconsciously impelled to turn around and notice him. His radiant magnetic aura, or soul vibrations, would attract you strongly. You would, perhaps, mentally tell yourself that here was a man who was 'big.'

On the other hand, we will take a man who is weak, physically and mentally. Not so much so as to be a mental defective, but just enough as to cause him to lack ambition, enthusiasm, activity, health, strength, and desire to make of himself the highest possible type of man. Here, then, would we find a man unnoticed: a man whose aura would be but very faint and extending not more than a few inches from his body. He would be a man who did very little of his own thinking, holding thoughts of hatred and revenge against those who prevented him from carrying out his will, or who opposed his views; he would be a man bound down by the chains of bigotry, and one who would be very hard to acknowledge he was

wrong in a thing, even though the most positive proof was brought to bear upon that view. Such a man would radiate an aura of a negative polarity so weak as to almost be absolutely neutral. He would have very few real friends, if any, and would amount to a burden upon his own family.

Make note of the difference between these two types and therein you will find the secret, the secret of the state of consciousness that causes us to possess the personal magnetim we have been seeking all the time. Remember that it is the soul and mind, or consciousness of man that ULTIMATELY determines the quality of his aura and magnetic

attraction.

If everyone's soul were permitted, from childhood, to give its expression of perfection in all thought and activity. then each of us would be expressing the highest possible form of magnetic attraction. Why? Because MAN IS LIKE A SUN, and man, naturally, should be living perfectly—should be a living fire, or force of sunshine and Love. Why then is he not magnetic? Simply because man, as a rule, is far below the normal standard of what man should be. His life and thinking and expression is ABNORMAL, because he is lacking in those vital elements of soul, and consciousness, which go to make a perfect life, and radiate the activities of love and happiness. Where love is lacking in the heart of a human being, everything vital to life is lacking, just as the plant could not exist were it not nourished by the loving power of the sun's rays.

Man's soul WANTS to express its Divine qualities on earth, and these qualities may be summed up in one word-LOVE. The complete love of the soul, which brings out all its beauty. perfection, wisdom, and glory, makes man what his God intended he should be-the Image of Himself. Man, with his finite, objective, limited, understanding, has divided the quality of Divine Love into words, ideas, and fancies, but for all of that, the Divinity of Love remains unchanged and will express itself whenever man allows his objective self to be put aside and thus cannot interfere with the Divine expression. What man calls kindness, patience, sincerity, truth, humility, goodness, sympathy.

understanding, appreciation, recognition and forgiveness, are but phases of the one and the same thing called Divine Love.

Can it be possible for one to change his polarity from negative to positive and thus acquire a strong, attractive, personal magnetism? Yes, certainly! One has but to polarize himself to the positive force by raising his consciousness through thoughts of love and all that is contained and meant by that word-to live in peace with himself and the world about him, to do his level best to be a credit to the world, to endeavor to be above such petty things as hatred, jealousy, vanity, conceit, and to allow the Divine Love within him to express outwardly. It is the easiest thing in the world to do this if you will but make the conscious effort to do it and continue to do it in spite of the first few failures. We have all become enslaved by wrong thinking, and we must break the chains that bind us by changing the process of thinking and raising our thoughts to higher and more ideal things.

And so, if you wish to live the radiant life—full of vitality (activity, joy, and love), you must first remove from your consciousness all forms of destructive thinking and allow your soul, your real self. to express its perfection and reflect its magnetic strength and power. Then will others recognize and appreciate you for you will become a power in the world for the betterment of all humanity and to the glory of God.

It is well known to the mystics that God has given man all the strength and power to help himself toward higher things. Certainly this is true, and every person on earth who is in possession of ordinary mental ability can clothe himself with a radiant, magnetic personality. You have the power to do this, but you must make the effort to do it. Just as the electric dynamo is capable of producing the power to create light, and power, but cannot do this until it has received the driving power to set it in motion, so you, too, possess the ability to raise yourself and become whatever you will, but not until you set that power in motion and make the conscious effort to keep it going.

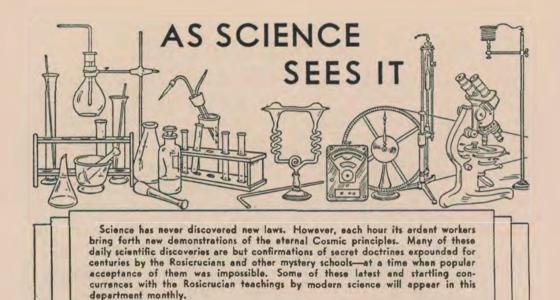
God cannot and will not help anyone who will not make the conscious effort to help himself. But, when you do make the effort and are doing your level best

and remember that your "best" is better than you have ever done - then will help be given you to continue along the path, for with the effort and continued effort you make, your soul will gradually be freed from the shackles that now bind it to the false conceptions and begin to express freely and perfectly, drawing from the infinite source of power for all it needs and requires to keep going, producing and creating the power you require. May you make the effort and reap the reward of Divine Love which brings to the soul Peace Profound.

## WHO WAS NOSTRADAMUS?

In many sources mention is being made of Nostradamus. Leading articles in newspapers and magazines refer to him as a great sage and prophet. Even Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has prepared a second short subject for exhibition at leading theatres throughout the country illustrating some of his prophecies. We have been fortunate to receive the privilege from a large publisher to make the book entitled "The Oracles of Nostradamus" available to our members and friends at a reasonable price. Therefore, if you are interested in prophecy and in the writings of this old mystic, avail yourself of the opportunity to read his prophecies for yourself. You will find that the book, "The Oracles of Nostradamus," is not only informative but is enjoyable reading, allowing you to draw your own conclusions based upon these prophecies. You may order your copy from the Rosicrucian Supply Bureau for two dollars. The book will be mailed postpaid.







F THE many modern machines and strange pieces of apparatus developed by science in recent years, perhaps none is of greater interest than the Cyclotron, popularly called the "atom smasher." This machine is especially interesting to

students investigating the work of the ancient alchemists. From the reports of the work and experiments performed by the cyclotron it is obvious that the thoughts and reflections of the alchemists were not so impossible, not so fantastic as the up-to-date layman would have the world believe. It is unfortunate indeed that the work of the scientist of vesteryear had to be veiled in mystery. confined to a few secret bodies to protect the very lives of the investigators. However, there are those in the world today who quietly go about the business of studying the ancient writings, searching out old material and having it translated into modern languages in a sincere effort to vindicate alchemy in the eyes of the present-day well informed.

To those who understand and appreciate the purpose back of the work

of the alchemist and why it was so necessary for him to veil his activities in a cloak of mystery, there are no greater proofs of the alchemist's knowledge and ability than are revealed, unwittingly perhaps, by today's great professors of science. It has become a common occurrance to pick up a daily newspaper and read "Professor of science reveals secret of transmutation," "Life exists in all matter says doctor of science," and many other similar headlines. Student members of the Rosicrucian Order are seldom astounded by such reports for they only add more bits of evidence to prove the claims and contentions set forth in the Rosicrucian teachings that have withstood trial and test through many years of investigation.

As reported in the following article, the Cyclotron is a massive machine invented by an eminent doctor of science from the University of California. Since the construction of Dr. Lawrence's first machine there have been several constructed in various parts of the United States. Rosicrucians interested in the scientific phase of the teachings will watch with interest the revelations that are certain to result from the "splitting of the atom" or the breaking down of matter to its most minute fundamentals. The article reprinted from an eastern newspaper reports the construction of a new Cyclotron which will when com-

pleted be one of about seventeen others at work seeking new power, new radio active elements, and performing work that no doubt would tax the most active imagination.

"Machines for Better Living—"
"Scientists Improve on Dreams of
Alchemists by Blasting Makeup
of Atoms with Cyclotron"

"New Instrument Will Be Installed for Research Work at Pitt"

"In the middle ages, alchemists sought to make gold out of base metals. Likewise they searched for the 'alkahest,' an imaginary liquid to dissolve all matter into constituent parts. And lastly they hunted the 'panacea' to cure all human ills.

