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The Rosicrucian Digest

"The Mystic Triangle"



Covers the World

The Official, International Rosicrucian Magazine of the
World-Wide Rosicrucian Order

VOL. VIII

APRIL, 1930

No. 3

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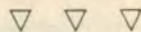
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The Thought of the Month

MAN IS NOT SUFFICIENT UNTO HIMSELF

By THE EMPEROR



THE great sessions and congresses of minds being held in many parts of the world today for the purpose of mutual discussion of man's needs and man's requirements show that there is a growing consideration of the fact that man, as an individual or a group of men as a nation cannot exist independently of other individuals or groups.

We have those groups of high officials now considering disarmament and the abolition of war. We have other groups considering ways and means of establishing eternal peace. We have other groups considering methods for the establishment of a universal language and universal cooperation in business affairs. We have still other groups considering the ways and means for the prevention of strikes and strifes in business and the prevention of panics and financial troubles. All of these show a desire on the part of peoples and nations to come together and reason.

No longer can the individual find peace, security, prosperity, and happiness without due consideration for the peace, happiness, and prosperity of others. We are reminded of the phrase in the popular song, "I want to be happy but I can't be happy unless you are happy too."

All that man possesses today in the enjoyment of life and liberty is the result of the heritage passed on to him by those who have preceded him and who thought of the future generations, or is the results of other peoples and other nations at the present time thinking of those beyond their political and racial lines. The Universal Brotherhood of man is gradually accumulating

strength, power, and most important of all, recognition. Where religion has failed to unite nations and races into one Universal Brotherhood, science will show the way and Cosmic Illumination will inspire the action.

Since the announcement of the Cathedral of the Soul in the passages of this magazine, we have heard from hundreds of our members in all parts of the world who have awaited the establishment of such a central point for the unification of their love, their ideals, and their hopes and aspirations. They report that by lifting their thoughts as well as their gaze to a point high above the earth plane and free from the physical limitations of natural and political boundaries, all men of all races can now unite in one place at one time and find the essential element of universal brotherhood beautifully expressed.

As we lift our thoughts and minds above the earth plane, all thoughts of strife and contest and of racial or political differences fall like cloaks of many colors from our spiritual beings. There is no need for these things the moment our feet leave the dust of the earth and we rise into the Cosmic realm. And it will always be that as man lifts his thoughts above the material, mortal, changing, limited, sordid things of life, he will find peace, happiness, contentment, and universal understanding. It is only as we step down from the mountain heights into the quagmires of the earth, into the valleys, that we find the divisions that separate love and peace, and reveal their shadows of hate and strife. In the Cosmic we find that we are all one and of the same God, of the same soul, and of the same mind.

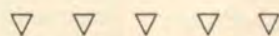
In the Cathedral of the Soul our members report that they find music, in-

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spiration, laughter, peace, happiness, and a vitalizing power that brings health and strength. Many letters have come to my desk showing that just one contact at a communion in the Cathedral has caused a long standing illness to leave the body, not to return. Others have reported that unpleasant conditions in the home have been changed as if by magic through one contact with the Cathedral. Others have met there the

masters and the great teachers, while others have found illumination and an answer to problems that could not come in any other way.

As these congresses lift their gaze above the sordid things of life and carry their problems and their hopes into the Cosmic, they will find more unity, more peace, and the touch of universal brotherhood and therein they will also find a solution for their problems.



Cosmic Interpretation of the Lord's Prayer

By SOROR MARION FOSTER WOTHERSPOON



OUR FATHER Who art in Heaven"

Source of all Being — Being Supreme—Who fill-est all Space and all Time; and whose laws are made manifest in the circlings of Thy suns, in their births and transitions and their giving births, living cells in Thy wondrous body.

"Hallowed be Thy name."

Thy nature is holy—it is whole and perfect—it is One.

"May Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is done in Heaven."

May Thy perfect Law—Thy perfect Way of Existence — prevail upon this planet, which is our home, as it prevails with all Thy suns and planets in the sky.

"Give us this day our daily bread,"

As Thy sun's seasons perfect our grains and our fruits and endlessly bring forth forms of life to feed other forms of life.

"And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those that trespass against us."

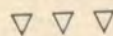
For in our ignorance we struggle against Thy law, hurting ourselves and others; and knowing our own ignorance we understand and forgive the ignorance and self-will of those who hurt us.

"And leave* us not in temptation, but deliver us from evil."

For as Thy winters try us with cold, and Thy summers with heat, Thy spring-times with flood, and Thine autumns with drouth, while yet all give life and strength to seed and fruit, so are transition, sin, and sorrow a part of Thy Law for the perfecting of our souls' experience. When those dark days are upon us, leave us not to face them in our separate consciousness but by making known to us Thy Presence in Evil, deliver us from terror and despair.

"For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever and ever, Amen."

For Thou, the Spirit of the Living Universe, in Whom our spirits live and move and have their being, art the One Ruler and the One Power. Thou art the life of all that live, the thought of all that think, the goodness of all that love; and through whatsoever agency Thou dost act, whether through Man, or Nature, or Law, Thine is the Glory that shineth through. Amen.



The effect of the habitual repetition of this prayer is to recall to man's consciousness, too much absorbed with affairs of this earth only, his real union

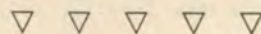
*In some old translations of the Prayer, the word leave is used instead of lead.



with the Great Life of the whole cosmos. In his limited earth-bound consciousness man is the helpless victim of self-created fate. The farmer may plant his crops ever so cunningly; he cannot control cyclone or untimely frost. Whatever care man may take of his health, he cannot escape change and transition. So much is he the result of heredity and environment that many thinkers deny him any free will at all — yet a spirit within him urges him ever to make essay to control his fate. Apart from God, and knowledge of and obedience to Nature's laws, which are God's laws, he is, indeed, helpless. But because his inmost being is one with the Supreme Being, he partakes of the freedom of

that Supreme Being. He cannot, by his own efforts, and to further his own ends, alter one jot or one tittle of the Law; but he can, to some extent, adjust himself to it. The method of such adjustment is two-fold: by knowledge of the Law; and by training the consciousness to oneness with it. The first is the way of science; the second the way of prayer.

Jesus taught the above prayer to his disciples; but He did not use it to try to escape His crucifixion. The habit of mind it inculcates enabled Him to bear the crucifixion in such a way that it led inevitably to the resurrection. Every cell of his body knew itself to be not merely under the law of nature, but an ever-living part of the ever-living Body of God.



Mysticism Versus Mystery

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO FACTORS OF LIFE

By FRATER H. MAXWELL



HERE is a tendency in the Western world today to confuse mysticism with the mysterious, yet there is absolutely no relationship and no reason for this confusion except the fact that the two words have a similar syllable. There, the similarity begins and ends.

When one comes to analyze the beautiful transcendental field of mysticism, one walks in a Path that is directly away from all that is mysterious and all that mystery implies. The study of mysteries and the mysterious leads one into the subjects of magic and of the concealed, deceitful, contrary things of life. True there is a difference between white magic and black magic, and the word magic, itself, originally meant the wisdom and knowledge, the art and the practice of the Magi or the wise men of ancient times. It did not mean or imply trickery or the confounding of the senses by deception or the use of subterfuge. Such forms of magic are now

rightfully called black magic, and white magic is still that art and practice of the learned wise men of the orient. Even so, mysticism is not related to these.

During the month of February of this year a great congress of religious principles was held in St. Thomas' church, Fifth Avenue and 53rd Street, New York City, at which a number of eminent leaders of religious thought expressed themselves. The most interesting statements were made by the Right Reverend Ernest Milmore Stires, an Episcopalian Bishop. He made plea in behalf of mysticism most eloquently. His talk reminds us of the address made at one of the Episcopalian conferences two years ago when one of the leading Episcopalian clergymen of New York made an address which was cabled all around the world. The key number of his thrilling appeal to the Bishops and clergymen assembled before him was that every effort should be made in the Episcopal church to return to the true and pure mysticism of the original Christian

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Sixty-eight

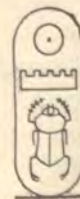
church. He emphasized the fact that by the elimination of mysticism from religion we were eliminating the very heart and soul of religious thought and practice. Bishop Stires now comes forward and says that it is discouraging to him and to others to find that it is necessary to hold a special meeting to discuss the essential principles of Christianity and to bring forth the fact that mysticism is the basic element of the Christian faith.

We may appreciate the high understanding the Bishop has of the real nature of mysticism when he says that the vital question of the day was "Shall the living spirit be crushed by the machine it has made or shall it be strong enough to dominate and control the machine?" He dwelt upon the fact that today the average person is trusting his life and success for future happiness, his advancement, and development to human power or to the physical and mental power of the physical side of man's being. He admitted that this power was becoming a mighty factor in civilization and that man's physical and mental prowess was a tremendous force for good as well as evil. But said he, "We are the Creator's children and it is not remarkable we have inherited the creative spirit. But not yet have we learned to connect all this human power of ours to work toward the realization of the spiritual possibilities that lie before us." Then he added, "A modern fallacy is the idea that people have bodies and souls, when really, though they have bodies, they are Souls." The Bishop continued to argue that when man lived a purely physical and material life, he was only half living or giving expression to half of his being. The real, essential part of man is the inner self or the soul. Its powers and possibilities are so far greater than the power of the body and brain that there is no comparison. The world in which the soul or the inner consciousness can exist and operate and manifest and accomplish things is an unlimited world, whereas the world in which the physical body and brain of man must accomplish its desires is so limited as to be microscopically small in comparison with the other.

Sixty-nine

Man's greatest achievements have not been in the physical world nor has he accomplished his greatest good for himself and for others through the functioning and the faculties of his body and brain. Man's greatest accomplishments in the domain of radio whereby he can hear speakers at great distances and see them speak and move regardless of the miles that separate the one from the other, and man's accomplishments in the fields of medicine, surgery, the sciences, and the arts are insignificant things compared to what he has accomplished in the redemption of his own being and the advancement of his personal, inner mastery. When man learned how to pray, he learned a greater art than any that the universities of science or industry have yet taught him in all the ages that have elapsed since the first primitive man lifted his thoughts and his voice in an appeal to the God of all beings. When man gradually learned how to attune himself with the Cosmic forces and to find peace, strength, contentment, and understanding through such attunement, he accomplished more than when the eminent engineers were able to harness the greatest power produced by the terrific force of the falls at Niagara. When man learned that he was essentially good and not essentially evil, and that he might hope for life eternal through regeneration and salvation, he laid a greater foundation for the birth of new races and a new kingdom of man on earth than was ever laid by the greatest of monarchs in the most ambitious periods of national aggrandizement.

Man is now just learning that the mind in his inner self is a more perfect master and a more perfect director of matter than his most illuminated brain and mental faculties could ever be. He is learning that not only his own physical body and the functioning within it but all of his environment and all of the influence without his body are subject to control, and he is discovering that he can sweep the material obstacles of life into submission and free himself from the slavery that has held him in bondage for so many ages. He is learning that there is an unconquerable, domineering superman within his own being moving



restlessly and anxiously, ever seeking an opportunity to take hold of the reins of life and lead the body to its ultimate success and power. No greater force, no greater mind power than this resides anywhere in the universe and it is freely given and rightfully possessed by even children and by everyone with a normal natural desire for this great power.

Mysticism is the study of man's inner self and of the relationship man has to God and the relationship existing between God and all living things on this earth. Bishop Stires pointed out what would happen in that wonderful day when all men and women would have a proper understanding of mysticism and would properly apply its principles to their personal development. Then would come a time when it will be possible for us "to have real visions, to see the invisible, to hear the inaudible, and to touch the intangible." What the Bishop says is what the Rosicrucians have said and talked and practiced for many centuries. On every hand, we find a widening and increasing interest in the subject of mysticism and the spiritual things of life. The libraries report that more books are being read on this subject today in one month than were read in a period of a year in the past. In every examination and investigation of the reason for the reduction in church attendance, we find the questionnaires reporting that the average man or woman is tired of churchianity and theological doctrines and now desires pure religion. More books have been published in the past two years dealing with the doctrines and teachings of the eminent messengers of God and the Avatars of the Light of men than ever before in the history of civilization. And when we question the readers of these books, many of which have editions running into a million copies, and when we question those who attend discourses and lectures outside of the church, we find that what they are really seeking and what they really want is that knowledge, that understanding, that inner spiritual comprehension which is exclusively included in this field of mysticism. It was the mysticism of a primitive nature in the early religions of Egypt, Persia, and India that appealed to the intellectual and cultured classes

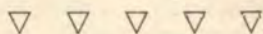
and evolved the great religious movements of those lands. It was the mysticism of a slightly higher and more transcendental nature in the religion of the Hebrews that inspired them to greater effort in search of a kingdom of their own and lead to the foundation of their wonderful nation. It was the still higher and more sublime mysticism in the teachings of John the Baptist and of Jesus the Christ that laid the foundation for that part of the Christian religion which is still a living power in the lives of millions, regardless of their church affiliation or church rejection. It was the phases of spiritual mysticism in the teachings of Buddha that made his life so noble and his doctrines so soul satisfying, even to those who knew not the existence of an ever living God. It was the mysticism in the ethical doctrines of Confucius, of Amenhotep, and of hundreds of other divine messengers in the past that enabled them to lift their followers many steps higher in the development of civilization and open a new world to their vision and widen the horizon of life's possibilities. It is the mysticism pure and undefiled in Christian Science that makes its peculiar, contradictory, and negative principles useful and uplifting to so many thousands of persons. It is the little tinge of mysticism in the New Thought movement and in the preachments of modern psychology that make these two new movements helpful and pleasing to so many. It is pure mysticism that will save the churches from becoming crushed by the machine they have created and save them through the direction of the spirit that created all things.

Mysticism, therefore, with its great searchlight and its beams of illumination bringing understanding to the hearts and souls of the inner man, will be the regenerating principle in the salvation of the races to come. As man's consciousness evolves and he rises higher and higher in even his mental and physical conception of things, as they are, it is mysticism alone that is capable of evolving to his standard and leading him onward in his search. Theological doctrines, church rituals, creeds, and dogmas of man's making become obsolete and are cast aside as they have been in

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every age and period of civilization, but mysticism remains the eternal truth and is never disqualified by time, by evolutionary force, by mental and physical development, by the advancement of science, by the accomplishments and achievements of human power, or by the mastership that man attains. The mystical principles of life are the only ones which give man that conviction and that assurance that he can keep pace with the onward march of the material world and remain the dominating character in life's great drama. Mystical principles alone enable man to see beyond the veil

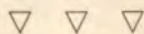
and the fictitious limits of Space and Time. There is no magic in all of this, for magic and trickery are the playthings of man's physical senses, whereas mysticism is the dependable revealer of Cosmic knowledge. There is no mystery in mysticism, for its every principle unveils the hidden, searches out the occult, and reveals the unknown. It is mysticism that will develop in man the divine heritage which was given to him at birth and which will bring him closer and closer into contact with the God consciousness and enable him to evolve where he will become the living image of his Creator.



The Financial Situation In America

COSMIC CYCLES SHOW CAUSE AND PERIODICITY

By FRATER ROYLE THURSTON, F. R. C.

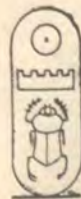


DURING the past six months our correspondence has been heavily laden with reports of financial depression and unemployment in practically every part of the United States with the exception of the Pacific Coast. The serious situation once again illustrates the stability of business and financial conditions in California and other Pacific Coast states, and very little of the depressing effect has been felt here in the West. At times it is very hard for those living in California enjoying health, happiness, and the necessities of life to appreciate the fact that conditions are as bad in eastern cities as some persons report them.

The one important outstanding consideration of the entire situation, however, is that the financial depression and business situation which reached a crisis in the latter part of 1929 was strictly in accordance with the cycles of business

and financial conditions for the country. Perhaps few of our members have realized that a nation of people has its Karma and is affected by the cycles of life the same as the individual. Our records at headquarters are replete with the notations regarding the trials and tribulations that have come to nations and races of peoples in the past years in accordance with the law of Karma and the cycles of life, and it is possible to outline for many years in advance the rise and fall of the trials and tribulations of every nation and country in the world.

Just as the life of each individual is affected by the cycles of seven-year periods, so is a nation affected in various ways. Each nation, like each individual, has its cycle of health, its cycle of business, its cycle of fear, of war, and strained diplomatic relations, its cycle of scientific achievement and advancement, its cycle of joy and happiness, and its cycle of sorrows and griefs through the passing of prominent individuals whose



interests affect the hearts of the nation. Those of you who have recently purchased copies of "Self Mastery and Fate with the Cycles of Life" have learned the surprising facts relating to the individual's cycles of life. That book is now in its second edition and the thousands of letters being received at headquarters from those who purchased the first edition and have tested the cycles in it on personal affairs prove how exact and helpful that book has been in helping them govern their lives in accordance with Cosmic conditions. I have seen hundreds of letters from persons who have said that a large financial deal or an important business matter was saved from ruin by the application of one of the laws in that book. And there are many eminent business men who have written to us that they are governing their daily actions in accordance with the principles outlined in the book and have found this to be the most helpful system they ever used.