"Today's scientist has no such dreams. Yet strangely enough, without attempting or without even knowing he was doing so, he created a machine the alchemist might have looked on as the answer he could find neither in books nor in magic.

"The machine is the cyclotron or atom-smasher.

"The cyclotron goes further than manufacturing gold from base metals. It makes something more valuable. Out of common table salt it produces radioactive salt that does the work of hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of radium.

"The cyclotron makes no 'alkahest' or liquid to melt all matter. Instead, it breaks up the tiniest particles and forces them to work as new and immensely powerful substances.

"Lastly, no scientist hopes to find a panacea for human ills, but the cyclotron has many uses in medicine. It already has been highly effective in the treatment of leukemia, a disease still called incurable. It is hoped it will prove useful against the killer, cancer. Moreover, the strange new machine adds new knowledge to the body and its functions, both in illness and in health.

## Gift to Pitt

"Ground will be broken in O'Hara Street this month for a building to house the first cyclotron in Pittsburgh. The building and machine are the gift of Mrs. Alan M. Scaife to the University of Pittsburgh Medical School.

"The cyclotron is among mankind's most ingenious modern inventions. Its principle is to speed the flow of atoms to the point where they strike and break each other. From this break-up or smash of ions (electrically charged atoms) comes a new substance, a radioactive material, that is, one having the power to throw off rays such as are found in nature only from radium or other members of its family.

"The complete roll of functions this new radioactive substance may perform can only be guessed at. It may be unlimited.

"What is an atom smasher? What does it do? Why does anyone want to have atoms smashed?

"Far from being absurd, these are legitimate questions for the layman to ask. Dr. William S. McEllroy, dean of Pitt's Medical School, shows no impatience despite the number of times he has answered them since the announcement of Mrs. Scaife's gift in January.

#### New Substances

"The atom smasher,' he says, 'is a new instrument that breaks down particles of matter and in so doing, creates a new substance with remarkable properties, and almost unlimited opportunities for medical research. The cyclotron may have even greater possibilities than the X-ray tube that was first developed about 40 years ago!

"The cyclotron serves medical research in two ways, he explains,

"Large quantities of the new substance can be used for the treatment of disease. Then, small quantities can serve as methods of investigation. They can be "tagged," so to speak, marked and identified and so, used as traces in body processes. This, in itself, is one of the most striking developments in modern science. It is possible through the perfection of a new instrument called the Geiger Muller counter.

"Through the "counter" one can tell

"Through the "counter" one can tell when any phosphorous compound reaches the teeth, the bones, the hair, or any other part of the body. he explains. One is thus able to observe the part the atoms play in the complicated laboratory called the human body and in health as well as in disease.

"The new cyclotron can also be applied to research in physics and in



chemistry. Dr. Elmer Hutchisson, head of Pitt's Physics Department, believes it has almost unlimited scope in his field. He says:

"Ever since Pierre and Marie Curie discovered radium, scientists have been trying to bring its radioactivity under control. Intense light and heat and strong magnetic and electric fields, powerful acids and alkalis were tried. And all to no avail. The radium tricked merrily on emitting its ionizing particles, no faster and no slower.

## Deep In Atom

"'Out of the experiments, however, one fact became evident. The radio-activity of an element is not a surface effect that can be easily changed but a disintegration that takes place deep down in the interior of the atom. It soon became clear that the radioactivity of an atom was to produce particles moving so fast that a collision would cause, literally, an atomic smashup.'

"That is exactly what the cyclotron does. Since the atom is so small that it takes two million of them to cover the diameter of the dot of the letter 'i', the job of building a machine to break atoms seemed as fantastic as the alchemists' attempt to manufacture gold. But science's patient methods found the way.

"The cyclotron already has proven of great value in the study of chemistry, according to Dr. Charles Glen King, Professor of Chemistry at Pitt. He says:

"Chemistry will gain immeasurably as a science by advances being made in detailed knowledge concerning atomic structure because such information provides the fundamental basis for un-

derstanding and predicting chemical changes. Even freshman and sophomore courses are taught more effectively when based on modern theories of atomic structure.

"Nearly every branch of the science has already profited by the use of radioactive elements, Dr. King says, and this, despite the fact that they are too new for full realization of their use.

## Wins Nobel Prize

"The cyclotron was developed at the University of California by Dr. E. O. Lawrence, winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1939. Another type of atom smasher, not a cyclotron, was produced by Robert J. Van de Graaff and reached its maximum in one built in the Westinghouse Research Laboratories under the direction of Dr. Edward U. Condon, advisory professor of physics at Pitt.

"The cyclotron employs a giant electro magnet. The one to be installed here will weigh seventy tons in iron and 30,000 pounds in copper. Between its two poles is a vacuum chamber. A shortwave radio transmitter applied to the chamber will make the ions or charged atoms spin as if hit by millions of volts.

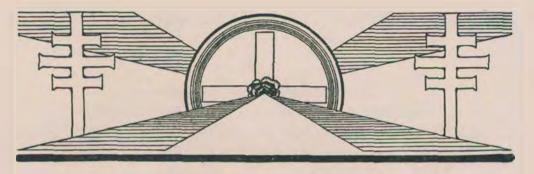
"The ions spiral and acquire speed. Thus the name cyclotron. They travel in circular paths or cycles.

"The new machine will be installed under the direction of Dr. Alexander J. Allen, associate professor of physics at the university. To protect its operators and those in the vicinty, it will be buried five feet in the ground. Before it will stand a wall of water four feet thick, for the powerful giant can be destructive as well as beneficial.

"But the cyclotron undeniably makes for better living."

## YOUR PRESENCE IS INVITED

The registration for the annual Rosicrucian Convention will begin on Sunday, July 13. If you are here to register, you will then be in a position to enjoy the contact with many other members and with the Supreme and Grand Lodge officers, as well as the many instructive features of the Convention Week to follow. This is a time when Rosicrucians are called upon to make a united front to stand behind the principles of the organization and to assist as individuals in upholding its high ideals and purposes. Therefore, make a special effort to be present at the 1941 Convention, Upon request the Extension Department will be glad to forward you a special bulletin giving additional Convention and travel information.



# An Open Letter

(Important to Rosicrucians and our Readers)

May 12, 1941

Respected Members and Friends:

Medieval religious fanatics slew heretics by fire, to elude the maxim: "Ecclesia non novit sanguinem;" for burning a man, they said, does not shed his blood.

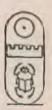
Also in the design of an old tapestry, we are told. William the Conqueror is represented with a mace in his hand, for the purpose that when he dispatched his antagonist he might not spill blood, but only break his bones! Today in our Twentieth Century, still more refined and genteel ways have been developed for scourging a victim, without breaking his bones or shedding his blood. Attempts may be made to tear his reputation to shreds, to denude him of his character, and to expose him to public ridicule and contempt. These modern instruments of torture are not the rack or the stake, but mendacious, calumnious statements clothed and permitted in the verbiage of a legal complaint - which may be filed against anyone.

Within the last three weeks, I have experienced the effect of one of these instruments. I have become the innocent victim of a vile attack, as a lawsuit, not alone upon my integrity and my morals, but also upon my lineal ancestry. The absolutely false allegations, not alone by their wording, tend to blacken my character, but by implication, the Rosicrucian Order and my family as well. The suit was filed by a young woman who herself admits she was for sometime an inmate of a California State

institution for the insane. Toward her. we of course must extend sympathy, not ill feeling. To the best of my knowledge, I met this young woman once in my life, at a five-minute formal interview, during the 1934 Rosicrucian Convention-an interview similar to that which it is our custom to give to all Convention visitors and delegates. Subsequently, she began a series of irrational correspondence to myself and others. In the Fall of 1934 she threatened. through a Los Angeles attorney, an action somewhat similar to the one she recently filed, which allegations were equally devoid of fact or truth. My attorney, Mr. C. C. Cottrell, likewise the attorney for AMORC, and a member of a prominent legal firm, wrote her in reply, through her attorney, in November, 1934, as follows:

"We are at a loss to understand the basis of this demand upon the part of Jeannette Young. Mr. Lewis has never at any time accompanied the young lady any place, has never written her any personal letters, has never sent her any gifts and has not, either in letters or in conversation, ever discussed any matters of a personal nature with her. All correspondence that he has had with her has been in his official capacity as Supreme Secretary of the Rosicrucian Order. Any information you may have contrary to what is stated in this letter must either be the figment of someone's imagination or a deliberately built up plot to collect money.