In regard to national affairs, we notice at once that the financial crisis which culminated in the latter part of 1929 was in accordance with the cycle of seven years, and if we go backward over the history of this country, it is easy to see where the cycle has made many definite manifestations in the past. The previous financial and business depression covered part of the years of 1921 and 1922, the preceding one was at the beginning of the war in 1914 and 1915; thus we can trace the definite working of the business cycle in the nation's financial and business affairs. The same is true in regard to the nation's health and the various epidemics, in regard to disease, pestilence, storms, and destruction of crops and produce.

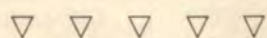
The important thing that our members should keep in mind is that these cycles and their periodic effects are dealing with Cosmic tendencies and urges, and that man alone is responsible for the ultimate fulfillment of these urges. The Cosmic influences could not and would not produce a financial depression. It is simply that these higher influences tend to arouse in man's mind a feeling of unrest and of investigation regarding business and financial conditions, and man misinterprets this to be

a fear of the stability of conditions and he rushes into drastic action and precipitates a crisis. None of the financial panics or business depressions in the past history of this country could have become manifest if the will of man had attempted to prevent them and if an understanding of the conditions had been constructively applied. There really was no warrant or reason for the present crisis in business and finances except that over a course of a number of years men and women had been frantically indulging in speculations because of prosperity and a false feeling of security. All rational precautions and all common sense applications of business laws were thrown aside with the attitude that business is good and will remain good. Such actions on the part of mankind can go only so far when there is bound to be a breaking point. The result of such a crisis is an inevitable adjustment and it is at this time that the Cosmic laws and principles step in and not only teach man a valuable lesson but serve him in rebuilding and readjusting the financial affairs of the country. Those of our members who guide their lives in accordance with the tables in the book called "Self Mastery" could not and would not be caught in the crash that comes every seven years to those who do not observe the Cosmic principles.

The present crisis and depression is about over. In another month or two employment will rapidly increase and before the first of June most persons will have forgotten about the present crisis. During the month of March thousands will go back to their former employment and a million or more persons will begin to feel the increase of prosperity. It is at this time of readjustment that the will of man and his thinking are very important. As each individual thinks now and plans, so will the future be. The pessimist who thinks that the present conditions will continue and that all business has gone to the dogs will help to make his own life miserable and will help to delay the coming of a more prosperous period. The optimist will help to create better conditions and will be the first to benefit by the inevit-

able changes. We are in a very fine position to sense the pulse of the nation, and while we are located on the Pacific Coast and in a territory where the depression is always the least, on the other hand, speaking from a purely business point of view, our financial affairs are the result of the financial conditions of thousands of members, most of whom are scattered east of the Rocky Mountains. Therefore, we were among the first of large organizations to feel and sense the financial depression of the men and women throughout the nation, and we have had to readjust our activities and our affairs in accordance with those of our members. For this reason our optimism is not based upon any lack of effect from the situation but in spite of the effect it has had upon us, we are familiar enough with the laws and principles to know how to advise and plan for the rapid readjustment that is close at hand.

The more quickly our members realize that they must maintain their contact with the organization and adhere to the laws and principles, the more quickly will they learn that there is a security and a protection against passing changes in their lives. Those who became frightened and fearful of their personal affairs and broke their contact with the organization or permitted it to become secondary while they devoted their attention to trying to fight a condition which they thought was permanent were among the first to suffer most heavily from the situation. By following the cycles of life and guiding your daily and monthly activities in accordance with the rules in that book and then using the principles taught in our organization to control your affairs, you will make your future a more definite and assured condition in accordance with your plans and desires.



An Indisputable Cosmic Law

HOW COSMIC PRINCIPLES WORK, IN ALL THINGS

By FRATER THOMAS B. YEAGER, F. R. C.

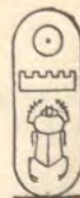


IT IS nothing short of astounding to find what a little careful searching of correlated facts will reveal. No one can appreciate this quite as well as a Rosicrucian, for he is trained in all of the sciences and reasons with an open, unbiased mind. To him realization opens up vistas of facts and actualities that do really exist, but are ignored and not appreciated by the many who feel that truth must be forced upon them, and that search must end in vain.

Let us, for a few moments, analyze the spiral, its relationship and symbolism. To the mystic it reveals evolution, reincarnation, progress, improvement, and development, from its winding circles of ever-increasing diameter. He learns that all manifestations are from

the center outward and upward through each expanding cycle, on and on with ever-increasing propensity. He recognizes in its symbology that there is no death, no stagnation, no transmigration to a lower level; but that the spiral points the way to a more high, more grand, more sublime goal from which, eventually, no one can escape.

Science has devised and coined various terms to fit manifestations of the same force; for instance, certain evidences of the spiral law it calls centrifugal and centripetal forces, meaning center outward and center inward respectively. The Rosicrucian knows them to be the same forces we call attraction and repulsion. As has been said before, this multiplicity of names shows lack of coordination between various scientific bodies and schools, which also tends to mystify the student, and adds greatly



to a complicated system of forces, out of which the neophyte is expected to extricate himself. To further illustrate this point, think for a moment of the multitude of terms we possess such as osmosis, saturation, capillary attraction, atomic affinity, molecular formation, magnetic density, personal magnetism, chemical affinity, motive incenta, mobile embodiments, etc. By a careful diagnosis of these and various other named forces, the earnest student will come to realize that they are all merely manifestations of the dual forces of attraction and repulsion, the study of which will explain all the others, regardless of the elaborate adjectives used to describe them or the technical names they bear. It is small wonder that the average seeker after light who has not contacted with the Rosicrucian Order, finds himself lost in a maze of intangible clues, and ends the circle about where he started it, with the feeling, "It is too deep for me." This circle need not take the place of the ever-increasing spiral, which never ends, but becomes more beautiful, more truthful, more understandable, more workable, and lovable throughout each expanding cycle.

No man begins his system of cycles as a perfect being. We can not therefore expect perfect results, immediately, in any of the works of man. If we could attain instantaneous perfection, it would be the end. The circular spiral ordained in the Cosmos would cease; stagnation and retrogression would set in, and the very purpose of our existence would pass into oblivion. Thanks to Divine Wisdom the reverse is true. The constant never ceasing harmonies of Cosmic Vibrations never end, on and on they go through each expanding cycle, each revolution being grander and better, for as we learn we evolve.

From casual observation it would at first appear to the neophyte that in the instance of matter materia or inanimate physical manifestations, the cycle of evolution tends to spiral inwards instead of outwards. For example automobiles, engines, radios, and so forth, wear out, disintegrate and eventually become worthless. If we examine a little deeper into the subject, we find that the universe and man have profited by this ap-

parent visualization and experience. In other words we build year after year better automobiles, better engines, and better radios. Thus the depreciation is only temporary and each step is but another mile stone passed in that great outward upward spiralistic movement.

The Arcane Intelligence or Divine Cosmic Mind has ordained such laws of marvelous wisdom that exemplify in practice the conservation of matter, evolution being thereby brought out through systematic harmonization of vibratory forces, in an ever-increasing repetition of spiraled cycles. Hence there is not a single electron that is ever lost, wasted, destroyed, or uselessly expended. In fact these infinitesimal units, termed electrons, by the twin forces of attraction and repulsion, evolve towards a cycle of producing a habitat or suitable physical body that will afford and support life throughout the three kingdoms. We may prove this by observing the formation and behavior of cell life.

Of course it is a long step from the cell fision of bread mold and bacteria, to the complex system of cell grouping and aggregations of functional units found in the human and animal realms, but we must agree with the wise thinker who said, "The mills of the gods grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly fine."

From the astronomer and scientist we have the Nebula Hypothesis propounded by Emanuel Swedenborg, tested and accepted by Pierre Laplace and Sir William Herschel, proved in this day by the spectroscope. This is no longer a theory for it has been adopted in full by the majority of scientists as the true cosmogony of all interstellar planetary formation. In brief, the fact is that huge masses of incandescent gases at a temperature far beyond the conception of the human mind, are traveling through space at terrific speeds, arranging themselves in spiral forms. Thus we see new worlds in their embryonic stage. Millions of years ago the earth we inhabit and all the planets obeyed that same law in the same way.

Every year the sun crosses our equator a few feet further outward on a spiral path, showing a gain over the preceding year. This fact accounts for the receding of our glaciers.

From a botanical viewpoint the spiral and its many ramifications is equally important. The age of the giant sequoias and redwoods of California, some of which were large saplings during the lifetime of the Master Jesus, two thousand years ago, is determined by the spiral presented by their cross-section, as is the age of every tree.

The little snail of the ocean's shore builds more to its spiral home each year. Our solar days ascend the spiral as they lengthen and descend as they shorten. As each year rolls by we expand the cycle and improve, thus symbolizing the spiral. Each incarnation makes us bigger and better as we evolve and improve in obedience to that sublime spiral Law of God. Many ionic manifestations are spiralistic in form. The serpent which was regarded by the ancients as a symbol of wisdom, coils spirally to strike, and it also assumes a similar position when hatching eggs. From the meteorologist's viewpoint, water spouts and tornadoes, whirlwinds, and so forth, are spirals in form. The homing pigeon spirals its way aloft before darting on its journey. Liquids whirled in a container obey the same law.

The heavy crude petroleum, taken from the bowels of the earth in our oil producing districts, is pumped spirally through huge pipe lines to the refineries. This spiral motion was not inaugurated in this instance by man, but the law asserted itself in spite of him. Today many spiral pipe lines are being built to work in harmony with that law.

Electricity travels spirally along its conductors more on the surface than in the center. The magnetic lines of force adjacent to any current carrying conductor, can be traced on their spiral path by means of a small compass. Watch a steam locomotive for the spiral assemblage of gases found in its wake. Observe the spiral upward march of all the climbing vines. Who indeed is it that has not seen a whirlpool, rapids, or even spiralistic eddies in still water? Examine any human finger print, or an animal's foot, and note the spiral whorls in evidence among the capillary arrangements of the skin. The same is known to exist in hair follicles of both human beings and animals. Cow horns

is another example. The semi-circular canal, located in the medulla cavity of human and animal skulls, is the organ that transforms sound vibrations so that the auditory nerves may convey the sense of sound to the brain. Its form is spiralistic. A man lost in the woods will travel in a spiral path, unconsciously.

The unfoldment of the rose (the soul) upon the Karmic cross is symbolically a spiral.

The ebullition of liquids when heat is applied regardless of whether it be water, molten metal, or chemical compounds, is spiralistic. The resultant gases of such a process obey the same law, which is: negative electrons thrown off by the mobile mass describe a circular arc instead of a tangent, and these electrons are repelled by other protons and electrons. When a union takes place a different average rate of vibrations ensues, in accordance with the scale of the Cosmic Key Board, thereby creating a new manifestation which may be entirely different in character and nature from the original constituents.

It will be noted that in the above case, the application of heat raised the rate of vibration of the liquids; attraction (chemical affinity) was broken down, and the electrons thereby released or spirally propelled into space by the force causing the dissolution. In this way new elements or gases are formed, and we say evaporation has taken place as the liquid diminishes in volume. By no means has anything been destroyed; it has merely been transposed by different vibrations to other manifestations.

An able illustration of what changing rates of vibration will do, is found in the ordinary soda and water type of hand, fire extinguisher. This form comprises three elements, sulphuric acid (H_2SO_4) water (H_2O) and common baking soda (Na_2CO_2) which is an alkali. The acid is extremely active and will attack skin, fabrics, and many metals. When the device is placed into service, the enumerated ingredients are mixed in proper proportion, producing a gas which forces the compound mixture out of the container under pressure; and also the vibratory rate has been so changed that no injury will be in evidence to skin or to the finest and most delicate fabrics.



Scientific chemists inform us that the hydrogen atom is the simplest of all the known atomic combinations, so simple in fact, that it is used as a unit in calculating all other atomic construction. It is given the value of one in most tables, yet this same simple atom possesses a kinetic power beyond the range of man's abilities to fathom or release from its ties at this time. To the Rosicrucian this is another example of attraction, and illustrates the power of Cosmic Forces little appreciated or understood by man.

We may now look at the other extreme. Take the radium atom, it being the most complex in construction of any known atom. The speed and force of electrons given off from a mass of radium is so great that actual photographs have been taken showing these electrons flying through a thick steel plate apparently unhampered, inscribing spirals as they journey. Thus is shown an example of the law of repulsion.

The rifling in a gun barrel is spiraled to give the bullet a whirl which insures accuracy. In mechanics spiral watch springs keep our time and spiral bed springs ease our rest. Geographically speaking, spiral roads wind their way to the mountain apex. In the standard and rotary drilling rigs used to drill wells, spiralistic features are employed. The centrifugal pump imparts force to liquids by its spiral principle. The symbol of medicology, called the caduceus, employs a spiral design. The leaning tower of Pisa (one of the seven ancient wonders of the world) was built like a spiral. The labyrinth of the ancient Cretans was built to illustrate the Law of the Spiral.

The ancient progenitors of our numerical system, known as the Arabic system, were evidently familiar with these laws which the symbology of the numbers tends to indicate; for instance the figure 3 (the symbol of the law of the triangle) is two half circles joined together at one edge, the two halves making a whole or complete cycle; 6 and 9 (multiples of three) higher in the scale of vibrations, are composed of a circle with an appendix, emphasizing a spiral. This connection shows system, rhythm, harmony, and coordination between several of God's great Cosmic Laws, namely: The Law of the Tri-

gle, The Law of the Spiral, The Law of Rhythm, Vibrations on the Cosmic Key Board, and repetition of cycles by scale, all of which are essential to manifestation on either the material or immaterial planes.

A few years ago at a mechanics' convention in Philadelphia, the question was asked, "What is the most profound principle used in the trade?" The answer unanimously accepted, was the screw. Every mechanical device known to man employs the screw in some way, such as machine screws, wood screws, lag bolts, bolts with nuts, pipe threads, worm gears, and so forth. This principle is a modified spiral.

In our application of electrical laws, we have solenoids, relays, choke coils, artificial magnets, transformers, and so forth, all employing spiral windings of copper wire, and also reactive resistors and inductances will not function in any other form. Spirally wound capacitive condensers are rapidly replacing the old tin foil plate method.

In the familiar lead battery, the active lead is formed into a ribbon, then wound spirally into little rosettes before being pressed into the plates.

In the famous Electric Squirrel Cage Induction Motor (the most universally used motor in the world today) the spiral is predominantly in evidence, and the constant, ever changing, magnetic forces within the motor are rapidly rotating spirally. The core must be built up of laminated iron to prevent magnetic spiral eddies from forming which would dissipate heat, thereby causing loss of energy.

Modern water tube boilers, by means of baffles, deflect the hot gases of combustion in a spiral path upward around the tubes.

The aviator resorts to the spiral in gaining altitude.

The propellers on steamships have a spiralistic constant, as did the windmills of olden times.

The modern trend of engineers who have to deal with conversion of power or prime movers, is to avoid reciprocated movement and to design rotative motion in cycles, that comply with the law of the spiral. To many of them this spells efficiency, while in reality it is evolution

in compliance with the wisdom of the Cosmic Forces.

As we look and learn, improve and evolve, we are forcibly reminded again and again that "The only laws that man can break are the laws that man can make."

The casual observer seems to imagine that the entire scheme is steeped in a deep mystery of intangible theories, devoid of logical form or factor, and that these are beyond the realm of his comprehension and far from his ken. The Rosicrucian Masters have understood and realized this tendency, and their life works have been to emphasize and bring into our lives a workable, and practical system, whereby the simplicity and relative merits of these Great Cosmic Laws and Forces can be applied by humanity as a boon to aid in disseminating and complying with the Laws and Powers of God, and in so doing will we alleviate much of the Karma of suffering mankind anywhere and everywhere. As an illustration of this point it may be said that an automobile driver who understands and knows the various functions of his car, their purposes and details, will make a far better chauffeur than the one who merely pushes levers and buttons because someone told him to.

Reading and preaching of all the laws known to man will not bring about one iota of good unless we lay aside the mask that all men wear, namely, fear, superstition, egotism, and self-satisfaction together with obligations to set ideas and creeds. We must be broad in vision, we must adopt and incorporate into our very lives every tenacle of the Great Divine Laws. The more permanently and effectively we do that, the greater good we can do and the larger will be our measure of success.

Down, through the ages, from the ancient Rosicrucian Masters, have come the guide posts pointing out the way and illuminating the path, that all may profit thereby. The materials and forces

are all here waiting for us to mold them, but ere we do so let us be sure our plans are in accordance with Cosmic Laws.

It quite frequently happens that we judge the merits or demerits of certain phases of life, from an exoteric standpoint; and in so doing, we are apt to realize only the features presentable to the objective senses, which are known to be subject to gross errors. Now then, if we are to comprehend the intrinsic and correlated values, we must investigate the esoteric version as well. We have from the Master Jesus a worthy admonition which illustrates this point, "He that hath an ear to hear, let him hear."