"You may inform her, therefore, that Mr. Lewis will uncompromisingly resist



(Date) 1-7-35

I hereby withdraw my demand for a jury trial, waive further right to demand same within the five days allowed by law, and am satisfied to go to a state hospital and have my case finally decided by the staff there.

estates: W. 9. Navis

Jeannette & young

FILED

JAN 8 1935

LE LAMPTON, County Clerk

Photostatic reproduction No. 1: Personal request to waive jury trial. Read accompanying text of article for full explanation. The original of this document is on legal file in the County of Los Angeles. Note witness' signature, file date, and signature of Deputy County Clerk.

Mr. Gamly Commission

I request that I be noturned

To the norwell State Hospital Today,
on my original commitment.

Plant of the second of th

The Rosicrucian Digest June 1941

Photostatic reproduction No. 2: A handwritten document voluntarily requesting recommitment to the State Hospital. Observe file date and Deputy County Clerk's signature. Reproduced from the original on legal file in the County of Los Angeles.

any attempt to extort money from him and will take steps to protect his good name and standing from an unwarrant-

ed attack of this nature."

Nothing further was heard of the young woman until I was informed that she had been committed, not to a private institution, but a state, a public institution for the mentally afflicted. Exactly on what grounds, or why she was committed, I was not aware, nor was it any concern of mine. About four years ago, she was evidently released, for she began a periodic harassment of myself, by letters in which she again indulged fanciful and imagined wrongs. She finally has induced certain Los Angeles attorneys to file the present suit, which complaint is a congeries of scurrilous prevarications. The preposterous sum of damages asked would cause a question to arise as to the motive of the action.

The following is an example of the falsity of the charges, to quote from one of the allegations from the complaint on file: ". . . . that the defendant, Ralph Maxwell Lewis, left the State of California on or about the first day of February, 1935, and resided in the State of New York, and did not return to the State of California until on or about the 25th day of December, 1940," It is a verifiable and simply known fact to thousands of Rosicrucians and other persons that not only has my residence been established all of the aforesaid years in California, but that I have been actually residing in California during the period mentioned. Several thousands of Rosicrucian members during these years have heard me speak from the platform of our Francis Bacon Auditorium here in Rosicrucian Park, in San Jose at annual Rosicrucian Cenventions. An equal number have met me at other periods of the same years in California.

Perhaps one of the most malicious charges is that which impugns my race—in which the unfortunate young woman claims that she "discovered" that I was not of the Caucasian race. The term Caucasian today has more of a philogical than an ethnological meaning. In other words, the term is generally applied by scholars to the languages used on the Caucasian Isthmus. Modern anthropologists consider the Caucasians to include the whites of Europe, the

brown races of Asia, North Africa, and Australia, and some of the blackest of the African tribes: consequently, in present-day scientific circles, Caucasian has no reference to color, but rather to the type and kind of hair. However, among laymen and the general public, the term Caucasian is so taken and accepted as to mean the white race. Therefore, the accusation that I am not of the white race would besmirch my lineal ancestry, not because of color, but by implying racial mixture, a charge obviously damaging to anyone's social status.

This and each of the allegations will not only be categorically denied by me, but will be proven to be false, for I shall vigorously oppose this attack, until I am fully vindicated through the channels of the courts of the land, if need be.

The complaint further charges that I, as Imperator, with certain agents and/or officers of the Rosicrucian Order, conspired to have a "perjured affidavit" filed, committing this young woman to the State institution. I have not met, nor do I know the party who was instrumental in filing the original complaint, which resulted in this young woman's being committed to a State mental institution, after due order by a Court of law of Los Angeles, California. However, a startling revelation is the fact that after being confined in the California State Institution at Norwalk for several days, during the latter part of December 1934, she was released by a Court Order, for the purpose of receiving a jury trial as to her sanity. Then this young woman, who now claims in her complaint to have been at all times sane, rational, and of normal mind, in a prepared and personally signed statement, waived her further right to demand a jury trial, and still, most amazing, further stated: ".... am satisfied to go to a state hospital and have my case finally decided by the staff there." Is it not strange that a person who considered herself normal would waive her right to a jury trial as to her sanity, and ask to be recommitted to a state hospital for the insane? (See photostatic reproduction Number 1, in this issue.)

We are pleased to also present in this issue a photostatic reproduction of the further voluntary, handwritten, and



personally signed request by this young woman, filed one day later than the above, and addressed to the Lunacy Commission, stating: "I request that I be returned to the Norwalk State Hospital today on my original commitment.' I leave it to the intelligence of my readers to decide if it does not seem very strange for one who now claims, through attorneys, to have been wrongly incarcerated in a mental institution-an institution of the state and not a private hospital-when given an opportunity of a jury trial as to her sanity, to waive that right and voluntarily ask to be recommitted. Do ordinary men and women ask to be committed to mental institutions?

These documents published elsewhere in this issue, are photostatic copies of originals on file in the official records of the County Clerk of the County of Los Angeles, and may be seen or inspected there - they are the property and record of the County. You will observe that each document bears the date of filing, the county clerk's name, and the signature of his deputy. In addition, document Number One bears the signature of a witness, at the time of its signing. Other evidence, equally effective, is at our disposal for the defense of the reputation of our beloved Order and of myself, if and when this matter shall come to Court.

Why the tremendous publicity which it has received? First, it is a tribute to the extent to which AMORC is known and the reputation it has always enjoyed throughout North and South America. That a watch dog will bite is no news. That a good man is imbued with virtues is also no news. Let the watch dog lick an intruder's hand, or the good man display an unknown vice, and such a contrariety is news. AMORC's high moral and ethical principles, not alone expounded in its teachings and literature, but exemplified in the lives of thousands of its members and its officers, is generally known. Such is not news. Any acts which confirm such principles of conduct have little or no news value. Let the Order or its officers be accused, charged with that which is contrary to its stated purposes and customary activities, and you have sensational news.

The second reason for the publicity is the vaunted freedom of the press. The press is free to publish any charge which is legally filed as a complaint against anyone. It is not obliged to wait until the conclusion of a trial. It is not obliged to investigate, in order to determine whether the charges may possibly be filed merely to create adverse publicity. It is not obliged to determine whether the charges contained one iota of fact or truth. It is not even obliged to interview the one accused, to gain his statements or word of defense. You will recall that not one single statement of mine appeared in most all of the news articles appertaining to the suit-why? Because the news wire services took the charges verbatim. as they appeared in the complaint filed, without troubling to interview me, or even to obtain a defense statement from me. The freedom of the press relieves them from the responsibility of a libel action, when the charges are contained in a legal complaint filed, and which complaint may be filed against anyone -even you. This same freedom permits the press to publish a story in a widespread manner, no matter how damaging it may be, without concern for the effect it my produce upon the reputation of an individual or an organization, if it is taken from a complaint, and a onesided story at that, if it so desires, as was this one. AMORC never has, and never will resort to the unsatisfactory. sordid, lurid, and sensational method of trying its cases or seeking to make its defense by resorting to newspaper canards. We still cling to the belief, as an organization and as individuals, that such freedom which the press of America enjoys should not be at the expense of justice and fair play, which are as much American virtues and rights as freedom.

Fortunately the courts of law of our great nation and the intelligent populace have advanced beyond the medieval precept and practice that "he who stands accused is guilty." The latter, as do the men and women of our beloved Order (who, by the hundreds, are writing, telephoning, and telegraphing words of confidence and loyalty) await a defense, and hold no one guilty who has not been so proven after a fair trial. I

personally shall not evade what further assaults may be attempted on my character because of the prominence of my office or this display of righteous indignation. I have assumed the mantle of Imperator, and I shall not desecrate it by monetary settlement, or any form

of compromise with injustice.