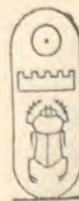
This seems to apply equally well, regardless of the subject. No opinion should ever be formed until both sides have been studied, for to do otherwise is to harbor bias, to court error and probably failure. The ancients were adept at exercising the virtue of a thorough investigation before forming conclusions. For instance the Rosicrucian student knows there is much wisdom in that old saying, "Wise, were the kings who never chose a friend 'til they had unmasked his soul and had seen the bottom of his deepest thoughts."

Truly it is a great pleasure to realize the stage of advancement we have reached, but the most work lies ahead. We have merely scratched the surface of progress; only the most fragmentary rudiments of wisdom have been touched. A marvelous future lies in store for him who will seek with reverence, patience, and persistence.

While we are so busy revealing nature's secrets, applying them for pleasure and profit, comfort and gain, earning for our time thereby, the caption "The metallic age," let us not forget that we have sadly neglected that finer, higher, virtuous knowledge from which flows, "that Peace which passeth understanding,"—Attunement with the Arcane Cosmic Mind.

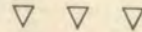
"JUST A POINT OF INFORMATION"

Occasionally there is some delay in the return to you of your due card, properly receipted for your monthly dues. This, you will understand, is due to the fact that we receive thousands of pieces of mail of all kinds, and it is impossible to always send the card back as promptly as we would like, as perhaps the next lecture or lesson intended for you has just been mailed before we received your due card. So, if it is time for you to make your contribution of dues, and you have not received the card from headquarters, send in your remittance regardless, and when it is received a receipt will be sent to you, which you can then attach to your due card when it has been returned.



Cathedral Notes

SPECIAL PERIODS FOR CONTACTING COMMUNIONS IN THE CATHEDRAL OF THE SOUL



DURING the month of April there will be many special services and communion periods for those who are making daily and weekly contacts with the Cathedral of the Soul.

Those who have not yet made the contact should not be discouraged for there is a time and a condition for each person when this contact will suddenly come about and thereafter future contacts will be a simple matter. Those who are trying to make the contact should make as many efforts to do so as possible following the periods of regular communion services as outlined in the special book called Liber 777, which explains the origin and purposes of the Cathedral of the Soul. If any one of our National Lodge members has not received a copy of this book during the past month it is suggested that he write a letter to the Supreme Secretary asking for a free copy of the Cathedral book No. 777. This book is for those members who are not affiliated with any lodge and who must, therefore, enter into these services in order to make contacts with other members and officers in general assembly.

Many wonderful letters have been received in the past month highly praising the Cathedral plan, and if you have

made any contacts that are interesting and have not reported them, please do as instructed in the book in that paragraph dealing with the subject of reports. Our members may show these Cathedral books to their friends who might be interested in such matters and let them realize what a beautiful service the Cathedral affords.

During April, the Imperator will be present in the Cathedral communions during the third period of each Sunday and during the third period of each Thursday. Mark these special periods on your calendar and enjoy the contact with the Imperator at these times. A special service of psychic development will be conducted by the Imperator during the third period on Wednesday, April 23rd. Mark this special date on your calendar. Every member should have a calendar or a small diary in which he can mark in advance the special periods that will be announced in this magazine. Unless you have received the book No. 777, you will not understand what is meant by the third period or second period, or any other period of the services held in the Cathedral; so be sure to secure a copy of the book if you are a member of the National Lodge and wish to participate in this special work.

"AN INTERESTING PLAN"

We announced in our February issue that we had a plan which we felt sure would interest a great many of our members, and which consisted of acting as a representative for the AMORC Supply Bureau in the handling of various books and publications. The representatives of the Supply Bureau are permitted an attractive commission on the books which they sell, and it affords the Organization the opportunity of introducing its works to thousands of sincere seekers.

If you are interested in the details of how you may represent the Supply Bureau in the handling of our various books, write a letter to the Secretary of the AMORC Supply Bureau, San Jose, California, and ask him to send more details of the plan whereby you may bring our books before the attention of many seekers. Those who have tested the plan say that they find hundreds of persons in every community who are delighted to come in contact with such books as "The Mystical Life of Jesus," "Self Mastery and Fate with Cycles of Life," "A Thousand Years of Yesterdays," etc.

*The
Rosicrucian
Digest
April
1930*

Was Bacon Shakespeare?

PROOF THAT BACON WROTE THE FAMOUS PLAYS

By THE IMPERATOR



NCE again the world wide interest in the Bacon-Shakespeare controversy has been revived by the discovery of some new proofs found in the original folios of the first Shakespearian plays.

It has always seemed peculiar to those who have examined all of the evidence that anyone should hesitate in coming to two very logical conclusions. First, that Shakespeare could not have written the plays attributed to him, and second, that Bacon is the man who wrote them. Of course, if one can come to the first conclusion as a conviction, it is easy to discover sufficient evidence for the second conclusion. The great difficulty with the average Shakespearian student is that admiration for the plays and adoration for the mythical superiority of the Shakespearian character prevents him from ever believing that Shakespeare did not write all of the plays and other matter attributed to him. Those of us who have spent many years in a careful study of this controversy and who entered it without bias or prejudice one way or the other have discovered that the average defender of the Shakespearian authorship is moved to this attitude more by a sense of worship of the man than through any other motive and it is probably true that more Shakespearian students are worshippers of the man as an idol than they are worshippers of the literature attributed to him. I do not mean to say that regardless of what he wrote or in spite of what he did not write, these persons are all worshippers at the feet of an idol, but I do mean to say that their love for the Shakespearian plays and their love for good literature has created in their hearts and minds an adoration for the

supposed author, and to them the name and personality of Shakespeare represent a glorious character whom they are reluctant to dethrone or see dethroned by any controversy. Otherwise what difference does it make to the real student of the Shakespearian work whether Bacon wrote the plays or this unknown actor wrote them? We have not shown, universally, so much regard for other authors during controversies regarding their works, so why should we be so reluctant to dethrone an author in this case?

For years a controversy raged regarding the writings of Poe and when some of his writings were finally attributed to others there was no world wide protest and the same thing can be said regarding the writings of many other authors. In all these cases the writings have stood of and by themselves, and while it was interesting to learn who wrote them, the essential adoration and admiration was given to the work itself rather than to the author.

I have attended a number of meetings of Shakespearian students and at the least mention of the Bacon-Shakespeare controversy, these enthusiasts have gone wildly into protest against the very idea that any person other than Shakespeare could have written them. Of course, we, who have been students of the subject for many years and have no bias or prejudice one way or the other, are placed in the peculiar position of having to prove our contention. The Shakespearian supporters vehemently demand that we prove that Shakespeare did not write all that is attributed to him. This is more difficult to do than one supposes, even with the mass of evidence in hand. But there is a far more difficult problem associated with the entire controversy,



and one which the Shakespearian enthusiasts entirely ignore. That problem is to prove that Shakespeare did not write all that is attributed to him. Of course, since the controversy is like a case in court and the Baconian supporters are plaintiffs, it is up to them to prove their case, whereas the Shakespearian supporters do not really, from a legal point of view, have to put in any defense at all. The time is coming, however, when the Shakespearian supporters will have to defend themselves, and then they are going to find that their demand that proof be submitted is a tight fitting shoe on another foot.

After all, what proof is there that Shakespeare ever wrote anything outside of a few scraps of paper that have nothing to do with literary matter? In other words, if none of the original folios of the Shakespearian plays had Shakespeare's name upon them and if the popular belief that Shakespeare wrote them did not exist and the plays and manuscripts were still anonymous, the Shakespearian supporters today could not come into any court of investigation with any tangible evidence to prove that Shakespeare had anything to do with the authorship of them. In such an investigation or trial, it would have to be shown that, first of all, Shakespeare was qualified to write such plays and such manuscripts. His literary ability would have to be shown together with a preparatory education giving him the knowledge to compose such masterpieces of English literature. Even if the manuscripts were in Shakespeare's own handwriting, it would have to be shown that he had not copied them but had actually composed them. To prove that he could compose such masterpieces, it would have to be shown that he had the knowledge, the ability, the training, and the intimate contact with the facts revealed in these manuscripts to make possible such compositions and originality of expression. Here the Shakespearian supporters would positively fail to prove their case. The few known examples of Shakespeare's handwriting show an ignorance and degree of illiteracy in writing that is astonishing for a man who admittedly memorized so much good lit-

erature and was able to speak and play the parts. He was not even sure of the spelling of his own name and resorted to using a cross as a signature rather than attempt to spell out his name as is shown on some scraps of legal papers. His library of reference books, as listed in an authentic legal paper, was so small as to be of no value to even a modern short story writer, and certainly deficient in the hundreds of books that the author of Shakespearian plays must have used in the preparation of the manuscripts, unless he was a genius in more ways than we are willing to credit to even Bacon. The known schooling of Shakespeare was exceedingly limited and he had neither the opportunity nor facilities for accumulating that knowledge through travel, and through the study of foreign languages and the sciences which the author of the plays most certainly did have. There is nothing in the life of Shakespeare which indicates that he was in any way prepared to have any degree of the schooling necessary for the authorship of the Shakespearian manuscripts. The best investigators and students have delved deeply into Shakespeare's life and have failed to bring forward one iota of evidence to show that his training would have enabled him to possess the knowledge to compose one of the plays bearing his name.