Those who believe that in this illfated hour, a devastating blow has been struck from which AMORC may not recover, are short on memory of past events. Time after time the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC, and its personnel here and abroad, have withstood assaults calculated or conceived to be devastating. Those who rejoice in destruction or wish for the cessation of our activities fail to rightly evaluate certain human qualities out of which the fabric of the Rosicrucian Order is woven. True loyalty, sympathetic understanding, and sacrifice for a cause, are elements of character not shattered by unfair blows. Rather, agitation stirs deeply the pools of emotion in which they germinate, and they rise like intoxicating vapors to stimulate the human consciousness to that keener sensitivity from which comes the needed perception of righteousness. Thus the spirit of justice is always strongest when injustice is in evidence. The virtue of courage stands most revealed where the greatest danger prevails. The determination of Rosicrucians has always been united by the external pressure of adversity. The facts of profane history and the archives of the Order attest to that.

I am eternally grateful for the faith Rosicrucian members and friends of the Order have expressed in me. I shall advise each of you as to the eventual outcome, the vindication which shall be mine and which shall be supported with irrefutable evidence. It has been deemed by powers beyond our full cognizance. apparently, that I shall be honored with persecution and vilification, which was the lot of our late Imperator, Dr. H. Spencer Lewis, and that great assembly of exponents of Rosicrucianism before him, each of whom has subsequently come to be endeared to the vast Rosicrucian membership and to humanity. There is a scale of Cosmic justice which time tends and which outweighs any number of the machinations, plots, and schemes of men.

Sincerely,

RALPH M. LEWIS.

Imperator.

RML:MR

7 7 7

# The Lesson of Music

By Frater R. John Francis Knutson



USIC, the unworded language, has had so many varied definitions: the emotion of numbers—the architecture of sound—emotion and beauty expressed in essence—love in search of a word—at least, Music is of Love, and is a vibration that can arouse an inner stirring in the meanest.

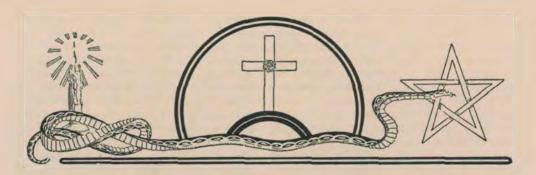
Music consists of vibration in air, in orderly waves. That distinguishes it from the chaotic clang.

The musical note is a tonic with certain overtones, leaving out, not allowing or causing extraneous sound-vibrations to exist in its field. Its quality of restraint is the cause of its harmoniousness, and of its ability to blend variously with others of its kind. It is important for all of us to learn that art, since to make the best use of the infinity of possibility within us, we must be able to leave out of our actions that which is best lacking, in keeping with the instance.

Love is even so; with infinity within itself, but manifesting only that which is best manifested.

-From "Meditations on Love."





# An Etiology of Imponderable Forces

By CARL THOMAS

PART II



E would have you recognize, without further attempt to a dduce logical proof, that the force that germinates a seed planted in the earth, and the force that keeps the earth in its orbit, and the force that makes a man love a woman, all are only differ-

ent manifestations—of one identical, imponderable Force. This Force is the dynamic, galvanic inner nature, the center and circumference, the beginning and the end, of every separate thing, and of the universe as a whole. It is perceivable in every blind act of nature, and in every deliberative, discriminative act of man; and the great distinguishing difference between the two is this discriminatory action. Too often we refuse to avail ourselves of this great gift, and fall to the level of the animal kingdom where purely vegetative existence prevails.

At first glance it would seem that the First Force is electrical in nature. Ask almost any man to name the only absolute force and he will at once say electricity. Every form of materiality, is known to possess an electromagnetic field. Every time we move, or even think, a certain amount of electricity in one form or another is utilized or expended. Thought, or rather the fact of

thought, has been discovered to be a definite, measurable thing of an electrical nature manifesting in what is called the Bergen rhythm. This rhythm is a detectable cyclic electrical current that is shown to become stronger or weaker with the intensity or lack of intensity of thought being generated by the subject being tested. All of the chemical changes that occur within the body are accompanied by a discharge of electrical energy. An ordinary galvanometer will detect an electrical current in any form of plant or mineral life; even the earth itself has been shown to be a gigantic magnet. Every atom is nothing more than a unit of electricty. Every form of matter tends naturally to some finer phase of matter; thus, in spite of anything we can do to the contrary, ice has a tendency to become water, water has a tendency to become steam, and steam passes through four refining steps till it reaches that absolute force we call electricity.

We might ask here if this electricity really is the irreducible Force. If this is true, all matter and all sentient being must exist in and through it; and we, that is, the Knowing-Self, must possess and perceive it. And if this force is not to be a mere shadow, it must not be capable of being referred to some Force which does not have a relative existence, but which is independent of all other force.

If electricity is a shadow, it must be explained through a consideration of time and space; conversely, if electricity

is the absolute force that is sometimes claimed for it, it is not dependent upon time and space, cannot be referred to time and space, nor be explained through the laws of time and space. In other words, if electricity is force as Force, it is a feature of every known thing or condition, and is provable just as readily, whether we reason inductively or deductively. But electricity occupies the unique position of partaking of both of these conditions. All of the forms of electricity that come with our range of perception are perceived only through time and space. On the other hand, all of the forms of electricity only prove an underlying relation of all things; that is, all things contain something we call electricity which is not exhaustively knowable, which is not completely explainable by reference to something else, something which if we attempt to define lucidly our definition reaches the point where it is no longer completely lucid. The fact that electricity is an unknown quantity, if that fact is considered alone, would lead us to say that it is the absolute Force we are searching for. But an etiology of physics and electricity reduces all things to blind, materialistic mechanism, which denies certain basic facts that we cannot fail to take into consideration. It denies the undeniable fact of a vital Creative Force, which is manifest in all things. A Creative Force must be an Intelligent Creative Force if it is truly creative, for the fact of creation itself directly implies the fact of intelligence. Wherever one can point out an example of creation there is always discernable an accompanying Guiding Hand. And an etiology that reduces all things to electricity in the guise of position, form, or motion does not admit of such a thing as intelligence.

Intelligent Creative Force adequately overcomes the anomalies of electricity and fulfills our conditions for an absolute force. Every individual cell of matter displays a conscious intelligence. There are apparent exceptions to this, for intelligent action implies beneficent action, and there are many things that are not beneficent in any sense of the word. What of the men being blown to bits this very moment? What of those suffering from disease of one sort or another? What of the vast destruction wrought by such things as floods? These

apparent exceptions are only apparent. Dynamite is a result of Intelligent Creative Force, but war and all it implies cannot be blamed on dynamite. Disease is a result of interference with the Creative Force, not an example or exception of Creative Force. And if man had not removed the trees from the land, placed there by the action of an Intelligent Creative Force, the floods would never have happened. All of the manifestations of Creative Force work in the same way every time; that is, Creative Force is objectively perceived and catalogued as natural law, which is an inerrant proposition. So long as this Force is allowed to operate unhindered, in a perfectly smooth manner, there is made manifest a peaceful, concordant, harmonious condition. But if this Force is opposed or disrupted a destructive course will be taken, until the Creative Force ceases to be interrupted. We have all seen how a tiny seedling sprouting from a crack in a huge rock will in time split the rock; however, as soon as the seedling reaches its full growth, or as soon as the manifestation of Creative Force in the seedling reaches the point where it is no longer opposed by the rock, the destruction of the rock stops, and the scales of rock that have been broken off from the larger mass have in the meantime been washed down into the valley where the Intelligent Creative Force has transformed them into rich, fertile soil. All of the apparent differences of force that we perceive around us are due to an insight into and discriminated interpretation of some given force and its relation to all other interpretations of force.

If Creative Force is the absolute force that we say it is, it transcends the laws of time and space. \*"The phenomena of polarization show that light is a transverse wave. But while light and the alternating current are waves, they are not wave motions. They arise as properties of an energy field in space. Obviously, then, by carrying the explanation of light and electromagetic waves back to the energy field we have carried it back as far as possible." Dr. Einstein says of this energy field that "the idea of motion may not be applied to it." Motion is a distinguishing property of matter, and spatial relations exist only



<sup>\*</sup>Dr. Charles P. Steinmetz

in matter; in other words, this energy field is shown to be an immaterial thing because it exists outside of the laws of time and space, and what is the difference whether we name it an energy field, an Intelligent Creative Force, or God? All ancient and modern records agree that the Creative Force antedates all other things, and in fact all other things originate in it. From it arises life, mind, all the senses, ether, air, fire, water, earth. The fact that Knowing-Self confirms these records is significant indeed, for the Knowing-Self is a direct extension of the Creative Force. Another significant factor is that the nearer we approach to an exhaustive explanation or investigation of the Creative Force, the more subjective or abstract our explanation becomes: that is, the more there is in our investigation of Creative Force that lacks objective content or perception in terms of mass, time, and space, the clearer and more sufficing our investigation becomes. For if Creative Force is inexplicable from some other thing, it is clearly more nearly a pure subjective force than a pure objective force.

The findings of geology and ethnology indicate beyond a doubt that an orderly plan of evolution is being worked out under the direction of the Intelligent Creative Force. As has already been pointed out, it is not possible for us to become directly aware of the Creative Force. This Force assumes certain forms within certain perceivable, measurable limits that we call natural law. Each individual personality interprets these forms according to the content of the memory storehouse of the Knowing-Self gained through experience, direct and abstract observation, and the idiosyncracies of the physical body, and thus there is brought into existence the phenomenal world. It makes no difference whether an interpretation is the correct one, or whether we deny the correct interpretation of a force and accept a false one as being correct, the correct interpretation will continue to exist. In the words of the well known example; we have learned that an object projected into the air will return to the earth, and if we toss a stone into the air and fail to remove ourselves from beneath it, no amount of willing against the law of gravity will prevent us from being struck by the stone.

The laws of the Creative Force, in both the objective and the subjective manifestations, manifest as a rhythmic cycle of one sort or another. We can all see this action in certain forms of plant life, in which a strong surge of Creative Force vitalizes the plant every spring, causing a fresh wave or cycle of the orderly plan to be instituted. By one means or another we can definitely chart these cycles in all phenomenal life, particularly those cycles that most directly affect the human race; and by conforming our acts to those cycles we can live in much greater harmony and happiness than when we live by some hit-or-miss system.

The most noticeable and most strongly felt cycle, in a world-wide sense, is one having a length of 11.2 years; that is, every 11.2 years the orderly evolution of mankind reaches a peak or crisis by reason of a revitalizing surge of Creative Energy. It is known that the last such peak occurred about September 15. 1929, and the date for the last one behind that would be about July 1, 1918. You will notice that the most momentous crisis of each of these cycles occurred just after those dates. This can be carried back indefinitely and it will hold true for each cycle. Figuring from the known length of this cycle, and the known time of the last peak, the dates for the next two peaks are December 15, 1940, and March 1, 1952. From the way things are going at the time of this writing (August, 1940) it would seem that a crisis of some kind, of a worldwide nature, should be reached by next spring (1941). Because it has been noticed that there is a sort of delayed action in this cycle (the factors of human will and other impinging cycles would account for this) and because of all the foregoing, we can safely say that a decisive, definite crisis of present world trends will occur during the first few days of 1941, or shortly thereafter. and that a momentous world crisis of some sort will occur during the summer of 1952 or shortly thereafter, and et cetera into a distant future.

It would be silly to attempt to predict the nature of the crisis of 1952. To say

(Concluded on Page 189)



The "Cathedral of the Soul" is a Cosmic meeting place for all minds of the most highly developed and spiritually advanced members and workers of the Rosicrucian Fraternity. It is a focal point of Cosmic radiations and thought waves from which radiate vibrations of health, peace, happiness, and inner awakening. Various periods of the day are set aside when many thousands of minds are attuned with the Cathedral of the Soul, and others attuning with the Cathedral at the time will receive the benefit of the vibrations. Those who are not members of the organization may share in the unusual benefits as well as those who are members. The book called "Liber 777" describes the periods for various contacts with the Cathedral. Copies will be sent to persons who are not members if they address their requests for this book to Friar S. P. C., care of AMORC Temple, San Jose, California, enclosing three cents in postage stamps. (Please state whether member or not—this is important.)

## A REASON TO BELIEVE



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QUESTION which comes to the mind of every human being early in life, and which is maintained throughout life, is the simple interrogation, "Why?" It seems to be a trait, not only of the human being, but of many forms of animal life, to

want to determine the why or cause of things. This trait is particularly outstanding in most human beings, and probably many forms of advancement in fields of science and sociology which have benefited man have been due to this question. A human race devoid of curiosity or a desire to know the reason for things would be a static form of society, a society where progress and change were unknown.

Possibly in these troubled days some may reflect that it would be a relief if man did live under such conditions where he accepted without question his environment and destiny, where he worked as best he might with the help of his natural instincts and left little to be acquired by his experience with environment. Such arguments as to the value of ignorance rather than knowledge may sound reasonable, but because man is what he is they are not plausible and they just will not work. It is as useless for us to contemplate what man might be as it is to try to find square corners on a perfect sphere. What man is is the problem that faces the individual and the group, not what he could have been or might have been.



Because of man's traits being as they are, man does not readily accept a thing without a reason. He is prone to analyze anything that may not on its face be completely acceptable to him. This is particularly true when his mode of life is involved. When one is asked to change habits and opinions, the immediate query is, why? It is necessary, according to all laws of salesmanship and advertising, to convince the individual of the reason why he should accept or believe in something that is being presented. In a book upon religious psychology, Dr. Dresser said, "Early Christianity was not a question of reason for believing, but of realities believed in." A great deal is contained in these few words, and the statement might equally apply not only to Christianity but to all great religions, all great systems of teaching and philosophy which have contributed to the betterment of mankind. The author of these words wishes to emphasize that those who accepted the example and principles of Christianty as taught by Christ Himself did not have to be convinced of a reason for their faith or for their belief, but only needed to have brought before them the realities which were existent, and which when once perceived and understood were beyond the necessity of explanation.

Examples are given in religious writings, in the New Testament, and otherwise of those who questioned religious leaders and masters. Some of these questions led to speculation, to comparison of philosophies, to a consideration of ideologies that were prevalent at the time. Others simply requested information to fill a need, such as the example of the Samaritan woman at the well. The first were not always convinced: the second needed little to convince them. They only needed their cares and troubles laid aside in order that a peace

of mind might exist instead.

The further civilization has advanced from fundamental principles, the more it has had to elaborate these fundamental principles in order to bring about, consciously or unconsciously, in the minds of those it attempted to influence, the value that existed in these principles or teachings. Religions of various denominations, sects and creeds have so elaborated their systems of worship that to many participants the realities of the

needs that could be filled by the actual understanding of the fundamentals taught are unknown. This is not a criticism of ritual or of beautiful edifices erected by those who wish to worship in an environment most conducive for that purpose. There is no reason why the reality of the need that a form of teaching can fill cannot go hand in hand with its development through the ages and with its elaboration to fill the aesthetic needs in man's daily life.

A reason for believing in anything can usually be judged in terms of its utility. We are practical-minded today. and we want results for all expenditures which we make, whether these be in terms of money, time or energy, or a combination of all. The results we seek may only be in momentary contentment. or they may be in terms of living toward the acquisition of true happiness. But whatever may be the purpose, we must first have faith in that to which we set ourselves, because not all can be known without experience. We must have faith enough in a thing, due to its evident value or due to the recommendation of someone in whom we trust, to go ahead without hesitation. Knowledge and experience consecutively follow faith, each more or less supplanting faith. Experience is the final criterion for judging the utility of anything we seek.