But as I have said, up to the present time, the Shakespearian supporters have not been called upon to prove that Shakespeare wrote the plays, but have simply stood pat in their defensive attitude and demanded that the Bacon supporters prove their case. The Shakespearian supporters simply claim that inasmuch as the first folios or printed copies of the plays state that they are the plays of Shakespeare, that is sufficient evidence that he wrote them. That claim is similar to stating that if Mr. Sothern, the famous Shakespearian actor, were to leave a batch of manuscripts or copies of the plays he had played during his life and they were published as the plays of Mr. Sothern, it would mean that Mr. Sothern had composed them. This in a brief way is the contention of the Shakespearian

supporters. On the other hand, the evidence that is rapidly accumulating to prove that Bacon wrote the plays is of a nature that is not accidental or circumstantial but absolutely positive. I refer not only to the cipher codes throughout the plays which reveal Bacon's name and which the Shakespearian supporters say is merely coincidence, but I refer to the Rosicrucian watermarks that appear in the original manuscripts and which are identical with the Rosicrucian watermarks that appear in Bacon's acknowledged writings and publications. Furthermore, there are Rosicrucian emblems in some of the decorations made for the Shakespearian books which could not have been put there by accident and which are similar to the Rosicrucian symbols appearing in Bacon's books. It is known that Bacon was a Rosicrucian and it is known that Shakespeare was not.

In many of the plays attributed to Shakespeare there is not only scientific and legal as well as historical knowledge and linguistic ability not possessed by Shakespeare but there are references to Rosicrucian symbology, Rosicrucian principles, and Rosicrucian secrets which Shakespeare knew nothing about, but which Bacon used in some of his other works which bear his name.

I do not suppose that the average Rosicrucian of today knows that originally the story of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table was a ritual used in the Rosicrucian lodges of Europe as an initiation ceremony. After the ritual and its symbolical stories became very popular through having been used with so many persons, it was abandoned because of its widespread understanding, and it then became a story. If Rosicrucians will read the real story of the quest of the Holy Grail, they will find that it is after all a ceremony conducted by a master of a lodge putting the candidates through a series of tests to prove their worthiness to come before the holy altar and receive final initiation. Throughout the story, there are phrases and symbolical references which prove that none other than a Rosicrucian could have composed that story. The veiled symbology in it is too cleverly obscured

Eighty-one

and too beautifully veiled to have come into such artful phrasing by chance or by any person who was not thoroughly familiar with the secrets and knew what could be freely expressed and what must be symbolized. The same is true of many of the Rosicrucian points included in the Shakespearian plays.

One of the common criticisms of the contention that Bacon wrote Shakespeare is that if Bacon had such beautiful ideas and such wonderful knowledge as is shown by the plays how came he to live such a life of deceit and fraud as led to his confession and conviction of the acceptance of bribery and the mismanagement of the high office he held in the British government. These persons overlook the fact that Bacon was a confidential diplomatic representative of the queen and of other high powers and that it was his place to be what we would call today the "goat." It was his business to accept the responsibility for all errors and all mistakes made by the queen in her decisions or rulings whose voice and mind he represented as a confidential secretary. His confession of his life revealed that despite his confessions and the grand show of condemnation, he was afterwards freed of all responsibility and held in high esteem by the queen and the highest authorities. Bacon, as an official of the government, was one character representing a part of the machinery of the government, and Bacon as an individual was another character. There is nothing in his personal, private life to warrant the condemnation that has been universally put upon him, and there is nothing that has been revealed regarding him to warrant the belief that he was guilty of the things charged to him and to which he freely and frankly confessed in order to close the investigation of these matters and direct the public's thoughts toward other matters. The real life of Bacon, as revealed in many books, is much different from that given in those books which attempt to picture him as a weakling and an acceptor of bribes.

However, his personal life and his position with the government have no bearing upon the controversy of authorship of the plays. The Baconian Society



of America, of which I am a member, is rapidly increasing in membership throughout the world and the evidence being accumulated by the Society and by hundreds of independent researchers will some day prove what the Rosicrucian records have always proved; namely, that Bacon wrote the Shakespearean plays but because of his intimate association with the government and because play acting was considered to be a continuation of what had always been looked upon as a sordid thing, he found it necessary to keep the author-

ship of these plays veiled until such time as the merit of the plays themselves and their high educational value should lift them from the category of the trashy productions so popular in Europe at the time they were written. But Bacon made proper provision for when the time should come that the plays would be properly valued and appreciated and the authorship known. Then the internal evidence carefully conceived in cipher, symbolical designs, and watermarks should serve as sufficient evidence of the real authorship.



Human Consciousness

FOURTH PART OF A SERIES OF LESSONS

By DR. BERNARD FELDMAN, F. R. C.



SCIENCE has been forced to admit the fact that man has a psychic body. We will show later that this body has a nervous system (the sympathetic) within the physical body whereby man's

psychical attributes are made possible. Man is a two-fold being. His physical organism with his animal instincts and desires can be traced back to their analogies in the lower kingdoms of nature. But his essential consciousness and his Self come from a divine source which links him with the Divine. This source is the absolute consciousness of diety (H. P. B.).

The occultist feels that he is no less scientific when he prefers man's *divine* origin to the moneron or the slime on the ocean floor. The occultist claims that man started in a body, described so beautifully by St. Paul, as "a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." Primeval man issued from the body of his divinely fireless progenitors, the "Bnei-Elohim" of Genesis, described as aeriform and devoid of compactness.

(H. P. B.). His evolution from the highest down to the lowest (a veritable DESCENT must continue unceasingly in nature's CYCLE until the nadir is reached, when the upward urge will cause the lowest to return finally to the highest, once again.

Psychic evolution proceeds on parallel lines with physical evolution in accordance with the law of polarity. The two go together from eternity to eternity, for they are inseparably interwoven. To get a more rational idea of the theory of evolution, science will be forced to supplement its materialistic viewpoint by adding the balancing psychical aspect of the problem. Unless there were this psychical aspect to counterbalance the physical aspect, of the evolutionary program, everything would be in a chaos. In the Cosmos, the equilibrium and harmony must be preserved. The operation of the two contraries produces harmony, like the centripetal and centrifugal forces which are complimentary to each other. If the one is arrested, the action of the other will immediately become destructive.

Eighty-two

Harmony is one of the universal laws; in conformity to it, man's psychic body must be the balancing aspect of his physical body; the two bodies **MUST** be destructive aspects of the **ONE SELF**. Each body **MUST** vibrate at its own distinctive rate; each must have its distinctive polarity and each **MUST** seek to unite with its opposite in a regular septenary manner.

CONSCIOUSNESS IS SEPTENARY

Nature never works simultaneously; never proceeds by leaps or bounds. She must have time regardless of what world she is working in. The divine life that is cabined within the form ever presses outwards, gently but constantly. In every form, be it mineral, vegetable, animal, or man, this expansive energy is ceaselessly working. This is the evolutionary force, the lifting within the forms, the rising energy which science glimpses but knows not whence it comes. But science can easily notice that it proceeds in its **DUAL** evolution cyclically and septennially. There is a septenary law in nature, in which the seventh, fourth, and first members play a distinct and specific part in the Cosmic scheme. We can employ this law as a Key to reveal the truth of human consciousness. Human nature within man and all nature without are alike seven-fold.

Therefore, there are seven times seven states of consciousness which define the fruits of human consciousness. Furthermore, human consciousness has its three **PRIMARY** vehicles and four subsidiary ones which compose the entire gamut of vibrations that compose the one life in man. The self in man can work up and down this Cosmic keyboard because each of the seven states of consciousness correspond with each of the seven planes of nature with their characteristic vibratory rate. The Self can express itself as a conscious entity, on all the different levels of nature when all its vestures are in vibratory attunement with them.