Today all men seek explanation of what is occurring about them and within them. A great deal of energy is used not only in seeking an explanation of our immediate environment, but in rushing home to the radio or newspaper to seek the latest news in order to sum up in our own minds the present happenings in view of our understanding of the past, and thereby seek to interpret the future. While few will admit it, in these days we have all become prophets. We are all attempting to explain the future. As I write these words, there has just occurred an incident of international importance, and while attending a luncheon of a group of businessmen of this city, I heard numerous individuals express their opinion as to the cause and probable result of this happening. With due respect to their judgment, I could not help but think that probably all were wrong. No one knows what the consequences will be.

The fault of this lack of orientation to the present and the future is due not only to our inability to interpret the present events in terms of the past, but instead to our failure to consider original causes. Man will never find the explanation of all events outside himself. Just as the reason for believing in anything is answered within man, so within him lies the explanation of much that goes on outside him. If we seek the truth we must seek it at its source, because regardless of our religious convictions we must acknowledge that Cosmic law, God, truth and love are terms applied to the same thing. We know soul is dependent for its existence upon this very cause, and we know it is resident within us, and that there and there alone is the answer to many of our perplexities.

While man is placed in this world to cope with his environment, it is also for the purpose of understanding himself. Therefore, instead of giving all our time and efforts toward finding the reason for all things outside us, since we will by the necessity of our daily life continue to give most of our time to the objective world, let us determine to at least give a few minutes each day to another phase of our existence. The purpose of these comments is to encourage you to participate in the activities of the Cathedral of the Soul, which was established to give all who desired help in using the possibilities that lie within them for constructive purposes. In the Cathedral of the Soul, free from any conflict with our daily existence, those of all creeds, races, nationalities or ideals may individually find solace and inspiration. You are invited to request a copy of the booklet entitled "Liber which explains in detail these activities.

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## AN ETIOLOGY OF IMPONDERABLE FORCES

(Continued from Page 186)

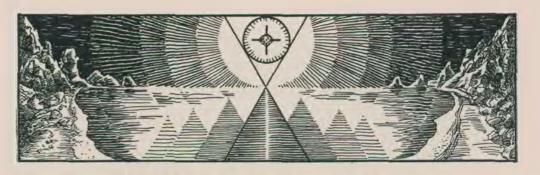
that it will be another peak of world violence would be bordering on superstition, although that might be what will happen. The existence of discriminatory action must be taken into account. The fact that the human race is not far removed from the cave man age, and the fact that we are free agents and may decide to do this instead of that, leads us to adopt a physical course of action instead of a mental course of action in most instances. However, 1952 might see humanity step across a threshold into a new world of cooperative effort leading to a hastened, less retarded development of the orderly plan of evolution of the Intelligent Creative Force.

However, it is entirely in your hands. It is up to you, not your neighbor. You must understand that the tensions that have been building up within you during the past few months are an indication of the upsurge of Creative Force of the

present cycle, and, understanding that, work off your tension by harmonizing with the Intelligent Creative Force in some constructive, creative effort. The next time someone growls at you, instead of growling back at him, realize that a lack of knowledge on his part is the underlying cause. Try a helpful, friendly attitude, and watch the almost miraculous results.

We can look back across the ages and see how man evolved from the simple amoebic existence through the primitive stages of human life to where we stand today. We can look ahead through the eyes of those at the fore of the advancing human wave to the day when we will cast aside selfish, ambitious motives and in the light of complete understanding travel on to boundless ranges of unimagined Light, Life, and Love.





# AMORC Is Imitated Again

BEWARE OF THESE MISLEADING ACTIVITIES

By THE IMPERATOR



VERY Rosicrucian member of AMORC is quite well aware of that international federation of arcane, initiatique, and mystical Orders and societies having authentic history, and which bears the title Federation Universelle des Ord-

res et Societes Initiatiques, the initials of which give us the abbreviated form of F. U. D. O. S. I. The plan for this federation was conceived, as we have explained at other times, in 1908. Preliminary congresses were held in Europe in the years 1921, 1927, and 1931. During the summer of 1934, the ultimate organization meeting was held in Brussels, Belgium. Dr. H. Spencer Lewis, then Imperator of AMORC, represented the only American Rosicrucian society or Order at the conclave. Only such mystical, philosophical, and occult organizations which had established historical backgrounds were invited and permitted to affiliate with the federation.

The first public declaration in America of the establishment of the federation and its name and initials, F. U. D. O. S. I., was made in the November, 1934, issue of "The Rosicrucian Digest." FIVE YEARS LATER, in fact in the Spring of 1939, the protagonist of a purported small Rosicrucian group hav-

ing its quarters on a farm in Eastern United States went to Paris, and upon his return, stated that he had participated in the formation of what he styled an international confederation of Rosicrucians. Subsequent correspondence which we had with the European Rosicrucian dignitaries of the Rose-Croix and officers of the F. U. D. O. S. I., copies of which are now in our files. brought forth the statement from them that if such a confederation was formed in 1939, it had no connection with the authentic federation, or F. U. D. O. S. I. and was not approved by the arcane societies, and consequently in every respect must be clandestine. This then was DISCOVERY NUMBER ONE.

DISCOVERY NUMBER TWO was that this individual has since formed or had formed, or participated in the formation of an organization which he terms "Universal Federation of Initiatique Orders, Fraternities, and Societies." Here, then, is a daring and most flagrant copying, not only in spirit but almost in identical words and title, of the original F. U. D. O. S. I. The obvious similarity could only be intended to cause confusion. It is, of course, a kind of flattery, this imitation, but one that no one ever welcomes.

DISCOVERY NUMBER THREE, which knowledge has been in our possession now for several weeks, is that in March of this year, this self-styled Grand Master of a purported Rosicrucian Fraternity visited several countries of South America, principally Chile,

where the publisher of an astrological almanac and other literature has become his deputy. This deputy has issued and is circulating what is claimed to be a second Fama Fraternitatis. Another amazing fact is that actually a second Fama was previously issued by AMORC, in other words, in September, 1930, under the authority of the late Dr. H. Spencer Lewis, as Imperator, in association with the Rose-Croix of Europe. So consequently, eleven years after AMORC this protagonist trails along in his imitative style.

His deputy in Chile has also envelopes which bear the stamped phrase, "Fraternidad Rosa-Cruz en la America del Sur," literally translated, meaning Rosicrucian Fraternity in South America. Since AMORC has for years, under the authority and charter of the Rose-Croix of Europe, been assigned the jurisdiction of South America for extending the authentic Rosicrucian activities, this sudden issuance of literature purporting to come from a Rosicrucian Fraternity of South America might con-

fuse the several thousand Spanishspeaking AMORC members in Central and South America. This, then, is just another attempt at copying AMORC activity.

We take this opportunity—and this is our purpose in bringing this to your attention - to warn that unless the initials A. M. O. R. C. are found in any literature or announcements issued as Rosicrucian or purporting to come from a federation of Rosicrucian or arcane metaphysical societies, that such have no connection with the International Congress of the Rosicrucian Order, and are not recognized by the European Federation or the F. U. D. O. S. I. Remember, then, the initials A. M. O. R. C. are the key to the authenticity of the literature, advertisements, announcements, booklets, or pamphlets which may come to your attention.

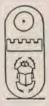
Perhaps those who imitate that which AMORC has created or represents or has put into effect for years, are unaware of the maxim, "He who copies is limited to the mind of another."

#### YOUR HEALTH IS FIRST

The first step in any direction is good health! You need not be a physical culturist, a perfect specimen of the human race—but you should feel well, have ample vitality and freedom from discomfiture, if you hope to accomplish in life. Many lingering ailments are possible of relief when rightly treated by competent physicians employing the latest methods of the healing arts. Make the greatest investment of your life—an investment in health and treatment. Write today to the ROSE-CROIX RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND SANITARIUM, Forrest and Bascom Avenues, San Jose, California, for their free literature giving full details of what they may be able to do for you. The literature contains pictures of the rooms and the apparatus, revealing the pleasant environment, and indicates careful attention given to the patients needs, both physical and psychological. The Sanitarium is a non-profit organization, so its whole efforts and enterprise are directed toward the welfare and concern of the patient. Resident patients and out patients both accepted. Very reasonable fees. Competent medical and drugless physicians, and nursing staff. WRITE FOR THE LITERATURE TODAY.

#### SHOW YOUR PRIDE IN ROSICRUCIAN PARK

The beautiful grounds in Rosicrucian Park, with their tropical shrubbery and plants from various countries of the world, oriental and exotic architecture of the buildings, all elicit the admiration of visitors. You can help spread this respect by purchasing some of the handsome view postcards of the grounds and buildings to send to your friends and acquaintances. Reveal the institution behind the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC. AN ASSORTMENT OF TEN DIFFERENT VIEWS FOR 50c, postpaid. (Six views in color.) State whether color or mixed desired. Additional cards, 5c each. These views are true reproductions of the structures at Rosicrucian Park. No sale less than ten.





# SANCTUM MUSINGS

# THE QUEST OF COSMIC CONSCIOUSNESS

By Thor KIIMALEHTO, Sovereign Grand Master



HERE are two standard books on this subject which all students are advised to become familiar with. One book, entitled The Quest of Cosmic Consciousness, is by the well-known English writer, Paul Brunton. The second book is a careful analysis of

exactly what is meant by the state of consciousness known as Cosmic Consciousness, and a study of many of the great men and women known to have manifested Cosmic Consciousness in their lives and works. The title is Cosmic Consciousness, and the author was

a physician. Dr. Bucke.

All evolution is an expansion of consciousness. It is said that, in the mineral, consciousness is in a trance state. In the plant, consciousness is in the state of deep sleep. In the animal, consciousness awakes. In man, consciousness becomes self-consciousness. Evolution does not stop with the state of simple self-consciousness of the average human being. From being conscious only of himself man rises to the state of identifying his consciousness with that of every living thing on earth. This is consciousness universalized. This is Cosmic Consciousness, or illumination.

This is the consciousness of the man in harmony with the divine currents of thought which he expresses in works of genius.

A man in harmony with cosmic thought currents is aware of the divine inspiration pouring through him, and he is able to speak with authority. The prophets, for example, speak emphatically in the name of God. Jesus spoke with authority. The most outstanding instances of Cosmic Consciousness are the geniuses who express divine inspiration in their great works of art and music, in their philosophies, poetry, and plays. Cosmic Consciousness is not a mere word. It is an actual experience and a degree of understanding.

He who has been through this wonderful experience lives his life on a loftier plane, lives in the light of spiritual ideals, and sees life from a universal viewpoint. He no longer sees life only from the viewpoint of his own needs, interests, and experiences. The great avatars of the world certainly experienced Cosmic Consciousness: Zoroaster, Gautama the Buddha, Confucius, Mohammed, and Moses. The great philosophers of Greece, such as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle, had reached this degree of unfoldment. Cosmic Consciousness was the source of Leonardo da Vinci's magnificent paintings, the Mono Lisa and the Last Supper. It was after attaining illumination that Sir Francis Bacon was enabled to write that

immortal series of plays, embracing so extraordinary a range of living characters, replete with the most inspired poetry in the English language. In Macbeth, for example, there is complete understanding of the stages of that villain's deterioration. In Hamlet, the souls of Gertrude, the Queen; Claudius, the King; Polonius, the Councillor; Ophelia, his daughter; and Horatio, Hamlet's bosom friend, are presented with equal vividness. They are living, human beings with such frailties as flesh is heir to. They are not merely types. Nor are they submerged in the background because of the principal figure, Hamlet, the melancholy Dane. The men and women of the various plays are as renowned and as real as if they were historical personages. Contrast, for example, the characters in the novels of Charles Dickens, who is considered of first rank in English literature. His most striking personalities are men, particularly those of the lower classes, or unfortunate men. In A Tale of Two Cities, for example, Sidney Carton, the drunken lawyer, and Dr. Manette, the pathetic prisoner of the Bastille, are far more vivid and effective than Charles Darnay, presumably the main character. His heroines are all cut after the same pattern, young, exactly 17, pretty, and with no more definiteness of character than wooden dolls.

Cosmic Consciousness manifests clearly in the poetry of Walt Whitman. No other poet has been dominated so completely by the theme of oneness with all that lives and the miracle of even the least of creation.

"I believe a leaf of grass is no less perfect that the journey work of the stars . . .
"And a mouse is miracle enough to stagger sextillions of infidels."

I embody all presences outlaw'd or suffering, See myself in prison shaped like another man, And feel the dull unintermitted pain.

For me the keepers of convicts shoulder their carbines and keep watch;

It is I let out in the morning, and barr'd at night.

Not a mutineer walks handcuff'd to jail, but I am not handcuff'd to him and walk by his side:

. Not a youngster is taken for larceny, but I go up, too, and am tried and sentenced. Not a cholera patient lies at the last gasp, but I also lie at the last gasp; . . .

Askers embody themselves in one, and I am embodied in them;

I project my hat, sit shame-faced, and beg.\*

Let me quote a few verses from the prophet Jeremiah, Chapter 9 (verses 23 and 24):

"A word from the Eternal: A wise man must not glory in his wisdom, nor a warrior in his strength, nor the rich man in his riches; he who glories is to glory in this, that he has insight into me, that he knows that I am the Eternal, dealing in kindness, Justice, and goodness upon earth-for these are my delight."

That power in Leonardo da Vinci which enabled him to grasp the soul of Mona Lisa, that extraordinary ability of Walt Whitman of instantaneous friendship with any human being, that sense of identification with eternal values that the prophet Jeremiah expressed and that enabled him without a feeling of outrage in us to declare, "Thus saith the Eternal"-are evidences of Cosmic Consciousness. Some have but a touch as Ralph Waldo Emerson, for all his intellectual understanding and beauty of style. The man who wrote the remarkable essays of Compensation and The Over-Soul was never able to manifest these qualities in his personal life. In his personal life he was the recluse and scholar. Some have entered into the full glory of identification with the divine in life and of understanding and compassion with all that lives. Such were the great Avatars of all ages. Such were the great geniuses, the flower of the human race. Nor did these illumined souls express their genius in philosophy or religion or poetry or art alone. Some manifested their genius in mighty works of architecture, some in stupendous feats of engineering, some in remarkable codes of law, some in supreme statesmanship. And some were the inspired teachers.

He who has experienced illumination has one disire: to bring the vision that has transformed his life to his fellowmen still struggling in the valley. He clothes this vision in the form native to his genius. He gives as an offering of love and joyous self-expression to the world the fruit that Cosmic Consciousness ripened, that never would have ap-

<sup>\*</sup>Quotations from Leaves of Grass by Walt Whitman.



peared but for the illumination. The poet scribbles his uninspired verse. Then illumination comes and he writes his masterpiece. The playwright follows all the rules of his craft. Yet, the play is dead. It awakens not an answering emotion. Then illumination comes, and his plays live and stir every soul that sees them. The thinker speaks, but no one heeds. Then illumination comes. With master hand he plays upon the hearts of men. He stirs their emotions, kindles thoughts of fire, and becomes the father of a great movement or a new religion or a school of thought. Cosmic Consciousness gives him appeal to every human heart. He understands human beings: he expresses them; he elevates them.

Cosmic Consciousness is superior to mind. no matter how brilliant. Through the rational mind you can realize the fact of Cosmic Consciousness and its desirability and its beauty. You may determine to lead the life that will find its culmination in illumination. The rational mind. however, may not lead you into the Promised Land. Like Moses it leads you through the wilderness to the very edge of the River Jordan. Then the lotus blossom flowers, and the Golden Heart appears.

There are several aspects to Cosmic Consciousness. First, there is illumination, which is a realization of the God Within, a feeling of oneness with the divine. Then there is the realization of the divine in everything, the immanance of God. Finally, there is the feeling of identification with all that lives, with every human being, with every beast and bird and stone. With the realization of the divine in everything, comes the realization that nothing is dead.