THE I AM I

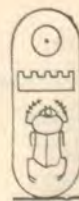
The individualized Self is the actor in every vesture he wears; it is his pres-

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ence that gives the feeling of "I am I" alike to the body and mind. The "I am I" is that which is self-conscious, and which, by illusion, identifies himself with that vehicle which he is most actively energizing. To the earthly man of the senses, the "I am I" is the physical body with its earthly desires; to the scholar the "I am I" shows himself as the intellectual vesture, for it is in its exercise that most of his life's joy and interest are concentrated. To only few people (like the mystic and philosopher) who rise to abstract heights, will the Self feel itself in its own fiery, or superelectrical environment.

The unfoldment of the self and its fiery vesture is but the progressive manifestation in him of vital energy derived from the sun and its divine source. Its voltage can be raised within the nervous system into supersensible energy (vitality, conscious electricity) of incredible voltage, hardly comparable to the form of electricity known to the physicist. This force can be governed by man, but its secret has been carefully guarded from the profane. Constant aspiration will liberate this living flame and arouse the dormant nerve centers which have become atrophied from disuse. When regenerated, they reveal to the aspirant the superphysical states of consciousness. The highest and most sublime form of consciousness is the Nirvanic consciousness in which existence is raised to an inconceivably intense vividness. Man then becomes god on earth and he returns to the divine source from which he originally started in his round of evolution as the eternal pilgrim or Self.

This Self is the real man, his body is but a temporary form which disintegrates to its physical elements. But the Self is immortal and his consciousness is never lost. Its psychical and physical components fluctuate but the Self remains constant during all time as it is eternally immortal. It is the thread of each man's Self, always a living Self. No more than death does birth mean any break in the Self's consciousness. So-called death is in nature's program in order that the Self may progress ever onwards and upwards to its goal.



THE EXTENSIONS OF CONSCIOUSNESS

Human consciousness is not tied down to but one physical plane but can be extended through forty-nine gradations from the waking to the Nirvanic. Very few people can attain to the higher planes; so we stop at the fourth stage since it is seldom that one can go beyond it with any degree of certainty (H. P. B.) The Nirvanic stage is allegorized in the fiftieth Jubilee year following the Sabbatical Sabbath (Levit. xxv). By a series of progressive awakenings, there is an upward progress of the Self from the physical plane. The higher senses latent in man begin to function while the Self remains at its loftier height and it can master the secrets of sounds and colors that are inaccessible to the physical plane. With the gradual approach to the One Consciousness, there is a gradual approach to the oneness of sense and feeling.

There is something very strongly suggestive in the fact that the waking physical consciousness can be gradually extended to higher realms. At the opera, we are subjected to the vibrations of SOUND, and we are carried "beyond ourselves" until we forget our surroundings and we live for the moment in the world which the artists are creating for us. Their feelings are our feelings, their emotions are our emotions. We are clothed in our tabernacles of flesh but actually we feel and live as if we were outside ourselves.

We go to the art gallery and we revel in the glorious COLOR productions of the master artist. We are similarly carried away by them to the extent that we forget where we are and we are living in the environment depicted on the canvas.

So too we can take a certain drug and its chemical vibrations transport us into ecstasies unknown to the normal consciousness.

When we go to sleep, we live in a different world and our dreams carry us into vivid experiences in which we use all sense faculties; yet we are actually lying inert and subconscious.

THE SELF IS ALWAYS ACTIVE

Dreamless sleep is but one of the expanding states of consciousness in which the Ego can function. The universal law is that under normal conditions, rest must alternate with work in all vital processes or phenomena; otherwise speedy exhaustion and death surely will follow. All forms of bodily activity cause an exhaustion of energy which must be replenished. This renewal of psychical force and physical rest are provided by nature through the subconsciousness in sleep.

The Self is never asleep and knows no rest. While the objective faculties of the sleeper are held in abeyance, the Self is intensely active in guarding the vital processes, and brooks no interference to them. It is self-evident that an intelligence outside the brain must keep up the heartbeats and the breathing while the brain is temporarily disconnected from external stimuli. There is life present and something must control this precious life. If nothing unforeseen happens to break asunder the super-electrical threads which connect the Self with the physical body, the person returns to his waking consciousness.

As evidenced by the mystic, the Self's waking consciousness is centered in even a higher degree of consciousness. This is the Self's proper sphere of functioning, and the Self strives to live in it by getting rid of the lower planes which are obstacles to his climbing to his goal.

THREE PRIMARY FORMS

The entire consciousness in man is, therefore, manifested through a septenary gradation of principles, in which the first, fourth, and seventh are called its PRIMARY vehicles.

We shall, therefore, consider only these three PRIMARY types of consciousness and differentiate them as (1) the waking, (2) the subconscious, and (3) the supraconscious.

The waking or objective consciousness acts upon the objective things through the objective senses. The closer attention paid to these objective things

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at each moment, the clearer will they be. It is only a very small part of our whole consciousness since it is limited to the definite extent that the physical brain and its five senses can answer certain vibrations which fall within a certain range. Its mechanism is confined to the cerebro-spinal system which controls the VOLUNTARY actions of the body SOLELY.

The subconsciousness is the Self's acting through the subjective (inner) and the objective (outer) phases of man. Its mechanism is the sympathetic nervous system which controls BOTH voluntary AND involuntary actions of the body. It includes not only the vital functions but all those strange and dim relics of our past which have come down to us from our ancestry.

Supraconsciousness has to do with the abstract things which the Self is continuously engaged with, only occasionally projecting them upon the mirrors of the objective consciousness. For example, the mystic is known to have his body so trained that he can normally extend his consciousness to planes inaccessible to the average individual. His Self is functioning through the parasympathetic.

Let it not be supposed that there are THREE distinct consciousnesses: there is but one which manifests in three different degrees or ways. Just as there is but one Self, so there is but one consciousness, for the Self is consciousness which manifests periodically as intuitive, rational, and intellectual (reason) LIFE.

CONSCIOUSNESS CONTINUOUS
Since life and Self are immortal, as long as the human being IS, his conscious-

ness must be working on one or more planes of nature. It is only when man reaches the Nirvanic consciousness that he loses his human identity and becomes divine. The term unconsciousness is, therefore, a misnomer, since there can be no total cessation of consciousness. A more truthful expression would be "expansion of consciousness," since the waking expands into the subconscious and the subconscious expands into the supraconscious on this plane. The whole gamut is not tied down to the physical plane but it extends much farther so that man can think and live on seven planes of being.

From the supraconsciousness come the promptings of the genius and of the master. It is not more commonly apparent because materialism has become so dominant that it has shut our bodies from these superfine vibrations; but supraconsciousness lies latent in every man. Man must develop his solar body to have the Self's waking consciousness become his supraconsciousness. This is the purpose of human evolution. The coarser bodies of flesh and bones must eventually be cast off which will unfold to him again his pristine Self. Always retaining the inherent psychical powers which he possessed at the start of the cycle and round, it is decreed that man shall cast off all physical limitations which are enmeshing the Self and holding it in bondage.

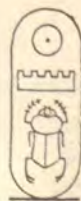
As Hermes says, "At the beginning was Self. Now the Self builds the mind out of stuff like itself but less pure; Self and mind together build the Soul; Self, mind, and Soul build the patterns for the various bodies."

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Strange Egyptian Traditions

SOME COMMENTS ON THE RECENT TRANSITIONS OF EGYPTIAN EXPLORERS

By FRATER ROYLE THURSTON, F. R. C.

▽ ▽ ▽



HE recent transition of another one of the eminent men associated with the exploration of King Tut's tomb has again revived interest in the old tradition that the early Egyptians had placed a "curse" upon those who dared to enter their sacred tombs with any other motive than that of sincere reverence.

The newspapers here in America vie with one another in inventing weird stories and grotesque explanations of the strange course of events which have made it appear that there is some fatal power or influence resident in the early tombs and which manifests itself by bringing death to the body of each person who enters these tombs. According to the most popular story and the one which is commonly believed, the ancient Egyptians sealed their tombs and placed on each sacred door a symbol and by this token established a strange influence which would destroy any person or group of persons who entered the sacred tomb except in accordance with the ancient religious rituals used by the Egyptians.

It is a fact that nearly all of those who were engaged in the expedition that broke open the sealed tomb of King Tut, have passed through transition because of an unusual form of illness that came upon them one at a time. The leader of the expedition was the first to be stricken with the strange malady and since then, every year has seen one or two of the party succumb to an unusual or peculiar form of fatal illness. When the first one was thus stricken, the newspapers of the world called attention to the fact that once again the old "curse" was at work because in nearly every case in past centuries where sacred

tombs have been violently opened and the contents violently removed, the explorers have suffered early death and unexpected illnesses of a fatal nature. The Egyptians point out that this strange influence has manifested itself for hundreds of years and that it is an unwritten law that never fails to operate.

Scientists smiled at these stories some years ago, but when the very eminent and healthy persons forming the exploring party of King Tut's tomb became afflicted, science thought it was time to make some investigation and offer a rational explanation. The idea of a "curse" was tabooed by science as a superstition and unworthy of any consideration or investigation. But the fact remained that persons were being afflicted and suffering from some peculiar illness as a result of their visit to the inner secret parts of these sacred tombs. The only explanation arrived at by science was that either the odors and germs created in the tomb by the presence there for so many years of a mummy or lifeless body or germs contained in the tomb by some chemical placed there when the tomb was sealed were responsible for the strange illnesses contracted by the explorers. This explanation is not satisfactory, however, inasmuch as in those cases where tombs have been entered and nothing removed or nothing taken from the tomb for commercial profit, nobody has suffered any illness. This one point would indicate, therefore, that it is not the mere entrance into the tomb or the fact that the tomb is opened and visited by these explorers that brings upon them the serious malady but the motive back of such visitations to these tombs is important. And this is precisely what the ancient traditions of the tombs predict. The oldest of these traditions plainly states that "he who shall pilfer

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1930*

or rob the sacred chambers of a tomb shall have the curse of the Egyptian gods upon him."

From our own personal experience we know that there is a great difference in the motives back of some of the explorations made in recent years, and AMORC is well acquainted with excavations and explorations made in Egypt. For many years, AMORC has been interested in the excavating of more secret and sacred chambers and tombs than any of these exploring parties have been associated with, and our contact with the Egyptian Rosicrucians and members of the secret brotherhood of Egyptians enables us to understand just what occurs in connection with some of these so-called scientific explorations.

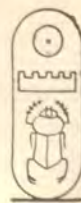
When the marvelous tombs, temples, and home of the Pharaoh Amenhotep the fourth along the banks of the Nile were located by some German scientists many years ago, the scientific world was made extremely happy because of the rare knowledge that was sure to result from any excavations made in that locality. Since then the AMORC has helped to finance the excavations of the sacred temples and tombs of this great Pharaoh and in its museum in San Jose it has some of the rarest relics that have ever come from Egypt, including the famous benediction stone, which was a part of the lentil over the doorway of the Pharaoh's temple and under which Moses stood when he received the famous benediction that enabled him to take the tribes of Israel out of Egypt into Palestine with miraculous assistance. Not a single one of the scientists associated with the excavating, opening, and exploring of those very sacred places has ever suffered from the so-called "curse" of Egypt and those who have in recent years spent much time in exploring these places are still living and are healthy and hopeful of continuing their work for many years to come. Out of the explorations made at Amenhotep's city have come the famous Roseta stone, the famous Armana tablets and many other important scientific relics and out of the sacred temple of this Egyptian king have come many sacred, mystical relics that are in our own AMORC Egyptian museum in San Jose and in a few other

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similar museums in other parts of the world. When these sacred places were explored by the scientists engaged in the work, there was no thought on the part of the explorers to commercialize their activities and to turn the whole operation into a money-getting, profit-making scheme. In fact, the excavations were financed by such organizations as AMORC and by such museums as ours solely for the purpose of voluntarily contributing to the advancement of science without any hope of material or financial remuneration. Therefore, the motive back of the explorations in such a case were non-commercial, sacred, and scientific.

Such was not the case, however, with the exploration of King Tut's tomb. From the very start the exploration was planned to be a purely commercial venture. Money was raised for the cost of operations much like the selling of stock and shares of interest for the financing of a new oil well or copper or gold mine. Everything found in the tomb was to be sold to the highest bidder and all who were members of the profit-making corporation were to have dividends returned on their investments. Few of those who bought shares of stock or contributed their money were interested in either the sacredness or scientific nature of the tombs and their contents. Therefore, the venture was purely commercial and it constituted the pilfering and robbing of a sacred place solely for the sake of money, in the view of the Egyptians. Therefore, the ancient "curse" was surely destined to be upon those who participated in the venture.

The Egyptians in Egypt call attention to the fact that not even due respect and reverence for the sacredness of these tombs was shown by any of the commercial explorers who have extracted valuable things from so many places in Egypt. The Egyptians say that these commercial explorers break into the sacred doors and enter the sacred chambers much like a gang of thieves would break into an empty palace. And with no more respect for the antiquity, sacredness, and unquestioned sanctity of the place than one would expect to find at the hands of robbers, these explorers have seized hold of everything within the tombs that had been placed there



in accordance with sacred rituals, with a prayerful hope that they would remain there eternally.

How different were the explorations conducted by those men who entered the sacred places of Amenhotep's city! These men went reverently about their work, realizing that they were going into places that had been held sacred and holy for many ages by devout men and women who had every reason to believe that the places they had built and the things they had put into them would remain safe and intact as are the altar, paraphernalia, and sacred things in our modern cathedrals. In describing to us the manner in which the sacred relics were taken from Amenhotep's temple and shipped to our museum in San Jose, the leader of the exploration committee told us how they stopped at the threshold of the sacred temple, pausing for a moment in reverence and asking the God of all beings to be with them in their search for that illumination, that knowledge, and scientific data which the Egyptians said they were preserving in their tombs for future races of man. They tell in their letters how they went about their work in quietness and with deep emotion and how they covered their hands with gloves and laid cotton batting around each sacred object before they picked it up so that its ancient vibrations might not be contaminated by the touch of their flesh and how these things were laid reverently into boxes and carefully packed to ship to us and to a few other places without price and without any commercial feature attached to the entire process. The artists in the party copied the paintings from the walls with no intention of selling their pictures but of preserving for the future the beauty and richness of the new art and the grandeur of the story being told. In the heart and mind of each person being engaged in the exploration there was continuous respect and admiration for the sacred beliefs and customs of those who had built the temples and tombs and had placed the rare relics therein. Is it any wonder then that none of these explorers suffered from the so-called "curse"? And is it any wonder that they have learned from their expeditions some of the most beau-

tiful revelations of spiritual and natural law?

Well may we ask as to the nature of the "curse" that the ancient Egyptians placed upon their tombs. Of this we may never know anything except that it was of no material nature, no chemical composition, or no form of disease germ. They claimed that it was a Cosmic agreement made through their gods and holy contacts. According to the ancient interpretation of such a statement, it means that they established a Cosmic agreement that the temples were to remain intact and the sacred things in them preserved for the future to be used only for sacred or educational purposes, and that whosoever would violate the sanctity of these places would bring upon himself the wrath of the Cosmic or the wrath of the hosts of their gods. Whether we, of today, can agree with their understanding of how such a condition could be established or not, there is one thing that we are in agreement with so far as the whole matter is concerned. We know that when we build mausoleums and tombs today in which we place the remains of those we loved and honored, we look to God and all of the Cosmic laws to help us protect these sacred things from unholy intrusion and any form of commercial pilfering. We would not be surprised if we read that those who had wrongly forced their way into a sealed tomb of the present time had suddenly suffered the attack of some strange disease and found the hand of retribution changing their living bodies into those of lifelessness. We would say it was not the wrath of God but the will of God and that He had made manifest His displeasure at such unwarranted procedure. Should we be called superstitious for believing thus in these modern times? Then why should we feel that the ancient Egyptians were superstitious or that the present day Egyptians are superstitious when they proclaim that the ancient injunction against entering these tombs shall not be violated except with the penalty of sudden transition? To the ancient Egyptians their religion, their sacred rituals, their holy beliefs were just as divine and just as heavenly as our religions and beliefs are to us today, and it is no less a

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The Rosicrucian Order, having existed in all civilized lands for many centuries, is a non-sectarian, fraternal body of men and women devoted to the investigation, study, and practical application of natural and spiritual laws. The purpose of the organization is to enable all to live in harmony with the creative, constructive, Cosmic forces for the attainment of health, happiness, and Peace.

The Order is internationally known as AMORC (an abbreviation), and the AMORC in America, and all other lands, constitutes the only form of Rosicrucian activities united in one body having representation in the international Rosicrucian congresses. The AMORC does not sell its teachings, but gives them freely to all affiliated members, together with many other benefits.

Inquirers seeking to know the history, purposes, and practical benefits of Rosicrucian association, are invited to send for the free book, "The Light of Egypt." Address, Librarian, S. P. C., care of

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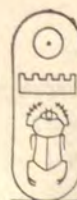
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