As there is a center in the nervous system for each psychic power, so is there an actual organ through which illumination manifests, and that organ is located in the heart. Let him who is perfectly sure of his strength of mind and will work at the opening of the psychic centers. My personal opinion is that it is better for the untried and solitary student to gain his soul powers gradually through the experiences of life. The student who is working alone does not know whether his practice is correct or not. He does not know when he is straining himself. If he gets into

trouble, in all probability there will be no one for him to turn to for aid or for advice. No one will even understand just what is wrong. Then is he truly in danger of becoming bewildered and discouraged. Acquiring psychic powers is like acquiring skill in playing an instrument, in swimming, in learning a foreign language. For most people whatever is gained alone is imperfect. The greatest genius in music needs the instruction of an expert. Technique requires training and mastery.

When the student is ready, the Master appears. There is much that the student can do to prepare himself. Nor are psychic powers necessary for the experience of illumination or for discipleship. Each student has a major task in disciplining his own nature and in teaching himself to feel a universal brother and in training himself for useful service in the world. Illumination is the mark of a ripe soul. Through illumination the soul is enabled to express its genius. To achieve illumination, then, work steadily at the task that is nearest and dearest to you. Love makes for identification. Love opens up the channels of inspiration. Love makes you receptive to every new thought and idea. Love annihilates time and space. Love makes concentration easy.

Through love of your task you will achieve the maximum that can be achieved at your degree of soul development. As a student of the Ancient Wisdom you naturally select a task in harmony with divine purposes. As a business man you conduct your affairs in the light of mystic principles. As a mother you manage your home and raise your children in the light of the Ancient Wisdom. As an artist you paint pictures that teach people to see God in man and nature. As a musician your aim is to inspire and to uplift. As a composer your aim is to catch the divine harmonies, to help people through your music to become one with all that lives that people may become refined. gentle, compassionate, and composed. As a teacher you emphasize those aspects of your subject that are vital from a mystic viewpoint and you minimize those aspects that are useless from the mystic viewpoint. Everyone may not be absolutely free to do exactly as he wishes. Much can be accomplished, how-

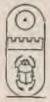
ever, merely by a shift in emphasis, by wise omissions, and by a change of spirit. Then in the course of time the opportunity comes to do a litte more. Where you feel that very little can be done, you can be a silent witness of the truth within you by your conduct. One of our members was very much surprised when a friend said to her suddenly, "It is quite evident that you are living according to standards different from ours. What is it?"

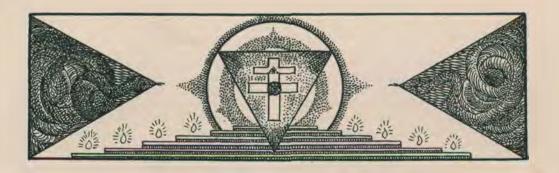
People who have known you will be aware of all the little ways in which you have changed. They may even be inspired by your example to learn more of the mystic life. At least they will learn something of it and respect it if not admire it. Some, of course, may become hostile. Two types of people become hostile: first is the sensual type. They are wedded to their appetites. This type says, "I'd rather die than give up my favorite dishes. What is left in life?" The second type is the intellectual. The intellectual is hemmed in by the limitations of the rational mind. He is a slave to a method known as scientific method. What can be readily grasped by the scientific mind and what cannot be easily demonstrated by the scientific technique he refuses to believe can be possible. He has not yet reached the limits of his powers and methods. The great intellectual or the great scientist has reached the point where he is aware that pioneering is necessary in frontier projects. He is no longer so sure of what the reason can explain and what scientific method can demonstrate. He is, therefore, ready to advance in humility. A man like Dr. Arthur H. Compton, the Nobel prize-winner in physics and head of the Department of Physics in the University of Chicago, is ready to admit divine principles and is ready to admit the limitations of physical science. Not so the average intellectual or scientist. He scoffs because he is actually unable to realize spiritual experiences. He refuses to consider an idea until it has the stamp of authority. Therefore, when you discover the rank materialist or sensualist or atheist, do not argue with him. He may awaken some day, but his awakening will not be due to argument; it may be due to a shattering life experience.

There is no nobler task than the fash-

ioning of a soul. There is no nobler gift than a beautiful soul. Then, brothers and sisters, let us all join in the glorious task of fashioning our souls so that we may become ready channels for Cosmic tasks. All good and useful work is the Master's work. Be the bearer of light wherever you are-in your home, in your church, in your community, wherever you perform your daily tasks. Let your life be sanctified by your sublime goal. Let every thought, every word, every motion, every act, no matter how humble, be inspired by the light of Truth, by your great purpose. The beautiful thing is that through living the life of love and of service, all qualities are eventually added to one. The life necessary to achieve even a partial illumination, for example, helps one to become intuitive. Meditation, dramatization, and identification - the methods helpful in developing the intuition are also helpful in leading to illumination.

The shortest road is that of devotion, utter love and devotion to a great cause that is in harmony with the great cause. or to the great cause itself. Forget the personal benefits, forget the personal goal, forget the psychic powers. Think only of this beautiful cause-helping the human race to evolve. Is there a greater cause to which a man can dedicate his life, his powers, his thoughts, and his aspirations? Think not of the millions unillumined. Think rather that from one light many lights may be kindled. How many causes began with a small, ardent group, and today they sweep the world whether for evil or for good. Hitherto the illumined souls have been few and still are comparatively few. We are still in the Kali Yuga, the Age of Iron. We are still in a cycle of materialism. We have spade work to do. We have to keep the wavering and the doubtful from falling completely a prey to the vicious ideas circulating through the country and through the world. We must reach all who are ready for light and the truth. We must train them also to be inspired workers. We must unite the workers throughout the world. We must bear witness to the philosophy firmly opposed to the atheism, the materialism, and the narrow intellectualism of the age. We accept the moral law as the foundation of the universe. We accept the divine Architect of the universe.





# The Key to Meditation

By FRATER O. LACROIX



HERE is a way to read, to meditate, to speak or to write which few seem to be able to use. Many meditate in an entanglement of thoughts and principles which soon lead to confusion; but those who are successful have learned that the

right way to meditate is first to let the force of the soul make its way into our thinking. When we have made this provision and are in an exalted state of mind, then we will benefit most from our meditation, for our intuition is at work and inspiration is sure to come to our assistance. We are thus partly objective and partly subjective. So, when we wish to meditate-or to read, to speak and write on spiritual matterswe must first make ourselves receptive to inspiration or higher guidance; engaging our thoughts in the process, but without hampering the incoming flow of inspiration.

Most people never meditate. They think they do so, but their conclusions seem always wrong. Why? I believe it is merely because they are only using the objective mind which is very liable to err in its judgment. When we read our lessons, we must have this elevation of spirit to benefit most from them.

When we meditate, it is a necessity to have it. When we want to impart truth to another, we must have the light of it in ourselves, for we do not give what we have not. And when we write, it is imperative to be receptive to inspiration, if we are going to be original and enlightening, for inspiration is always new and revealing.

How can humanity have access to the truth which lies behind the surface of things, be happy and peaceful again if it lacks this efficacy, which will adjust everything and redeem everyone? I would emphasize that this is the first step and all else is to be done starting from there.

We have an example of this in our instructions. We are taught first how to awaken the Inner Self, then we are given the keys to a basic understanding of the mysteries of life, so that our awakened insight may show us the truth which our mere study of its principles cannot reveal in all its radiance and splendor. Theories may remain lifeless words. So again, we should be more interested in calling into action our inner Master than in filling our heads with theories and being assailed at every moment with armies of doubts and suspicions. Yes, this is the first step of all. The key which opens the door not only to the unfathomable depths of Cosmic wisdom but also to lasting happiness, profound peace and supreme achievement.



## THE CORINTH CANAL

The Roman Emperor. Nero. began this canal nearly two thousand years ago. to assure quicker passage of his troops to and from the Hellenic lands. The present cut through the nearly solid rock of the Isthmus of Corinth. connecting Morea to the mainland of Greece, utilizes the early work of Nero. In the last few weeks, history has repeated itself with the modern armies of Europe using the canal for both offense and defense measures. This is one of the many photographs taken by the Rosicrucian Camera Expedition, having historical and current news value. We might term it the waterway to the seat of ancient culture—and conflict.

(Courtesy of the Rosicrucian Digest.)



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